April 12, 2011 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our April 12, 2011 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.

What does this really mean?

Prior to this "new" process, our program handouts would actually be paper handouts that were based on me often printing up the first page related to a web site that I wanted to mention. Then on the paper for the web site I would handwrite what things of importance are associated with the web site that the researcher should know. Maybe it was a new web site or maybe an important date related to a significant event or maybe a new database was released. Whatever it was I noted it on the paper of the first page of the web site.

I also plan on use the "yellow highlight" tool within Word and highlight certain areas of these notes that I think are important to note. The visual highlighting will take your eyes to areas of importance to note. Please let me know if you think this OK or if it may be a distraction? I thought I would give it a try.

Going forward I plan on creating this document on a monthly basis that will include my notes regarding a web site of interest and a link to the web site itself.

The reader of this "handout" list can themselves then read my overview summary of the site and then link to the site directly themselves to get more details or print out what they want from site.

I will clearly identify my own comments when the handout is a combination of material that came from some other source such as Dick Eastman's blog as well as my own comments. I will indicate my comments in Italics, clearly marked so the reader can distinguish between the original verbiage and my own comments. If a handout item was completely created by me then you will see that noted at the top. In this case, the entirety of the handout was created by me and will not be shown in Italics.

This program "Handout" information will then be uploaded to the Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Blog that is titled "Genealogy with Tony". This blog will be accessible from the library's main web site page at www.schaumburglibrary.org. Select "Local History and Genealogy" at the top of the page, then look for the icon on the Local History and Genealogy page that says "Tony's Genealogy Blog". Open the blog link and then look at the right hand sidebar of the blog and you will see the "Handouts" information. The direct web address for the blog I author is http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

Here we go with the list of "handouts"!

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Handout #1 – VISIT THE SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY GENEALOGY BLOG

I will continue to remind participants of our library's new genealogy blog. You can access it through our library home page at www.SchaumburgLibrary.org by scrolling across the top of the first page and look for the tab that says "Local History and Genealogy". Click on that tab and look on the right side for our library genealogy blog on the right side that says "Tony's Genealogy Blog".

Or you can just go directly to the blog at:

http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

You will find postings on upcoming programs, both at our library, and elsewhere in the area. You will also find a myriad of other kinds of postings, especially those that I offer on "Genealogy Tips" to help make your research efforts more productive.

You will also find our Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Newsletter and our "Program Handouts" at the blog as PDF files for you to view online, or download and save to your own computer for future referral.

Please remember that the blog will be the place to retrieve the newsletter and the "handouts". I do not plan on making paper handouts of these available for distribution at the program or for mailing to individuals.

Try to visit the blog frequently to see what is going on. Subscribe to the blog via RSS (Really Simple Syndication) and you will receive notices when a new post or comment has been made at the blog.

Our blog is the way of the future and the future is here now!

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Handout #2 – NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST SUBURBAN COUNCIL OF GENEALOGISTS ON APRIL 19, 2011

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists will take place on Tuesday evening, April 19, 2011. The program for the evening is titled **"Hunting Henry: A Case Study Using Collaterals "**. The speaker for the evening will be Teresa Steinkamp McMillin.

Teresa Steinkamp McMillin is a professional genealogist who specializes in German and Midwest American research, as well as reading German script. She has been interested in genealogy since she was a child and has been actively researching her German ancestry for the past nine years, as well as her husband's Chicago Irish. She has attended the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and has taken college-level German courses. She was the 2007 recipient of the National Genealogical Society's Home Study Course, which she has completed. Teresa is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, as well as many local genealogical societies. She is the webmaster for the Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists.

Meetings are held at the Forest View Educational Center in Arlington Heights. They begin at 7:00pm with a Round-Table discussion. They encourage people to bring their research problems, achievements or interesting tips to share with each other. The main portion of the meeting begins promptly at 7:30pm. Donations are always welcome!

You may visit the society web page at for any further details on the program as well as on the society:

www.NWSCG.com

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Handout #3 – DUPAGE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEXT SOCIETY PROGRAM ON APRIL 20, 2011

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, April 20, 2011. The program scheduled for that evening is **"Using Inquest Records to Answer Genealogical Questions"**. The speaker for the program will be Grace DuMelle, reference librarian at the Newberry Library.

Grace DuMelle has been a professional researcher since 1995, helping clients from all over the United States and several foreign countries. Her firm, Heartland Historical Research Service, has assisted the United States Department of Justice and Graystone Communications (parent company of The History Channel), among others. Heartland's projects have taken Grace to the Library of Congress and the National Archives as well as facilities throughout the greater Chicago area.

Since 2001, Grace has also been on staff at the Newberry Library in Chicago, one of the country's foremost genealogical libraries. Guiding beginners to discoveries about their families is something she greatly enjoys. Her experience on both sides of the reference desk — as a staffer and as a researcher — influenced the very practical, hands-on approach of her book, Finding Your Chicago Ancestors: A Beginner's Guide to Family History Research in the City and Cook County. It has received state, regional and national awards for instructional nonfiction, and is now in its second printing from Lake Claremont Press in Chicago.

Grace is an alumna of Rosary College (now Dominican University) and the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research. She lectures and teaches on aspects of genealogy and house history. Media appearances include "Sunday Papers with Rick Kogan" (WGN Radio), WLS TV, WGN TV, Chicago Tribune, Chicago magazine, Ancestry magazine, the Wall Street Journal, and USA Weekend.

Please note that this meeting will take place at the Wheaton Public Library in Wheaton, IL. The address of the library is 225 Cross St. The meeting room opens at 6:30 PM. Refreshments are available at that time. The program starts at 7 PM and will conclude by no later than 9 PM.

You may visit the society's web page for any recent announcements about this program at:

www.dcgs.org

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Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGG-NI) NEXT PROGRAM ON APRIL 16, 2011

The next meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, April 16, 2011 at the Hanover Park Branch of the Schaumburg Township District Library at 10:30 AM. The program scheduled for this day is **"Census Information"**. The speaker for the program will be Alan Wilson.

This presentation reviews the information available from census data that pertains to genealogy. The decennial US federal census is a popular source of genealogy data. This presentation reviews the federal census data, its interpretation, how it is available, and how to reference the sources for genealogy records. The presentation also discusses census data from Canada and various European countries that is also available for genealogy. The presentation includes examples.

You may visit the organization web page at:

www.CAGGNI.org

Visit the group's web site noted above for information about this program as well as what CAGG-NI is all about.

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Handout #5 – SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY NEXT GENEALOGY PROGRAM ON MAY 10, 2011

Our upcoming program for May 10, 2011 is one that is titled "**Why My Austro-Hungarian Ancestors Were Neither Austrian or Hungarian!**". Our speaker for program will be Dr. Paul Valasek.

Chicago native Paul Valasek has been interested in his roots as far back as he can remember. As a child he played with his grandfather's WWI Polish military medals from his service in Haller's Army. As an adult, Paul learned that there was not a complete listing of members of Haller's Army, and decided to compile one. It is befitting that same curious boy is now the man who found a way to honor all those who served with his grandfather.

Founder of the Czech and Slovak American Genealogical Society of Illinois (CSAGSI), Paul has been researching his family over 30 years, and also researches his wife's family. He has traced his roots back to the early 1600's in both Poland and the Czech Republic, and been to Europe 13 times for research.

Paul has lectured throughout the U.S. and Canada. The three-time graduate of Loyola is not only a popular genealogist and speaker, but a D.D.S. as well. Past President of the Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA), Paul is well-qualified to lecture on Polish research.

You may visit the library's web page at:

www.SchaumburgLibrary.org

to view a Calendar of Events section of the library web page for this program and for many more non-genealogical programs offered by our library.

You can also visit the Genealogy Blog of the library that is authored by Tony Kierna. Visit the blog at http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com for all things related to genealogy and the genealogy programs at the Schaumburg Township District Library.

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Handout #6 – ANCESTRY.COM INCREASES SUBSCRIBERS BY 31%

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at <u>www.eogn.com</u> dated February 26, 2011.

Who says there is a recession? Investor's Business Daily is reporting that Ancestry.com recently saw subscriber growth even larger than expected. The company reported late Thursday that it ended the year with 1.4 million subscribers, up 31% from Q4 2009, and up slightly from the third quarter. It had forecast 1.38 million subscribers.

Ancestry.com CEO Tim Sullivan is quotes as saying the company has good visibility into subscriber growth over the next few quarters, but it's difficult to predict the ultimate size of the market. "The real question is: Is this a 2 million, 3 million, 5 million or 10 million subscriber category?" Sullivan said in an interview Friday. "We're more optimistic today about this being a potentially very large market opportunity than ever before."

You can read more in an article by Patrick Seitz at <u>http://goo.gl/MXu2p</u>

Comments by Tony Kierna

Are you a personal subscriber to Ancestry.com? If so, it looks like you are one among 1.4 million other subscribers to this genealogical database service.

Subscription to the services can be selected to fit your research needs. You can subscribe to everything offered, both United States and World records, for approximately $300 for a year. You can also subscribe only to the United States records for a year for approximately $155. Ancestry also allows you to subscribe to its material for only a month at a time or on a 3 month basis, all having less cost to the subscriber than by subscribing for an entire year. You can find out all about the subscription service at <u>http://www.ancestry.com/subscribe/signup.aspx</u>.

Always remember that you can also use the Ancestry Library Edition that is at our library and at most public libraries at no charge to you. The rules of licensing only allow access to this product from the library and not from home as a library user. The Library Edition also has some fewer databases and will not allow you to upload family tree information that you can do so via a personal subscription. So there are some tradeoffs between a personal subscription you pay for and the ability to do free searches within a library offering this product.

In one way I am actually a little surprised that Ancestry reports a subscription base of 1.4 million. Somehow, I just would have thought that number might have been higher. As the Eastman article itself alludes to even Ancestry is unsure whether the subscriber base number can grow to 2 million, 3 million or even more.

One other thing going for Ancestry.com is the fact that it is a major advertiser on the hit genealogy show on NBC, "Who Do You Think You Are?". The show is a hit and sponsors of hit shows generally benefit with successful advertising to gain more customers. Even throughout the show there is not so subtle "advertising" when the Hollywood stars are told by their research helpers that "let's just look at

Ancestry.com to see what we can find". The Ancestry.com name is heard throughout the show and within the actual commercials.

I am sure the added subscriber base increase is certainly due to the success of this nice show on genealogical research brought to the personal level of Hollywood and entertainment stars.

I give my congratulations to Ancesty.com. Any company would love to see an increase of 31% to its customer base!

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Handout #7 – MOCAVO.COM HIGHLY ACCLAIMED NEW GENEALOGY SEARCH ENGINE TO CONSIDER

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated March 16, 2011.

The following announcement was written by Mocavo.com (you can also read my review of this new service at

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2011/03/mocavocom-a-genealogy-search-engine.html):

Industry breakthrough provides instant search results for billions of names, dates and places

Boulder, Colorado – March 16 2011 ––Mocavo.com ™ (www.mocavo.com) a free search engine geared toward genealogists and people interested in learning more about their family history, launches today. Mocavo.com enables the search of more than 50 billion words - including billions of names, dates and places, all within fractions of a second. Mocavo.com fills an important industry need by providing the first large-scale, free search engine for family history research. Coupled with the speed and accuracy by which search results are produced, Mocavo.com represents a major technological breakthrough within the genealogy world.

Mocavo.com has already been met with critical acclaim by several industry experts.

Dick Eastman, writer of *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* and a top blogger in the field, wrote, "All my future genealogy searches will start on Mocavo.com. I've been using the site for a while during its testing and have been very impressed. I suspect you will always have better luck searching for your own surnames of interest on Mocavo.com than on any other search engine."

Randy Seaver, writer of the popular *Genea-Musings* blog, wrote, "Mocavo.com promises to be a genealogist's dream - a search engine focused on free online genealogy resources." Mr. Eastman's and Mr. Seaver's full reviews can be found at www.eogn.com and www.geneamusings.com, respectively.

Starting today, the general public can use Mocavo.com for free. Visitors to www.mocavo.com are simply required to type in the names or words of interest and click on Search. All related results from industry sources such as genealogy message boards, family trees, state and local historical societies, the Library of Congress, National Archives, Ellis Island, Find A Grave, the Internet Archive, various U.S. state archives, and many tens of thousands of genealogy sites built by individuals will be displayed. Similar to other search engines, Mocavo.com honors site owners by linking directly to their content.

Cliff Shaw, founder and CEO of Mocavo Inc., identifies the current trouble for genealogists and the solution that Mocavo.com provides, "Genealogy has always had the problem of information and potential clues being spread across thousands of disparate web sites and sources. Imagine a world where you have all of the Web's

free genealogy content at your fingertips within seconds. That is Mocavo.com".

==Mocavo.com has the capacity to index every single piece of free genealogy content found anywhere on the web, and will be growing by leaps and bounds in the coming months", said Mr. Shaw.== "We expect Mocavo.com to shortly offer all of the web's free genealogy information, searchable and accessible to all – something that has never been done before. It's set to become the go-to search engine for every family history enthusiast."

Mocavo Inc. is the brainchild of Cliff Shaw. Mr. Shaw is well known in the industry, having created four successful companies and many innovative technologies, including Smart Matching™, the most successful ancestor-matching algorithm. He created GenForum 14 years ago and it quickly grew to become the number one community for genealogists (now owned by Ancestry.com® (NASDAQ:ACOM)). In the early 2000's, Mr. Shaw launched GenCircles and Family Tree Legends, becoming the number two family tree publishing site and number two family tree software package respectively (both are now owned by MyHeritage.com). More recently, Mr. Shaw launched the well-received BackupMyTree.com, the industry's only automatic tree backup solution.

About Mocavo Inc.

Mocavo Inc. operates the world's largest free genealogy search engine, Mocavo.com, giving genealogists access to the best free genealogy content on the web including billions of names, dates and places. Founded by industry veteran Cliff Shaw, and backed by prominent angel investor, David Cohen, (founder and CEO of TechStars), Mocavo.com seeks to index and make searchable all of the world's free genealogy information. While Mocavo.com discovers new sites every day, some of the existing sites searchable on Mocavo.com include genealogy message boards, family trees, state and local historical societies, the Library of Congress, National Archives, Ellis Island, Find A Grave, the Internet Archive, various U.S. state archives, and many tens of thousands of genealogy sites built by individuals. Similar to other search engines, Mocavo.com honors site owners by linking directly to their content. For further information, visit www.mocavo.com.

Comments by Tony Kierna

==*I am a big believer in Dick Eastman's evaluative skills on technology because he is a hands on embracer of technology.*== *Dick Eastman has been very impressed during his "test" time using the product. He likes it a lot and has indicated that this search engine will be the one he goes to use first for his genealogical searches.*

==*I have given it a "test" also. I am also impressed with the simple searching. I did not see an "advanced" search link yet my results I found from just using the basic search template box seemed very good. It does suggest putting the names of people you seek within quotes. It sure is simple enough.*==

At the Mocavo home page, be sure to click on the link that gets you to the Mocavo blog. It is here you will see some "directions" on how to best search. Here are some of their tips:

- *Just like other major search engines, ==capitalization doesn't matter.==*

- *Put names in quotes for best results.* If you search for "John Smith", Mocavo knows to also try "Smith John" so there's no need to run two searches. This is critical as many sites put the last name first.
- *Mocavo knows how to jump over middle names and initials.* If you search for "Mary Carter", you will also get results for Mary A. Carter and Mary Lynn Carter.
- *You can use the OR operator with the pipe (|) symbol.* If you want to search for Amos Shaw in Georgia, you might run a search like this: "amos shaw" georgia | ga. That says: Show me all results of "amos shaw" with the word georgia or the state's abbreviation ga. In the future, we'll automatically detect your use of a specific geographic location. For now, enjoy experimenting!
- *If you're getting a lot of results back that you definitely do not want, you can also use the exclusion operator (the dash or minus sign).* To search for Amos Shaw who definitely wasn't married to Sarah Maxey, you might try this search: "amos shaw" -maxey. That search says: Find all Amos Shaw's but only if Maxey isn't mentioned anywhere on the page.

Using the last name KIERNA in the search engine, I was presented with 73 hits. Results came back from the KIERNA search as hits found in the Ancestry Message Boards, Free Pages of Roots Web, uploads of KIERNA information I made at FindAGrave.com, information from the PGSA on a KIERNA ancestor and other locations. The search engine really focuses on what are considered genealogical resources and does not appear to include extraneous databases unrelated to genealogy.

The hits are presented in a well-spaced and visually appealing manner that provides you with a brief overview of what the "hit" appears to have pertinent to your search.

Mocavo also has a presence on Facebook and Twitter.

This is a developing product. I too also plan on using this search engine as a primary engine. Keep in touch with this site and search engine to see develops as they occur over time. Give it a try to see what it can find for you to add to your genealogical research.

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Handout #8 – INTERNET EXPLORER 9 RELEASED FOR USE AS AN UPDATED INTERNET BROWSER BY MICROSOFT

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated March 15, 2011.

Late last night, Microsoft officially released Internet Explorer 9 to the public. If you are a Windows Vista or Windows 7 user, you will want to obtain this new version immediately. Microsoft has updated the web browser with several security fixes, faster performance, and bug fixes. One of those bug fixes corrects a major problem for many web sites, including this newsletter's site at www.eogn.com.

The "Internet Explorer 8 display problem" resulted in many web pages being blank or mostly blank when displayed on-screen. Yet all the other web browsers of today (Firefox, Chrome, Opera, Safari, and others) will display the same web pages perfectly. Microsoft did insert a work-around into version 8 called Compatibility Mode, that did fix the problem on a web-site-byweb-site basis. However, users had to know about the problem, understand it, then find the Compatibility Mode icon and click on it. In fact, many users never found it. The new version 9 of Internet explorer fixes the problem and reportedly displays almost all web pages correctly.

Internet Explorer version 9 operates faster than earlier releases and contains numerous other bug fixes. It also supports a new Do Not Track header that Mozilla proposed earlier this year. If you've blocked a third-party site, it will now be blocked for access in Flash and other ActiveX controls as well. This is a major security improvement, adding protection against sites that deliberately attempt to steal information from your PC.

On the downside, Internet Explorer version 9 will only install on Vista or Windows 7. Users of the older Windows XP are out of luck. Actually, all Windows users, including those using Windows XP, should install one of the better browsers from competitors, namely Firefox (www.mozilla.com) or Chrome (www.google.com/chrome). Both of those products are strong competitors to Internet Explorer version 9, both have even better security, and both of them work properly on Windows XP.

You can read much more about the new Internet Explorer version 9 at hundreds of web sites, including ZDnet's article at http://www.zdnet.com/blog/bott/internet-explorer-9-is-released-should-you-switch/3058?tag=nl.e539

You can download the new Internet Explorer version 9 at

microsoft.com/IE9

Comments by Tony Kierna

I guess you will generally hate it or love it as we have all done for versions of Internet Explorer!

Only current Windows 7 users or Vista users will be able to install this new updated product onto their machines. Windows XP users cannot use this new updated product.

Microsoft has apparently corrected a rather large problem issue that existed in the previous version that basic web sites would not load properly and be viewable. They had a special workaround to resolve this but it was hard to imagine such a basic function did not always work. This problem was very noticeable when I accessed the dick Eastman blog to hunt for material. His site would not load or load without seeing the blog posts! I might try again and it would work but it was very inconsistent. I even had our staff load Mozilla Firefox on my machine so I could work around the problem when Internet Explorer 8 would not work.

I personally will wait a little bit before I load and use Internet Explorer 9 onto my machine. Sometimes it is better to wait in case there may be some "bugs" in the new product. Then I will give it a try and see if I can notice measurable improvements in appearance, speed and functionality!

Take a look at all of the links above from the original Eastman post to get you to the site for downloading Internet Explorer 9 and other things.

We often use Internet Explorer as the default on our Windows machines. You do not have to only use this product. There are many other browsers to consider such as Mozilla Firefox, Safari, Chrome etc. You can also install these alternates on your machine and use them in addition to Internet Explorer or just use them completely instead of Internet Explorer. Hopefully, this new version 9 will be a standout in comparison to previous versions. One can hope!

Feel free to check out this new product. Be the first on your block to use it!

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Handout #9 – AVOIDING HOMETOWN PITFALLS

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the March/April 2011, Volume 15, Number 4 issue of Family Chronicle.

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I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "Avoid These Hometown Pitfalls" by Leslie Albrecht Huber. Leslie shares some tips on how to filter through discovering the real home town of an ancestor that needs to be discovered in order to pursue records that exist for that ancestor within the geographical record-keeping organization for that town.

Geography is everything! You need to be able to pinpoint the birth location of an ancestor to begin the process of uncovering records for that individual that may shed light on other pieces of information about the ancestor to pursue. Sometimes you find a town name but it may still not help you because it may not be the town name for which records were associated.

What could you discover about a hometown name that requires further refinement?

The author suggests the following things to be aware of when you discover a "home town" name:

- **The hometown given is actually the nearest large town** – we do this all of the time ourselves. If we live 20 miles outside of Chicago, we may often tell someone who we know is not familiar with our area that we are "from Chicago". Our ancestors were no different. They may have written down or had documented a town name that is not their true town name but the name of a larger town near them assuming the person hearing this will then have a gauge as to where they live.

- **The hometown is the most recent residence** – if asked "Where are you from" an ancestor may have actually given the name of the town of the most recent residency and not the town name from which they were born or lived a good part of their early life. Further research will be required to dig deeper once you realize this most recent town is not the town of origin where records might exist.

- **The name of the hometown has changed** – this can be especially true for European research where geographical areas were controlled over time by many different governing bodies. This was true for my own personal research for my Polish ancestors. Germany controlled the part of Poland of my ancestral connection. The largest town near my ancestors was Bydgoszcz. I know that today. However, under German control at the time of the births of my ancestors it was known

as Bromberg. The location of the town is the same but the name changed not by choice but by governmental control.

- **The town is too small to have records of its own** – you may have actually discovered the "mother lode" of your research but may still have nothing to show for it. This is because the town of origin may not be the jurisdictional town for recordkeeping. That distinction may be for one of the towns nearby in which the records for the town of your ancestor may be kept. Maps can be very helpful in getting a bird's eye view of what other towns surround the town you found. One of those towns may be the administrative town for which records are kept for the surrounding towns.

- **The name of the town has been translated or Americanized** – this dovetails with point number 3 above to a degree. The town name may have shortened. Perhaps the original town name existed as you have it but over time it was absorbed by incorporation into another city name. Think of the City of Chicago annexing various towns that existed at one time such as Lakeview, Rogers Park etc. You can't find them now as independent towns but they are now part of the City of Chicago.

- **The town name is misspelled** – when this happens your best bet is to look at maps for the area or at a gazetteer that would include the town name. You can then browse through the town listings to see if you can discover the town name as it really is in comparison to the town name spelling you may have discovered from a document. You may still discover you are at a dead-end even at this point if you have no luck discovering the town. A mistake could have been made. Maybe the record keeper was not paying attention to the details. Maybe the information got recorded for the wrong person. Maybe your ancestor truly did not know their birth location. You may never know.

Take a look at the entire article. Pinpointing a home location for birth is so very important. Without that information, you will have little success tapping into the resources you need to fully discover information about an ancestor. And even when you think you may have found it you may be disappointed to discover it may actually a town location of other than the birth of an ancestor.

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Handout #10 – TOP WEBSITES TO SAVE YOU "GENEALOGY" MONEY!

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the March/April 2011, Volume 15, Number 4 issue of <u>Family Chronicle</u>.

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I thought that another good article in this issue is one titled "Top Websites to Save You Money!" by Gena Phillibert Ortega. The author provides some good insights on how you can save your "genealogy" dollars and get the most bang for the buck! The author provides tips on how to save money on your genealogy research, on genealogy travel and on the necessities of genealogy.

Accessing genealogy databases that cost money is expensive. The author points out the following ways to save you some of your cash:

- **<mark>Don't forget to visit your local Family History Center (FHC) and take advantage of the genealogy subscriptions they have on their in-house computers</mark>.** You may find that the individual center subscribes to many databases such as Ancestry, Footnote and others tht even your local library does not subscribe to. Most public libraries subscribe to Ancestry Library Edition and Heritage Quest. FHCs may subscribe to even more such as:
    - Godfrey Memorial Library @ www.godfrey.org
    - WorldVitalRecords @ www.worldvitalrecords.com
    - FindMyPast (British) @ www.findmypast.co.uk/home.jsp
    - The Genealogist (British) @ www.thegenealogist.co.uk

- **<mark>Don't forget to take advantage of accessing library subscribed database products such as Ancestry Library Edition and Heritage Quest</mark>.**

- **<mark>Don't forget to take advantage of free lineage based programs</mark> from major developers to enter in your research such as:**

    - Roots Magic Essentials @ www.rootsmagic.com/Try/RootsMagic
    - Legacy Standard Edition @ www.legacyfamilytree.com
    - GRAMPS Genealogical Research Software @ http://gramps-project.org
    - Personal Ancestral File @ www.familysearch.org/eng/paf

- **<mark>Take advantage of free internet genealogy learning classes</mark> such as:**

    - Free Courses section of FamilySearch.org @ https://library.familysearch.org/researchcourses

- - Brigham Young University free genealogy classes @
      http://ce.byu.edu/is/site/courses/free.cfm
  - Genealogy.com Learning Center @
      http://genealogy.com/genehelp.html

- **On your travel trips <mark>consider booking a hotel room that has a refrigerator or a microwave</mark> and make some of your meals inside.**

- **Find cheap hotel room, flights or rental cars at Kayak @ www.kayak.com.**

- **<mark>Consider using coupons for just about anything</mark> from a coupon book such as The Entertainment Book on your travels @ www.entertainment.com/discount/home.shtml.**

- **Save money at restaurants on your genealogy travels at Restaurant.com @ www.restaurant.com.**

- **<mark>Consider joining a customer rewards program</mark> that provides discounts when you may use office supplies like printer inks, paper, envelopes and things like that.**

- **Don't forget coupons or be embarrassed to actually consider using them. Scour the Sunday papers for these valuable discounts. Check out Internet coupon sites like Coupon Mom @ www.couponmom.com.**

Take a look at the full article for other ways to save your dollars you spend related to genealogy. Make them go a lot farther. You can never save enough money in these more challenging economic times.

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3/28/2011