# Become Your Family's Detective

**National Archives Seventh Annual Genealogy Fair**

**Day 2 – Thursday, April 21, 2011**

## 9:30–10:30 a.m. Sessions

| Room G-24 | **Black Gotham: A Family History of African Americans in Nineteenth-Century New York City** by Carla Peterson  
Part detective tale, part social and cultural narrative, *Black Gotham* is Carla Peterson's riveting account of her quest to reconstruct the lives of her 19th century ancestors. As she shares their stories and those of their friends, neighbors, and business associates, she illuminates the greater history of African American elites in New York City. Program followed by a book signing. |
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| Library | **Using the Congressional Serial Set for Genealogical Research** by Jeffery Hartley  
This presentation will describe the Congressional Serial Set generally, provide specific information about using it for genealogical research, and show researchers how to access it at the National Archives and Records Administration. |
| Room 105 | **Introduction to Genealogy** by Katherine Vollen  
An overview on census, military, immigration, and related records, as well as tips and suggestions for successful research. |

## 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Sessions

| Room G-24 | **Agricultural Extension Service Annual Reports (1909–68)** by Claire Prechtel-Kluskens  
Reports from Agricultural Extension Service county agents can give information about specific individuals as well as provide general insight into agricultural practices and rural life in the first half of the 20th century. |
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| Library | **You Can't Get Away With It (1936) Film**  
Three film reels show the facilities and techniques of the FBI and its agent training and dramatizes apprehensions. Reel 1, J. Edgar Hoover introduces the film. Fingerprints and criminal files are shown and explained. Dramatizes events in the capture of John Dillinger. Reel 2 shows prominent persons, places, and objects in the Urschell kidnapping case, dramatizing the apprehension. Also shows classroom and field training of FBI agents. Reel 3 shows scientific methods used to gather clues and evidence from murder weapons, clothing, and objects that reveal physical characteristics. |
| Room 105 | **Army Service in the Civil War: An Overview** by John Deeben  
An overview of basic War Department records that document Volunteer and Regular service in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. |

[www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) Introductory Session
**BECOME YOUR FAMILY’S DETECTIVE**  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES SEVENTH ANNUAL GENEALOGY FAIR  
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| 12:45–1:45 p.m. | **Room 105**  
Female Re-enactors of Distinction: African American Ladies of the Civil War  
Meet and learn from the Female Re-Enactors of Distinction (FREED), dressed in period clothing to portray women of the Civil War era who contributed to our history, as they educate and promote the accomplishments of the African American Civil War Soldiers and the women who supported their fight for freedom. |
| 2–3 p.m.      | **Room G-24**  
Black Patriots and Loyalists: Finding African American Ancestors from the Revolutionary War by Damani Davis  
Damani Davis, archivist, gives a brief historical overview of African American participation in the Revolutionary War. The overview will highlight records at the National Archives that can be used for genealogical purposes, focusing primarily on military pension records. |
|               | **Library**  
Everything You Wanted to Know About Footnote.com* by Gordon Atkinson  
_Footnote.com_ is a subscription web site that features searchable original documents, with a view of the events, places and people that shaped the American nation and the world. At _Footnote.com_, all are invited to come share, discuss, and collaborate on their discoveries with friends, family, and colleagues. The presentation will be an overview for using _Footnote.com_. |
|               | **Room 105**  
1940 Census* by National Archives staff  
The session will be an informal question-and-answer forum regarding technical and reference aspects of the 1940 census release in April 2012. |
| 3:30–4:30 p.m. | **Room G-24**  
Leavenworth Prison Records by Jake Ersland  
The National Archives at Kansas City holds 68,937 Leavenworth inmate case files. These files can be packed with information providing unsurpassed biographical details on the life of its subject. Those who use prison records in their genealogical research will be rewarded with knowledge absolutely unavailable anywhere else on Earth. |
|               | **Library**  
FamilySearch—Vision to Reality* by Carol Kostakos Petranek  
_FamilySearch.org_ is the world’s largest free genealogical web site. The Family History Library is the world’s largest genealogical library, with 2.4 million rolls of microfilm available to researchers worldwide. This presentation will introduce these resources and explain their importance to researchers. |
|               | **Room 105**  
Researching the Records of the Freedmen’s Bureau by Reginald Washington  
The presentation will cover the use, value, and availability of Freedmen’s Bureau records for family research. |

*Introductory Session*