

Our meeting this month was a viewing of the Ancestry video by Crista Cowen titled "Five Reasons You're Not Finding Your Ancestor".

You can view the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gqDLas314Q>

The five reasons she talked about are:

1. Relying too much on family stories and information, which may or may not be entirely accurate
2. Using an unsourced or poorly sourced family tree you find on the internet
3. Searching for records that don't exist, or not in the place you're looking
4. Getting stuck in a search rut - only searching for information one way or in one place
5. Not looking at your ancestors entire life, such as not using siblings, or people with the same last name in the same place

Her talk focused on [ancestry.com](#) capabilities but similar resources are available at the other large repository of genealogy information - [www.familysearch.org](#). Familysearch is free from any PC and has more records if you want to research ancestors in Europe.

John Frenie mentioned the highly regarded genealogy classes offered by the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh. Here's their web page with information on their classes, which take place over two different weeks. [http://www.gripitt.org/?page\\_id=7](http://www.gripitt.org/?page_id=7)

If you are interested note the date that class sign-ups begin. The most popular courses often fill up on the first day.

Jim Stuber presented an offer to do research for members of MLGS in return for a donation to The Historical Society of Mt. Lebanon. Enough people signed up to keep him busy for the next several months. You'll hear more about this in future meetings.