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June 12, 2012 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our June 12, 2012 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.

The source for the vast majority of what is in the Handouts is the monthly Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Newsletter. From within this larger document I extract information on upcoming genealogy programs local to our area, important items from Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Blog, as well as I summarize some key periodical articles of interest that I think are important to be aware of. The Handouts simply provide me with the opportunity to focus in on what I consider are important genealogical bits of information important to the researcher as well as to share my own personal thoughts on why it is of note.

You will also see a small redesign of the PDF Handout package. You will now see a Table of Contents on Page 1 listing what the following "handouts" are by topic. Within the Table of contents you can quickly access the handouts by using the hyperlinks and bookmarks that will get you quickly to your handout of interest. You will no longer have to scroll through the entire package of handouts to get to the one you want.

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. Or, just click on the WordPress icon in the lower right part of your screen that simply states “Follow”. By clicking on the “Follow” link you will subscribe to the blog and will receive follow-up e-mail notices when I publish a new post.

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 SEPTEMBER 1, 2012

PLEASE NOTE THIS IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR THIS SOCIETY. THEY ARE CHANGING THE MEETING DAY, MEETING TIME AND MEETING LOCATION FOR PROGRAMS FOR THIS SOCIETY EFFECTIVE WITH THE AUGUST 2011 PROGRAM. THIS SOCIETY WILL NO LONGER BE MEETING ON THE 3RD TUESDAY EVENING OF MONTH FOR SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER AND JANUARY-MAY AT THE FOREST VIEW EDUCATIONAL CENTER IN ARLINGTON HEIGHTS. INSTEAD, THE SOCIETY WILL BE MEETING ON THE 1ST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH STARTING AT 10:00 AM AT THE ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SENIOR CENTER LOCATED AT 1801 WEST CENTRAL ROAD IN ARLINGTON HEIGHTS. THERE IS A 30 MINUTE ROUND-TABLE HELP SESSION THAT STARTS AT 9:30 AM PRIOR TO THE ACTUAL PROGRAM.

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists will take place on Saturday morning, September 1, 2012. The program for the morning is titled “**To Be Determined**”. The speaker for the morning will be To Be Determined.

THE SOCIETY WILL NOT BE MEETING DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2012. THEY WILL RE-GATHER AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER 2012. I WILL PROVIDE UPDATES ABOUT THE PROGRAM IN SEPTEMBER AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE

Meetings are held at the Arlington Heights Senior Center at 1801 West Central Road in Arlington Heights. They begin at 10:00 AM with a Round-Table discussion/mingling time starting at 9:30 AM. They encourage people to bring their research problems, achievements or interesting tips to share with each other during the time prior to the program start. The main portion of the meeting begins promptly at 10:00 AM. Donations are always welcome! Coffee is available to attendees for a charge.

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 SEPTEMBER 19, 2012

THE SOCIETY WILL NOT BE MEETING DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2012. THEY WILL RE-GATHER AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER 2012. I WILL PROVIDE UPDATES ABOUT THE PROGRAM IN SEPTEMBER AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, September 19, 2012. The program scheduled for that evening is **"To Be Determined"**. The speaker for the program will be To Be Determined.

This meeting will take place at the Wheaton Public Library, Lower Level Meeting Room. The address of the Library is 225 N. Cross St. in Wheaton, IL. 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 web page to find out further information about this program and other future programs the society has on their schedule at:

www.dcgs.org

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Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGG-NI) NEXT PROGRAM ON JUNE 16, 2012 AT THE SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY

The next meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, June 16, 2012 at the Schaumburg Township District Library from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The program scheduled for this day is **"Deep Ancestry – Beyond the Paper Trail"**. The speaker for the program will be Michelle Bray Wilson.

While some genealogists claim kin back to Charlemagne, for all of us, the paper trail eventually peters out. Fortunately, genetics, linguistics, paeleontology, and other sciences are opening up new ways to discover our deep ancestry. Building on last year's *Genes for the Genealogist* program, Michelle will show how your ancestor's ancient migration routes can be traced and how to find where you fit in the tree of humanity. Don't miss this informative and engaging presentation.

You may visit the organization web page to find out further information about this program and other future programs the society has on their schedule 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 JULY 10, 2012

The Genealogy program will be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 at 7:30 PM in the 2nd floor Classroom. The guest speaker for the evening will be Jeanne Larzalere Bloom. Jeanne will present a program titled **"Hiring A Professional Genealogist"**.

Are you at a dead-end in your research? Hit a brickwall? Hoping and praying that the answers fall from the sky to allow you to move forward on your research path? Instead of hoping for miracles, now may be the time to get a professional involved in your research needs. While there is a cost to do so, it may be well-worth the investment. Professionals can often work "magic" and break through your "brickwall" problems. Jeanne will give us the information on how to go about utilizing a professional and what that professional can and can't do for you.

Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CG(SM) is a full-time professional researcher specializing in Illinois (particularly Cook County), problem solving, and compiling multi-generational family histories.

As a case manager for the American History Company, she works for the Repatriation and Family Affairs Division of the Army Casualty and Memorial Affairs Operation to determine the Primary Next of Kin on to identify eligible family members that can provide Family Reference Samples (mtDNA) to aid in the possible identification of unaccounted for soldiers from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War of the soldier. Her other clients include authors, professional genealogists, heir-search firms, and family researchers in the United States and internationally. She is a member of NGS, BCG, APG, GSG, ISFHWE, is a multi-year alumnus of IGHS at Samford, and an alumnus of NIGR.

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 – GOOGLE DRIVE VERSUS DROPBOX AND OTHER ONLINE STORAGE SERVICES

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at www.eogn.com dated April 26, 2012.

The recent announcement of Google's new Drive online storage service has created a lot of confusion about who is offering what. Indeed, Google is entering an already crowded field of storage service providers.

Ellis Hamburger has published a side-by-side comparison of the 13 leading storage space providers that nicely summarizes the important points of each. You can find his article at <http://goo.gl/KfvPf>.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Have you taken the plunge into the world of cloud computing/storage? Are you thinking of it but were afraid to jump in? Who do you go with?

Sounds like the typical questions you would ask yourself when making any decision to purchase something that will hopefully make your life a little easier to manage.

After all cloud computing and online storage opens up your personal world for your being able to access your life's materials online wherever you have access to an internet connection. You decide what to upload and make available to yourself or to others. It is truly a great way to force yourself to create a "backup" of your "stuff" and place online to avoid catastrophe should something ever happen to your own home machine that would make access to your "stuff" unavailable. Think like hard-drive crash, flooding, fire, breakage or your own mistake of deleting something you really did not want to.

Also think of collaborative research efforts among your cousins researching your ancestral connections. Are you visiting a cousin out of state and don't want to drag around a desk top, laptop, external hard drive. The online "cloud" is perfectly designed for this kind of application as long as there is an internet connection to allow you the access your "stuff".

I did look at the above link and was shocked to realize how many services exist that provide online storage. I may have heard of a few but did not realize there were so many.

Here is a list of the named providers of these online storage services:

- Google Drive
- Dropbox
- SugarSync
- Insync
- LogMeIn Cubby
- Apple iCloud
- SkyDrive

- *Mozy Stash*
- *SpiderOak*
- *AVG LiveKive*
- *Wuala by LaCie*
- *Box*
- *Syncplicity*

I personally maybe heard of just a few of them like Dropbox, Apple iCloud, SkyDrive. I sure did not hear of the rest.

When you visit the link above you will get a nice overview of each of the providers. You will also see a nice check list of key services provided by each company. The costs are also provided if there are any over and above any free storage that is offered. The items identified in this check list for your consideration and importance as to whether the company provides are:

- *Free Storage*
- *Version Tracking*
- *Multiple Folder Sync*
- *Download to Mobile*
- *Media Streaming*
- *File/folder Collaboration*
- *Public API*
- *Public File Share*
- *Password Protected Files*

The above are important. Some, more than others perhaps for you personally.

The link above while providing a nice summary for each provider does also provide a nice consolidated summary table matrix for 1 page comparison of all the providers and the services they do or do not provide. That is very nice to see such a direct and simple comparison.

Because the link is part of a blog, you can also see about 595 comments that were left by readers about the various providers and services offered.

I think this is a very good and helpful link to give you the information you need to compare and possibly choose and online storage service.

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Handout #7 – FOODS OF OUR ANCESTORS IN A NEW BOOK

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated May 7, 2012.

What do suet pudding, turtle soup and roast squirrel have in common? They are all foods our ancestors ate. In *From the Family Kitchen: Discover Your Food Heritage and Preserve Favorite Recipes*, a new book by author Gena Philibert-Ortega published by Family Tree Magazine, readers can learn more about food history and how to blend foodways and traditions into their family histories.

"Learning about our ancestors is so much more than just finding out when and where they were born or died," says Philibert-Ortega. "Food history helps bring our ancestors to life and gives us a better understanding of their day-to-day lives."

From the *Family Kitchen: Discover Your Food Heritage and Preserve Favorite Recipes* explores food history and explains how to incorporate those stories, images and recipes into family history. Divided into three sections, this social history begins by looking at the food history of immigrants and the regional differences of food throughout the United States. It explores the history of cookbooks in the United States and gives step-by-step instructions on locating and researching recipes that ancestors would have cooked. Part 2 features a glossary or historical cooking terms and measurements, plus a collection of historical recipes from the turn of the 20th century. Part 3 is a beautiful recipe journal where readers can record their favorite family recipes along with memories of the dish, making this book a keepsake that will be enjoyed years to come.

"This book spans generations," says Allison Dolan, publisher/editorial director of *Family Tree Magazine*. "I can't think of a better way to introduce younger generations to their heritage than by preparing a meal their ancestors would have eaten and then spend the meal sharing family history stories."

From the Family Kitchen also includes:

- Methods for gathering family recipes
- Interview questions to help loved ones record their food memories
- Places to search for historical recipes
- An explanation of how immigrants influenced the American diet
- A look at how technology changed the way people eat
- A glossary of historical cooking terms
- Modern equivalents to historical units of measure

From the Family Kitchen is available in a hardback keepsake edition from ShopFamilyTree.com and other online booksellers. It's also available as an ebook for the Amazon Kindle and the Barnes&Noble Nook.

About the author

Gena Philibert-Ortega holds a Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a Master's degree in Religion. Presenting on various subjects involving genealogy, women's studies and social history, Gena has spoken to groups throughout the

United States and virtually to audiences worldwide. Gena is the author of hundreds of articles published in genealogy newsletters and magazines including *Internet Genealogy*, *Family Chronicle*, *GenWeekly* and the *WorldVitalRecords* newsletter. She is the author of the books *Putting the Pieces Together* and *Cemeteries of the Eastern Sierra* (Arcadia Publishing, 2007) and *From the Family Kitchen. Discover Your Food Heritage and Preserve Favorite Recipes* (F+W Media, 2012). Gena is editor of the Utah Genealogical Association's journal *Crossroads*. An instructor for the National Institute for Genealogical Studies, Gena has written courses about social media and Google. She serves as Vice-President for the Southern California Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, a Director for the California State Genealogical Alliance and on the board of the Utah Genealogical Association. Her current research interests include social history, community cookbooks, signature quilts and researching women's lives.

About Family Tree Magazine

Family Tree Magazine is part of the Genealogy Community at F+W Media, Inc. (<http://www.fwmedia.com>), which also encompasses Family Tree University online courses and webinars (<http://www.familytreeuniversity.com>), genealogy books and the ShopFamilyTree.com (<http://www.shopfamilytree.com/?r=FTUshop>) online store. These publications and products are devoted to providing engaging, easy-to-understand instruction that makes genealogy a hobby anyone can do.

Comments by Tony Kierna

I may look at the foods of our ancestors as those that are more "immediate" such as recipes handed down to us from our parents or grandparents and those that are "deep" in history from perhaps 200 plus years ago. In this case, the foods of our ancestors may simply not be familiar to us today at all. The ingredients may be generally not used at all by most of us, e.g. squirrel and therefore make that ancestral food seem very strange to our tastes of today.

I often think of what my great-grandfather and his wife put together for their family to eat in Poland of the 1860s. There were no fast-food outlets. I don't think they had running water. I don't think they turned on the burner on their stove to saute up some olive oil and garlic. I think we all wonder how any of our ancestors survived when they certainly did not have the creature-comforts we all have today and how we would be hard-pressed to enjoy life without them.

It sure looks like the author put a lot of thought into creating her resource to help the rest of us.

I think that an automatic query to an elderly relative we are interviewing should automatically include some kind of question on what the most memorable foods were of their early life. It sure adds so much more than "What is your birthday?" or "Who were your parents?". I also think that in the relatively short time interval between them and ourselves, they might mention foods they enjoyed that we might not even be aware of that existed or were routinely part of their diets.

It sounds fascinating that the author included in the book a series of recipes for the reader to look at from the distant past. You may probably see many high-fat ingredients that are today considered "deadly" for our own health. The level of

physical activity was so much greater that much of what was ingested in calorie content was soon burned off while plowing the lower 40!

We are here as succeeding generations because the previous generations certainly were able to figure things out and establish food processing capabilities and cooking methods that worked for them with the resources they had at the time.

So maybe we can find an interesting recipe in our own historical family collections or find an interesting one in the above noted book that we may actually try to create ourselves in our cooking environments.

I think I will see if I can add this book to our collection. It sounds too interesting to pass up!

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Handout #8 – NBC CANCELS “WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?”; NO MORE NEW EPISODES FOR 2013

The following was found in Dick Eastman’s Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated May 13, 2012.

The following announcement was written by Ancestry.com Inc.:

PROVO, Utah, May 13, 2012 -- Ancestry.com Inc., the world's largest online family history resource, today commented on NBC's decision not to renew the *Who Do You Think You Are?* television series for a fourth season.

"We want to thank NBC for their support of this terrific series, which over the last three years has inspired many viewers to follow their passion to learn more about who they are and where they come from," said Tim Sullivan, President and CEO of Ancestry.com. "We have a great partnership with the show's producers, Is or Isn't Entertainment and Shed Media, and we look forward to exploring other avenues of distribution."

About Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com Inc. is the world's largest online family history resource, with 1.9 million paying subscribers. More than 10 billion records have been added to the site in the past 15 years. Ancestry users have created more than 34 million family trees containing approximately 4 billion profiles. In addition to its flagship site, Ancestry.com offers several localized Web sites designed to empower people to discover, preserve and share their family history.

Comments by Tony Kierna

WOW!

WOW!

WOW!

I can't believe this is happening. As a routine viewer of the show I am hard-pressed to believe that this wonderful show on genealogy will be no more. I certainly thought this show was beginning to hit its on-air stride. There were actually more episodes shown in the just completed season than were created and shown in the episodes from the previous two years. So for viewer appearance one would think the show was doing better and better. I don't think the networks order more episodes of a show that is not doing well!

I am sure you may have felt that some episodes were just terrible. Some shows seemed to be nothing more than glorified "travel shows" in which the star cavorted around the world being spoon-fed everything with little "research skills" being showcased. The one that stands out for me as being not so good was the one this year with Helen Hunt. I found that she seemed to be a person of little words and emotions while her ancestral connections were being uncovered. I almost got a sense that she was completely disinterested in even being on the show.

On the other hand I thought that the show with Blair Underwood was good. He seemed to be excited and motivated. He did seem to me to be truly emotionally moved by the discoveries, especially finding a living relative in Africa. He also involved his father in the process.

Each of us has our favorite shows and least favorite shows to remember in this series that ended far too early. Every show is not always a "home run" but I just did not see the end coming for this wonderful show that gave us some insights into the research process and hopefully motivated us for our personal research efforts.

So hopefully the show will at least continue to exist online at the NBC web site where you can view past episodes. Maybe it could get re-activated by another network. Somehow, I could see a show of this nature being shown on the Hallmark Channel or the History Channel on cable.

If you missed watching it on your TV when it was actually broadcast you will now realize that is not going to happen anymore. But reruns are forever! Let's just hope in the world of reruns these shows will surface again on some other network.

Who knows, maybe the idea of this kind of show will not completely disappear. Maybe something else in the creative brains of Hollywood is on the drawing board. After all, the show was successful for three seasons. Maybe a tweak here, a tweak there we may all be watching in the future "Who Do You think You Are II?"

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Handout #9 – FINDING YOUR ANCESTORS IN OLD NEWSPAPERS

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the May/June 2012, Volume 16, Number 5 issue of Family Chronicle.

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "Finding Your Ancestors in Old Newspapers". The author of the article is Lisa Louise Cooke.

Newspaper digitization along with the Optical Character Reader (OCR) scanning process that turns words on paper into digitized, searchable text has been a booming process over the last few years. More and more newspapers are being digitized and made available through a variety of sources to the genealogical researcher.

The author is making us aware that in addition to the newspaper articles themselves, there are tools the researcher could use to get further insights into newspapers that may be of help to the researcher.

The first tool mentioned by the author is called the Stanford Newspaper Data Visualization tool. You can find this tool at:

www.stanford.edu/group/ruralwest/cgi-bin/drupal/visualizations/us_newspapers

The tool plots on a map over 140,000 newspapers published over three centuries in the United States. The visualizations occur as the user drags through a chronology slider starting back in the 1600's and sliding to current times. As you slide through more and more "dots" appear over a map of the United States indicating where clusters of newspapers appear. The larger the dot in the geographic area, the more that multiple newspapers that are clustered in that area. You can take your cursor and hover over geographic areas of interest and let the tool tell you what the town is and what the newspaper is for that area. You can zoom in and zoom out on areas of the map to focus on smaller geographic areas and get a better idea exactly what newspapers were there.

You can highlight the town on the map by marking it with a red triangle. At the bottom of the page, you will then be able to see what newspapers were in that town.

The legend at the bottom of the page for the targeted town will tell you the name of the newspaper, the years of publication, the language it was published in, and whether the paper was published daily or weekly or whatever the interval was.

This is a very nice tool to really quickly discover newspaper names that were in the local area of where your ancestors lived. Armed with those details you can then begin your quest to discover where the newspaper can be obtained on microfilm or in digitization form. The newspaper link in this tool will get you to the Library of Congress where you can find out even more details of the newspaper. More

importantly, at the Library of Congress site you can then click on a link to find out what libraries have the newspaper in their possession.

This is a great tool!

The 2nd tool mentioned in this article is one titled Newspaper Map. You can find this tool at www.newspapermap.com.

This tool allows you to discover over 10,000 newspapers from all over the world by location. You can even browse and read them online (assuming you know the language when in a foreign country!).

You can zoom in on the world map to really find a geographic area of interest and any newspapers. The first world map you see makes it impossible to really pick out small geographic areas of interest. You have to zoom in to make selecting meaningful. Once you see what you want, hover the cursor over the town of interest, click on the link and wait while that communities local paper online presence is brought to you on the screen.

Don't forget to select the language of interest you have for the newspapers as this will reduce the amount of newspapers initially presented because they represent the papers of the world. The first map you see will look overwhelmingly cluttered, so narrow down the language of the papers of interest. The languages that appear on the map for the various newspapers are color-coded, so be sure you look in lower right hand side of the map to determine all of the colors used for the various newspapers based on language.

The 3rd tool mentioned in this article is one titled WorldCat. You can find this at www.worldcat.org. It is the largest network of library content and services on the web. This site allows you to search the catalogs of libraries within the United States and throughout the world. There are approximately 78,000 libraries in this system, all available at your fingertips. It is a great tool to hunt down newspapers of interest that may be in the collection of one of the libraries. Generally, these newspapers may exist in microfilm format within the collections. You can often initiate an interlibrary loan request to obtain a copy of the microfilm in your local library for local viewing. Try finding unknown named newspapers by using the town name as a search input plus the keyword "newspaper". You can then evaluate the results and see if the discovered newspaper is one that can help with your research.

Within WorldCat you can use the service to obtain source citations of your discovered material for proper documentation in your research.

This is a good article to help you use the identified tools to help with your online digital newspaper research.

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Handout #10 – SEVEN TIPS TO REV UP YOUR FAMILY REUNION

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the May/June 2012, Volume 16, Number 5 issue of Family Chronicle.

Another good article in this issue is one titled “Seven Tips To Rev Up Your Family Reunion!” The author of the article is Lisa Alzo.

Summer is often the time when family reunions are planned. Good weather can allow for larger crowds to gather in outside locations such as at picnics within parks. Travel is often easier for driving or flying when you do not have to worry as much about bad winter weather. You may be thinking of having a family reunion. How do you make it happen successfully? The author offers the following tips to consider to make your family reunion a rip-roaring success!

- **Plan Ahead**
 - Give yourself at least one year to plan the reunion.
 - Get other family members involved in the planning. Don't go it alone. It is too much for one person.
 - Take advantage of web-based planning tools so committee planning members can work together no matter where they are located in the United States or even worldwide.
 - Consider Skype at www.skype.com
 - Consider EventBrite at www.eventbrite.com
 - Consider creating a website via Google at <http://sites.google.com> or at Weebly at www.weebly.com

- **Generate Buzz**
 - Use social media to get the word out about the reunion.
 - Start a blog at Blogger at www.blogger.com or at Wordpress at www.wordpress.com
 - Create a Facebook page at www.facebook.com or at Google Plus at <http://plus.google.com>

- **Try A Theme**
 - Themes tie together the entire event and make it fun. Costumes and food can tie right into the theme. Don't make the themes too elaborate so family members can utilize things they may already have. Some theme ideas are:
 - All-American
 - Back To School
 - Christmas in July
 - Country & Western
 - 50's, 60's, 70's etc.
 - Irish

- **Focus on Family History**
 - Incorporate nostalgia
 - Bring printed copies of the family tree, photo albums and scrapbooks
 - Use photos in contests like a “guessing game”
 - Convert your old movies to video/DVD format for attendees to see
 - Take the time to interview family members in attendance and capture it on video. This may be one of the few opportunities to do so.

- **Shake Things Ups**
 - If you have frequent reunions, try something different. Try a different location or format.
 - Don’t do a “pot Luck” meal, try catered food.
 - Select a different location to make it easier for other family members to attend.

- **Aim for All-Ages Activities**
 - Have wide-range activities that takes into account toddlers, children, teens, seniors etc.
 - Softball
 - Horseshoes
 - Badminton
 - Volleyball
 - Scavenger hunt for all
 - Board games
 - Karaoke
 - Take a look at website related to “Genealogy Games at Family Reunions at <http://olivetreenealogy.blogspot.com/2011/07/genealogy-games-for-family-reunion-part.html>

- **Keep the Momentum Going**
 - Don’t just end your interactions with your family members after the reunion is over. Keep in touch throughout the years.
 - Keep a “virtual” reunion going with pictures of the reunion on Flickr at www.flickr.com or Picasa at <http://picasa.google.com>
 - Try sharing your memories of the reunion by leaving voice messages for all to hear your voice and your feeling. Take a look at how to do this at www.voicequilt.com
 - Try a “hangout” at Google Plus to video speak with up to 10 family members at one time at <http://plus.google.com>
 - Start planning the next reunion and use a good resource on family reunion planning at www.reunionmag.com

The article goes into more detail within each category. It does sound like a major undertaking to be involved in a family reunion but the rewards of re-connecting with family can easily outweigh all of the challenges in making the reunion happen successfully! The author does a good job of planting the seed on how to make a

family reunion turn out successfully. Take a look at the full article and tap into the resources I gleaned from the article itself as you start down the path of planning a successful family reunion.

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