



SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY  
 GENEALOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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 June 2010 --- No. 177

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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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**JULY 13, 2010 GENEALOGY PROGRAM TOPIC**

For our next program on Tuesday evening, July 13, 2010, our guest speaker will be Kristen Newton Smith. Kristin will present a program titled **"Getting the Most Out of Heritage Quest"**.

Heritage Quest is a great resource to do your research both onsite at a library or offsite from home. This is a "meat and potatoes" resource that most public libraries offer. Through Heritage Quest, you can access Census material from 1790 to 1930. There are two caveats with this data. The first is that the data is indexed by "head of household" name and is thus **NOT** an all-name index. Secondly, very little data for the 1930 census is contained within Heritage Quest. Though these sound like drawbacks, I can assure you that being able to access this product from home through the library that issued you your library card far outweighs any drawbacks.

In addition to the Census data, you can also access the following resources through Heritage Quest:

- Search Books
- Search PERSI (Periodical Source Index)
- Search Revolutionary War Material
- Search Freedmen's Bank Material
- Search U.S. Serial Set for Memorials, Petitions and Private Relief Actions of the U.S. Congress

Kristen is a librarian with the Algonquin Area Public Library District and has presented this program and other genealogical programs through "workshops" at her library.

We look forward to hearing from Kristen and learning how to best use Heritage Quest as a productive resource to help us with our own genealogical efforts.

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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 132 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 989 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 May 5, 2010, May 5, 2010, May 18, 2010, May 18, 2010, May 19, 2010, May 19, 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>.*

### **Google to Sell Digital Books (May 5, 2010)**

The ebook market is getting crowded. First there was the Sony Bookreader, then the Amazon Kindle, the Barnes & Noble Nook, and, most recently, the Apple iPad also is a general-purpose device that becomes an excellent ebook reader. Each producing company sells tens of thousands of books through its own proprietary store and each company's offerings can only be read on the hardware device sold by that company. Until now.

Google has now announced that it is entering the crowded ebook market and, best of all, the books will be readable on almost any desktop computer, laptop computer, or most any mobile gadget that features a full Web browser. Books will be purchased directly from Google and also from retailers who will keep the majority of the money earned. The new service will be called Google Editions.

**NOTE:** Today's announcement of the new Google Editions is not related to Google Books, a service that has been scanning out-of-print books in libraries. The new Google Editions will only sell books obtained directly from publishers.

Analysts at the Yankee Group have predicted that the US ebook reader market is "about to catch fire sparking from \$1.3 billion in revenue in 2010 to \$2.5 billion by 2013". Now other industry watchers have said Google Editions will boost those figures further still.

At this stage Google has not revealed how much it will charge users to access digital books through Google Editions.

Chris Palma, Google's manager for strategic-partner development, said at a publishing event today Google expects to launch Google Editions as early as late June or July, according to the Wall Street Journal.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on May 05, 2010 in [Books](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Find the Popularity of Your Surname on PublicProfiler.org (May 5, 2010)**

Just how popular is your surname? Is it popular in other countries? This web site will tell you. It won't find your ancestors but, with less-popular surnames, it may give clues as to the emigration patterns of extended family members. Don't try this on Smith or Jones, but with less-common surnames, it may provide clues.

PublicProfiler.org displays a map of the world and then invites you to enter your surname or any other surname of interest. It then displays the popularity of that name around the world.

I was surprised to find that my own surname is more popular in Canada (measured as a percentage of the entire population) than it is in the United States. I know it is a popular name in Canada, but never realized just how popular it is until PublicProfiler.org provided

the numbers. It is also a very popular name in the State of Maine (which I expected) and is also found in England, Australia, New Zealand, and even a handful of people with the same surname are found in Spain. The web site also reports that the fourth most common forename of all people named Eastman is Richard. Hey! That's my name.

Even better, the PublicProfiler.org web site reports that the people of my surname most commonly originated from England (which is correct) and there it is most commonly found in Bristol (which I didn't know). Again, these are not hard facts about your ancestors but the web site can provide clues about probabilities.

PublicProfiler.org also provides:

- An Area Search that displays the most common surnames and forenames for any geographic area in its database
- An Ethnicity Search that shows the distribution of various ethnic groups around the world

PublicProfiler.org contains data for 26 countries in Europe, America, Asia and Oceania. However, it does not contain information for all countries.

You can find PublicProfiler.org at <http://www.publicprofiler.org/worldnames>

My thanks to Frank Henderson for telling me about this site.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on May 05, 2010 in [Web/Tech](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Census Taker Attacked by New Jersey Man (May 18, 2010)**

A 2010 Census worker is pressing charges against a Mount Laurel, New Jersey resident after the apparently irate resident smashed the worker's cell phone, police said.

The census worker filed a complaint at the township police department after a May 15 confrontation with occupants at a home in the 4500 block of Fenwick Lane, police said.

The census worker told police that a resident at the home refused to answer survey questions. The resident's son then confronted the census worker, grabbed her cell phone and smashed it on the ground.

Police are investigating the matter.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on May 18, 2010 in [Current Affairs](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Europeans Build a Digital Time Machine for use by Future Generations (May 18, 2010)**

PC Magazine reports that European researchers have deposited a "digital genome" in a secret bunker deep in the Swiss Alps. Accompanied by burly security guards in black uniforms, scientists carried a time capsule through a labyrinth of tunnels and five security zones to a vault near the slopes of chic ski resort Gstaad.

The huge collection of digital data will provide the blueprint for future generations to read data stored using defunct technology. The sealed box containing the key to unpick defunct digital formats will be locked away for the next quarter of a century behind a 3-1/2

ton door strong enough to resist nuclear attack at the data storage facility, known as the Swiss Fort Knox.

The capsule is the culmination of the four-year "Planets" project, which draws on the expertise of 16 European libraries, archives, and research institutions, to preserve the world's digital assets as hardware and software is superseded at a blistering pace. The project hopes to preserve "data DNA," the information and tools required to access and read historical digital material and prevent digital memory loss into the next century.

"Einstein's notebooks you can take down off the shelf and read them today. Roll forward 50 years and most of Stephen Hawking's notes will likely only be stored digitally and we might not be able to access them all," said the British Library's Adam Farquhar, one of two computer scientists and archivists entrusted with transferring the capsule.

You can read more at <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2363904,00.asp>.

My thanks to Jeri Steele for telling me about this article.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on May 18, 2010 in [Current Affairs](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **U.S. Census from 1780s is Found at Kean University (May 19, 2010)**

Curators at Kean University recently found a population count of the United States done at least four years before the country's first official census in 1790, according to a report in the New York Times.

The paper, which was all handwritten, was in a ledger with files from John Kean, a delegate to the 1787 Constitutional Convention, according to the report. A heading on Kean's enumeration says it was presented to the Constitutional Convention. The count appears to have been conducted by the states separately between 1781 and 1786, apparently in person.

According to the document, there were 2.2 million whites and Indians and 567,000 blacks. Virginia had the most people — 530,000 — and New Jersey had nearly 150,000.

You can read more in an article by Sam Roberts published in the New York Times at <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/05/19/nyregion/19kean.html>

My thanks to Greg Thiel for telling me about this article.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on May 19, 2010 in [History](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Ancestry Gene Tests Need Firmer Science, Report Says (May 19, 2010)**

Companies that sell gene tests to help people trace their lineage offer "no quality assurance guarantee" and should strengthen the science behind their services, researchers led by a Duke University scientist said.

Ancestry.com Inc. in Provo, Utah, Pathway Genomics Corp. in San Diego, and 23andMe Inc. in Mountain View, California, are among almost 40 companies worldwide that sell such products. Officials from these enterprises should meet with geneticists, physicians and U.S. agencies to "brainstorm" about ways to improve their tests and databases, seven scientists said in a report published in the American Journal of Human Genetics.

"The time is now for no-holds-barred discussions among the players, particularly among scientists who must more purposefully and constructively critique one another's premises, methodologies, findings, and interpretations of findings," said the authors, led by Charmaine Royal, an associate research professor at Duke's Institute for Genome Sciences & Policy, in Durham, North Carolina.

Consumers shouldn't jump to conclusions about lineage, or where ancestors might have lived, on the basis of genetic ancestry tests, said Joann Boughman, executive vice president of the American Society of Human Genetics, the Bethesda, Maryland- based organization that sponsored the study.

"It's not that we don't think ancestry is important or interesting -- we think it is," Boughman said yesterday in an interview. "But these tests are complex, and there may be more variation" in a person's roots "than is implied."

You can read more in an article by Molly Peterson published in Business Week at <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-05-13/ancestry-gene-tests-need-firmer-science-report-says-update1-.html>

Posted by Dick Eastman on May 19, 2010 in [DNA](#) | [Permalink](#)

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## LOCAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS/PROGRAMS

### Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL NOT OCCUR UNTIL SEPTEMBER 21, 2010. PROGRAM INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.**

**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, September 21, 2010. The program for the evening is titled "**To Be Determined**". The speaker for the evening will be To Be Determined.

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 THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL NOT OCCUR UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15, 2010. PROGRAM INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED WHEN THE PROGRAM INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.**

**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, September 15, 2010. The program scheduled for that evening is **"To Be Determined"**. The speaker for the program will be To Be Determined.

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, June 19, 2010 at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 10:30 AM. The program scheduled for this day is **"Before You Croak: Saving Your Genealogical Collection for Posterity"**. The speaker for the program will be Ted L. Bartlett.

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 May 7, 2010, and May 17, 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>*

### **GenealoGee.com - A Genealogy Bookmarking Site (May 7, 2010)**



At the recent annual conference of the National Genealogical Society, I had a chance to view a new web site. While it is new, it was also strangely familiar. In fact, after viewing it, I wondered, "Why didn't someone think of this before?" Indeed, it seems to be a great idea.

GenealoGee.com is a new bookmarking site for genealogists and hobbyists to share genealogy blog posts, articles, news, and other information with each other. In fact, it is similar to the very popular Digg.com web site. If you have ever used Digg.com, you already know how to use GenealoGee.com. The primary difference is that GenealoGee.com is focused exclusively on family history and genealogy.

GenealoGee.com simplifies the process of finding helpful genealogy-specific articles. Read what you choose: top-ranking articles or all the current news.

This is not a database site for looking up your ancestors. It rarely mentions deceased people by name. Instead, GenealoGee.com lists "how to" articles, tutorials, news about new online databases, news about upcoming conferences, and similar materials. Many of the

articles will come from RSS feeds of genealogy blogs. At the same time, users are strongly encouraged to add additional genealogy-related materials from any other web sites, as appropriate.

Any time you see an article that you would like to share with others, such as an article in this newsletter, you can "submit" new articles to GenealoGee.com or "vote" on articles that have already been submitted by other genealogists. You can also add comments. As articles are submitted, users can see them and vote for the stories they like best. Every time someone votes for an article, that article will move higher in the ratings on GenealoGee.com. Stories with the most votes are moved from "Upcoming News" to "Published News" on the home page.

To read the posts that are popular in the genealogy world, visit the home page at <http://www.GenealoGee.com> to see the stories with the most votes. In effect, this one web page will display the most popular genealogy articles from all over the World Wide Web, as selected by the users of GenealoGee.com.

All submitted articles are also categorized. If you are looking for Genealogy News, Help for Beginners, Genealogy Blog Posts, Information About Conferences, or other topics, you can select your desired category from the home page to read relevant information.

You can also post any of the stories mentioned on GenealoGee.com to Facebook, del.icio.us, Digg, Twitter, Reddit, Technorati, Slashdot, Stumbleupon, Windows Live, Squidoo, Yahoo, Google, or Ask.com, assuming you have a user account on the selected service(s).

You can submit new articles or vote on previously-submitted articles to move them further up the list of popular stories. To submit a new article for consideration on GenealoGee.com, you have to complete a free registration and then respond to a message sent to your email address. In short, the registration process is similar to that used by a few thousand other web sites. There is no obligation.

**NOTE #1:** When the registration confirmation message was sent to my email address, my email provider placed it in my spam folder. I didn't see it there until several hours later. That problem was caused by my email provider, not by GenealoGee.com.

**NOTE #2:** I would suggest you might want to vote for your favorite articles published in this newsletter. I believe that the newsletter stories are already submitted automatically by an RSS feed but you can vote to move them higher up the list of popular stories if you feel that other genealogists would like to read them. All you need to do is to vote for the articles you prefer.

You can sort the articles listed on GenealoGee.com in several ways, including: most recently-added articles (which I found to be rather ineffective at finding relevant articles), most popular articles in the past day (which I found to be very effective at finding relevant articles), most popular in the previous day, most effective in the past week, past month, and past year. I was especially pleased to see that the most popular article in the past year was my article on "Genealogy Research in the Year 2060," a story I especially enjoyed writing.

**NOTE #3:** The site has not been online and collecting information for the past 365 days so I assume that, at this point, the "past year" really means "since the web site went online."

GenealoGee.com was created simply because the topic of genealogy is so popular online. Various studies claim that genealogy is the third or fourth or fifth most popular topic online. There are thousands of blogs and web sites dedicated to genealogy. The sheer volume can be overwhelming for most people. GenealoGee.com simplifies the process of finding helpful articles. When you visit the site, you can read what you choose: scan the top-ranking articles (as voted on by other genealogy enthusiasts), or read all the current news. You can also search for any specific words or phrases in genealogy-related articles already stored on the web site.

GenealoGee.com was created by OneGreatFamily.com, the same company that provides the huge genealogy database at <http://www.OneGreatFamily.com>.

GenealoGee.com is entirely free for users.

For more information, or to see what is popular now, go to <http://www.GenealoGee.com>

**Posted by Dick Eastman on May 07, 2010 in [Online Sites](#) | [Permalink](#)**

### **Society Of Genealogists & Pharos Announce New Teaching Partnership (May 17, 2010)**

The following was written by the Society Of Genealogists (in London) and by Pharos:



**SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS**

The National Library & Education Centre for Family History

The Society of Genealogists & Pharos Teaching & Tutoring today announced a new joint programme, the distance learning Certificate of Family History Skills and Strategies (Intermediate).



The Society of Genealogists, in conjunction with Pharos Teaching and Tutoring Ltd is now bringing its popular classroom programme to the Web. Following successful pilot courses last year, the Society and Pharos have teamed up to make available a full course of instruction, with assessment, to any interested genealogist anywhere in the world. First modules in the Skills and Strategies programme will be offered in September 2010. It will be possible to complete all 10 modules in an 18 month period.

The modules are listed here in alphabetical order:

- Apprenticeships & Guilds
- Employment Records
- Lists & Sources from Georgian England
- Migration in the British Isles
- Military Ancestors
- Nonconformity in England and Wales
- The Poor, the Parish and the Workhouse
- Victorian Crime & Punishment
- Wills and Administrations
- 17th Century Sources

Tutors include the well-known authors and genealogists, Gill Blanchard, Liz Carter, Else Churchill, Simon Fowler, Sherry Irvine, Michael Isherwood and Stuart Raymond. All have made significant contributions to the world of family history and bring a wide array of records knowledge and teaching experience to the online classroom.

The Skills and Strategies course is suitable for genealogists who have had at least two years experience in family history research in England & Wales and have mastered the fundamentals of census, civil registrations and parish registers but who now wish to move on to new records and a greater understanding of research methods and skills.

Students choosing to take all ten modules as a full programme with assessments leading to the Intermediate Certificate can sign up now at an introductory price of £450. This represents a saving of £42.90 on the full listed price. Each module is monitored by the Society to ensure excellent standards of content and teaching.

Students may, alternatively, choose not have work assessed and to take any arrangement of individual topics. Courses taken individually without assessment cost less.

To find out more or sign up for this great learning opportunity, visit [www.pharostutors.com](http://www.pharostutors.com)

Information about the course and a link for bookings can also be found on the Society of Genealogists' website at [www.sog.org.uk](http://www.sog.org.uk)

Helen Osborn, Managing Director of Pharos Teaching and Tutoring Ltd, said today

"We are very pleased to continue and build on our collaboration with the Society of Genealogists. We know that many Pharos students are interested in working towards a certificate that acknowledges their achievements and that others are looking for a wider range of choice in online programmes. The Skills and Strategies course meets those needs, offered by organizations and teachers with shared standards of excellence."

Else Churchill, Genealogist at the Society & tutor on the new programme, said today

"The Society of Genealogists is delighted join forces with Pharos to offer the highly regarded SoG courses and education programme to a wider audience than can attend the Society's classes in London. The Skills and Strategies course will offer a practical opportunity for family historians to take their research further and to develop their own expertise and understanding of genealogical sources and techniques.

**Posted by Dick Eastman on May 17, 2010 in [Announcements](#) | [Permalink](#)**

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## **PERIODICAL NEWS**

### **Internet Genealogy**

We have received the April/May 2010, Volume 5, Number 1 issue of Internet Genealogy.

Key articles in this issue are:

**"Copyright and Your Family Tree"**

by Alice L. Luckhardt

*Alice L. Luckhardt tells you everything you need to know!*

**"African American Funeral Programs Online"**

by Tony Bandy

*Tony Bandy looks at a fantastic online resource.*

**"Instant Gratification and Finding Obits Online"**

by Leland K. Meitzler

*According to Leland K. Meitzler, genealogists can be an impatient bunch!*

**"Getting More from Google"**

by Lisa A. Alzo

*Lisa A. Alzo shows you how to use Google to manage your research (and your life!).*

**"Save Your Memories: Arcalife"**

by Diane L. Richard

*Diane L. Richard looks at a new way to preserve your story for future generations.*

**"Living Genealogy"**

by Lisa A. Alzo

*Lisa A. Alzo reviews an interactive site for your family tree.*

**"California Dreamin: Researching the Golden State"**

by Gena Philibert Ortega

*Gena Philibert Ortega looks at online resources to help you learn more about your Californian ancestor.*

**"Dial It Up! Genealogy on Your Smartphone"**

by Tony Bandy

*Tony Bandy shows you how your mobile phone can boost your research capabilities.*

**"OGS Scanning Project"**

by Marian Press

*Marian Press looks at a new project in Ontario to preserve historic*

documents.

**"Kith & Kin"**

by Tony Bandy

*Tony Bandy looks at the newest version of a genealogy favorite.*

**"Portraits from the Past"**

by Gail Blankenau

*Gail Blankenau shows you where to find old family photos online.*

**"Ancestral Atlas"**

by Lisa A. Alzo

*Lisa A. Alzo looks at a new way to keep track of where your ancestors lived.*

**"Cloudy with a Chance of ... Genealogy!"**

by Lisa A. Alzo

*Lisa A. Alzo discusses 10 ways to build your genealogy cloud.*

**"Researching Firefighters in the Family"**

by David A. Norris

*David A. Norris looks at the resources available if your ancestor fought fires.*

**"Cozi Up to Your Genealogy!"**

by Lisa A. Alzo

*Lisa A. Alzo looks at a free online organizer for families.*

Also included in this issue is a section titled "Net Notes". This consists of some descriptions of what the journal considers to be some especially good web sites of interest. The site address is provided along with a small overview of what the visitor can expect to find at the site. Sites included in this issue are:

DAR Patriot Online Database @

[http://dar.org/natsociety/pi\\_lookup.cfm](http://dar.org/natsociety/pi_lookup.cfm)

JOTT (Voice to Text and Notification) @ <http://jott.com>

EMILE (Early Migrant Letter Stories) @ [www.emigrantletters.com](http://www.emigrantletters.com)

Transcript @ [www.jacobboerema.nl/en/freeware.htm](http://www.jacobboerema.nl/en/freeware.htm)

Forces Genealogy – Military History in the Making @

[www.military-genealogy.org.uk/default.asp](http://www.military-genealogy.org.uk/default.asp)

Sanborn Maps Online Checklist @

[www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-210.html](http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2009/09-210.html)

I thought that a very good article in this issue is one titled "Instant Gratification and Finding Obits Online"

The author does a very good job in describing the traditional resource of finding newspapers. Today, those newspapers are being digitized at an incredible rate. There are still many more years to complete the task, but digitized newspapers online are becoming the "go to" source for genealogists searching for obituaries of their ancestors. We have come a long way when the microfilm copies of these newspapers were the researcher's first choice to do research. It was timely and could certainly make you dizzy and queasy as you looked at the film roll past you. It could have taken us weeks to find our results, but now, we may luckily discover the material online and available for a subscription fee or available through our own library with no fee at all directly charged to us.

The author also points out that there is some bad that comes with digitization. Scanning is done through an OCR (Optical Character Recognition) process in which quality is at the mercy of the scanning machine, the OCR software and the physical attributes of the paper itself as to ink and transparency and just overall deteriorated condition of the paper itself. All of the above combinations may produce a "high" error rate that we are probably willing to accept rather than have no digitized and indexed material. I can't tell you how many databases that I have searched for the name KIERNA only to discover many of the "hits" to actually be for the printed image of the name KIERNAN. Close, but no cigar! It is obvious that the paper has the name KIERNAN clearly printed to read by the eye, but the scanning software and indexing process chose to identify that piece of data as KIERNA. So I have to ignore it on my list of results that initially excited me as to a possible new discovery.

So you get the picture of the "Good, the Bad, and the Ugly" as to potential erroneous results. Nonetheless, as I said earlier, it is far better to have these quirky errors than to have nothing digitized.

The author provides a nice long list of web sites to visit and become familiar as sources of online obituary data.

Many but not all of the sites listed in the article are:

NewspaperARCHIVE.com (Subscription site), free searches) @  
[www.newspaperarchive.com](http://www.newspaperarchive.com)

Genealogybank.com – America's Obituaries 1977 to Current  
(Subscription site, free searches) @  
[www.genealogybank.com/gbnk/obituaries.html](http://www.genealogybank.com/gbnk/obituaries.html)

Obituary Central (free site) @ [www.obitcentral.com](http://www.obitcentral.com)

Ancestor Hunt – Obituary Search Engines and Indexes at  
Libraries, Universities and Societies (free site) @  
[www.ancestorhunt.com/obituary\\_search.htm](http://www.ancestorhunt.com/obituary_search.htm)

Newspaper Obituaries on the Web – from the Genealogy  
Register (free site) @ [www.newspaperobituaries.net](http://www.newspaperobituaries.net)

The article provides many more sites to check out, some that are also specific to individual states. Take a look at the entire article for many more sites to help you in your online obituary searching.

Another good article in this issue is one titled "Cloudy with a Chance of Genealogy!: 10 Ways to Build Your Genealogy Cloud".

The author shares with us 10 important ways on how to take advantage of using applications hosted on the Internet as opposed to those downloaded or installed on your computer. The emphasis on research today is collaboration, sharing and interaction. These activities are literally impossible if you are using computer based applications instead of Internet based applications. The author mentioned the following 10 ways to "get your toes wet" with trying out aspects of "cloud computing":

- **Family Tree Building and Sharing Sites** – The author mentions the following sites where you can begin building online family trees to allow easy access to others working on your family tree to participate:
  - [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)
  - [www.geni.com](http://www.geni.com)
  - [www.family-genealogy.com](http://www.family-genealogy.com)
  - [www.footnote.com](http://www.footnote.com)
  - [www.livinggenealogy.com](http://www.livinggenealogy.com)
- **"Saved Searches" in Online Databases**
  - If you are subscribed to an online database service, check on the search area for the ability to save your searches or the ability to create and save a search list. This allows you to revisit the site time and again and submit your "saved" searches to what may now be newly added material in the database.
- **Online Data Storage and Synchronization Programs**
  - Consider backing up your data on the Internet in addition to keeping backups locally on an external hard drive or CD or DVD. The author mentions the following for these kind of services:
    - Mozy at [www.mozy.com](http://www.mozy.com)
    - Dropbox at [www.dropbox.com](http://www.dropbox.com)
    - GoToMyPC at [www.gotomypc.com](http://www.gotomypc.com)
- **Document Creation Tools**
  - Gone are the days of buying expensive software to create word documents or spreadsheets. Consider using open source documents that will do the job just as well. Try looking at Google docs or Zoho:
    - <http://docs.google.com>
    - [www.zoho.com](http://www.zoho.com)
- **Photo Editing and Sharing**
  - Uploading photos has been around for some time now. This is a great way to get your amterial out there for collaborative sharing among other researchers. Consider Flickr, Snapfish, Picnik, Google's Picasa at:
    - [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)
    - [www.snapfish.com](http://www.snapfish.com)
    - [www.picnik.com](http://www.picnik.com)
    - [www.picasa.google.com](http://www.picasa.google.com)
- **Networking**
  - Social networks are the rage of late. But be careful when using them and do not put too much personal data on these networks. Make sure you understand how to set up any

“privacy settings” to get the most protection for yourself.  
Check out Facebook and Twitter at:

- [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
- [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)

- **Mapping Tools**

- What a great way to get a view of the original places for your ancestors. Check out Google Earth, Ancestral Atlas and Ancestral Hunt at:

- <http://earth.google.com>
- [www.ancestralatlas.com](http://www.ancestralatlas.com)
- [www.ancestralhunt.com](http://www.ancestralhunt.com)

- **Online Organizing and Notifications**

- Think of using online tools such as To-Do lists, sticky notes, apps for searching Ancestry or FamilySearch, news weather. Get notifications when new things are added to your favorite blogs or podcasts. iGoogle is one source to use these things. You need a GMail account to use these features. Check out RSS Readers to tell you when new things have been added to blogs or new podcasts have been added to your favorite sites. Look at the following sites for info for these online tools:

- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)
- [www.google.com/reader](http://www.google.com/reader)
- [www.newsgator.com/individuals/netnewswire](http://www.newsgator.com/individuals/netnewswire)

- **Library/Note Taking**

- Get library materials online with Google books. Find things on the web you used one time but are no longer there by using the Internet Archive. Do you want to take notes you access from the cloud computing area of the Internet? Consider Evernote. Take a look at these at the following sites:

- <http://books.google.com>
- [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)
- [www.evernote.com](http://www.evernote.com)

- **Publishing**

- Do you like to create journals to write events of your life? Consider blogging on the Internet. You can do these for yourself privately with no one else able to access the material or use it publicly and share your thoughts and your genealogy research thoughts via a blog. Consider Word Press, Blogger, Scribd and Slideshare at:

- [www.wordpress.com](http://www.wordpress.com)
- [www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com)
- [www.scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com)
- [www.slideshare.net](http://www.slideshare.net)

This is a great article! There is so much we can use that can tether us into the Internet from wherever we can reach it versus being tied into to your desktop PC or Mac. Take a look at the full article for even more on how to take advantage of “Cloud Computing”.

This is another great issue of [Internet Genealogy](#). Take a look at the articles I noted above to see if any interest you. Maybe some of them may provide you with that elusive answer or suggestion on how to overcome any research dilemmas you may have.

You can find this most recent issue of [Internet Genealogy](#) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our library on the magazine shelves.

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### **National Genealogical Society Quarterly**

We have received the March 2010, Volume 98, No. 1 issue of the [National Genealogical Society Quarterly](#).

Key articles in this issue are:

**"Finding Parents for Lizzie Evans, wife of George C. Davis of Greene County, Georgia**

By Mary Collins, CG

**"Zipporah in Her Own Right: An African in Early Boston"**

by Melinde Lutz Sanborn, FASG

**"Research in Nebraska"**

by Roberta King

The article on "Research in Nebraska" is the predominant article in this issue. It takes up most of the print space for this issue. This journal usually contains many more individual articles but because of the size of the "Research in Nebraska", the number of other articles and reviews was apparently scaled back.

You will also find an extensive section title "Reviews" in which you will find many extensive reviews of recently published book material or CD material for your use. These are very lengthy reviews providing very in-depth assessments of the material being covered.

Reviews contained in this issue are:

***Tracing Your Scottish Family History***

By Anthony Adolph

***The Ancestors and Descendants of Reuben Ball: The Ball Migration; Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, Iowa and Points West, 1653-1900***

By Ronald Ames Hill

***Genealogical Proof Standard: Building a Solid Case, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.***

By Christine Rose

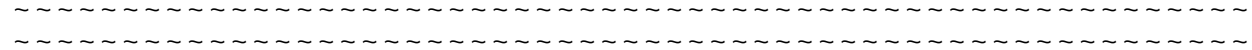
If you are researching any ancestral connections to Nebraska, you will especially want to take a look at the approximate 41 page article on Nebraska Research. The author does a good job of providing great insights into historical background and resources to consider when researching Nebraska. Here are some of the topical highlights contained in this article:

- History and Settlement
  - Geography and Early History
    - American Period
    - Government
    - Settlement
    - Ranching
    - Calamities
- Archives, Libraries and Societies
  - Major Facilities
    - Nebraska State Historical Society Library and Archives
    - National Archives and Records Administration, Central Plains Region
    - Nebraska State Genealogical Society
    - American Historical Society of Germans from Russia
  - Other Libraries
    - Beatrice Public Library
    - Lincoln City Libraries
    - Omaha Public Library
    - Mari Sandoz High Plains Heritage Center
    - *NebraskaAccess*
  - Museums and Historical Societies
    - Civil War Veterans Museum at the GAR Hall
    - Elkhorn Valley Museum and Resource Center
    - Gage County Historical Society Museum
    - Mormon Trail Center at Historic Winter Quarters
    - St. Michael's Historical Society and Museum
    - Genoa Historical Society, Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation
    - Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer
    - Dawes County Historical Museum
    - World War II Library and Museum
    - Girls and Boys town Hall of History
- Major Resources
  - Atlases, Gazetteers and Maps
  - Biographical Guides
  - Brands
  - Cemeteries
  - Censuses and Census Substitutes
  - County Research
  - Court Records
  - Ethnic Records, including Native American Tribes
  - Probate Records
  - Land Records, especially Homestead Records
  - Military Records
  - Naturalization Records
  - Newspaper Records
  - Railroad Records
  - Religious Records
  - School Records
  - Vital Records

As you can see the article provides insights into a variety of resources to consider when researching any Nebraska genealogical connection. I just provided highlights of the key categories of resources the Nebraska researcher should be aware of in their research.

For those with the Nebraska connection, it may be worth making a personal copy of this entire article for your personal use.

You can find this most recent issue of the National Genealogical Society Quarterly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our library on the magazine shelves. Enjoy this current issue of this journal.



## **BOOKS IN PRINT**

We have added a book to our circulating collection titled ***Fashionable Folks: Hairstyles 1840-1900***. The author of the book is Maureen A. Taylor. The book was published in 2009. It was added to our collection in April 2010. The call number of the book is 929.1 TAYLOR, M. It is available to check out from our 2<sup>nd</sup> floor circulating collection. The book consists of 125 pages.

Chapters in the book are:

- Introduction
- Fast Facts
- Fun Facts
- 1840-Early 1850s
- 1850-1860
- 1860-1870
- 1870-1880
- 1880—1890
- 1890-1900

The author tries to present the reader with ways to solve the inevitable questions as genealogy researchers that we often ask. I have an older picture of an ancestor but it is not identified as to when it was taken, how can I determine the timeframe of the picture? All of us have these pictures in our research collections. Maureen is showing us through this book and the pictures and captions for the pictures that we can use the nuances of the picture as it relates to the hairstyles of those in the picture that will help us determine the timeframe of the picture.

Maureen mentions some of the interesting items related to hairstyles and hair care in the small one page chapter on “Fast Facts”

- Most women of the Victorian era had a hair piece, either a full wig or partial hair pieces to enhance their existing hair.
- Hair dye was commonly available during this time period for both men and women.
- Hair products and curling irons were available during this time frame.

- Hair washing was done at best once per month! But brushing hair at least 100 times per day was adhered to!

Maureen mentions some more interesting items in her one page "Fun Facts" chapter:

- English employers shied away from hiring men with facial hair in the 1850s.
- Abraham Lincoln was the first President to have a beard.
- Mustache cups with lip guards and clips to prevent mustaches from falling into food were offered for sale in the early 1870's. Yes, men often wore fake mustaches!
- First barber college opened in 1893.
- King Camp Gillette invented the safety razor in 1895.

The author has put together a series of pictures that are known as to when they were taken and uses them as the basis to show the reader what hairstyles were prominent for both men and women during the decade intervals of the chapters in the book. Interspersed among the various time eras the author also includes images of advertisements for hair care and hair care products that appeared in the various magazines of the eras identified for this book.

The researcher can use this book as a guide focusing on the hairstyles within the eras to compare with pictures they have in their possession. If you find something in the book that matches a personal picture's hairstyles, then you can at least narrow down the time period for the picture you have. Simple concept but it works quite well when you otherwise have no idea of the era of the picture you have.

Many of the pictures are of identified individuals in the picture. The pictures themselves are fascinating. These are all formally posed individuals simply because that was the only way pictures were taken then. And don't just think it was the women that had their hair all combed beautifully for the picture. Take a look at the pictures that include men! They certainly are not left out of the hair fashion interest of the day! Many of the pictures are hauntingly beautiful. Our ancestors were as interested in looking as good as they could with the hairstyles of the day as we are today!

So use this book as a tool to compare its pictures to any unknown pictures you may have for which you are uncertain of a timeframe of the picture.

The universal lesson to be learned here again is to identify the pictures you have in your possession for future generations. Our ancestors were as guilty as we often are to not identify our precious pictures as to who, what, when, where, why for each picture. You can't undo what they did by not identifying the material. All you can do now is to use a tool as this book to help you narrow down the time period of your picture using the hairstyles in the picture as your main benchmark.

This book is available on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our library on the circulating collection shelves. The call number of the book is 929.1 TAYLOR, M. I think you will find that it will be a great help to you on identifying the time periods of any pictures you may have that are a mystery to you.

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We have added a book titled ***Going Home: A Guide to Polish American Family History Research***. The author of the book is Jonathan D. Shea, A.G.. The book was published in 2008. The book was added to our collection in April 2010. The call number of the book is 929.3 SHEA, J. The book is available to check out from our 2<sup>nd</sup> floor circulating collection. The book is a large paperback style consisting of 406 pages.

Chapters in this book are:

|              |   |                                                               |
|--------------|---|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chapter 1    | - | The Language – Your Companion Throughout the Research Process |
| Chapter 2    | - | Capsule History of Poland and Worldwide Polonia               |
| Chapter 3    | - | Sources on This Side of the Ocean                             |
| Chapter 4    | - | The Records of the United States Federal Government           |
| Chapter 5    | - | Geographical Resources                                        |
| Chapter 6    | - | European Sources: Vital Records in Poland                     |
| Chapter 7    | - | Additional Polish and European Sources                        |
| Chapter 8    | - | Our Names in Europe and America                               |
| Appendix A   | - | Polish Parishes in the U.S.                                   |
| Appendix B   | - | Links to Get Started                                          |
| Appendix C   | - | Contact Addresses for Archives                                |
| Bibliography |   |                                                               |
| Index        |   |                                                               |

Each of the above chapters is subdivided into many sub-chapter topics. As an example, in Chapter 6 you will find the following sub-chapters:

- Brief History of the Keeping of Vital Records in Poland
- Description of a Sample Register
- Structure of the Polish Language
- Latin–Language Documents
- Polish Language Documents
- Russian-Language Documents
- German-Language Documents
- Accessing Vital Records
- Archives in Neighboring Nations
- Guide to Writing Letters in Polish
- Guide to Writing Letters in Russian
- Vocabulary Lists: Polish
- Vocabulary Lists: Latin
- Vocabulary Lists: Russian
- Vocabulary Lists: German

For anyone doing Polish research, this is a “must have” book for your own personal research collection. Jonathan Shea is an outstanding author. His expertise is focused on Polish Research and how to best understand the languages and documents related to Polish research. Poland is unique in some regards because the researcher can find an incredible amount of multi-language documents due to the political divisions that have occurred in the history of Poland. Poland lost its political identity as a country in 1792. It was divided at the time among Germany, Austria and Russia. Add in native Polish and church oriented Latin and the Polish researcher will find that he may be looking at documents that may have some or all of the above languages interspersed in the documents being researched!

This is a powerful book! I am a Polish researcher and can see that that the author has done an incredible job in creating a more current research aid for those doing Polish research. There has not been much new published research material of late for those doing Polish research. That is why this is an incredible powerful new tool to use as a research for Polish genealogy.

The book is loaded with images of maps, documents and language aids. The author does a very good job with the document examples in explaining all that is included in the document. This insight will definitely help the researcher should they encounter a similar document on the microfilms they may use.

The chapter on U.S. records provides insights with the Polish connection to our ancestors. The reader is made familiar with what U.S. documents can shed light on our research to connect our ancestor to Poland and maybe even a very specific town area in Poland. Research is often impossible if we do not have the geographical area of our origin of our ancestors because the records are based on geographic and political jurisdictions.

The Appendix A is a very good resource to help the researcher identify the Catholic Parishes that exist throughout the U.S. Our ancestors often established themselves within these parishes. Knowing what might be the name of a parish can help us with our own research to uncover more documents. This list is obviously more helpful if an ancestor may have settled in a smaller area such as Alpena, MI as opposed to Chicago, IL. Alpena listed one Catholic church, Chicago had hundreds. The researcher still needs to work to connect the area an ancestor was living in a large metropolitan area to a possible Catholic church that was close by.

Jonathan Shea certainly knows how to put together a great resource for those of us researching Polish ancestry. This is a book that you should consider having with you when you are looking at microfilms of Polish documents. If a Polish researcher does not know how to speak or read Polish like the vast majority of Polish researchers then this certainly is the best alternative to have in your possession to help you get through the language issues of Polish oriented documents.

This book is a must to own for Polish researchers!

You can find this book on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of our library on the circulating shelves. The call number of the book is 929.3 SHEA, J. It is available to check out from our library.

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## SOFTWARE/HARDWARE

*The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter May 10, 2010 and May 13, 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>*

## Microsoft's Free, Online Version of Office to be Announced This Week (May 10, 2010)

Microsoft will announce a free, online cloud computing version of Office 2010 on Wednesday. Microsoft Office, which includes Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, once dominated the market. However, Office has been losing ground to a number of competitors, all of which include one word: **FREE**.

Microsoft Office's biggest competitor has been Google Docs, followed by Zoho Docs, Open Office, and a host of other free programs. Oracle recently announced Oracle Cloud Office, a web-based office productivity suite that is not yet available to the public but appears to be an excellent product.

**NOTE:** This article is being written in NeoOffice, a free word processing program based on OpenOffice.

The free Google Docs and Zoho Docs have the advantage of being Web-based applications that will run from any computer connected to the Internet. Documents are also more easily shared on Google Docs and on Zoho Docs than on traditional office productivity programs, such as Microsoft Office.

The free software has taken business away from Microsoft amongst home users, who tend to be more price-sensitive. However, the free products probably will never cut into sales in the business world as business users have more need of word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations.

The new free version of Microsoft Office, called Office Web Apps, will contain advertising. The new, free service will contain stripped-down, online versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint and OneNote, not the full-featured commercial versions. The stripped-down, online versions will probably be more than powerful enough for most home users.

Microsoft Office Web Apps will allow users to create, edit and share Office docs with people who have Office and with those who don't. Two people could simultaneously edit the same spreadsheet, Word document, or PowerPoint presentation from different locations through a PC, the Web, or a Windows Mobile phone.

Microsoft estimates 500 million people use Office, many of them still chugging away on Office 2003 or even older versions. Unlike other software products, releasing newer copies of Microsoft Office has not resulted in tens of thousands of users rushing out to purchase the latest versions. Customer surveys usually show that most users have no plans to ever upgrade.

The public version of Google Docs is free to individuals, and Google sells the software to businesses for \$50 per user each year in a suite called Google Apps. The paid version has more security, privacy controls, and customer support, and it runs on a network with guaranteed service levels. Google says that, combined, more than 25 million people are using the free and paid versions.

Microsoft Office Web Apps will offer more features and what the company claims is a better visual presentation than its competitors. But the free Office Web Apps will not have all the features of Office 2010, which is being priced from \$119 to \$499, depending on the version.

This should be interesting to watch: Microsoft's new, free software versus the entrenched free software from other vendors. Microsoft Office Web Apps should be available on Wednesday, May 12.

Posted by Dick Eastman on May 10, 2010 in [Software](#) | [Permalink](#)

**Update: Branches Genealogy Software for Windows (May 13, 2010)**

I recently wrote about the release of a brand-new genealogy program for Windows, called Branches. You can read my article at [http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2010/05/branches-a-major-new-windows-genealogy-program.html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2010/05/branches-a-major-new-windows-genealogy-program.html)

I am impressed with Branches. I have seen version 1.0 of many genealogy programs and Branches version 1.0 is more complete than most other Windows programs were at the time they were first released. In addition, Mike Miller, one of the developers at Sherwood Electronics, has promised to add new features, based on customer feedback and suggestions. Today, he announced two such additions.

Mike wrote:

We got requests to add .PDF support to our multimedia feature and in so doing, we discovered that we could add all kinds of stuff. So the result is, if you have added the appropriate multimedia links say to an individual, you can: listen to his/her favorite music, watch a favorite video or movie, look at a birth certificate, review a .PDF file of a census, start reading a book about the person, and surf the net to a family organization...all from links for that individual. The feature is in the update version that will load automatically after you open Branches the next time.

Also, we kept getting requests to show places in Google Maps or Google Earth. So we added it. Just right click on an event and select "Show Event Place in Google Maps", and the map/terrain/etc. appears. It is more of a wow feature, but combined with the items above, one can have a whole screen of stuff going on...(your 27 inch would be ideal for this).

A graphical interface, opens up all kinds of possibilities.

Thought you might enjoy some more fun.

Mike Miller

I suspect we will see more additions in coming weeks. Branches is available at <http://www.branchesgenealogy.com/>

Posted by Dick Eastman on May 13, 2010 in [Software](#) | [Permalink](#)

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**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)

Henry D. Blair

Spring Hill Cemetery,  
Mobile, Alabama

*'Tis but the unfolding of the scroll of life,  
Another name appears and it is mine.*

+++++

Ephraim Wales Bull

Sleepy Hollow Cemetery,  
Concord, Massachusetts

*He sowed, others reaped.*

+++++

Thomas W. Campbell

Burlington, Iowa

*My Trip is Ended.  
Send My Samples Home.*

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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.

\*Jun 19        CAGG-NI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings  
SAT            held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District  
2010            Library.

130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL. 10:30 AM.

Topic for the meeting **"Before You Croak: Saving Your Genealogical  
Collection for Posterity"**

Presented by Ted L. Butler

Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or

P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567

- Jul 13  
TUE  
2010  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Getting the Most Out of Heritage Quest"**  
Presented by Kristin Newton Smith.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- \*Jul 17  
SAT  
2010  
CAGG-NI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District Library.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL. 10:30 AM.  
Topic for the meeting **"Copying and Scanning Documents and Photos"**  
Presented by Everett Butler and Byron Atkinson  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567
- Aug 10  
TUE  
2010  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 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.
- \*Aug 21  
SAT  
2010  
CAGG-NI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District Library.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL. 10:30 AM.  
Topic for the meeting **"Liven Up Your Family History with Images"**  
Presented by Mike Karsen  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567
- Sep 14  
TUE  
2010  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Sep 15  
WED  
2010  
DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, September 15, 2010.  
Wheaton Public Library (Lower Level) 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
6:30 PM Refreshments. Program begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program title is **"To Be Determined"**.  
Guest speaker is To Be Determined.  
Society website at [www.dcgsg.org](http://www.dcgsg.org).  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)
- \*Sep 18  
SAT  
2010  
CAGG-NI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District Library.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL. 10:30 AM.  
Topic for the meeting **"Compiling Your Medical Family Tree"**

Presented by Marsha Peterson-Maass  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567

- Sep 21  
TUE  
2010 Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, September 21, 2010.  
**"To Be Determined"**.  
Presented by To Be Determined  
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)
- Oct 12  
TUE  
2010 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
PM.  
**"Social Security Death Index (SSDI) – What's New"**  
Presented by Larry Olson.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- \*Oct 16  
SAT  
2010 CAGG-NI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings  
held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District  
Library.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL. 10:30 AM.  
Topic for the meeting **"Railroads"**  
Presented by Larry Olson  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567
- Oct 19  
TUE  
2010 Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, October 19, 2010.  
**"To Be Determined"**.  
Presented by To Be Determined  
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)
- Oct 20  
WED  
2010 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, October 20, 2010.  
Wheaton Public Library (Lower Level) 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
6:30 PM Refreshments. Program begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program title is **"To Be Determined"**.  
Guest speaker is To Be Determined.  
Society website at [www.dcggs.org](http://www.dcggs.org).  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)
- Oct 23  
TUE  
2010 Illinois State Genealogical Society Annual Conference.  
Peoria, IL 8 AM to 4 PM  
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  
TUE  
2010  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Using the Hamburg and Bremen Passenger Lists"**  
Presented by Patricia Reaves.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Nov 16  
TUE  
2010  
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, November 16, 2010.  
**"To Be Determined"**.  
Presented by To Be Determined  
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)
- Nov 17  
WED  
2010  
DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, November 17, 2010.  
Wheaton Public Library (Lower Level) 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
6:30 PM Refreshments. Program begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program title is **"To Be Determined"**.  
Guest speaker is To Be Determined.  
Society website at [www.dcfgs.org](http://www.dcfgs.org).  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)
- \*Nov 20  
SAT  
2010  
CAGG-NI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District Library.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL. 10:30 AM.  
Topic for the meeting **"Breaking Down Brick Walls"**  
Presented by Nancy Thomas  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567
- Dec 14  
TUE  
2010  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Jan 11  
TUE  
2011  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Genealogy and DNA – A Revisit"**  
Presented by Jeffrey Bassett.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- \*Feb 8  
TUE  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7

- 2011 PM.  
**"Mining Census Records"**  
 Presented by Steve Szabados.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Mar 8 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Apr 12 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**"Program to Be Determined"**  
 Presented by To Be Determined.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- May 10 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**"Program to Be Determined"**  
 Presented by To Be Determined.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Jun 14 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Jul 12 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**"Program to Be Determined"**  
 Presented by To Be Determined.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Aug 9 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**"Program to Be Determined"**  
 Presented by To Be Determined.  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Sep 13 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
 TUE 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7  
 2011 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
 Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.
- Oct 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.

**"Program to Be Determined"**

Presented by To Be Determined.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

Nov 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.

Dec 13  
TUE  
2011

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

**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**

Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.