



# SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY

## GENEALOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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April 2010 --- No. 175

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**PLEASE NOTE**

The statements in this newsletter cited as quotes from other newsletters, quarterlies, etc., are quotations and not necessarily fact. I try not to reproduce statements that have been denied as being true and also those statements that are "old news" and have been quoted over a few years.

I would like to remind you that a few extra "paper" copies of all newsletters are filed at the Information Desk on the 2nd floor along with the "handouts" summary sheet. Please remember that you can take any of the extra paper copies in the folder. The Newsletter as well as all "handout" summaries for a particular meeting will be contained in a folder specifically for that meeting date e.g. Newsletter as well as "handout" summary for meeting on 1/12/10 are contained in a separate folder. Each meeting date will have its own folder. If you do not find a copy in the manila "extra" folder, you will have to copy from the permanent file binder. If the staff has trouble finding the folders, please let me know.

More importantly, electronic PDF copies of the Newsletter and the "handouts" summary for our monthly program can be obtained electronically as PDF files from our Library's Genealogy Blog called "Tony's Genealogy Blog at the Schaumburg Township District Library". This is a WordPress blog that you can reach directly at:

<http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Look on the right side of the blog for links within the "Newsletter" category and the "Program Handouts" category. You can read the material online, download as a PDF file to your computer or print it from the blog.

If anyone needs to contact me via e-mail, you may reach me at the Schaumburg Township District Library at:

**akierna@stdl.org**

Or if you need to reach me the old fashioned way by phone, please contact me through the **Schaumburg Township District Library at 847-923-3390. I now can also be reached by direct FAX at the Schaumburg Township District Library. The FAX number in Extension Services is 847-923-3389.**

I am at the library each Monday, Tuesday (except on program dates) and Wednesday morning from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM should you need to meet me to obtain assistance in your research plan. Please let me know in advance if you plan on dropping in on these days so we can schedule a convenient time slot within those hours.

Tony Kierna - Genealogy Coordinator/Schaumburg Township District Library

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**MAY 11, 2010 GENEALOGY PROGRAM TOPIC**

Our next program is scheduled for Tuesday evening, May 11, 2010 at 7:30 PM. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Marian Schuetz. Marian will present a program titled "20<sup>th</sup> Century Military Records". Military records can be an extremely valuable resource in which you might be the recipient of an incredible amount of military paperwork on an ancestor you are researching.

Or it can be an extremely frustrating feeling to think that military records you seek on a more recent ancestor may be those that were destroyed in a fire in St. Louis where these military records were housed!

Just like anything else in genealogy – you never know what you are going to find!!

Marian has been a speaker at our genealogy program on a number of past occasions. She always brings with her a great depth of knowledge and a lot of energy.

Marian has been a genealogy teacher at Waubensee Community College and the College of DuPage. She is also a past president of the Illinois State Genealogical Society.

We look forward to Marian's return to our library to present us with another one of her informative topics for those of us researching our ancestral connections. Understanding military records more recent in scope may help us better unfold the barriers we seek to remove to better understand our ancestor's lives.

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## WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS

Glad you could join us as you embark on a rather adventurous journey into the unknown and far-reaching past! Please see me so I can get to know you and the details of the "journey" you plan to take. Make sure you receive from me a special "newcomer" package of materials that will help you take your first big steps.

I would greatly appreciate your taking the time to fill out and return to me a simple questionnaire that I use to better understand areas of research into which you may delve as well as your having access or not to a home personal computer.

Please feel free to become acquainted with the Genealogy Collection at Schaumburg Township District Library. Our book material is generally located in the 929.1XXXX to 929.3XXXX sections of both the Circulating Collection as well as the Reference Collection. The library also has a Video, Audio and Microform Collection of Genealogy material located in the AV-Department. The materials in AV are also identified in the same Dewey number range as the printed material. These are two great browsing areas for you to review introductory material.

For book material I would like to recommend as a starter a book titled Unpuzzling Your Past: A Basic Guide to Genealogy by Emily Anne Croom (929.1 CRO). A companion book that would follow Unpuzzling Your Past is The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook also by Emily Anne Croom (929.1 CRO). These two books present a good place to begin familiarizing yourself with the field of Genealogy. Feel free to check these out.

If you have access to the Internet, you may want to check out a Getting Started web page that appears at the National Genealogical Society web site. The address is:

[http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/getting\\_started](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/getting_started)

Our group is a great group of friendly people who are willing to help each other in their quest to discover their ancestors. Don't be shy to mingle!! You may be sitting next to a long, lost relative!?

Welcome to the group!

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**WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE LOOKING - FOLLOW-UP**

Here is an update on our participant information that I am tracking. My database to date includes information on 129 participants in the group. I have received updates from many of you since our last meeting. You truly are a very sharing group in your willingness to share your personal information with others in the group concerning your research efforts.

The entire group is searching for a total of 983 surnames among all of the individuals.

Remember, that I will bring to the meeting a current group report that I would appreciate you reviewing and marking any additions, deletions or changes for your particular information that you would like me to make onto the report itself. I will leave one updated report by the genealogical material by the Information Desk on the 2nd floor for you to reference in-between meetings. I will make additions/deletions to the participants that will be reflected in the listing of participants contained in the red binder that will be on the shelves at the combined Information/Magazine desk.

If you are in the library and need to review please ask someone at the Information/Magazine Desk on the 2nd floor for the material. Also check for this binder at my desk in the Extension Services Office if you do not find it at the Information Desk.

Any feedback from you is welcome concerning the report and the material included in it. I do occasionally make typos or I possibly misread what you provided.

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**SHORT TAKES / POTPOURRI**

*The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter March 3, 2010, March 9, 2010, March 12, 2010, March 15, 2010, March 15, 2010, March 18, 2010 and are copyright 2010 by Richard W. Eastman. They are re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.*

## Census Scam Alert (March 3, 2010)

The following bulletin was issued by the Better Business Bureau:

Type: U.S. Census Scam

Method of Delivery: In Person

Primary Region Effected: All Regions (National)

Source: Better Business Bureau ([www.BBB.org](http://www.BBB.org))

### Scam Characteristics:

Beginning March of this year the U.S. Census Bureau's will send out a short questionnaire to every household in the U.S. and Puerto Rico in an effort to collect important demographic data. As a citizen, you are required by law to respond to the 10 short questions. From April to July, those that haven't completed their census will receive a visit at their home address from a census taker.

Identity criminals are taking advantage of the census law and targeting unsuspecting victims in an attempt to steal sensitive information. The scams perpetrated range from fraudulent emails designed to obtain sensitive information to attempts to impersonate census collectors.

Most Citizens don't think twice about sharing personal information with a census worker, and that's why these scams can be very effective. It's important to remember there are distinct differences between a real census worker and an identity thief posing as a census worker.

U.S. Census workers will have identification, a handheld device and a confidentiality notice. But these things can be easily fabricated, so it's important to know what census workers will not do:

- They will not ask for your Social Security number or financial information, e.g. bank or credit card accounts.
- They will not ask you for money or say that you owe money.
- They will not harass or intimidate you.
- They will not contact you by email- only by phone, by mail, or in person.

For more information on this scam or variations of it visit the Social Security Administration's website at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov). Use the search function and enter keywords "email scam".

It is recommended that you follow universal safety rules-- even with U.S. Census workers. For example, avoid inviting strangers into your home, and be suspicious when someone asks for your personal and sensitive information.

To learn more about the 2010 Census and U.S. Census workers, call (800) 923-8282 or visit them online at [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov).

**RootsTelevision.com Will Survive! (March 9 2010)**

Great news! The following was written by Megan Smolenyak:

Dear RootsTelevision.com Viewer,

OK, you convinced me! After getting inundated with emails, tweets, and Facebook postings and messages about the closing of [RootsTelevision.com](#) (RTV), I've decided to keep it going. I honestly had no clue how valued it was by the genealogical community, and I agree with the many of you who pointed out that it serves a somewhat different purpose than the prime time programming that's on TV at present (much as I've been enjoying that!). At the same time, I think many had not realized that RTV is a one-person company, but one that's not inexpensive to provide.

Thanks very much to all you who reached out to share your thoughts and experiences. Although I haven't been able to respond to all of you, I hope you realize that your comments made all the difference in the world. Thanks also to the more than 20 individuals, organizations and companies that contacted me to explore the notion of adopting RTV. It's refreshing to know how many were willing to step in and help. I also need to thank Brightcove, the video platform used by RTV, for working with me to find viable solutions.

I should probably clarify one point of confusion. Many were under the impression that even if RootsTelevision.com closed down, the video archive would remain. Quite a few also wrote asking me to send DVDs of the videos, but with more than 700 videos on the site, popping them on a DVD is not an alternative. Hosting and streaming this wide array of videos is one of the most costly aspects, and there are rights issues involved as well, so if RTV had gone, so would have all the videos.

That's why I surveyed genealogists on Twitter and Facebook, asking whether you would be willing to tolerate commercials if it would help preserve RootsTelevision.com. I was beyond relieved how lopsided the response was! So please be aware that I will be adding commercials to help pay the bills. Unfortunately, I don't have the resources to customize them, but I'll experiment with ways to make them as painless as possible. I'd also greatly appreciate it if you let me know of any people, companies or organizations that would be interested in running banners ads on RTV. Boston University and Family Tree DNA have both helped support RTV in the past by sponsoring ads, and more of the same would help ensure that the doors of RTV stay open in the future!

Og and I are going to do a little tinkering under the hood at RTV, so you'll see fewer new videos for a while, but please use that time to explore the hundreds of videos that are already there. Please also consider uploading your own videos (podcasters welcome!) through RootsTube ([http://rootstelevision.com/submit\\_rootstube.php](http://rootstelevision.com/submit_rootstube.php)) and let us know of any great genealogical videos you come across in your online travels. If we see something we like, we'll do our best to secure permission to share the video on RootsTelevision.com, so you can have the widest, high quality viewing selection possible all in one place.

And finally, I would ask that you spread the word to your friends, relatives, libraries, and genealogical societies that the lights are still on at [RootsTelevision.com](#)! The more viewers, the better – so watch often!

Thanks again,

Megan

P.S. Be sure to follow us online for new videos, announcements and special events:

Megan on Twitter - <http://twitter.com/megansmolenyak>

Megan on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/megansmolenyak>

RTV on Twitter - <http://twitter.com/rootstelevision>

RTV on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/rootstv>

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 09, 2010 in [Video & Television](#) | [Permalink](#)**

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|--|
| <b>Footnote.com Opens All of their U.S. Census Documents for Free to the Public<br/>(March 12, 2010)</b> |
|--|

This is big news! The following announcement was written by Footnote.com:



FOOTNOTE.COM LETS PEOPLE CREATE AMERICA'S FAMILY TREE THROUGH THE ONLY INTERACTIVE U.S. CENSUS

-Finding Ancestors and distant relatives can be as easy as clicking a single button-

Lindon, UT - March 11, 2010 – In order to encourage more people to find their ancestors and connect with family, [Footnote.com](http://Footnote.com), the web's premier interactive history site, is opening all of their U.S. census documents for free to the public for a limited time.

Unlike any other historical collection on the web, the [Interactive Census Collection](#) has the unique ability to connect people related to ancestors found on the historical documents. Simply by clicking the "I'm Related" button for a name on the document will identify you as a descendent and also list others that have done the same. Never before has it been as easy to connect with distant relatives through historical documents. To learn how to get started with the Interactive Census, visit: <http://go.footnote.com/discover>.

Finding a record featuring an ancestor's name provides not only an emotional experience but also a connection with the past. On Footnote.com it's more than just finding a name on a census record. Interactive tools allow people to enhance the documents by adding their own contributions including:

- Photos
- Stories
- Comments
- Other related documents

Each contribution is linked to a Footnote member and provides a means for people to find each other and exchange more information about their ancestors.

"TV programs including 'Who Do You Think You Are?' on NBC and 'Faces of America' on PBS will surely increase the interest in family history in the United States," explains Russell Wilding, CEO of Footnote.com. "We believe that using our Interactive Census Collection is a great way for those who are new to genealogy to get started."

In addition to providing the basic information about ancestors with the census documents, Footnote.com has been working with the National Archives and other institutions to digitize and index over 63 million historical records that include:

- Military documents
- Historical newspapers
- City directories
- Naturalization records

"Using the records on Footnote to go beyond the names and dates is like adding color to your tree," says Roger Bell, Footnote's Senior Vice President of Content and Product. "The more details you add, the more colorful your family tree becomes."

To search for an ancestor and experience family history like never before, visit: <http://go.footnote.com/discover>.

#### **Additional Resources**

Follow us on Twitter – <http://twitter.com/footnote>

Join us on Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Footnotecom/52981708480>

#### **About Footnote, Inc.**

Footnote.com is a subscription website that features original historical documents, providing visitors with an unaltered view of the events, places and people that shaped the American nation and the world. At Footnote.com, all are invited to come share, discuss, and collaborate on their discoveries with friends, family, and colleagues. For more information, visit <http://www.footnote.com>.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 11, 2010 in [Online Sites](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Second Week of "Who Do You Think You Are?" More Popular than the First (March 15, 2010)**

The new genealogy series *Who Do You Think You Are* improved in its second week and helped NBC to second place on Friday, just 0.1 behind leader CBS, according to Nielsen overnights.

"Who" averaged a 1.8 adults 18-49 rating, up 13 percent over a 1.6 for the previous week's debut and up 50 percent over the network's average for the 8 p.m. timeslot last year.

A 1.8 isn't a great rating, but on a Friday night it's pretty strong, especially for an on-the-cheap program about tracing celebrity ancestry. "Who" finished second in the slot to CBS's "Ghost Whisperer," the night's top show with a 1.9.

You can read more in an article by Toni Fitzgerald in *Media Life* at

[http://www.medialifemagazine.com/artman2/publish/Overnights\\_50/Big\\_bump\\_for\\_Who\\_Do\\_You\\_Think\\_You\\_Are.asp](http://www.medialifemagazine.com/artman2/publish/Overnights_50/Big_bump_for_Who_Do_You_Think_You_Are.asp).

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 15, 2010 in [Video & Television](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Scam Watch: Your Family Name (March 15, 2010)**

Beware of the ads that recently have appeared on late-night television and on the web. These ads insinuate that they can trace your name back in time to its origins. Actually, the ads are carefully worded to always say "the origins of your name," not the "origins of your ancestors."

The ads state, "Your ancestors left you a precious legacy: your family name." The same ads also claim to offer an "extremely detailed family history" and "a scroll of your family name and origin and meaning." The Internet ad also offers "2 specially researched reports on why your ancestors got their family name and why there is a Coat of Arms listed under your family name."

Of course, the advertisements neglect to mention there is no such thing as a "family coat of arms" (except in Japan and a few rare exceptions in the Netherlands) and names came from many places.

For instance, I have researched my own EASTMAN surname in America and have found immigrants of that name over a period of 300 years from England, Scotland, Sweden, Denmark, Poland, Russia, Spain, Argentina, and China. In addition, I know of black families named EASTMAN whose origins I have been unable to trace but I assume they eventually go back to Africa. I don't believe all these families are all related nor are the origin(s) of their family name accurately listed on any single piece of paper.

I have also researched the so-called "family coat of arms." There is none, despite what the hucksters claim. To be sure, there was a coat of arms once issued in England to a man named Eastman but it cannot be automatically passed down to his own sons, not to mention to anyone else of the same name.

Anything that claims to be a report of the "Eastman family name" is obvious not complete. I doubt if all these families had ancestors who got their family names in the same manner. I would suggest that any "report" of a family name and any mention of a family coat of arms is equally worthless. Sadly, I suspect that many gullible people will fall for this.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 15, 2010 in [Scams](#) | [Permalink](#)**

**What the Census Said About Us...in 1870 (March 18, 2010)**



Radical Cartography has published dozens of stunning charts and maps that illustrate much of the data in the 1870 U.S. census. You can view small versions of the maps and charts on your screen or download much larger images as ZIP files and then view them offline at your leisure.

The 1870 census was the first statistical census of the United States. Earlier efforts focused mostly on the names and the total number of inhabitants. The 1870 census asked many more questions and those answers were tabulated to provide an interesting statistical picture of a fast-growing country that was full of immigrants.

54 maps and charts are available, reproduced from the Statistical Atlas of the United States as published in 1874. You can view the images on your computer screen; click on an image to see a larger version. Instructions are also provided to download even larger images.

You can see the Statistical Atlas of the United States at

<http://www.radicalcartography.net/index.html?9thcensus>

Posted by Dick Eastman on March 18, 2010 in [History](#) | [Permalink](#)

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**LOCAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS/PROGRAMS**

*Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists*

**PLEASE MAKE NOTE THAT THE MEETING DATE FOR THE SOCIETY IS THE 3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH A MEETING OCCURS. MEETINGS WILL STILL BE HELD AT THE FOREST VIEW EDUCATIONAL CENTER IN ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ON GOEBBERT ROAD. NO MEETINGS OCCUR DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST AND DECEMBER.**

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists will take place on Tuesday evening, April 20, 2010. The program for the evening is titled **“Naturalization: It’s History and Records”**. The speaker for the evening will be Kathryn Barrett.

Meetings take place at Forest View Education Center, 2121 South Goebbert (turn south at Golf and Goebbert), Arlington Heights, IL 60005 at 7:30 p.m. There is a round table discussion that takes place at 7 PM prior to the main meeting that starts at 7:30 PM. Participants are invited to attend this round table and bring their research questions for discussion.

You may visit the society web page at:

[www.NWSCG.com](http://www.NWSCG.com)

Please note that it has happened once in a while that the society may change a program schedule without actively sharing that fact. Checking their web site may also not give you notice of such a change if they do not change the web site. That is still the first place to check. You may also want to contact someone at the society if a phone number is available to verify that a program is still scheduled as they had advertised. That is always not available either.

We do our best here to try to be sure that information we convey about programs is accurate. However, sometimes we are unable to convey changes unless we are made aware of those changes.

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*DuPage County Genealogical Society*

**Please note that meetings that are scheduled for October 2009 through May 2010 are once again taking place at the Wheaton Public Library in the Lower Level. The address of the library is 225 N. Cross St. in Wheaton, IL. Please note the new times for refreshments and the program. Refreshments are offered at 6:30 PM. The meeting will start at 7 PM and last till no longer than 9 PM when the library closes.**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, April 21, 2010. The program scheduled for that evening is **"Using eBay To Find Genealogical Material"**. The speaker for the program will be Ed Udovic.

You may visit the society's web page at:

[www.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.org)

Please note that it has happened once in a while that the society may change a program schedule without actively sharing that fact. Checking their web site may also not give you notice of such a change if they do not change the web site. That is still the first place to check. You may also want to contact someone at the society if a phone number is available to verify that a program is still scheduled as they had advertised. That is always not available either.

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Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois (CAGGNI)

The next meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, April 17, 2010 at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 10:30 AM. The program scheduled for this day is "**Footnote.com**". The speaker for the program will be Caron Brennan.

You may visit the organization web page at:

[www.CAGGNI.org](http://www.CAGGNI.org)

Please note that it has happened once in a while that the society may change a program schedule without actively sharing that fact. Checking their web site may also not give you notice of such a change if they do not change the web site. That is still the first place to check. You may also want to contact someone at the society if a phone number is available to verify that a program is still scheduled as they had advertised. That is always not available either.

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**INTERNET INFORMATION**

*The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter March 1, 2010, and March 12, 2010 and are copyright by Richard W. Eastman 2010. They are re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>*

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| <b>Deceased Online Adds Nearly a Quarter Million Burial and Cremation Records (March 1, 2010)</b> |
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Deceased Online is the first central database of statutory burial and cremation registers for the UK and Republic of Ireland -- a unique resource for family history researchers and professional genealogists. Until now, to search these records you had to visit about 3,000 burial authorities and nearly 250 crematoria in the UK alone, each independently holding their own registers, mostly as old fragile books. No official central repository exists. Deceased Online is changing this.

Searching is FREE, and can be restricted as required to country, region, county, or individual burial authority or crematorium. However, once you find a record of possible interest, you do have to pay a fee to read all the details.

Deceased Online has recently added nearly quarter of a million burial and cremation records to the website, [www.deceasedonline.com](http://www.deceasedonline.com). These are for Cambridge City and Gainsborough in Lincolnshire (both in Eastern England) and for Wembley and Old Willesden cemeteries in the northwestern London borough of Brent. The details for all of these are on the "database coverage" section of the Deceased Online website.

The company also expects to add at least 2 million more burial and cremation records for areas right across the UK over the next 6-9 months.

You can read more at <http://www.deceasedonline.com>.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 01, 2010 in [Online Sites](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Family History Library Classes Now Available on Internet (March 12, 2010)**

The following announcement was written by FamilySearch:

Free Classes Make Genealogy Expertise Accessible Anywhere

SALT LAKE CITY—It is rare that Marcia Covington can make the trip from her home in State College, Pennsylvania, to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Now, however, people like Covington can take classes from the world-famous library without ever leaving home.

The FamilySearch Family History Library is now making its popular classes available at FamilySearch.org, where anyone anywhere in the world can access them for free at a time that is convenient for them. The classes have been offered on-site in Salt Lake City for years. Until now, attendance has been limited to those patrons who are fortunate to live in the surrounding community or happen to be visiting the library as part of a research trip. Making the classes available online allows access to many more patrons.

"Most people do family history whenever they can fit it in their busy lives, on evenings, holidays, weekends, and so forth. Whether you are a beginner or experienced researcher, you can choose subjects of interest to you from the available classes and watch them anytime and anywhere," said FamilySearch Community Services Manager Diane Loosle.

The online classes are a great complement to the free personal research assistance the Family History Library offers to its patrons in Utah and through its family history centers worldwide. According to Loosle, the free online classes are one part of the growing number of tools FamilySearch is building for its online patrons. That is great news to people like Covington.

"Very few people have the opportunity to come to Salt Lake City, but these classes give me the same access at home as I can get in Utah," Covington said. "Our distances here are pretty long, and for some people it is a 40-minute drive to the nearest family history center. These classes make it possible to get training in your home whenever you want, and it is so nice that it is free."

There are currently 23 Family History Library classes available online, with subjects ranging from European research to United States military records. The most popular

offerings are the Beginning Research Series for Ireland and England and a class on descendency research.

The classes vary in length from 6 to 58 minutes, with most lasting about 25 minutes. The format of the class varies, depending on the content being presented. One type of class shows a video that alternates between the teacher and the PowerPoint slides. Another kind of class integrates video of the presenter, the accompanying PowerPoint slides, and links to supplemental materials all in one screen.

Several of the classes are interactive, such as a course on reading German handwriting. In these classes, the teacher is represented with still photographs and audio narration, and the student can actively participate in learning activities, such as matching English and German characters or transcribing selected words from a document. As a student types, the correct text appears in green and incorrect answers appear in red, providing immediate feedback.

FamilySearch is continually adding new online offerings; classes on how to read English handwritten records are currently in development. All of the classes can be accessed on [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) by clicking on **Free Online Classes** on the home page.

#### ABOUT FAMILYSEARCH INTERNATIONAL

FamilySearch International is the largest genealogy organization in the world. Millions of people use FamilySearch records, resources, and services to learn more about their family history. To help in this great pursuit, FamilySearch has been actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records worldwide for over 100 years. FamilySearch is a nonprofit organization sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Patrons may access FamilySearch services and resources free online at [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) or through over 4,600 family history centers in 132 countries, including the renowned Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 12, 2010 in [Online Sites](#) | [Permalink](#)**



#### PERIODICAL NEWS

##### *Avotaynu*

We have received the Fall 2009, Volume XXV, Number 3 issue of [Avotaynu](#).

Key articles in this issue are:

**“How Far Should A Genealogist Go? Chapter 2”**  
by Karen Roekard

**“European Jewish Cemeteries as Ancient Monuments:  
Advocacy for Online Documentation”**

by Nathaniel Riemer

**"Cemeteries in Upper Silesia"**

by Roger Lustig

**"JewishGen's Online Worldwide Burial Registry"**

by Nolan Altman

**"Vilnius and Belarus: Genealogical Travel"**

by Susan Weinberg

**"Joint Distribution Committee Archives: Resources for Genealogists"**

By Linda G. Levi

**"Los Angeles to Host 30<sup>th</sup> IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy"**

By Pamela Weisberger

**"Regional Conferences Held by Australian and Israeli Jewish Genealogical Societies"**

By Lionel Sharpe and Schelly Talalay Dardashti

**"Holocaust Geographic "How To" for Genealogists"**

by Peter Lande

**"Children's Archive at the International Tracing Service"**

by Rose Lerer Cohen

**"Discovering Freda Brachman"**

by Daniel S. Cohen

**"IJG Awards Research Grants for Innovative Projects"**

by Sergio DellaPergola and Neville Lamdan

**"Methods and Resources for Sephardic Genealogical Research: The Example of the Antebi Family Research"**

By Elio Antebi Hefer

**"Georgette and Raphael Cohen Collection of Family Trees from Meknes, Morocco"**

By Horia Haim Ghiuzeli

**"Creating Master Indexes of Names for Districts Surrounding Major Shtetls"**

By Ronald Doctor

Also included in this recent issue is a section titled "Book Reviews". In this section you will find extensive books reviews of some recently published genealogical material that may be of interest to the Eastern European researcher or one who is researching Jewish ancestry.

Books included in this section include the following:

***Evidence Explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.***

By Elizabeth Shown Mills

***Sephardic Genealogy: Discovering Your Sephardic Ancestors And Their World, 2<sup>nd</sup> E.***

By Jeffrey S. Malka

The reviews are quite extensive and are more than just overviews of the book. The reviewers do a good job of highlighting both strong and weak points of the material.

You will also find a section in this issue titled "From Our Mailbox". In this section you will find some rather lengthy questions/comments posed by readers to the journal and other readers. There are no responses by the staff, but the length and depth of the letters is very impressive and worth taking a look at.

You will also find a section titled "Ask the Experts" in this recent issue. In this section you will find questions posed to the experts seeking help and understanding trying to solve the problem at hand. Some of the questions are detailed and in-depth. Most of the answers are also well presented and offer many good suggestions to the person posing the question on how to go about resolving the question. I think these sections in this journal and other journals is always worth visiting to see what is posed and how the answer can help expand your knowledge in your own research.

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "European Jewish Cemeteries as Ancient Monuments: Advocacy for Online Documentation". While the title of the article implies a direct connection to Jewish cemetery research and preservation, I believe the message is much more universal. The message applies to any cemetery located anywhere. Perhaps those of us located in the United States still have a chance at meaningful preservation of cemeteries and their monuments simply because our cemeteries may not be as old as those located in Europe. So I do believe there is much to be learned from this article that has a connection to our own United States cemetery research and preservation.

The author mentions how efforts at preservation need to be done on a worldwide basis. He even uses the term "world heritage sites" as a category to identify cemeteries of world importance needing massive efforts of preservation.

One method for "preservation" is the use of the Internet to document cemetery information via photos and transcriptions of information contained on monuments. Think of "Find A Grave" that we often use in the United States.

The author describes some of the projects that have been undertaken to preserve cemetery information. One project mentioned was that in Hessen. Since 1983 one organization has compiled wide-ranging documentation on about 70 of 350 Jewish cemeteries with approximately 4,800 gravestones. These are ongoing projects that take time and dedication. A website listed in this article can shed more light on the extent of the project to any researcher that is interested in discovering more. Please take a look at <http://web.uni-marburg.de/hlgl/lagis/hela.html>. The website appears to only be available in German.

Another project mentioned were about the Jewish cemeteries in Brandenburg. A web site mentioned for this project is [www.unipotsdam.de/juedische-friedhoefe](http://www.unipotsdam.de/juedische-friedhoefe). Again, information at this web site is also in German.

Cemetery preservation in all aspects is a critical need. This includes the grounds themselves that can become overgrown and thus obliterate the gravesites themselves. Monuments over time will ultimately become unreadable. Documentation of the monuments and the script on the monuments may be the only way of preserving the memory of the person buried at the site, especially if the records of any of the burials may no longer be available. How often has your own research onsite at a cemetery discovered the monument of a long deceased ancestor to be unreadable by you. Maybe the monument itself is only 100 years in age. Mother Nature is powerful over time.

For anyone in particular with a Jewish connection to ancestors buried in Europe you should consider looking at this article so you can get a better perspective of this deteriorating situation with European cemeteries. For those doing research in the United States, preservation and documentation is just as important.

Take a look at the entirety of this recent issue of Avotaynu. Consider visiting the web site for Avotaynu at [www.avotaynu.com](http://www.avotaynu.com) for much more that you can find out about this great journal.

You can find this most recent issue Avotaynu on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our library on the magazine shelves.

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## **Ancestry**

We have received the March/April 2010, Volume 28, Number 2 issue of Ancestry.

Key articles in this issue are:

**"Finding the Keeper's of the Gate: In Search of Ellis Island's Workforce"**

by Barry Moreno

**"Rediscovering Roots at the Redcliffe Plantation"**

by Elizabeth Laney

**"Discovering Displaced Persons"**

by Ceil Wendt Jensen, CG

*Some say refugees flee their homes: displaced persons were forced from theirs.*

**"Relatively Close"**

by Paul Rawlins

*Martha Washington, George Rogers Clark, and "Bonnie Jean" Armour have all had it done. But are you ready to add age-regressed portraits to your family album?*

**"Project: Census"**

by Mary Penner

*Think census takers had it easy? Think again. Then read on to discover exactly what it took to get all of those names, ages, relationships, and more on the census forms we genealogists cherish.*

**"Far From Frustration"**

by Janet Bernice Jeys

**"Becoming a Better Lady"**

by Ancestry Staff

**"The Stories of Slavery"**

by Lisa Arnold

**"Boondoggles Big and Small"**

by Tana L. Pedersen

**"Group Therapy"**

by Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG

*Every activity is more fun with a group, right? Even when that group decides to sit down and debate the topics of who was whom and what happened when.*

**"Reforming the Dress"**

by Betty Kreisel Shubert

**"Dating the Future"**

by Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D

**"Office Makeover"**

by Ancestry Staff

**"Letters in the Attic"**

by Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak

*A collection of old letters and postcards turns into a gift from the Past for a family once separated by war.*

**"Getting' Wiki With It"**

by Howard Wolinsky

*Family history is at its best when all those families share their knowledge with the rest of us.*

**"Placeholder Here"**

by Jeanie Croasmun

For all of you readers that have read through the pages of [Ancestry](#) over the past 25 years, this issue we have received is the last issue being published by [Ancestry](#). Just like other genealogical journals of recent time, it will be ceasing publication in paper format. Similar fates have also fallen on [Everton's Genealogical Helper](#), [Heritage Quest](#), and the [Digital](#)

Genealogist. A decline in advertising revenues has been the reason behind the demise of all of these popular genealogical journals.

Ancestry will continue to have its presence felt from its website. Visit them at:

[www.ancestrymagazine.com](http://www.ancestrymagazine.com)

to keep in touch with all things for genealogy. There are many articles previously published in Ancestry that you will be able to find from its website. Keep in touch that way and search for whatever interests you genealogically from the web site.

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "Project: Census", especially since we will be living through the fulfillment of a Constitutional requirement that mandates a decennial census.

One interesting highlight of the article hit me immediately when I noticed a table within the article that provided statistics on the total number of census takers that were associated with each census. Here are some of the facts:

- 1790 – an estimate of 650 census takers.
- 1800 – an estimate of 900 census takers.
- 1810 – an estimate of 1,100 census takers.
- 1820 – 1,188
- 1830 – 1,519
- 1840 – 2,167
- 1850 – 3,231
- 1860 – 4,417
- 1870 – 6,530
- 1880 – 31,382
- 1890 – 46,408
- 1900 – 52,871
- 1910 – 70,286
- 1920 – 87,234
- 1930 – 87,756
- 1940 – 123,069
- 1950 – 142,962
- 1960 – 159,321
- 1970 – 166,406
- 1980 – 458,523
- 1990 – 510,200
- 2000 – an estimate of 550,000

Have we come a long way since 1790 in tracking our growing population!

Our ancestors may not have been too happy with the idea of a census even though we as researchers can't get enough of them. Our government recognized that obtaining census data may not be an easy thing to achieve. In 1790 it had already instituted fines for people who failed to provide the information to the census taker.

Here is another fact. The Census Bureau is our governmental agency that is responsible to undertake this Constitutional requirement. However, prior to the 1880 census, the data was obtained from our U.S. Marshal system. Imagine the nervous feeling our citizens must have felt during that time period to have a lawman arrive at your house

asking for quite a lot of personal information. I can surely see why our ancestors must have had such nervous feelings about answering the census questions during this time.

Early on in the census taking process our Congress was rather vague on what the requirements were. For the 1790 census, Congress outlined a 3 page instruction form as to what to do to fulfill the Constitutional requirement. By 1860, census takers were facing a 35 page instruction form.

Take a look at the entirety of this article especially since it coincides with the census we are going to shortly experience ourselves. The census is our "meat and potatoes" data resource for our own research. Now is the time to familiarize yourself with this important resource both as a great resource and as a citizen about to fulfill your obligation to provide this mandated information.

I thought that another interesting article in this issue is one titled "Finding the Keepers of the Gate: In Search of Ellis Island's workforce". As researchers, we are all focused on which of our ancestors came through the Ellis Island immigration station over the years. However, the author of this article has turned the tales and has focused on who were the gatekeepers that let our ancestors into this great country. The author's source for much of the material comes from the U.S. Bureau of Immigration, U.S. Public Health Service and various other agencies that served the gateway. The author was able to obtain the names of many of these gatekeepers that worked on Ellis Island. It was up to him to fill in the blanks on just who these workers were.

The author takes the names of these workers and just like you or I begins his research through looking at the same resources we look at to see who these employees were. Google Books was used as a source. Census data was looked at. Newspaper archives were searched. The records from Ellis Island on these employees was the stepping stone used by the author to come up with the great stories he discovered that will be released in a future book titled ***Who Was Who at Ellis Island***.

Here are some of the job titles uncovered by the author during his research:

- Surgeon – official title but they were basic doctors. They scrutinized arrivals for signs of disease and health problems.
- Matrons – cared for detained women and children, helped to arrange betrothals and marriages and prepared women and children deemed "undesirable" for deportation.
- Gatekeepers – directed the great throng to the inspection hall and provided security and general assistance.
- Interpreters – verbally interpreted the languages and dialects spoken by the newcomers and also translated documents into English.
- Immigrant Inspectors – cross-questioned each alien to verify facts and search out deception, and possessed the authority of admitting or rejecting immigrants.
- Clerks – kept the vast load of manifests, card files, incoming and outgoing correspondence, and dossiers, in order.

The author also provided two short biographies put together from his research effort that will wind up in the new book. I just think this is an amazing view of the people that wielded ultimate power over our ancestors as they made their effort to make it through the final gauntlet before being admitted to the US. I think this is a fascinating concept of delving into the lives of those that had a direct connection to the lives of our own ancestors.

There are many more good articles in this last issue of Ancestry. Take a look at this issue to see what other articles may be of interest to you.

You can find this most recent issue of Ancestry on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our library on the magazine shelves.

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## **Family Chronicle**

We have received the March/April 2010, Volume 14, Number 4 issue of Family Chronicle.

Key articles in this issue are:

**"Last Sons of the Civil War"**

by James Rada

*James Rada looks at the dwindling number of sons and daughters of Civil War veterans.*

**"Researchin' in A Recession"**

by Leland K. Meitzler

*Leland K. Meitzler shows you how to tighten your fiscal belt and still enjoy those research trips.*

**"Canada 150: A Nation's Stories"**

by Elizabeth Lapointe

*Elizabeth Lapointe looks at a project celebrating the lives and stories of Canadian families.*

**"Natural Disasters and Genealogy"**

by David A. Norris

*David A. Norris looks at how earthquakes and weather events affected the lives of your ancestors – and your genealogical research!*

**"Chancery Court Records"**

by Donna Murray

*Donna Murray looks at the wealth of details available from chancery courts.*

**"Protect Those Precious Papers"**

by Kyla Ubbink

*Kyla Ubbink looks at 12 ways to protect and preserve your old*

*documents.*

**"April Fools: Genealogy Style!"**

by Gail Blankenau

*Gail Blankenau looks at the funnier side of researching your family history!*

**"Finding and Using English & Welsh BMDs"**

by George G. Morgan

*George G. Morgan looks at what you can learn from British civil registration records.*

**"Brooklyn Historical Society"**

by Gregory Peduto

*Gregory Peduto takes a look inside one of the most extensive archives in New York State.*

**"New Book for Polish Genealogy"**

by Lisa A. Alzo

*Lisa A. Alzo reviews a new resource for tracing your Polish family history.*

**"Collateral Relative Research Yields Dividends"**

by Donna Murray

*According to Donna Murray, researching your aunts and uncles can pay off, big time!*

**"I Am My Family: Memories, Facts and Fictions"**

by Nicole Votta and Jonathan Ore

*Nicole Votta and Jonathan Ore talk to photographer and genealogist Rafael Goldchain.*

**"Remembrance: Holocaust Memorial Books"**

by Melody Amsel Arieli

*Melody Amsel Arieli looks at this important, and poignant, research resource.*

**"City Directories: An Overlooked Resource"**

by Ed Storey

*According to Ed Storey, city directories can be a boon to your research.*

**"22 Tips for German Research"**

by Donna Potter Phillips

*Donna Potter Phillips looks at the parallels between American and*

*German research.*

Also in this issue of Family Chronicle you will find a section titled "Websites Worth Surfing". Sites mentioned in this section are:

- Historic Pittsburgh City Directories @  
<http://digital.library.pitt.edu/p/pitttextdir/>
- Australian Newspapers Digitization Program @  
[www.nla.gov.au/ndp/index.html](http://www.nla.gov.au/ndp/index.html)
- Archives of Maryland Online @  
[www.archivesofmaryland.net/html/index.html](http://www.archivesofmaryland.net/html/index.html)
- Brooklyn Genealogy Information Page @  
[www.bklyn-genealogy-info.com/index.html](http://www.bklyn-genealogy-info.com/index.html)
- Virginia Commonwealth University Digital Collections @  
<http://dig.library.vcu.edu/cdm4/collections.php>
- WeRelate @  
[www.werelate.org](http://www.werelate.org)
- Papers of the War Department 1784 to 1800 @  
<http://wardepartmentpapers.org>
- Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage Program @  
[www.mdch.org](http://www.mdch.org)
- World War One Postcards: Bowman Gray Collection @  
[www.lib.unc.edu/dc/graypc/](http://www.lib.unc.edu/dc/graypc/)
- American Civil War Homepage @  
<http://sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/warweb.html>
- Peel's Prairie Provinces @  
<http://peel.library.ualberta.ca/henderson.html>

I thought that a fascinating article in this issue is one titled "The Last Sons of the Civil War". I wasn't quite sure what the article was about when I first gazed upon it. But once I spent some time reviewing it, I became aware of facts that I would never have thought possible.

We are coming close to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. On the surface that is a long time ago. The purpose of the article was to note that there are actually children of Civil War veterans still alive today! That just struck me as literally impossible. How could that be?

The article provided some analysis describing how that could have happened. One case mentioned was that of a man named James Brown. The father of James Brown, J.H.H. Brown was born in 1841 and joined the Confederacy in 1861. He was wounded twice during the war and survived. His first marriage lasted from 1859 to 1900, when he became a widower. He then married a much younger woman in 1907 and had additional children. James Brown was a product of this marriage being born in 1912 when his father was already

71. James Brown is alive today at the grand age of 98! So James Brown is one of the cases showing that there are still living children of Civil War veterans.

James actually recalls stories told to him by his father of some of the events endured by his father during the war. Talk about oral histories passed on between two generations that spans literally 150 years!

The article points out that these anomalies would never had existed if the Civil War veterans had not re-married at a much later point of life to much younger women who were still able to bear children. The cases all mention that the Civil War veteran was already in his 70s when he fathered children with a much younger wife. The surviving children of these veterans are themselves alive today being in their 80s or 90s.

The article points out that there are no situations for Union Civil War veterans that have male children that are alive today. There are daughters of Union Civil War veterans that are alive today. This unique situation only exists for Confederate veterans having surviving children today. It is known that there are 120 sons and daughters of Civil War veterans that are alive today, children of both Union and Confederate veterans.

The author notes that there two websites that exist for these children of Civil War veterans. One is for the Union and one is for the Confederacy. The sites mentioned are:

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War @  
[www.suvcw.org](http://www.suvcw.org)

Sons of Confederate Veterans @  
[www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)

With such a small number alive today, it is very possible that many will pass away during the next four years of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War. There may even be more children alive today of these Civil War veterans. Efforts are being made to try to uncover that may fall within this unique category of surviving children of Civil War veterans as we approach the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War.

In the year 2010 who could have ever thought that there are children of Civil War veterans still alive. I would never think it could be possible. That is why this is just such a fascinating article to read in its entirety.

I thought that another good article in this issue of Family Chronicle is one titled "Protect Those Precious Papers!" The author provides the following points on how to preserve paper documents and books you may uncover in your genealogical research:

- Organize
  - Arrange books and paper by size
  - Do not overpack or overstack shelves or drawers
  - Use acid free tissue separators
  - Leave air space behind books
  - Use bookends to keep books squarely upright
- Remove Foreign Materials
  - Carefully remove staples, pins, paper clips, flowers/leaves, bookmarks, clippings, letters etc.
- Remove from direct light
- Remove from Basements, Attics, Kitchens and Outside Walls

- Find a dry, cool stable environment with a relative humidity of between 45 to 55 per cent.
  - Do not keep bookcases or framed works near food preparation or storage areas.
- Frequent Dusting or Vacuuming with Soft, Clean Brush
  - Observe for evidence of pests and mold.
  - Cover vacuum nozzle with nylon or screen and vacuum cautiously.
- Cautious Handling Techniques for books involves moving books back on either side of the one you want to remove and then grasping book you want to remove by grasping book between your thumb and fingers. Do not pull book out by grasping book at the top edge of the spine. You could rip that part.
- Read with Care – Support the book's covers, do not stress the spine or joints by over-opening. Wash your hands well before touching the material.
- View Unframed Works with Care
  - Fully support flat paper objects with acid free card at all times
  - Unfolding and unrolling may require humidification by a conservator
  - Again, wash hands well before touching material
- Provide Full Support for Objects While in Storage – Shelves, drawers and boxes must be adequate in size to fully support the materials. Lay books flat for full support.
- Use Acid Free Storage Units
  - Use low acid woods balsa, poplar, birch, mahogany, walnut and basswood or metal for storage units.
  - Prevent acid or rust migration by sealing them with Varathane or acrylic enamel paint.
- Use Custom Enclosures
  - Use custom made acid free enclosures, mats and mounting techniques to protect paper and books from dust, dirt, pests, sunlight, handling, acid and environmental fluctuations.
- See a Conservator for Repairs

The author of the article is an Ottawa-based expert book and paper conservator. You can find her online at:

<http://www3.sympatico.ca/kyla.ubbink>

These are some great tips to invest some time, money and knowledge to make sure valuable documents and materials from your research are preserved for many generations to come in your family history research.

Take a look at the entire recent issue of Family Chronicle for any other articles that may be of interest to your own research. I am sure you will find something of interest that will apply to your own research efforts. There are many good articles throughout this issue.

You can find this most recent issue of Family Chronicle on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our library on the magazine shelves.

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**BOOKS IN PRINT**

No new genealogy book was added to our collection during this March 2010 period and consequently no new book review is included in this newsletter.

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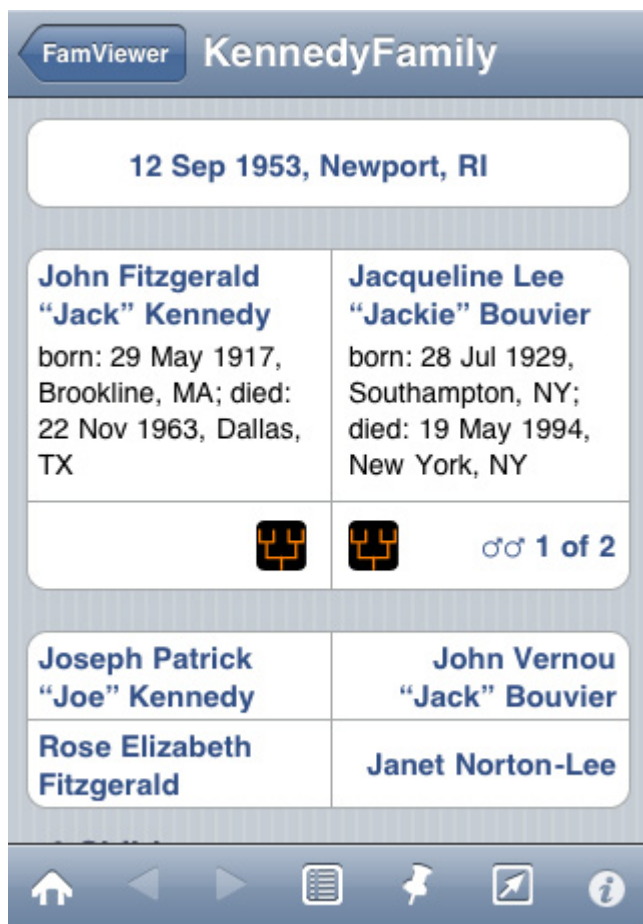
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**SOFTWARE/HARDWARE**

*The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter March 2, 2010 and March 22, 2010 and are copyright by Richard W. Eastman 2010. They are re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>*

**FamViewer Version 2.2 for iPhone and iPod Touch (March 2, 2010)**

The following announcement was written by Aster Software:



LEXINGTON, KY, March 2, 2010 --- Aster Software has announced the release of version 2.2 of its genealogy application, FamViewer. FamViewer allows genealogists to carry their genealogy databases with them on their iPhone and iPod Touch.

FamViewer imports standard GEDCOM files and displays them on the iPhone. GEDCOM files can be uploaded to FamViewer with a web browser on a desktop computer or downloaded to FamViewer from any web site or web server via WiFi. FamViewer will import the GEDCOM file and display its contents. Once a GEDCOM file is downloaded and imported you can view individuals, families, notes and sources. Navigate the family tree with a touch. You can carry your genealogy database with you wherever you bring your iPhone or iPod Touch.

New in version 2.2 is the New Note feature. Add a New Note to anyone in the database. Users can then email all the new notes to themselves, either in plain text format or as a GEDCOM file. The New Notes feature allows users to add details of their research when at an archive or cemetery.

FamViewer can display an eight generation ancestor chart for anyone in the database. Tap on the name of anyone displayed in the chart and go to their family page.

An index by surname allows the user to find anyone in the database. A family view, resembling a family group sheet, displays three generations of a family: parents, children, and grandparents. Touch the parent's names to view the details of their life events and personal attributes. Each event and attribute can have sources and notes, which are visible in another view.

All the FamViewer views work in portrait or landscape orientation so long names, places, dates or other data can be easily viewed.

FamViewer isn't tied to any desktop genealogy software. Active genealogy researchers already own genealogy software that they run on their desktop, or laptop, computers. All modern genealogy software can export their genealogy databases in GEDCOM format. FamViewer will import GEDCOM files exported by today's popular genealogy applications.

User comments about FamViewer from online reviews:

"A perfect solution. This genealogy app is exactly what I've been waiting for."

"Great App!"

"Great iPhone App. This is a great portable application that I have long awaited for my iPhone. I use Family Tree Maker and have successfully imported 80,000+ names. The customer support and responsiveness is awesome!"

"Love it, and with the latest update, you can see the actual pedigree chart, it's great."

"Outstanding software. Outstanding value. It was great having my entire TMG database (all 2700 people and nearly 2000 sources) with me on the last two business trips to Washington DC (the Archives and the DAR Library) and all on the iPhone."

Version 2.2 improvements

- New Notes feature allows users to add a note to each individual in the database and then email all of the New Notes to themselves. New Notes can be emailed as a simple text message or all the New Notes can be included in a GEDCOM file.
- Display of adopted children has been improved. If a person in the database has multiple sets of parents you can switch between display of these multiple sets of parents in a way similar to the way multiple spouses are displayed.
- Repository information is now displayed in the Sources view.
- Multiple names are displayed for individuals on the Person view. Each name included in the database for an individual is displayed on its own line in the Person view.
- Parsing of names has improved so all prefix, suffix, and nicknames will be displayed correctly.
- Parsing and display of Address information has been improved.
- If an imported file fails to import due to a 'bad file format' error the start of the offending file is displayed in the error dialog to help diagnose the error.
- Numerous GEDCOM parser improvements and performance improvements have been made.
- Display of some Notes and Sources has been improved.

### Version 2.1 improvements

- Speed improvements to the index. The index will now be more responsive for large databases of 5MB and larger.
- Index now supports Lastname Firstname, Firstname Lastname, and both searches on devices with iPhone OS 3.0.
- New history feature keeps a list of all persons visited in the tree. The user can choose from 10 to 100 of the most recently visited persons to be displayed in a list. A pushpin prevents a person from being removed from the list.
- Now displays submitter information in the GEDCOM file info view.
- Changes to the various views that display a title and a value to make them easier to read.
- Users can type %20 to represent a space character in filenames to be downloaded from the Downloads view. For example: My%20Database.ged
- Several bugfixes that improve the stability of the application.

### Version 2.0 improvements:

- Added family tree view that allows viewing eight generations of a family tree.
- Added support to display long notes.
- Added ability to connect to FamViewer using Bonjour.
- Improvements to the networking code should provide better reliability on certain networks.
- Implement choosing the home family.
- Added progress bar that shows progress of importing a GEDCOM file.
- Plays a sound when the GEDCOM import is complete.
- Changed placeholder text on the family page view from 'Grandfather'/'Grandmother' to 'None' due to user feedback.

FamViewer can be purchased at the Apple appstore and is priced at US\$14.99. To find out more about FamViewer visit the appstore with iTunes. FamViewer is listed under Productivity Applications and Genealogy. More information is also available at <http://www.astersoftware.biz>. View an overview movie showing FamViewer's main features at <http://www.astersoftware.biz/screencasts.html>.

### About Aster Software.

Aster Software is a small company specializing in products for iPhone, iPod Touch, and Macintosh. The company website is <http://www.astersoftware.biz>

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 02, 2010 in [Software](#) | [Permalink](#)**

**Kindle for iPad (March 22, 2010)**



I have written a number of times about ebook readers: electronic "tablets" that display books, newspapers, and magazines electronically. These are lightweight devices, typically less than one pound, that can store hundreds of books and other publications. I believe the ebook readers will revolutionize book publishing and sales, including genealogy books. I have an Amazon Kindle and love it. I also have ordered the competitive Apple iPad and look forward to using it as well.

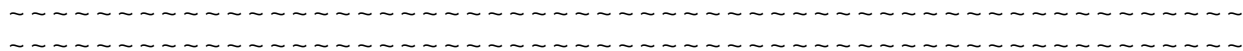
Amazon has now announced *Kindle Apps for Tablet Computers* which includes Kindle for iPad. I haven't seen it yet but early reviews describe it as a polished e-reader application that makes the Kindle itself look rather old-fashioned.

This strikes me as a great idea. First, the purchaser only needs one device: a tablet computer, such as the Apple iPad or tablets from other manufacturers. There will be no need to carry multiple devices. Next, many of today's tablet computers, including the iPad, display full color pages. That is a marked improvement over the Kindle's monochrome display. Finally, the result is even more books, newspapers, and magazines now available in electronic format: all those that are designed for the iPad plus all those designed for the Kindle plus any others designed for other tablet computers.

Most interesting, though, is the business behind Amazon's latest release. It shuts out a major revenue source from Apple. Until now, the only practical method of purchasing books for an Apple iPad is to go to Apple's iTunes online store. When you buy books from Apple, the company receives a 30% commission for all purchases. If you install Kindle for iPad on your new tablet, you are instead sent to the Amazon Kindle store in a web browser to make your purchase directly from Amazon, which then receives the commission. For a purchase made with *Kindle for iPad*, Apple receives nothing.

You can read more at <http://tinyurl.com/yh26h2u>

**Posted by Dick Eastman on March 22, 2010 in [Software](#) | [Permalink](#)**



**FUNNY BONE**

The following funny obituaries were found at The Epitaph Browser that can be found at:

[www.alsirat.com/epitaphs/index.html](http://www.alsirat.com/epitaphs/index.html)

*Conrad Aiken*

Bonaventure Cemetery,  
Savannah, Georgia

COSMOS MARINER, DESTINATION UNKNOWN

+++++

*Donna Jean Farrell*

*Forest Lawn,  
Cypress California*

"May ye be in heaven an hour before the devil knows you're dead"

+++++

*John E. Goembel*

*Willwood Cemetery,  
Rockford, Illinois*

The defense rests

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

*(Additions Since Last Newsletter Indicated With An "\*" )*

- Apr 13            Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
TUE            130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
2010            PM.  
                  **"So You've Found Your German Town of Origin – Now What?"**  
                  Presented by Teresa Steinkamp McMillin.  
                  Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
  
- Apr 20            Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, April 20, 2010.  
TUE            **"Naturalization: Its History and Records"**.  
2010            Presented by Kathryn Barrett  
                  Forest View Educational Center.  
                  2121 S. Goebbert Road. Arlington Heights, IL.  
                  847-398-1884 or 847-593-8160.

Pre-Meeting Round Table/Helping/Sharing at 7:00 PM  
Speaker program starts at 7:30 PM  
Visit the society website at [www.NWSCG.com](http://www.NWSCG.com)

Apr 21 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, April 21, 2010.  
WED Wheaton Public Library (Lower Level) 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
2010 6:30 PM Refreshments. Program begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program title is "**Using EBay to Find Genealogical Material**".  
Guest speaker is Edward Udovic.  
Society website at [www.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.org).  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)

May 11 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
2010 PM.  
**"20<sup>th</sup> Century Military Records"**  
Presented by Marian Richter Schuetz.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

\*May 15 Italian Genealogy Discussion Group.  
SAT Pointers in Person North #27 (PIP)  
2010 Schaumburg Township District Library  
Rasmussen Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193.  
10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Free and open to all. No fees.  
Visit <http://www.chicagoitalian.org> for further details.

May 18 Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, May 18, 2010.  
TUE **"In Search of French-Canadians in America and Canada"**.  
2010 Presented by Michelle Bray Wilson  
Forest View Educational Center.  
2121 S. Goebbert Road. Arlington Heights, IL.  
847-398-1884 or 847-593-8160.  
Pre-Meeting Round Table/Helping/Sharing at 7:00 PM  
Speaker program starts at 7:30 PM  
Visit the society website at [www.NWSCG.com](http://www.NWSCG.com)

May 19 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, May 19, 2010.  
WED Wheaton Public Library (Lower Level) 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
2010 6:30 PM Refreshments. Program begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program title is "**American Geographical Society Maps**".  
Guest speaker is Jovanka Ristovik.  
Society website at [www.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.org).  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)

Jun 8 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
2010 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

Jul 13 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7

- 2010 PM.  
**"Getting the Most Out of Heritage Quest"**  
 Presented by Kristin Newton Smith.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Aug 10 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2010 PM.  
**"Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places – the Search for  
 Marriage Records"**  
 Presented by Ginger Frere.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Sep 14 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2010 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- \*Oct 12 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2010 PM.  
**"Social Security Death Index (SSDI) – What's New"**  
 Presented by Larry Olson.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- \*Oct 23 Illinois State Genealogical Society Annual Conference.  
 TUE Peoria, IL 8 AM to 4 PM  
 2010 Hosted by the Peoria County Genealogical Society  
 For all further details about events, cost, location, directions,  
 programs and speakers please visit the following web sites.  
 Illinois State Genealogical Society @ [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ilsgs/)  
 Peoria County Genealogical Society @  
[www.usgennet.org/usa/il/county/peoria1](http://www.usgennet.org/usa/il/county/peoria1)
- Nov 9 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2010 PM.  
**"Using the Hamburg and Bremen Passenger Lists"**  
 Presented by Patricia Reaves.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Dec 14 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2010 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
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- Jan 11 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**"Genealogy and DNA – A Revisit"**  
 Presented by Jeffrey Bassett.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

- Feb 8  
TUE  
2011
- Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Program to Be Determined"**  
Presented by To Be Determined.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Mar 8  
TUE  
2011
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