

The Genealogy Gems Podcast Episode 207 with Lisa Louise Cooke

In this episode, Lisa welcomes Mary Tedesco, a co-host of PBS' Genealogy Roadshow. Mary shares stories and tips about tracing Italian and Italian-American roots. Also:



- FamilySearch updates since the end of microfilm lending (and how YOU helped make the last days of lending more effective);
- A listener uses Google to find her mysterious great-grandmother, with a success story she calls a “game-changer” for her genealogy research.

NEWS: DOUBLE THE FUN WITH MORE GENEALOGY GEMS PODCAST

This episode launches the NEW twice-monthly Genealogy Gems Podcast format. From now on, watch for two free episodes every month, each about 35-45 minutes long.

If you haven't downloaded the Genealogy Gems app for easier listening on your mobile device, consider doing so now to make it

twice as easy on yourself—and get twice the bonus content from now on!



If you're listening through the Genealogy Gems app, your bonus content for this episode is a 4-page handout on U.S. draft registration records by Michael Strauss. The [Genealogy Gems app is FREE in Google Play](#) and is only \$2.99 for Windows, iPhone and iPad users.

Lisa talks with Hannah about Hurricane Harvey...Keep your family history research, photos, tree software files, videos and all other computer files safely backed up with [Backblaze](#), the official cloud-based computer backup system for Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems. Learn more at <https://www.backblaze.com/lisa>.



NEWS: FAMILYSEARCH RECORDS ACCESS UPDATE

- ALL of the microfilmed records that have been rented in the past 5 years have now been digitized, over 1.5 million films.
- From now on, if you need a film that hasn't been digitized yet, you can call FamilySearch Support toll-free (866-406-1830) and request it for the priority digitization list.
- They continue to digitally scan about 1000 films per day. (That sounds like a lot, but at this rate it will still take them until 2020 to be done.)
- New digital images are being put in the FamilySearch Catalog as soon as possible. This is not the main digital record search area! It will take collections a while to appear here. Instead, under the Search tab, select Catalog, and then search by place and record type or other categories. This is a master catalog of all the Family History Library's collections, online and offline, and when you click on an item's individual description, you'll be able to see a link to its digitized version if it's available.
- If you or anyone else had any films on loan in family history centers and FamilySearch affiliate libraries when the lending program ended, those automatically have extended loan status, which means they can stay there indefinitely unless the management decides to send them back.
- If all else fails, you can still go to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, UT and order microfilmed records to view, or you can hire someone to do it for you.
- FamilySearch Affiliate libraries now have access to nearly all of the restricted image collections as family history centers.

[Click here](#) to read or listen to Lisa's special interview with Diane Loosle of FamilySearch. It goes into much more detail about accessing records on the site, at affiliate libraries and more.

[Click here](#) to read the August 30, 2017 update from FamilySearch.



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Hello Fresh

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NEWS: FREE WEBINAR 9/23 LIVE FROM NYC

Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems presents:
Reveal Your Unique Story through DNA & Family History

Sponsored by Animoto
Saturday, September 23, 2017

11:00 AM EST



[Click here to register](#)

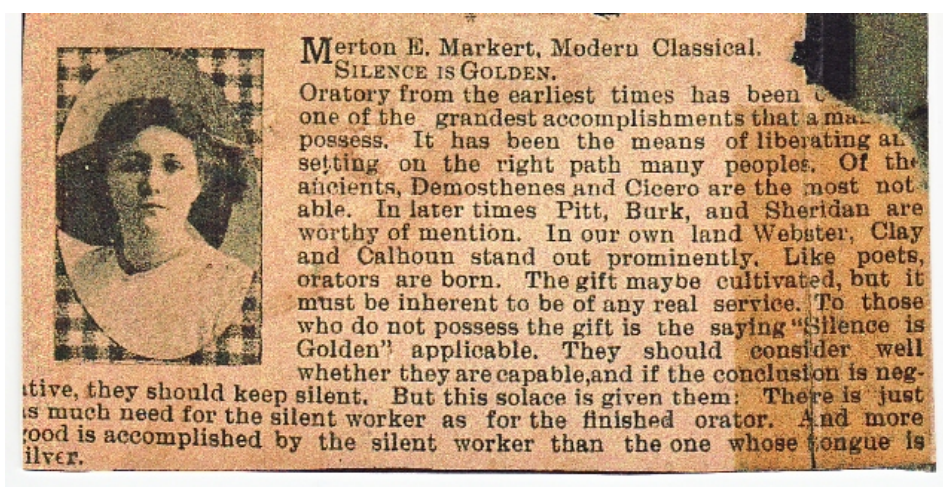
- Turn DNA results into your family history
- Turn your family history into a compelling story
- Turn your compelling story into a video!

Learn from Lisa Louise Cooke, Diahn Southard and Animoto's Beth Forester:

- Your DNA testing options (there are more than you think), and possible outcomes
- The best free resources for going beyond DNA, back several generations in your family (quickly!)
- Creative ideas for filling in the story gaps
- How to expand your story in ways you never expected by finding DNA connections
- Share the story you've uncovered with the world through riveting video

Can't attend live? [Register anyway](#) to receive the slides and the video recording afterward.

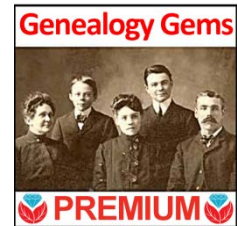
MAILBOX: KRISTIN'S SUCCESS STORY



"Among the handful of mystery photographs of my grandmother as a child and the strangers who sat beside her, was a brief article from a newspaper. It was a lesson in manners, titled

'Silence is Golden' and it was written by Merton Markert, a student of the Modern Classics. A photo of a young woman with a disheveled Gibson hairdo was attached."

- [The Genealogist's Google Toolbox, 2nd Edition](#) by Lisa Louise Cooke teaches the search strategies you need to do searches like these.
- Try [Ebay!](#) Lisa found a listing for a commencement program from 1902, old post cards of the school, and other yearbooks from Lancaster High School. Sign up for a free Ebay account, run a search, and then click to *Follow* the search. You will then be alerted to future auctions that match your criteria.
- [Click here](#) for tips on finding yearbooks and other school records.
- [Genealogy Gems Premium member perk: Premium Podcast episode 16](#) has great tips for using Ebay to find family history treasures. [Click here](#) to learn more about Premium membership.



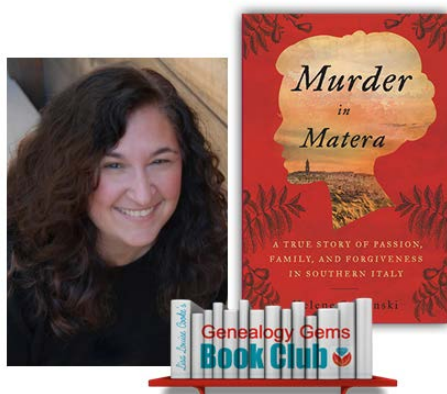
INTERVIEW: MARY TEDESCO

MARY M. Tedesco is a professional genealogist, speaker, and author. She is a host and genealogist on PBS' "Genealogy Roadshow" and Founder of [ORIGINS ITALY](#). Mary speaks fluent Italian and travels often to Italy to conduct client genealogical research and visit family. She is co-author of [Tracing Your Italian Ancestors](#).

[Click here](#) to watch a free interview with Mary Tedesco with more tips on doing Italian genealogy research.



GENEALOGY GEMS BOOK CLUB



[Murder in Matera](#) by Helene Stapinski tells the story of the author's journey to Italy to learn the truth behind the family stories about her Italian ancestors. Tune in to [Genealogy Gems Podcast episode 208](#) later this month to hear an excerpt from a conversation with Helene Stapinski. (The entire interview will play in [Genealogy Gems Premium Podcast episode 151](#).)

MILITARY MINUTES: DRAFT REGISTRATIONS

Introducing MICHAEL STRAUSS

Michael Strauss, AG is the principal owner of [Genealogy Research Network](#) and an Accredited Genealogist since 1995. He is a native of Pennsylvania and a resident of Utah and has been an avid genealogist for more than 30 years. Strauss holds a BA in History and is a United States Coast Guard veteran.

BONUS CONTENT handout to celebrate this new segment: [Click here](#) or go to the Bonus content in the Genealogy Gems app for a 4-page handout on U.S. draft registration records by Michael L. Strauss.



PRODUCTION CREDITS

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