

Motivation & Blessings for Unexpected Genealogical “Windows of Opportunities!”

We all need motivation in pursuing family history and especially on how to deal with unexpected inspirational opportunities suddenly occur. Whether it be for conducting original research or gather memories of ourselves, our families and/or extended family members both near and far. When moments of inspiration occur, do not hesitate to proceed because their time-lines can be a critical factor because windows of opportunities do not always remain open. And believe it or not, these windows might never be available again. In 1998 after discovering a missing family line living in Eastern Ukraine, I took my entire family in 1998 and 2001 and again in 2012 with just Roslyn and me to the Donetsk area of Ukraine which is on the Russian border to visit this lost family line. This family line was totally lost between 1898 when my grandfather immigrated to the United States till 1998 when I found them. This “miracle” story was previously posted as [Faith Going Far Beyond The “Iron Curtain”](#): see *July 30 posting*. What makes this story even more heart-warming is that the Russian military intervention in Ukraine, sometimes called the Russo-Ukrainian War, which is a series of military actions that started in February 2014 and continues into 2020. My lost family line lives within 30 kilometers of Donetsk which is the literally on the other side of today’s border dispute between Ukraine and Russia. Military missiles and canon fire are still common today in their village. This area is no longer available to visit at all because of these military actions. And my relatives can not even leave their homes, or poachers will surely take possession of their land and homes. Today there still is no government mail service to that village. If I had not made extensive efforts to find these “lost” relatives for over 30 years and then had not visited them when I did, their family history and previous photos and memories would be lost forever and my children would have no identification with these humble family roots. In 2013, I sponsored a cousin from this village with USA immigration. She now lives in the Denver area, but she can’t even visit her parents anymore now because of these 2014 military zone restrictions. See posted photos of recent battle ruins in ‘Donetsk as it strongly resembles war-torn Syria.

To view some of the priceless historic photos of my Ukrainian roots who were ethnically cleansed from Poland in 1947 that I acquired from my three trips to the Donetsk area, click [here](#). To view them as a slideshow with priceless captions, go to the bottom-right corner and click on “Play Slideshow.”

Another Example of Being Prepared For Special Family History Opportunities

A significant window of opportunity just occurred for Roslyn’s genealogy. I’ve been creating a multimedia website representing six generations covering 175+ years of Roslyn’s Mormon pioneer heritage that covers her great-grandfather through her father’s nine 1st cousins along with all of their grand and great-grand children. Acquiring photos of each individual in each family generation line is a cumbersome task, if not even possible when removed by several subsequently generations involving hundreds of individuals. The purpose is to connect my children and grandchildren with theirs. The reality is without this multimedia connection for establishing a family tree scenario with all of this connectivity with both deceased and living relatives, Roslyn’s rich heritage will “evaporate over time” when Roslyn and I pass on. But with this multimedia connection, these connections will not be lost because all family lines will be updated by grandchildren and by their future generations to create this unique family history legacy. But only because I’ve been working on this project for a year in establishing the groundwork for this website, could Roslyn take advantage of her upcoming visit to RootsTech 2020 and extend her stay a few days to personally meet and help organize some of these hesitating Utah family lines. Had I not already begun this panoramic dream of connecting this heritage, Roslyn’s visit would be merely a short visit with no focused output for establishing this long-term family history unification. Because her association with her living extended families has a short time-table because of the elderly ages of these numerous family patriarchs. To become familiar with this unique family-connection project, see [Family History Success Requires Spiritual Motivation for Creating Eternal Memories: Here’s My Story, Part 7](#) – its theme is “*Let’s connect rather than evaporate over time*”: or see *December 21 posting*.

More Motivation For Being Better Prepared!

Enjoy these unsolicited quotes cited below from users of **The Family History Guide** for more motivation in meeting your family history aspirational pursuits! They were compiled from users of **The Family History Guide** that might also inspire you to be better prepared to take advantage of “Golden” opportunities whenever they take place. **The Family History Guide** is a fantastic resource for learning the tools and techniques necessary for conducting family history research. It is a free on-line learning, research, training, & activities center for family history. Their mission statement is to greatly increase the number of people actively involved in family history worldwide, and to make everyone's family history journey **easier, more efficient, and more enjoyable**.

There quotes are organized in different categories as follows and you surely will not be disappointed.

- *Quotes from RootsTech*
- *FamilySearch Learning Tool*
- *An Opportunity to Grow*
- *Worth the Wait*
- *A Valuable Learning Tool*
- *Something for Everyone*
- *Somewhat Habit-Forming*
- *A Game Changer*
- *A Significant Contribution*
- *Smaller Family History Centers*
- *Great for Consultants*
- *Quotes from RootsTech 2017*

Closing Comments

Hopefully, each of you has some short-and-long-term wish lists for your future temple and family history endeavors. If you don't dream first, your dreams might never become reality. And whenever windows of opportunities become available, be prepared to readily to take advantage of them.

These inspiring quotes from **The Family History Guide** will also motivate you to be better prepared for these “Golden Windows” whenever genealogical opportunities do occur. The Foothills Ward Temple and Family History Facebook Group may also be your gateway ticket for being both more fully prepared to pursue even the most challenging family history challenges.

Let us know through your comments about your special needs and perhaps our 82+ followers can also offer suggestions for your consideration. The 21st century is indeed the networking century for all of us to take advantage of! And together, we call can be made stronger in our pursuits for our temple and family history. Good luck and above all, don't get discouraged because V.I.P. assistance is but a click of the mouse away, or with a phone call, an email message, or a short note or a visit to your local family history center or even with attendance to RootsTech 2020 Or all of the above!