

IMPERIAL POLK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



Saturday, September 12, 2026

1:00 PM • 90-Minute Session

Lakeland Public Library • History Room

100 Lake Morton Drive, Lakeland, FL 33801

Also available on Zoom • Request link: news@ipgs.org

Theme: Members Helping Members

Bring a brick wall or perplexing research challenge and let the group brainstorm fresh ideas, sources, strategies, and new perspectives. Together we turn research obstacles into opportunities for discovery.

Meeting Outline

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| 1:00 – 1:10 | Welcome, introductions & theme overview |
| 1:10 – 1:15 | Ground rules for productive, supportive brainstorming |
| 1:15 – 2:15 | Main Session: Share challenges & group problem-solving
Each participant presents a brick wall; the group
brainstorms ideas, sources, strategies & next steps |
| 2:15 – 2:25 | Optional resource highlights & key takeaways |
| 2:25 – 2:30 | Closing, next steps & announcements |

Come Prepared to Share & Contribute

Bring one current research challenge or brick wall you are facing.
Be ready to listen, offer ideas, and learn from fellow researchers.
All experience levels are welcome — every researcher hits walls!



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ANCESTRY FORUM

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What to Expect

- A friendly, collaborative atmosphere focused on mutual support.
- Opportunity to present a research brick wall or perplexing problem.
- Group brainstorming of fresh ideas, record sources, search strategies, DNA approaches, geographic clues, and creative solutions.
- Practical next-step suggestions you can apply immediately.
- Learning from the experiences and expertise of fellow genealogists.

How to Prepare

- Select one specific brick wall or research challenge to share.
- Briefly note: the person / place / time period, what you have already tried, and the key question you most want answered.
- Bring notes, a simple timeline, or relevant documents if helpful (optional — keep presentations concise).
- Come ready to listen actively and contribute constructive ideas to others' research challenges.
- Virtual attendees: ensure a stable connection and quiet space.

Why Attend?

Brick walls fall faster when multiple minds examine them.
You will leave with actionable ideas and renewed research energy.
Build connections with local and virtual fellow researchers.
Whether you are a beginner or experienced genealogist,
your perspective is valuable — and you will gain new techniques too.

In Person & Online

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100 Lake Morton Drive, Lakeland, FL 33801

Zoom option available — request link at news@ipgs.org

All are welcome. Bring your challenges. Share your insights.

Let's solve research problems together!