

Genealogy Rocks!

Cemeteries Reveal Secrets!

I like to visit cemeteries! They are quiet, peaceful, orderly, artistic, historic, and usually yield great family information.

Before I visit a cemetery, I pack tools that are helpful. This includes a clipboard/pen, spray bottle of water, toothbrush or



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soft bristled brush, trowel, small folding shovel, and a camera. I also pack stone rubbing supplies: pellon (from the fabric store), stick of boot black or crayon, scissors and masking tape.

The gravestone is the main source of information. Transcribe all the data from the stone, take pictures, and sometimes do rubbings. Check nearby stones to see who else is buried in the same lot as your ancestor.

Check with the cemetery's caretaker. They have the records and a burial plot map, which shows your ancestor's gravesite, others buried in the same lot, when the lot was purchased and by whom. Cemetery records may also show the funeral home. If the stone shows a death date, visit the local library to search for a newspaper obituary.

If a road trip is not feasible, you can obtain cemetery information from these online sources: www.usgenweb.com, www.findagrave.com/index.html, www.internment.com, and www.daddezio.com/cemetery/junction.

Please join my six week ge-

nealogy classes at 4 pm starting October 8 at the Loveland Senior Center or October 12 at the Fort Collins Senior Center for only \$47. Our next society program is "How to Cite Genealogy Sources" at the Fort Collins Harmony Library on September 17 at 6:30 pm. Estes Park Genealogical Society presents "Using Family History

Centers" at the Estes Park Public Library on September 10 at 4 pm. Bring a friend and learn about genealogy.



Ceil Damschroder is a Board Director for Larimer County Genealogical Society. For more information on programs and contacts, visit our website at www.lgsc.org.