

March 29, 2020

Dear KDRG Members, Associates & Colleagues,

The online services Ancestry.com and MyHeritage.com have recognized the marketing potential of getting shut-ins started on genealogy. Both are providing free access to some of their most important online databases. So, I thought I'd let you know about these just in case you want to give this a try, and have time for it.

1. Ancestry announced free access to Ancestry.com US databases. It's valid until further notice. Here's a notice that Jan Meisels Allen of IAJGS distributed.

Ancestry Offering Access to Major NARA Collections at No Charge

Because of the pandemic and for the foreseeable future, Ancestry is offering access to nearly 500M records in its collection whose source is files of the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration.

They comprise nearly 300 different collections, including ship passenger and crew lists, naturalization and citizenship records, immigration records, and key military collections such as WWI and WWII draft cards. A sampling of the collections includes:

- WWI and WWII U.S. Draft Cards
- New York, Passenger and Crew Lists, 1820-1957
- California, Federal Naturalization Records, 1843-1999
- U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925
- U.S. Border Crossings from Canada to U.S., 1895-1960

Go to <https://www.ancestry.com/search/>. You will be required to create a sign-in identity if you have not done so previously. Use the exact link shown above. Other attempts to access Ancestry without already being a member require you take a trial offer.

2. **MyHeritage (www.myheritage.com/research) is providing free access to its entire collection of U.S. censuses**, from March 29 through April 5. The collection includes the full set of U.S. census

records from 1790 to 1940, over 700 million records. They typically record the members of a household, their ages, places of birth, residence, occupation, immigration and citizenship details, marriage information, military service, and more. The breadth of their coverage makes them a critical resource for researching family history in the U.S. You can read more information about the U.S. census records on [our blog](#), or [Search all U.S. Censuses on MyHeritage](#). They also will have a 30 minute online tutorial on how to use the Census collection. It is on Thursday April 02 at 2:00 pm EDT. [Register here](#) and prepare your questions in advance.

3. **MyHeritage also provides a free service through which they colorize black and white photos.** Just access their site, upload a photo and select the colorization option. It does a pretty good job. The service is available at no charge through 23 April. More information is at <https://tinyurl.com/MHColorizingFree>

Please contact me by e-mail (rddpdx@gmail.com) if you have any questions or comments.

Best wishes for you to stay healthy ... and productive,

Ron Doctor (rddpdx@gmail.com)

Co-Coordinator, Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP/Jewish Records Indexing-Poland
an activity of the Kremenets District Research Group (KDRG)

<http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/Kremenets>

Overland Park, Kansas USA

Researching DOCTOR (DIOKHTER), VARER, AVERBAKH, KORENFELD ... all from Kremenets, Oleksinets, Yampol, Vishnevets
and KAZDOY (KOSODOY), DUBINSKI, DUBOWSKY ... all from Kiev, Uman, Odessa

