



SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY
GENEALOGY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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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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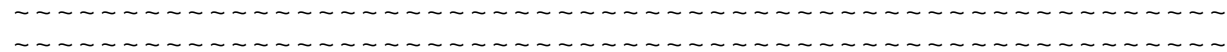
NOVEMBER 9, 2010 GENEALOGY PROGRAM TOPIC

Our guest speaker for our November 9, 2010 Genealogy Program will be Patricia Reaves. Patricia will present a program titled **“How to Read and Understand the Hamburg and Bremen Passenger Lists”**.

Many of our ancestors left Europe to come to the United States from these two ports. Hamburg records are available, in German, at Ancestry.com. The vast majority of records from Bremen were destroyed in World War II. Some smatterings of these records do still exist. If you have not been able to find an ancestral arrival on the United States side, then don't forget to consider looking in the Hamburg records, especially if your ancestors were Easter European in origin.

Patricia is a native German, who came to the U.S. at 11 years of age. She is skilled in reading German script, has a master's degree in German, and currently teaches Advanced Placement courses at Riverside-Brookfield High School. She is also a professional translator and researcher for the UW Madison Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies. Reaves has presented numerous German genealogy workshops throughout Illinois and Wisconsin and is also the author of "A German Genealogical Primer."

We look forward to having Patricia return to our library and offer us some insights into working with these passenger lists.



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

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 138 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 1,043 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 August 30, 2010, September 1, 2010, September 2, 2010, September 3, 2010, September 9, 2010, September 15, 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>.

Brazil Will use Smartphones For Taking the Census (August 30, 2010)

The U.S. Census Bureau originally planned to use custom-built handheld computers and wireless data to take the 2010 census. See my 2006 article that described those plans at <http://tinyurl.com/3xmasvo>. After spending \$600 million on the plan, the Census Bureau abandoned the idea and went back to paper forms. See <http://tinyurl.com/3xdssex> for details.

Now the government of Brazil plans to conduct a census using handheld computers and wireless data but there will be two major differences: (1.) Brazil plans to use off-the-shelf consumer-grade cell phones to collect the information and (2.) Brazil also plans to spend a lot less money.

Brazil purchased 150,000 LG smartphones and has embarked on the world's first fully digital national census. The Brazilians say that the digital census has several advantages over paper and pen methods. Data collection will be faster and cheaper than traditional methods. Information will be available within weeks, not months.

The LG smartphones also have built-in GPS which will result in more accurate information as GPS data will pinpoint the exact location of each household. The GPS data is cross-referenced with satellite images to ensure that responses are correctly geo-tagged.

You can read more at <http://pbahra.com/2010/08/29/brazils-smartphone-census/>

A slide show is available at <http://pbahra.com/work/brazils-2010-digital-census/>

Posted by Dick Eastman on August 30, 2010 in [Hardware](#) | [Permalink](#)

Mormon Church Changes Procedures in Attempt to Resolve Issues of Proxy Baptism of Jews (September 1, 2010)

The Mormon church has changed its genealogical database to better prevent the names of Jews killed in Nazi concentration camps from being submitted for posthumous baptism by proxy.

In a joint statement issued earlier today, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors said a new computer system and policy changes related to the practice should resolve a years-long disagreement over the baptisms.

Under new church policies, church members will be required to certify names submitted to the database for baptism. Further safeguards include monitoring those names for submissions that don't meet policy standards and the removal of records found to be in violation of the new procedures.

You can read the full story at <http://tinyurl.com/23jqetp>

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 01, 2010 in [Current Affairs](#) | [Permalink](#)

The Motley Fool Predicts Ancestry.com is a Buy-Out Candidate (September 2, 2010)

The Motley Fool provides stock market and other financial advice. It is not known for the accuracy of its predictions, however. In any case, Rick Aristotle Munarriz of The Motley

Fool says that Ancestry.com is a candidate to be purchased by a bigger firm.

Munarriz writes:

"Ancestry.com runs the Internet's leading genealogy service, with 1.3 million subscribers paying an average of \$18 a month to flesh out their family trees. The site's subscriber count has climbed 32% over the past year. Given the true scalability of its model, earnings are growing faster than Ancestry.com's top-line spurts.

"Ancestry.com bumped its guidance higher after this summer's second-quarter report. The favorable trend means that the company won't sell itself cheap, but for the right price, even a genealogy pro like Ancestry.com couldn't say no to an opportune corporate marriage."

You can read more at <http://www.fool.com/investing/high-growth/2010/09/02/the-next-4-dot-com-buyouts.aspx>

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 02, 2010 in [Current Affairs](#) | [Permalink](#)

The Size of Your Books and of Your E-reader is Determined by Sheep (September 3, 2010)

Here's a bit of historical trivia: the size of the books you read and even the size of your fancy new e-reader are determined by sheep in the Middle Ages.

First, the easy part: e-readers are replacements for books, and most manufacturers deliberately make their e-readers resemble books. Most of the e-reader manufacturers assume that customers want to continue the same "look and feel" so they create e-readers that are the same sizes as books.

Now for the more interesting part: how is the size of books determined? Carl Pyrdum provides the answers in his *Got Medieval* blog at <http://gotmedieval.blogspot.com/2010/08/why-are-books-so-big-google-penance.html>

You must remember that the earliest books were not printed on paper. In medieval days, they were printed on parchment. What is parchment? Sheep's skin. You remember when you graduated from college you got the ol' sheepskin? That's because the diploma was supposedly printed on parchment, although many colleges stopped that practice years ago.

Some of the early books were also printed on vellum, which is essentially the same thing except that it is made from calfskin.

In the good ol' days, the maximum size of a book was determined by the size of the sheep or the calf when slaughtered. Actually, that was quite large, typically bigger than any book you would want to hold while reading. The monks who created books before

Gutenberg's invention of the printing press soon learned to fold the parchment and vellum into practical sizes:

- Fold a sheet of parchment once (two leaves/four pages per sheet) for a folio; if you fold sheets of paper once without a cover, you've got a tabloid.
- Fold twice for a quarto (8 pages/sheet), the size of a big dictionary or big laptop.
- Fold three times for an octavo (16 pages/sheet), a hardcover or Kindle DX.

- Fold four times for a duodecimo (24 pages/sheet), a trade paperback/iPad.
- Fold four times (in a slightly different way) for a 16mo, a mass-market paperback/e-reader.
- Fold five times for a 32mo, a notepad/old-school smartphone sized.
- Fold six times for a 64mo, or as Erasmus called it, a Codex Nano (rarely seen but could be called a vest pocket book).

The result is that books are as big as they are because medieval sheep were as big as they were. If you wish the pages were just a bit bigger, blame the medievals for not having bigger sheep.

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 03, 2010 in [History](#) | [Permalink](#)

FamilySearch Expands Online Learning Opportunities (September 9, 2010)

When was the last time you heard of “Inferential Genealogy?” That’s just one of the classes being offered.

The following announcement was written by FamilySearch:

Free Classes Provide Worldwide Access to Family History Expertise

SALT LAKE CITY—As students all over the country head back to school, family historians also have the opportunity to learn—but they can do it from home at their convenience.

FamilySearch now offers 81 free lessons on FamilySearch.org, enabling people anywhere in the world to access family history expertise any time. The topics range from basic research to training on specific record types and can be beneficial to both beginners and experienced researchers. Most of the classes come from research consultants in the world-famous Family History Library in Salt Lake City, but FamilySearch is also now working with partners to broaden the pool of expertise.

For example, FamilySearch worked with the Mid-Continent Public Library in Independence, Missouri to record and post 12 classes. These classes are available on both [FamilySearch.org](#) and the [Midwest Genealogy Center’s site](#). Such collaboration benefits everyone involved, according to Darin Hakes with FamilySearch Community Services.

“We see partnering as a mutually beneficial situation for FamilySearch, our partners, and the patrons,” Hakes said. “We realize that FamilySearch does not have expertise in every area, nor do we have the bandwidth to create all the training that is needed. However, there are many excellent individuals and organizations that have created training that can benefit the genealogical community. They may not have the resources to record and publish their classes, so working together is the perfect solution.”

Midwest Genealogy Center librarian Janice Schultz agrees that partnering with FamilySearch increases their reach.

“The online classes allow people to attend no matter where they live,” Schultz said. “It helps us achieve our mission of educating genealogists. We have received many positive

comments about these classes."

In addition to the Mid-Continent Public Library, FamilySearch is working with the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Board of Certified Genealogists, and the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists. Individual genealogists may also use FamilySearch's free services to record and share their presentations. One result of an individual partnering with FamilySearch is a class called "Inferential Genealogy" by prominent researcher and teacher Tom Jones.

"Tom's class is excellent, but may be too complex for some patrons," Hakes said. "We tried to provide a different instructional approach, to make the presentation of the content more visual and provide opportunities for practice. We added value by presenting his content in a different way, taking something fairly complex and making it more easily digestible."

Upcoming FamilySearch classes will focus on U.S. courthouse research and a series of courses for those just getting started in family history research. There are also more interactive classes planned on reading handwritten records in different languages, a list that now includes Dutch, French, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish.

All of the classes can be accessed on www.familysearch.org by clicking on **Free Online Classes** on the home page.

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 09, 2010 in [Online Sites](#) | [Permalink](#)

Using Your Mother's Maiden Name for "Security" (September 15, 2010)

Amongst the dumbest things I have heard recently is when a company asks for your mother's maiden name to be used "for security purposes." That is "so 1960s." Haven't they learned how stupid that is? If any company asks for that information, **RUN AWAY**. Do not do business with them!

Any company that is dumb enough to believe that using your mother's maiden name is a secure piece of information is a company that doesn't know much about security. Do you **REALLY** want to trust them with other, private information?

Information about your mother's maiden name is easily available from a variety of public data sources, including: your birth record (which is public information in the United States), newspaper articles (which can easily be searched online), several online genealogy databases, and many other sources. In short, using your mother's maiden name provides NO SECURITY at all.

Shame on any company that asks for your mother's maiden name "for security purposes."

Actually, the companies that are stupid enough to ask for your mother's maiden name don't care what you tell them. All they want is some word that you can easily remember when needed, such as when you need to recover a forgotten password or something similar. You can give them a real name or a fictitious name. The companies don't care. It doesn't even need to be a name, it simply has to be some word that the company can place in their database and that you can remember when needed.

When any company or web site asks for my mother's maiden name, I always reply: **Fudpucker**

I can easily remember that name when I need it and it doesn't create any security problems. While I normally refuse to do business with companies that ask for my mother's maiden name "for security purposes," a couple of times I have used Fudpucker and have never had a problem.

I don't think my dearly departed mother would mind.

Posted by Dick Eastman on September 15, 2010 in [Current Affairs](#) | [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 3RD 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, October 19, 2010. The program for the evening is titled "**Data From A Stone: Cemetery Research**". The speaker for the evening will be Craig Pfannkuche.

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

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 2010 through May 2011 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, October 20, 2010. The program scheduled for that evening is **"American Geographical Society Maps"**. The speaker for the program will be Jovanka Ristic.

You may visit the society's web page at:

[www.dcgcs.org](http://www.dcgcs.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, October 16, 2010 at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 10:30 AM. The program scheduled for this day is **"Riding the (Genealogical) Rails in Chicago"**. The speaker for the program will be Larry Olson.

Do you have an ancestor/relative with a SSN beginning with a "7xx"? This person worked for the railroads and information about them can't usually be found on a Social Security Death Index. Fortunately, the Railroad Retirement Board (the flip side to the Social Security Administration) is located here in Chicago. Larry will explain how to find genealogical data on folks with "the other nine numbers."

You may visit the organization web page at:

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 September 1, 2010, and September 7, 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>

Early Pittsburgh Marriages and Deaths Indices are Online and Growing (September 1, 2010)

The following announcement was written by Ann S Eldredge:

In January 2010, a small band of genealogy seekers embarked on a project to make anyone who has roots in the Pittsburgh area jump for joy. 43 volunteers have been indexing marriages, deaths, and divorces from early Allegheny County newspapers and putting it all online at no cost. Over 52,000 death entries and over 11,000 marriages have been indexed and put online through August. The dates of the newspapers range from 1806-1987.

Project co-ordinator Ann S Eldredge says the idea of an index came to her as she regularly keeps in touch with other Pittsburgh researchers on the popular mailing list of Allegheny County sponsored by RootsWeb.com. An avid genealogy researcher, Eldredge remarked, "I saw on the list that Google had put images of several old newspapers online and Pittsburgh was on it. After spending many hours of looking for my family and investing in Visine for the eye strain, I realized I couldn't be the only one who had uncovered a few golden nuggets of information. It seemed so simple. If anyone was looking at any of the dates, they could write down all the names of that day. After all, how many of your ancestors do you not know when they married or died?"

With that simple question posed to the group, an index was born. Eldredge volunteered to capture the names the volunteers put on the list. List member Norm Minert quickly set up a page for the newspapers submitted so there would be no duplication of efforts. USGenWeb Allegheny County Archives File Manager Ellis Michaels volunteered to get the the submitted indices online.

The daily newspaper lists began to pour in. "It didn't take long for the sheer volume of names being submitted to become overwhelming," said Eldredge. "I quickly realized I needed help. I put a call out for volunteers to assist on my end, and they came. The enthusiasm and dedication of the volunteers are inspiring. The work they are doing for family researchers and genealogy buffs is just fantastic. What a gift to give."

"It's been an amazing journey over the last eight months as the volunteers have graciously given their time to read the old newspapers. We have so many death and marriage entries from 1889 and 1890. Since the census was lost for 1890, this almost serves as a substitute. I've found my relatives through this project. Some of the death entries have even led to connections with living cousins. It's been worth it."

"Stop on by and see what our volunteers have done," Eldredge said as a smile came across her face. "After all, the good folks of Pittsburgh are just dying to get in."

To view the death, marriage and divorce indices, go to <http://www.usgwarchives.net/pa/alleggheny/death-index.htm>

Background information:

The family of Ann S Eldredge can be placed in Allegheny County from 1774. Her Dormont raised father was the last of her direct line to live in Pittsburgh, but there are many family members still in the area. Eldredge was featured in local Pittsburgh newspapers and on the televised news in an August 2005 dedication of new headstones for two of her 4g-grandfathers, John Henry and James Glenn, at the Old St Clair Cemetery in Mt Lebanon, and has been instrumental in assisting the Historical Society of Mt Lebanon in this ongoing project. She is a member of the Western PA Genealogical Society and an active member of the James Waldrop Chapter DAR in Fayetteville, GA. Her genealogy blog, GeniTales, (<http://genitalesga.blogspot.com/>) focuses on her family history as she traces her family through history from Sweden and Ireland to Wall Street, the White House and across the nation. She resides in Peachtree City, GA, with her husband and two daughters.

The volunteers on this death and marriage index project come from across the nation. It is estimated there could be over a million names on the newspapers.

For more information, please contact Ann Eldredge at 1anniesquest4me@bellsouth.net

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

ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk Updated (September 7, 2010)

I [wrote recently](#) about brightsolid's recent contract to manage the Scotland's People web site for another three years. Now the company has made major changes to the site.

The following announcement was written by brightsolid:
ScotlandsPeople has a revamp as part of new contract deal

Scotland's new-look genealogy website ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk, has been officially launched today (Tuesday Sep 7) by the Scottish Government's tourism minister Jim Mather.

The revamped ScotlandsPeople service is up and running and includes new search features designed to make it easier and quicker for people to discover their family roots.

This includes plotting search results on maps, helping those unfamiliar with Scottish geography - such as users overseas - understand more about Scotland and their ancestors.

Following the first revamp of the site since its launch in 2002, it now contains records dating back to when national records of births, deaths and marriages in Scotland first began in 1855. It also includes parish records, dating back as far as 1538, and other data,

including wills and testaments and heraldry. The new site offers advanced search functions, providing quicker results, as well as additional information from Catholic Parish Registers.

Chris van der Kuyl, chief executive of service provider brightsolid, said: "ScotlandsPeople now has nearly 80 million records and will continue to add new exciting data sets to what is, without doubt, a world-leading website.

"brightsolid is enormously proud of the fact that it has established a strong track record in publishing sites such as ScotlandsPeople, and has built a centre of excellence in this growing and popular genealogy market sector.

"We understand the community and we know how to innovate and develop online products for family history enthusiasts."

Mr. Mather said: "Once again Scotland has proved that it can make available the key records for those who wish to trace their Scottish family history. It is estimated that over 50 million people across the world claim Scottish ancestry, with ancestral tourism estimated to contribute £64 million annually to Scotland's economy.

"Following the success of the year of Homecoming, the improved ScotlandsPeople will help connect people to their ancestors and cement links between Scots overseas and their home country - encouraging them to come and walk in the footsteps of their ancestors and boost revenues in the Scottish economy."

Duncan Macniven, Registrar General for Scotland, said: "This is a great step forward in the ongoing improvement of the ScotlandsPeople website, which has over one million registered users. We are proud to have one of the most comprehensive sets of family history records. These changes will continue to make us one of the world leading websites for family history. This creates a platform for the launch of the 1911 census in April 2011."

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



PERIODICAL NEWS

Internet Genealogy

We have received the August/September 2010, Volume 5, Number 3 issue of Internet Genealogy.

Key articles in this issue are:

"Freeware and Shareware for Genealogy"
by Tony Bandy

Tony Bandy looks at the latest versions of genealogy freeware and shareware, and where to find them!

"The Curious Case of Lottie Seed Pepper"

by Colleen Callhan Wells

Colleen Callahan Wells recounts her quest to uncover the truth about her ancestor.

"Treasures in Small Archives"

by Melody Reitsma

Melody Reitsma looks at the lesser-known resources for family history.

"African-American Newspapers"

by Diane L. Richard

Diane L. Richard looks at the online resources available for researching your African-American roots.

"Podcasts: Download Your Genealogy"

by Elyse Doerflinger

Elyse Doerflinger looks at the best genealogy podcasts on the 'Net.

"Landmark Years in Genealogy"

by David A. Norris

David A. Norris looks at a timeline of events and the genealogy records that we rely on.

"Take the Ancestor Plunge!"

by Lisa A. Alzo

Lisa A. Alzo explores seven basic strategies for diving into online databases.

"Researching Your African-American Roots"

by Diane L. Richard

Diane L. Richard updates you on a new ProQuest collection resource.

"Digital Books Online"

by Gena Philibert Ortega

Gena Philibert Ortega looks at finding and using digital genealogy books on the 'Net.

"Dropbox: The Flexible Online Storage Solution"

by Bill Puller

Bill Puller looks at a great new resource for storing your data on the 'Net.

"The Early Oregonian Database"

by Tony Bandy

Tony Bandy examines an online resource if you're tracing ancestors in Oregon.

"Research and Collaborate: MS Live Workspace"

by Michael Hait

According to Michael Hait, there's a simple way to share your work.

"The Hair Powder Tax"

by David A. Norris

David A. Norris looks at a unique family history resource.

"Knights in the Family!"

by Tony Bandy

Tony Bandy looks at a fascinating online project!

"Canadian Databases Online"

by Janice Nickerson

According to Janice Nickerson, one just isn't enough.

"RootsTelevision"

by Donna Potter Phillips

Donna Potter Phillips checks out a fun, informative site.

"Georgia Digital Archives"

by Diane L. Richard

Diane L. Richard explores some of the new historic collections in Georgia's online archives.

"Passenge List Errors"

by Dave Obee

Dave Obee helps you search for your ancestors on North American immigrant ships.

Also included in this recent issue is a section titled "Net Notes". The magazine showcases some web sites of note along with providing a written description of what the researcher will find at the site and why it is worth visiting. Sites mentioned in this section are:

MN Marriages @ www.mncounty.com/modules/certificates/marriage/default.aspx

Appalachian American Genealogy @
www.appalachianamericangenealogy.com

Mount of Olives Cemetery @
www.mountofolives.co.il/eng

International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON) – Digitization @

<http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm>

Britain's Small Wars @
www.britains-smallwars.com

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "Freeware and Shareware for Genealogy!". With all that we do on our computers for genealogy, we should be aware that we may be able to do more and do it better with software that exists that we do not have. The author provides us some good insights into genealogy software in general, but also what are some specific software programs we should consider adding to our computers.

The author indicated that there are 4 major categories of software:

- **Freeware**, as it implies, is free to use for no charge. There may be no charge to use but you may discover some of the products will allow advertising to take place while you are using the product. It might be an annoyance but it is free! Freeware can also be full of malware which can harm your computer. Have good virus protection software and download the material if you feel comfortable as to the source of the material.
- **Shareware** are programs that you can download but may have limited timed use of the product before you have to pay for further ongoing use. The prices for these products may seem very reasonable. You will need to probably register yourself in order to gain access to the material.
- **Web-Based software**, also know as Cloud Based Computing, makes things even simpler. You do not need to download anything. Again, you may have to register, but you do not need to do any installation on your own machine. Since the material is not on your machine, the onus is on the provider to have all of your data online and backed up. Some of you may still be uncomfortable putting all of your material onto a cloud based site that we can hope is very secure and will be around for the long haul.
- **Commercial Program**, like Family Tree Maker, Legacy, RootsMagic etc. are products you pay up front to get access to a full download or a CD to receive at home and load onto your computer.

The author notes and notes clearly that no matter what you download or install on your computer, you need to have up to date viral protection that will check what you are attempting to bring onto your computer so you are safe.

The author also notes that there are certain categories of software. Those mentioned are:

- **Comprehensive** – like commercial products such as Family Tree Maker. You enter data, add media, create reports, create GEDCOM files to export, cite your sources etc. This is the highest level of what a genealogy program can do for you.
- **Family Trees** – used for drawing, viewing and manipulating family tree information.
- **GEDCOM Viewer/Converter** – allows you to view GEDCOM files you create or receive in more than just a "raw" format that GEDCOM is created.
- **Mobile** – Used for mobile phones, iPads and other mobile equipment.

- **Web Based** – nothing to download or install. All that you need is available and useable from the web site providing the process.

Here are some of genealogy programs mentioned in the article:

- **GedView** (GEDCOM Viewer/Converter) (Freeware). You can find this software at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~tmark/GedView.html>
- **GedHTree** (GEDCOM Viewer/Converter) (Freeware-Shareware). You can find this software at www.gedhtree.com
- **Ancestry.com** (Web Based) (Freeware). You can find this software to upload up your family trees at www.ancestry.com
- **MyHeritage** (Web Based) (Freeware). You can find this software at www.myheritage.com
- **Gramps** (Comprehensive) (Freeware). You can find this software at <http://gramps-project.org>. This is a LINUX based software application. There is a Windows version of this product but it does appear to be somewhat complicated to install.
- **TreeDraw** (Family Trees) (Trialware \$41 to \$51). You can find this software at <http://treedraw.spansoft.org/index.php>. Interface can be easy but drawing the trees for the first time appears challenging until you understand the process.
- **Brother's Keeper** (Comprehensive) (Shareware \$45). You can find this software at www.bkwin.org. Lots of options but the author experienced some issues installing a new database on a VISTA operating system computer. Interface provides many options but needs updating.
- **Family Historian** (Comprehensive) (Trialware \$48.50). You can find this software at www.family-historian.co.uk. Has a polished interface. Can create websites and CDs. Should consider.
- **GenEvents** – (GEDCOM Viewer/Converter) (Free). You can find this software at www.scotware.net/genevents.html. Installed easy. Interface needs learning. Provides unique approach to keeping your material together.
- **Genbox** (Comprehensive) (Shareware). You can find this software at www.genbox.com. Supports multiple languages. Lots of tools and report options.
- **Family Bee** (Mobile) (Cost \$10). You can find this software at <http://beekeeperlabs.com/android.html>. Part of Android Operating System for mobile devices. GEDCOM file support to memory card.
- **iHeritage** (Mobile) (Cost \$.99). You can find this software at the iTunes App Store. One of the few to use on the new iPad. Can view and edit your data. App creator website is at www.ourmountainofideas.com/Our_Mountain_of_Ideas/iHeritage.html.
- **Branches** (Comprehensive/Family Trees) (Trialware \$39.95). You can find this software at www.branchesgenealogy.com. Installation required some additional Microsoft software. Family tree is impressive. Bit of a learning curve to use.

The article provided even more software to consider accessing.

The author also provides some general sites of interest on genealogical software. Sites mentioned are:

- Shareware Connection @ www.sharewareconnection.com/home-personal-genealogy-1.htm
- Download.com @ www.download.cnet.com
- Cyndis List (Software and Computers) @ www.cyndislist.com/software.htm
- Genealogical Software Report (Not Updated but still useful for older programs) @ www.mumford.ca/reportcard
- GenSoftReviews @ www.gensoftreviews.com

I would certainly recommend that you take a look at the full article to see the more expanded descriptions provided for each of the software items mentioned in the above list. Your software is important in your research effort. There is more than just your basic lineage program to consider. And even for your lineage programs there may be many different varieties that provide a different aspect of managing your data. This article can certainly offer you a more expanded list of software that exists in different categories that you may not have been aware of.

Another good article in this recent issue of Internet Genealogy is one titled "Podcasts: Download Your Genealogy".

I have been a dedicated listener to the podcasts that are being created by George G. Morgan and Drew Smith. Their podcasts go under the name of the "Genealogy Guys Podcast". I have listened to each podcast they have created. They started creating podcasts in September 2005. They have created 207 podcasts since that time. The early podcasts were somewhat "beginner's" level. Over time with podcasting equipment such as digital recorders, good microphones, good podcasting software they have migrated from "amateurish" sounding podcasts to well crafted professional sounding ones that are a joy to physically hear! A podcaster may have a great message, but if it comes off amateurish and sloppy, the message is lost and an eager listener for the topic may not return no matter how good the message is if it is not delivered in a better manner.

The author does a very good job of informing us of the variety of genealogical podcasts that do exist, including the podcast from the Genealogy Guys. The article mentions the following podcasts that you should consider listening to help advance your own genealogical research:

- **The Genealogy Gems Podcast** – you can find this podcast at www.genealogygems.com/pages/podcast/podcastlist.htm. This podcast is hosted by Lisa Louise Cooke and is updated about twice per month. The podcaster provides genealogical advice as well as interviews of well known genealogical figures.
- **The Genealogy Guys Podcast** – you can find this podcast at www.genealogyguys.com. News items of genealogical interest are provided as well as tips, interviews and a very nice "e-mail" round table in which the guys read listener e-mails on the air and then provide some answers to the question at hand.
- **The Family Tree Magazine Podcast** – you can find this podcast at www.familytreemagazine.com/info.podcasts. Monthly podcast produced by the magazine and hosted by Lisa Louise Cook. Each episode features an interview with an expert guest. Sneak peeks into upcoming articles for the magazine are also provided.
- **Irish Roots Café Podcast** – you can find this podcast at www.irishroots.com/content/view/97/144. Hosted by Michael C.

O’Laughlin and is updated every week. Brings Irish culture and history to life.

- **Family History: Genealogy Made Easy** – you can find this podcast at <http://personallifemedia.com/podcasts/415-family-history>. Geared for those interested in genealogy but who do not know where to start. Hosted by Lisa Louise Cooke. Each episode talks about one genealogical topic in detail.
- **Genealogy Tech Podcast** – you can find this podcast at <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/the-genealogy-tech-podcast/id156072646>. No longer update. Episodes that exist are still very helpful to the genealogy researcher that wants to make technology work for their own research. Was hosted by Bill Puller.
- **Genealogy On Demand Podcast** – you can find this podcast a at <http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/genealogy-on-demand/id202114958>. Podcast is no longer updated. Hosted by Shamele Jordon. She has a very relaxing voice on the podcast. You can still uncover some great genealogical research information from the episodes that exist.
- **DearMYRTLE’s Family History Hour** – you can find this podcast at <http://podcasts.dearmyrtle.com>. Has not been updated since 2008. Many very good episodes exist from which you can learn many new tips and tricks for your genealogical research.

Are you tired of reading material to learn new genealogical tips and tricks? Need a break from the humdrum of print? Then give some of the above podcasts a try. Sit in a nice comfy chair, put on a pair of headphones and listen casually and comfortably to some great genealogical learning material from a multitude of great hosts. You can search material in their archives if show notes were created to see if there is a particular episode that contains material of interest to you. Or do as I do, just listen to each new podcast from your podcaster of choice. It will give you something to look forward to doing. Give listening to podcasting a chance. Take a look at the full article to read more of the details of the podcasts mentioned in the article.

This was another great issue of [Internet Genealogy](#). There are many more great articles in this issue that I simply could not highlight. I know you will enjoy this publication and this issue. Give it a try.

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

NGS Magazine

We have received the July-September 2010, Volume 36, Number 3 issue of [NGS Magazine](#).

Key articles in this issue are:

“Genealogy at a State Fair”

By Joan Shurtliff, CG

"Chancery Court Files: A Rich Resource"

By Barbara Vines Little, CG

"Black Homesteaders"

By Roberta "Bobbi" King

"Have You Been to the Library Yet?"

By Michael J. Dietz

"Changes Coming to the Archives"

By David S. Ferriero

"Case Study: Assembling an Individual"

By Dr. William M. Litchman and Kristin E. Litchman

"Documenting the Forgotten Dead: Confederate Death and Burial Records"

By John P. Deeben

"Library Patrons to the Rescue"

By Kim V. Garvey, MILS

"Cyber Security: How to Protect Yourself in a Connected World"

By Jordan Jones

"Perils and Unexpected Joys of Memory"

By Harold E. Hinds, Jr., Ph.D

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "Changes Coming to the Archives". This article was authored by the Archivist of the United States, David S. Ferriero. He shares with us some of the changes that are coming to our National Archives that are intended to make things better for researchers. At a high level he indicates that nothing short of a "culture" change at the organization is coming. Those are generally some serious words indicating a major shakeup of how things are done at this organization. He says that they need to make "smarter and more creative uses of rapidly emerging technologies".

Some of the highlights mentioned in this article that should be noted by researchers are:

- A website redesign that will be make it easier for researchers to navigate through huge amounts of material and find the "needles in the haystack" much more easier.
- A new Wiki is being started at the Archives allowing average but knowledgeable citizens to make contributions of information.
- New streamlined search capabilities are being developed to better allow researchers to find the material that exists in the Archives but has often been simply too difficult to uncover by researchers.
- Many of the redesigns on the drawing boards are being open for interaction with researchers to obtain their input thoughts on redesign.
- The website is being designed so that it is truly "of, by and for the people".

- The Archives has created the National Declassification Center to overhaul declassification standards throughout the government.
- A new Office of Government Information Services has been created to mediate disputes between Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requesters and federal agencies.
- The Office of the Federal Register is rolling out a prototype of the daily Federal Register as a “daily Web newspaper for the 21st Century”.
- The encouragement of “citizen archivists” is being pursued. These researchers may be better able to impart knowledge about the Archives to other researchers simply because they have experienced success using the Archives.

This article certainly portrays the National Archives in a very forward-looking role for the part it plays with our country and its researchers.

Take a look at the article in its entirety to get a better insight into all that is happening at our National Archives. You will be hearing it directly from the Archivist of the United States who wrote the article.

In addition there is a “supplemental” associated “Q & A” article in this issue in which the Archivist of the United States responds to some specific questions. It certainly looks like the organization is trying to put its best foot forward in making all of the material it holds more easily found by researchers and thus actually being more valuable to the researcher. It looks like they have their work cut out for them, but I give them great credit for moving in the direction of becoming more research friendly.

You can visit the general web site of the National Archives at:

www.archives.gov

The Archivist of the United States has also invited anyone with any ideas or comments to comment him directly via his personal blog at:

<http://blogs.archives.gov/aotus>

I thought that another good article in this issue is one titled “Documenting the Forgotten Dead: Confederate Death and Burial Records”. This article is especially directed at anyone that has some Confederate Civil War ancestry.

War is hell. That is certain. Those that perish during battles are often buried quickly and in a manner that does not allow the proper documentation to help family understand any of the details. When you have hundreds, even thousands of bodies, health and sanitation reasons cause quick actions to remove the bodies from the battlefield and to bury them as quickly as possible.

This article provides a great detail of information that can be of assistance to the Confederate genealogical researcher.

The article does point out that the Confederate War Department did try to maintain various death records for those killed in battle. The Federal Government often ignored Confederate casualties in its own recordkeeping, especially in battles that was won by the Union. It was not until the 1890s when deeper aspects of “reconciliation” were taking place between the North and the South did Federal authorities agree to render an accurate accounting of the “forgotten” Confederate dead.

The compiled military service records (CMSRs) of Confederate soldiers may offer the most direct information about deaths in the war. At the National Archives (NARA), most Confederate soldiers' records are located in Record Group (RG) 109, War Department Collection of Confederate Records. From 1903 to 1927 clerks compiled these service records for Confederate soldiers. All of these CMSRs are on microfilm.

The compiled service records usually contained the basic information about the death of a soldier, reporting the death date and the engagement where the death occurred. The author also reports that another source of data that has not been interfiled with the CMSRs. This is referred to as "Unfiled Papers and Slips Belonging in Confederate Compiled Service Records". This can be found in National Archives Microfilm Publication M347. The researcher may discover deaths that occurred in hospitals and prison camps within these records.

Muster rolls are also considered a good source to uncover information on deaths of Confederate soldiers. A National Archive resource for this kind of data can be found within "Muster and Pay Rolls, 1861-1865" which is identified as Record Group 109, Entry 18. The author suggests that the researcher should still consult the CMSRs before consulting these Muster Rolls.

Other sources of death information for Confederate soldiers can be found in "Confederate States Army Casualties: Lists and Narrative Reports, 1861-1865". These can be found in National Archive Microfilm Publication M836. The actual lists show the date, name, type of casualty, rank and regimental unit of the casualty. Some of the remarks you can find in this material graphically describe the nature of the wounds incurred by the soldiers.

As the author notes, the paucity of some of the data from the Confederate side resulted from the erratic nature in which these Confederate records survived as the war drew to an end. Confederate authorities often deliberately destroyed records in Richmond as the end approached. Records in the hands of the military in the field often met with destruction.

The author mentions still another set of National Archives to consider reviewing in your Confederate ancestral research. Look at the "Registers of Deaths and Effects, 1861-1865" which can be found in Record Group 109, Chapter I, Volumes 27-28. Still another source mentioned by the author is one titled "Returns of Deceased Officers and Soldiers from Hospitals, Regimental, and Company Officers and Others, 1861-1865". This can be found in Record Group 109, Chapter X, Volumes 2-11.

It wasn't until 1898 when President William McKinley advocated an effort by the Federal government to document Confederate burial sites and identify remains. In 1900 congress appropriated money to establish a Confederate section in Arlington National Cemetery. A federal statute was created in 1906 that established the Office of the Commissioner for Marking Graves of Confederate Dead.

The author provides a very good summary as to why the "forgotten" dead of the Confederacy exist. Quoting the article:

"It is likely impossible to know how many Confederates died during the four-year carnage of the Civil War. The inherent chaos of battle obscured the fate of many combatants who perished, while official Union intransigence toward the secessionists often left many Sothern casualties relegated to hastily prepared (and sometimes poorly marked)

graves upon Union controlled battlefields, their identities overlooked and neglected. Countless others succumbed, often forgotten, in Northern prison camps and hospitals.”

War is hell, especially for those that perish on the battlefield. In death, their identities can often be lost or cruelly overlooked. There may be a way to try to look at existing records to identify them, but it can be a task that does not guarantee a positive result.

I would recommend that anyone doing Confederate ancestral research, especially if an ancestor may have died during a Civil War battle, that you look at the entirety of this article and even consider making a personal copy of this article for future reference. The author certainly points out some great National Archives resources to consider using.

This is another great issue of NGS Magazine. There are many great articles in here for you to review.

You can find this most recent issue of this journal on the 2nd floor of our library on the magazine shelves.

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BOOKS IN PRINT

There was no new genealogy book added to our collection during this newsletter period.

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There was no new second genealogy book added to our collection during this newsletter period.

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## SOFTWARE/HARDWARE

*The following articles are from Eastman’s Online Genealogy Newsletter August 31, 2010 and September 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>*

## **Ancestry.com Introduces Family Tree Maker 2011 with more than 100 Enhancements (August 31, 2010)**

The following announcement was written by Ancestry.com:  
No. 1 Selling Family Tree Software Offers Simplicity and Depth for Recording Family Histories

PROVO, Utah, August 31, 2010 – Ancestry.com today announced the release of Ancestry.com Family Tree Maker® 2011, an improved version of the world's No. 1 selling family history software.

For the last 20 years, Family Tree Maker has provided tools that make it easy to build family trees, record memories and organize family photos. Family Tree Maker also enables users to capture stories, and attach videos and audio clips in a way that will help them easily capture and share the story of their ancestors both on-and offline.

“Family Tree Maker 2011 delivers significant improvements on many fronts. By incorporating changes recommended by a diverse base of novice and experienced family researchers, we have arrived at what we believe to be our best release yet,” said Eric Shoup, Senior Vice President of Product at Ancestry.com. “With the recent surge in interest in family history, Ancestry.com and Family Tree Maker have an important role to play in creating new family historians.”

Without leaving Family Tree Maker, users can search the robust collection of family history records on Ancestry.com and simply incorporate matching results directly into their tree. Family Tree Maker 2011 automatically searches Ancestry.com for historical documents about the individuals in the user's family tree when connected to the Internet. Family Tree Maker 2011 comes with either a free trial or subscription to Ancestry.com.

Ancestry.com Family Tree Maker makes it easier than ever to discover your family story, preserve your legacy and share your unique heritage. Of the more than one hundred enhancements added to the software, the following are some of the new and improved features found in Family Tree Maker 2011:

- Smart Stories™ – Ready to start on an ancestor's story? The Smart Story editor makes it easy to drag and drop text and photos from your tree into story pages that will update automatically when you make changes to your tree.
- More Complete and Relevant Timelines – Find and add more events to your ancestors' lives. Add, edit and delete your own historical events and apply historical events by time and geography.
- New and Improved Charts – Enjoy four new fan chart styles. Enhance charts with backgrounds, borders and embellishments. And use fonts you can change based on fact type.
- Improved Integration with Ancestry.com – Ancestry.com has millions of members all over the world. Now you can find out if any of them are searching for your ancestors by viewing Member Connect activity on your home page, plus links to related message boards and new messages in your inbox. You'll also enjoy faster uploading and downloading of your tree.
- New Media Management Tools - Drag and drop, cut and paste, and even categorize multiple items at the same time. You'll also find a new tool that will help you locate missing media files.

- Enhanced Reports – Enhanced ancestor and descendant reports, added a surname report and allowed you to sort custom reports, plus you can now save and reuse report settings.

Family Tree Maker 2011 will include either a printed or electronic *Companion Guide* to help users quickly master the simple and even advanced tasks. The *Companion Guide* will come with easy-to-understand screenshots of the software.

Family Tree Maker 2011 is now available to purchase online at <http://www.familytreemaker.com> starting at \$39.95. The program is also set to be released in select retail stores.

Internet access required for all Web integration.

### About Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com Inc. (Nasdaq: ACOM) is the world's largest online family history resource, with more than one million paying subscribers. The company has digitized and put online more than 5 billion records over the past 13 years. Ancestry users have created over 18 million family trees containing nearly 1.8 billion profiles. Ancestry.com has local Web sites directed at nine countries, including its flagship Web site at [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com).

Posted by Dick Eastman on August 31, 2010 in [Software](#) | [Permalink](#)

## **BackupMyTree Goes Live – Free and Automatic Family Tree Backup (September 13, 2010)**

What happens to all your genealogy data when your hard drive crashes? (Note that I wrote "WHEN your hard drive crashes," not IF it crashes. All hard drives will crash sooner or later.)

All genealogy data needs to be backed up frequently. A new online backup service will do just that: make frequent backups and store those backups off-site for safety purposes. Best of all, the service is available FREE of charge. Please note that it works with many Windows genealogy programs, although not all of them.

The following announcement was written by BackupMyTree LLC:

BackupMyTree ([www.backupmytree.com](http://www.backupmytree.com)), a new service offering free and automatic backup of family trees, launches today. BackupMyTree enables worry-free research for genealogists and family history enthusiasts, preventing loss of years of work due to a computer disaster such as a virus or hard disk crash. By automatically finding family tree files and creating a remote, off-site backup, BackupMyTree's software ensures complete protection of family tree data.

The free backup service provides:

- Support for a wide array of family tree file formats created by popular family tree software packages - Family Tree Maker, Family Tree Builder, PAF, Legacy Family Tree, RootsMagic (version 4 or later), and Family Tree Legends. Industry standard GEDCOM files are supported too.
- Anywhere access of family tree files – users can access their family tree files securely from anywhere using a web browser.
- Monitoring of all family trees for changes and automatic backup of the updated files.

- Storage of previous versions of family tree files should anything become corrupted. This feature also protects against accidental deletion of information inside a family tree – enabling users to retrieve any previous version of their data.
- Instant retrieval in case of data loss - by simply re-downloading the latest family tree backups.
- Complete protection of all family tree files using strong SSL security during transfer from computers to the BackupMyTree servers.

BackupMyTree is the creation of Cliff Shaw, whose previous successes in genealogy include GenForum, Family Tree Legends and GenCircles.

“BackupMyTree represents my continued deep commitment to develop innovative new technologies and services for genealogists”, said BackupMyTree’s Founder and CEO, Cliff Shaw. “A family tree contains massive amounts of data collected over many years - often irreplaceable and simply priceless to its owner. Our free backup service gives genealogists peace of mind that all their family tree files are safe and secure. We’re delighted to be filling the gap in the genealogy market in helping preserve family history forever.”

About BackupMyTree LLC

Founded by serial genealogy entrepreneur Cliff Shaw, BackupMyTree LLC are the makers of the world’s first free and automatic backup service, [www.backupmytree.com](http://www.backupmytree.com), for storing and protecting family trees. The service provides genealogists with peace of mind that their family tree data is protected from a computer disaster or accidental data deletion, and secured by a remote, off-site backup. Compatible with all the major genealogy applications, [www.backupmytree.com](http://www.backupmytree.com) offers anywhere access and secure retrieval of current and previous versions of family trees. For further information visit [www.backupmytree.com](http://www.backupmytree.com)

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

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**FUNNY BONE**

I received the following contained within an e-mail from Don Carani, a participant at out monthly genealogy programs. It speaks volumes!!

Thank you Don!

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Part of rebuilding New Orleans caused residents often to be challenged with the task of tracing home titles back potentially hundreds of years. With a community rich with history stretching back over two centuries, houses have been passed along through generations of family, sometimes making it quite difficult to establish ownership. Here's a great letter an attorney wrote to the FHA on behalf of a client:

You have to love this lawyer.....

A New Orleans lawyer sought an FHA loan for a client. He was told the loan would be granted if he could prove satisfactory title to a parcel of property being offered as collateral. The title to the property dated back to 1803, which took the lawyer three months to track down. After sending the information to the FHA, he received the following reply.

(Actual reply from FHA):

"Upon review of your letter adjoining your client's loan application, we note that the request is supported by an Abstract of Title. While we compliment the able manner in which you have prepared and presented the application, we must point out that you have only cleared title to the proposed collateral property back to 1803. Before final approval can be accorded, it will be necessary to clear the title back to its origin." Annoyed, the lawyer responded as follows:

(Actual response):

"Your letter regarding title in Case No.189156 has been received. I note that you wish to have title extended further than the 206 years covered by the present application. I was unaware that any educated person in this country, particularly those working in the property area, would not know that Louisiana was purchased by the United States from France , in 1803 the year of origin identified in our application. For the edification of uninformed FHA bureaucrats, the title to the land prior to U.S. ownership was obtained from France , which had acquired it by Right of Conquest from Spain . The land came into the possession of Spain by Right of Discovery made in the year 1492 by a sea captain named Christopher Columbus, who had been granted the privilege of seeking a new route to India by the Spanish monarch, Queen Isabella. The good Queen Isabella, being a pious woman and almost as careful about titles as the FHA, took the precaution of securing the blessing of the Pope before she sold her jewels to finance Columbus's expedition...Now the Pope, as I'm sure you may know, is the emissary of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God, it is commonly accepted, created this world .Therefore, I believe it is safe to presume that God also made that part of the world called Louisiana. God, therefore, would be the owner of origin and His origins date back to before the beginning of time, the world as we know it, and the FHA. I hope you find God's original claim to be satisfactory. Now, may we have our damn loan?"

The loan was immediately approved.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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.  
                      Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

- 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 **"Riding the (Genealogical) Rails in Chicago"**  
Presented by Larry Olson  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567
- \*Oct 16  
SAT  
2010
- Arlington Heights Memorial Library.  
500 N. Dunton Ave.  
Arlington Heights, IL  
**"The Many Languages of Genealogy"**  
Translation of documents service program for the languages of German, Italian, Latin, Polish, Russian, Swedish and Ukrainian.  
There is no charge for translation service assistance.  
From 10 AM to 4 PM.  
Contact phone # for further info at 847-870-3643.
- \*Oct 19  
TUE  
2010
- Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, October 19, 2010.  
**"Data From a Stone: Cemetery Research"**.  
Presented by Craig Pfannkuche  
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 **"American Geographical Society Maps"**.  
Guest speaker is Jovanka Ristic.  
Society website at [www.dcgcs.org](http://www.dcgcs.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.

Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

- \*Nov 16  
TUE  
2010  
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, November 16, 2010.  
"He Took Her Name: Understanding German Farm Names".  
Presented by Teresa Steinkamp McMillin  
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.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.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.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- 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.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- \*Jan 18  
TUE  
2011  
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, January 18, 2011.  
"GenSmarts".  
Presented by R. Aaron Underwood  
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)

- Jan 19 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, January 19, 2011.  
WED Wheaton Public Library (Lower Level) 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
2011 6:30 PM Refreshments. Program begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program title is **"What's New at the Wheaton Public Library"**.  
Guest speaker is Donna Freymark.  
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)
- Feb 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.  
**"Mining Census Records"**  
Presented by Steve Szabados.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- \*Feb 15 Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, February 15, 2011.  
TUE **"Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places: Marriage Records"**.  
2011 Presented by Ginger Frere  
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)
- 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.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- \*Mar 15 Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, March 15, 2011.  
TUE **"Military Service Records"**.  
2011 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)
- Mar 16 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, March 16, 2011.  
WED Wheaton Public Library (Lower Level) 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
2011 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.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.org).  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)

- Apr 12  
TUE  
2011  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Mining for Gold: Online Historical Newspapers"**  
Presented by Robin Seidenberg.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- \*Apr 19  
TUE  
2011  
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, April 19, 2011.  
**"Hunting Henry: A Case Study Using Collaterals"**.  
Presented by Teresa Steinkamp McMillin  
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 20  
WED  
2011  
DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, April 20, 2011.  
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.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.org).  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)
- \*May 10  
TUE  
2011  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Why My Austro-Hungarian Ancestors Were Neither Austrian Or Hungarian!"**  
Presented by Dr. Paul Valasek.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- May 11-14  
WED-SAT  
2011  
National Genealogical Society 2011 Family History Conference.  
Charleston, South Carolina.  
Toll Free Phone (800) 473-0060  
Email Address [conference@ngsgenealogy.org](mailto:conference@ngsgenealogy.org)  
Web Site [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org)
- \*May 17  
TUE  
2011  
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists. Tuesday, May 17, 2011.  
**"Uff Da! Researching Norwegian Roots"**.  
Presented by Caron Brennan  
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  
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- May 18  
DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday, May 18, 2011.

- WED  
2011  
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"**.  
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- Jun 14  
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.**  
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- \*Jul 12  
TUE  
2011  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Who Sank Grandma's Boat: Effective Techniques for Finding Passenger Manifests"**  
Presented by Dan Niemiec.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- Aug 9  
TUE  
2011  
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**"Program to Be Determined"**  
Presented by To Be Determined.  
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- Sep 13  
TUE  
2011  
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- Oct 11  
TUE  
2011  
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- Nov 8  
TUE  
2011  
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- Dec 13  
TUE  
2011
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- Jan 10  
TUE  
2012
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- Feb 14  
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- Jun 12  
TUE  
2012
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- Jul 10
- Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Group Meeting.

- TUE  
2012
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- Aug 14  
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