

Hi SOARies,

Tuesday's SOAR meeting at the Godfrey Library was **GREAT**; thank you all attendees for your energy and enthusiasm.

In addition to discussing the pros and cons of the different physical libraries, we received a tour, discussed physical collections: the [Godfrey Memorial Library](#), the [History and Genealogy Department of the CT State Library](#), the [Russell Library](#), [Bridgeport Public Library](#), and the [Family History Centers](#) as virtual resources: [New England Historic Genealogical Society](#), the [LDS](#) site as a starting point, [Cindy's List](#), wikipedia's generalities, [Jewish-Gen Family Finder](#), [Ancestry.com](#), Heritage Quest (available free through [www.iconn.org](#)), and [Roots Web](#). Sherry Gelbwasser showed some web sites including: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Persondata> and <http://microformats.org/wiki/genealogy-formats>.

The tireless Sherry also compiled a few more sites after the meeting: The [Jewish Genealogical Society](#), England's [Public Records Office](#), the [England GenWeb Project](#), the [American French Genealogical Society](#) out of Rhode Island, the [Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe](#), and the [Polish Embassy](#). Sherry says "I found them in both *The Family Tree Guide to Europe* and in *The Family Tree Resource Guide for Genealogists*; two books that each of our libraries should have copies of to use as "bibles" for this kind of research.

Doug spoke to CLC about starting up a Genealogy RT; they are in favor and seek a chairperson.

Attendees are always seeking best practices on drawing OAs and males to programming.

Keep in mind that Director of the Godfrey, Richard Black, is willing to come speak to groups and libraries.

Next meeting – in July sometime; Doug is looking into places and dates (suggestions always welcome).

Lastly, as many of you saw in recent job postings, the Division of Library Development is interviewing for a coordinator for a professional development program called 'EqualAccess Libraries' offered by the State Library in partnership with Libraries for the Future. Check <http://ea.webjunction.org/do/Home> for information; the Connecticut program should ramp up quickly and it really looks good – it should provide librarians with the tools they need to make and keep those important contacts and relationships within their communities.

Thank you,

Douglas Lord