FPLD Golden Rules of Genealogy 🥇

- Start with yourself and work backwards in time.
- Start with what you know and then move into the unknown.
- Connect each generation to the previous one to make certain you are claiming the correct ancestors.
- Contact as many living relatives as possible.
- Secure vital statistical information.
- Gather information from a number of sources (b/c your goal is to get the best possible information).
- Cite/document your sources as you record information.
- Stay organized from the beginning.
- Think LOCAL, LOCAL, LOCAL.
- Keep an open mind.
- While conducting research at or corresponding with other relatives, government institutions, archives, libraries, museums and so forth…remember to:
    - Make responding easy.
    - Not ask for too much at once.
    - Ask for specific information on specific people.
- Don’t lose sight of the big picture and the supreme values of genealogy.
- Be careful not to become territorial about the subject or your research.
- Be in tune with coincidences, synchronicities, and serendipitous occurrences.
- Remember, anything worth it many times takes a lot of effort.
- You will never be finished with your genealogy; genealogy can be a lifelong endeavor.