

# DAVIS GENEALOGY CLUB

MAY 2015



## MILITARY RESEARCH FOR GENEALOGISTS INCLUDING DISPLAYS OF MEDALS AND INSIGNIAS

Speaker: **Mike Smith**

Please join us as we learn to explore our own family's military history as far back as the Revolutionary War with military historian and Davis Genealogy Club member, Mike Smith. Mike will discuss his research and share tips with us, as well as display a number of remarkable military heritage shadow boxes he has created for himself and for others.

During the last 15 years, Mike has been involved in his own family research, and has also helped others who have asked to learn more about their heritage. Three of Mike's early ancestors fought in the War for Independence, as did some of his wife's ancestors, whose family dates back to 1634 Plymouth, Massachusetts. Remarkably he has found seven published books or manuscripts of both his wife and his early families, a number written before 1900. One very interesting area of research work he has undertaken is working with the families and the government to help them to either claim or replace military decorations and service medals, and then build "shadow" display boxes for them including all the correct insignias, medals and patches.

Mike Smith is a retired assistant fire chief and a retired corporate CEO of a local biotech medical research company, and now works as a consultant certified fire investigator to CA and US, as well as law firms who need an expert forensic arson/fire investigator. He has been a member of the Davis Genealogy Club for about 5 years and also serves as a library volunteer helping visitors to discover their military heritage.

**TUESDAY, MAY 19<sup>TH</sup> • 1 PM**

**DAVIS SENIOR CENTER • 646 A STREET • DAVIS**

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