



HANDOUTS TABLE OF CONTENTS

June 10, 2014

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June 10, 2014 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our June 10, 2014 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 6, 2014

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 60 MINUTE ROUND-TABLE HELP SESSION THAT STARTS AT 9:00 AM PRIOR TO THE ACTUAL PROGRAM.

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists will take place on Saturday morning, September 6, 2014. The program for the morning is titled **"To Be Determined"**. The speaker for the morning will be **"To Be Determined"**.

Meetings take place at the Arlington Heights Senior Center, 1801 West Central Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005 at 10:00 AM. There is a round table discussion that takes place at 9:00 AM prior to the main meeting that starts at 10:00 AM. 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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**Handout #3 – DUPAGE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEXT
REGULAR SOCIETY PROGRAM ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2014**

Please note that there will be no meetings of the DuPage County Genealogical Society during the months of June, July and August 2014. Meetings will resume again on Wednesday evening, September 17, 2014.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, September 17, 2014. The program scheduled for that evening is **“Beyond the Begats: Adding Biographical Detail to Your Genealogy”**. The speaker for the program will be **Sarah A. V. Kirby**.

You may visit the society's web page at:

www.dcgcs.org

The society also has a blog that you can visit to find out about “this and that” related to the society as well as find genealogical tips. You can visit the DuPage County Genealogical Society blog at:

<http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.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.

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Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGG-NI) NEXT PROGRAM ON JUNE 21, 2014 AT THE SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY

The next regular meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, June 21, 2014 at the Schaumburg Township District Library starting at 10:30 AM. The program scheduled for this day is **"Technological Advances in Polish-American Genealogy"**. The speaker will be **Jason Kruski**.

Polish-American genealogical research has never been easier with the wealth of information that has come online in the past few years. Join speaker Jason Kruski as he walks you through resources from both the United States and Poland available to all via the internet to help build your Polish-American family tree.

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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**Handout #5 – SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY NEXT
GENEALOGY PROGRAM ON JULY 8, 2014**

Our next genealogy program will be on Tuesday evening, July 8, 2014 at 7:30 PM. Our speaker for this evening's program will be **Kristin Newton McCallum**. Kristen will present a program titled **"Using the Internet Archives in Your Family History Research"**.

The Internet Archive is a non-profit digital library with the stated mission of "universal access to all knowledge." To overcome the challenge of selection when collecting the internet, Internet Archive subscribes to the theory of bulk archiving in which it tries to archive as much of the public web as possible.

Kristen McCallum, a librarian at the Algonquin Public Library, began researching her family history after her grandfather passed away and since 2001 she has been gathering information about her family and helping others.

According to McCallum, a few reasons why researching family history has become more popular is that some people want to know where they came from, connect with family traditions, availability of records and seeking information about medical history.

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 – OKLAHOMA VITAL RECORDS BILL BLUNDER!

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at www.eogn.com dated May 1, 2014.

You may remember the controversy surrounding a recently-enacted law in Oklahoma that restricts access to vital records for many years. Amongst other provisions, the law requires copies of death certificates to be issued only to the person who is listed on the certificate. That's right, for the first 75 years following a death, you can't order a death certificate unless you are dead!

Now the state legislature had a chance to fix the problem, but failed to do so. The following was received from Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies' Public Records Access Monitoring Committee:

Oklahoma SB 1448 was signed into law by Governor Mary Fallin on April 30, 2014. It becomes effective November 1, 2014. The bill was supposed to correct the legislation enacted several years ago that addressed vital records. Last year when a professional genealogist tried to obtain a copy of a death record it was found out that the law only permitted the named person-the deceased- to request their own death record. The law also made it a felony if a Department of Health Services employee provided the death certificate to anyone other the named person. Instead of "fixing" the glitch, the state incorporated the Model Vital Records Act provisions which closes records for 125 years for births, death records for 75 years, and marriage and divorce records for 100 years. Unfortunately, the new law retained the same language –permitting only the "named person" to obtain the record during the embargo period. Therefore, for death records only the deceased may request their own records within the 75 years from date of death. The Oklahoma Genealogy Society decided that this was better than never having any access as was included in the original law from several years ago. To read the enrolled version see:

http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2013-14%20ENR/SB/SB1448%20ENR.PDF.

HB 3028 which was reported upon earlier and would merge the Oklahoma Historical Society into the Department of Tourism, History and Cultural Affairs has had no further action—heard in House Government Modernization Committee in early March. However, as the legislature does not adjourn until May 30, it is always possible that it may be appended into another bill. The genealogical community will continue to monitor.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Warning! Warning! Warning!

You have to be seated as you process all of what is noted above to obtain Death Certificate information in the great state of Oklahoma.

OK, I am going to give you a chance to read it again.

Yep! It still reads the same.

If you are trying to obtain a state of Oklahoma death certificate for someone who died within the most recent 75 year period the law within Oklahoma states that the only person that is entitled to request the death certificate is the deceased! For most of our own research experiences a researcher can request and obtain such death certificate information.

It was discovered that when a professional researcher tried to obtain a death certificate for someone that had died within the most recent 75 years it was discovered that such a request could not be processed because the law specifically notes that only the deceased themselves can obtain their own death certificate within the 75 year window! And dare any bureaucrat that fails to heed the law and issues a death certificate to someone other than the deceased they could be prosecuted as a felon!

It gets even better. The state upon discovering this "error" chose to adopt the Model Vital Records Act thinking the problem would go away. But no one ever corrected the actual wording. The Model Vital Records was passed to act as a guide but the original problem still exists. They had a chance to fix it and actually did not fix it.

So if you are doing Oklahoma research and are in need of vital records be aware that you will not be able to obtain birth record information for those you are researching until 125 years has elapsed; for death records for those that you are researching until 75 years has elapsed (anything earlier, only the deceased themselves can obtain the information); for marriage and divorce records 100 years must pass for the event in order for you to obtain this information.

I know this sounds laughable until you are the researcher in need of this and cannot obtain it because the Oklahoma legislature, knowing the bill had a problem, still chose not to correct it.

Let's just hope that state legislatures throughout the country, especially the legislature of Illinois, does not jump on the flawed Oklahoma bandwagon and inflict even more harm in trying to obtain vital records we all seek for our research.

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Handout #7 – GENEALOGISTS INITIATE A DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated May 12, 2014.

One of the major announcements at the recent conference of the National Genealogical Society was a new Declaration concerning access to public documents. Please note that it includes an opportunity for **YOU** to sign the Declaration.

The following was written by the Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC), a joint committee of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the National Genealogical Society, and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies:

Richmond, 10 May 2014: Jordan Jones, President of the National Genealogical Society (NGS), a sponsoring member of the Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC), announced the Genealogists' Declaration of Rights before a crowd of more than 2,500 genealogists attending the Opening Session of the NGS 2014 Family History Conference in Richmond, Virginia on 7 May 2014.

The Declaration of Rights is a statement advocating open access to federal, state, and local public records. The Declaration affirms America's long history of open public records, which has been threatened the last few years over concerns about identity theft and privacy. The Records Preservation and Access Committee has worked with state and federal legislators as well as local public officials for more than twenty years in support of legislation and regulations that achieve a balance between access and privacy. The Declaration of Rights has been approved by the board of directors of the three sponsoring organizations: The National Genealogical Society (NGS), the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS).

During the NGS 2014 Family History Conference this week, genealogists from almost all fifty states have signed the Declaration of Rights. Over the next few months, the Declaration will travel to the 34th IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Salt Lake City, Utah, 27 July–1 August 2014 and the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in San Antonio, Texas, 27–30 August 2014. The Declaration will also be available for signature at <http://bit.ly/gen-declaration> by genealogists not attending one of the conferences.

Genealogists advocate the right of access to records held by government agencies including but not limited to vital records (births, marriages, deaths, divorces); land conveyances and mortgages; tax assessments; guardianships; probate of estates; criminal proceedings; suits of law and equity; immigration; military service and pensions; and acts of governmental entities. Genealogists further advocate that they need to be allowed access to original records when photocopies, microfilm, digital images, or other formats are insufficient to establish clear text, context, or completeness of the record. The rights of genealogists specified in the Declaration object to numerous barriers created to deny them access to records.

Thousands of professional genealogists do research everyday on behalf of clients, government agencies, and attorneys. Of particular note are the many forensic genealogists who assist the Department of Defense in locating heirs for the repatriation of remains from previous wars; assist county coroners in the identification of unclaimed persons; work with attorneys in locating missing and unknown heirs involving estates, trusts, real estate quiet title actions, oil and gas and mineral rights, and other similar legal transactions; trace and track heritable medical conditions where finding distant cousins can facilitate early treatment and possibly prevent a premature death; research stolen art and artifacts for repatriation; and identify American Indians, Native Alaskans, and Native Hawaiians to determine eligibility for tribal benefits.

The Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) is a joint committee of the National Genealogical Society (NGS), the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) as sponsoring members. The Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG), International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen), and the American Society of Genealogists (ASG) also serve as participating members. RPAC meets monthly to inform and advise the genealogical community on ensuring proper access to vital records and on supporting strong records preservation policies and practices at the federal, state, and occasionally the local level.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Watch out 1776, a revolution has started again!

The big announcement of the start of the genealogical records access revolution took place at the recently held National Genealogical Society Annual Conference just completed this May.

The declaration has been approved by the National Genealogical Society (NGS), the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS). So I do not think this is a light-hearted attempt to just get some publicity.

As genealogy researchers we have all been exposed to the recent trends in closing down access to the records we use to help us discover family. Everything today seems to hinge on protecting privacy for the reason to shut down access to public records more and more. Government today would argue that it is not shutting down access. We on the other hand know that if current access standards are elongated by adding years to the time interval before they become accessible, then in essence, we are being shut-down from the ability to obtain these public records.

(For somewhat of a comparison to how records are being made more and more difficult to access, please look back to the previous "handout" above where I made note of what the Oklahoma state legislature just did and then didn't do regarding accessing Oklahoma death certificates.)

Make sure you access the "declaration" via the link included in the above text from Dick Eastman. I have noticed that at the end of the "Declaration" is a "support" addendum in which you would supply your name, city and state to submit as

"support" for this effort. It looks like submitting your e-mail address is "optional". This is good because in so many instances this is required to provide. We hesitate to support matters like this if we have to supply our e-mail address for fear of being inundated with spam/marketing e-mail. No e-mail address is required here. If you do supply it, it states you can expect to receive updates on records preservation and access issues.

It is short and sweet. It prints on a little over 1 side of paper plus it has the submission information. Everything prints on 2 pages.

The "Declaration" is short and sweet and my gosh you think you are reading our Declaration from 1776 all over again with all of the "Whereas" phrases! All of the "Whereas" phrases make sense to me. The "We Declare" portion of the document also makes sense in a non-threatening and very informative manner. These are mentioned as our rights:

- PRESERVING the freedom of the American people to access the public records of our government in a timely and orderly manner through appropriate legislation; and*
- REFRAINING from legislation which would prevent or render extraordinarily difficult access to the public records, principally birth, marriage, and death records collected by our state and federal governmental agencies; and*
- PROMOTING those principles that enhance, not diminish, our freedom of access to records; and*
- CELEBRATING with genealogists the valuable benefits of exploring, researching, and compiling the histories of our families, and as a result, the history of our exceptional nation.*

Take a look at the Declaration of the Rights of Genealogists. Consider submitting your support response.

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Handout #8 – SCANNERS AVAILABLE TO USE AT FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated May 21, 2014.



FamilySearch has equipped more than 2,800 of its local family history centers in North America with new Lexmark MFP multifunction scanners and printers. Family history centers outside the U.S. will receive theirs in the near future. The Lexmark MFPs are easy to use and can digitally scan your documents and photographs quickly. Best of all, the software from Lexmark that runs on the MFP lets the user scan their documents and photos directly into a free FamilySearch.org account where the documents and photos can later be tagged, explained, shared with others, or attached to ancestors in your free FamilySearch Family Tree. You can also save the digital copies to a thumb drive and take them home with you.

Details may be found in an article by Paul Nauta in the FamilySearch Blog at

<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/family-photos-letters-documents>.

Comments by Tony Kierna

FamilySearch of late seems to be on a roll. Now they have announced that through the local Family History Centers (FHC) users of the facility will be able to use the newly installed scanners at the centers. It appears that all of the scanners will be from the same manufacturer and be of the same model. This commonality will help both volunteers at the centers and users be able to learn functionality of the system that spans across all Family History Centers. Scanners will soon be added across all of the international Family History Centers.

It appears that the true intent for the scanners and the scanning service is to facilitate researchers to upload their material into the Family Trees section of FamilySearch. I do not think that researchers should view this as a general invitation to bring all of your material into the centers for scanning. Although FamilySearch is quite clear that use of the scanners is not tied to uploading any material to Family Trees at FamilySearch. So in essence you can go to the center, bring your scanning material, scan the material, save it to a flashdrive and walk out of the center with your newly scanned images to work with at home.

The article above indicates that the software that is part of the scanner will automatically direct your scans to your FamilySearch. It would appear that you will need to be logged into your FamilySearch account in order to direct scans to your account. If not logged in, then it appears your scans can be saved to your

flashdrive. Quoting from the article "The most exciting part is that software from Lexmark that runs on the MFP lets the user scan their documents and photos directly into a free FamilySearch.org account where the documents and photos can later be tagged, explained, shared with others, or attached to ancestors in your free FamilySearch Family Tree. You can also save the digital copies to a thumb drive and take them home with you."

"From any computer with Internet access, you can log into your account and select either documents or photos under the Memories feature to view the high-quality digital images of your scanned documents. From within your account, you can label, crop and share your historic family documents and photos of ancestors in your free FamilySearch Family Tree."

It really sounds like FamilySearch, in cooperation with Lexmark, the provider of all of the scanners, really wants to make scanning and ultimately uploading material to FamilySaarch Family Trees easy as can be.

I still believe that for most active and experienced genealogists already have scanners at home that can be used to scan material for uploading to FamilySearch Family Trees. So I do not think this new service is going to make them switch over to doing their work at Family History Centers. But maybe the scanner combined with the installed software might actually make your scanning faster and better at Family History centers than at home on your own equipment and software, especially if you are already using their Family Trees service. I don't know?

I wonder if there is any capability to take a microfilm that you are working on at a center and be able to somehow scan a page of interest on the scanner? It would eliminate one step of saving an image as a JPEG to a flashdrive and then uploading it to your Family Tree at FamilySearch! But I think I am being too unrealistic in what the scanners are there to do.

Hats off to FamilySearch for making adding material online easier. Anything to make adding material online easier is appreciated. I definitely encourage all of you to read the full text of the FamilyService description of this new service from the link above in the Dick Eastman blog post. If you are going to a Family History Center, bring a few items to try out the service and see how it easy it is to upload scanned material to your FamiySearch account or just to a flashdrive you bring in.

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Handout #9 – “GERMAN GENEALOGY WEBSITES YOU WON’T WANT TO MISS”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the April/May 2014, Volume 9, Number 1 issue of Internet Genealogy.

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled “German Genealogy Websites You Won’t Want to Miss”. The author of the article is Leslie Albrecht Huber.

German genealogy is very popular. Many researchers pursue their Germanic roots. At our own quarterly “breakout” genealogy program at our library, the German table is often full of excited and energetic researchers of all skill levels. When I saw this article I thought it would be a good one to share information about since German genealogy is popular.

The author provided some key websites where much German ancestral information can be found. Each website mentioned has its own lengthy description of what the site is all about. I also wanted to share these because new sites that are good come up all of the time. This provides me with the opportunity to share sites that may not be familiar to researchers pursuing German ancestral connections.

Here are the sites mentioned in the Leslie Albrecht Huber article:

- German Roots @ www.germanroots.com – the author notes the importance of the “Emigration and Immigration Records” section of the site; Passenger Departure records can be found for Hamburg, Bremen and Stettin; look for “Online German Emigration Indexes and Records”; Germany was not unified until 1871 therefore each existing state prior to 1871 kept records on their own; look for “Basic Research Guide for German Genealogy” that can be found at www.germanroots.com/outline.html .
- German Genealogy Network @ www.genealogy.net – comprehensive, free resource created in German but now has many sections translated into English; look for “19th Century Germany” to get a list of states for the period; gazetteers are important to discover hometowns; access <http://gov.genealogy.net> where you can enter in the name of a German place. You can then determine what type of place it is, where it is located and where people living there attended church.
- FamilySearch @ www.familysearch.org – site has a growing collection of original German records; check out the Research Wiki and try accessing the German Research Wiki; look for other Germanic wikis such as Hamburg Passenger Lists, Berlin Civil Registration records, Baden emigration records; look for the German Word List that contains translations to help you understand documents you found; look for German letter writing guides if you choose to correspond with German

archives and resources; look for the Learning Center at the site and find the 16 topics available under German research.

- Ancestry @ www.ancestry.com – Ancestry.com is a subscribable site; Ancestry.com has the *Meyers Orts Und Vehkehr Lexikon des Deutschen Reichs* resource (anyone can access this, you do not need a subscription). Meyers is a historical gazetteer and will tell you if a church was present in the town; Ancestry.com has some good material on the Baden and Wuerttemberg Emigration Records (with a free index); Mecklenburg censuses for 1819, 1867, 1890 and 1900; strong collection of passenger records; use the “card catalog” at Ancestry.com. Access “Search”, then “Card Catalog”, then “Europe”, then “Germany” to discover these resources.
- Kirchenbuchportal @ www.kirchenbuchportal.de – relatively new site that functions as a church register portal for German archives; click on www.kirchenbuchportal.findbuch.net to see a list of archives. Keep clicking through the links here to find an archive of interest to you that details their holdings; the records themselves are not online.
- WorldGenWeb @ www.worldgenweb.org – similar to USGenWeb; choose “Europe” then “CenEuroGenWeb” then “Germany”; web pages are different for thoroughness and content because material is managed by “volunteers”; original records are minimal; you should be able to find maps, photos and histories of each state.
- ProGenealogists Specialty Websites for Genealogy Research @ www.progenealogists.com/specialtysites.htm - click on the German link and you will find much on articles, histories, research methodologies; site also includes access to gazetteers.
- An Atlas of the German Empire @ www.library.wisc.edu/etext/ravenstein - originally published as *Atlas des Deutschen Reichs* in 1883; large scale historical maps; helpful for borders and jurisdictions; to use it click on “Download Index”; choose alphabet section for town of interest; find the town name and note the what it tells you to get to the map.

Hopefully, from the above list and description you will have discovered some new websites for yourself to investigate to help you with your Germanic research efforts.

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Handout #10 – “FREE ONLINE MAGAZINES AND YOUR FAMILY HISTORY: AN OVERVIEW”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the April/May 2014, Volume 9, Number 1 issue of Internet Genealogy.

I thought that another good article in this issue is one titled “Free Online Magazines and Your Family History: An Overview”. The author of the article is Tony Bandy.

Tony Bandy believes that just capturing vital data information for births, marriages, and deaths about our ancestors does not simply provide the history of their lives. Sometimes, family stories are handed down that expands the life history of a particular ancestor. Perhaps you now know that a great-uncle served in World War I as a member of a particular regiment in the military organization. That is great to know. So much more can be expanded on that kernel of information. But alas, only if you have something in writing from the person themselves, all you can do is speculate about what life in the military was like for that ancestor.

The author notes that there is an imperfect workaround. Discover the cultural aspects of the lives of our ancestors through comparable life descriptions of the times when the events were occurring at the time of our ancestors. Newspapers can serve as a resource to discover that information. The author, however, notes that we should not forget the periodicals that existed at the time of our ancestors. Stories discovered there can be used to put your ancestor into the same life events and how things were happening around them. You may not have the actual descriptive words of your ancestor’s own experience but you can get an idea of his experience from the words and descriptions of others going through the same life events.

The author provides a very detailed list of resources we should consider if we want to do periodical/journal research to discover material of popular culture and events at the time of our ancestor.

Here are some of the suggested resources to consider:

- HathiTrust @ www.hathitrust.org – massive in size as to contents; free to use; search for a specific magazine title if you know it; if title unknown, use keyword searching for events, location and time period; not everything viewable on HathiTrust due to copyright restrictions; you may still discover something that is not viewable online but you can take the material information and possibly request material as an inter-library loan through your library.
- Unz.org @ www.unz.org – search the archive online by type of material, time period and title and keyword; once a possible good issue is discovered, use the Table of contents to link you to individual pages that have been scanned as a PDF; you can view this online,

download to desktop or save where you prefer; a drawback is that you are limited to single page viewing only in black and white.

- **Making of America** @ <http://moa.library.cornell.edu> – browsing individual magazine articles is easy; online viewer is easy to use; can download individual pages as needed; **text is searchable; primary focus of the collection is from 1840 to 1900;** also take a look at <http://ebooks.library.cornell.edu/m/moa/about.html>.
- **Naval Aviation News** @ www.history.navy.mil/branches/nhcorg5.htm - consider military service magazines if an ancestor was involved in the military; great for getting an idea of what life was like in the military that could be equated to a similar life for an ancestor; **issues date back to World War II era; can only browse through material and cannot direct search within the issues;** equate your ancestor life events in military to issues equal to timeframe that ancestor served.
- **Internet Archive** @ <http://archive.org/details/texts/> - resources are divided according to collection or types; also includes Canadian Library information and others; **use specific title of genealogical journal to search if you know the journal title;** use the Advanced search function for specific field searches and time eras; <http://archive.org/advancedsearch.php>; as a search example for an ancestor that might have been a Prisoner of War in World War II, use "Red Cross prisoners of war" as search term; you will receive returned resource of "Prisoners of War Bulletin"; **you can search within the returned documents.**
- **Google Books** @ <http://books.google.com/books/magazines/language/en> - Google Books does contain magazines and journals; can find titles such as Ancestry, Billboard, LIFE, Popular Mechanics and countless more.
- **Media History Digital Library** @ <http://mediahistoryproject.org> – **good deal of TV, Movies, Hollywood-like material to use to see how your ancestor may have been entertained at a time period;** quality of images is quite good; strong source material from 1910 to 1955.
- **Digital Public Library of America** @ <http://dp.la> – portal to other resources; has much more than magazines.
- **Welsh Journals Online** @ <http://welshjournals.llgc.org.uk> – presented by the National Library of Wales; online viewer is easy to use; search and select by article title.
- **Ad*Access** @ <http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/adaccess> - **good look at popular culture as expressed through magazines; emphasis on advertising materials; great to use to see what our ancestors ate, wore or listened to on the radio.**
- **European Library** @ www.theeuropeanlibrary.org – entry point to more digital content offered up by more than 40 libraries.

As the author restates, finding facts and dates may be the easiest part of our family history research. But placing the facts into context is the hard part. Using magazines and journals from the time of the lives of our ancestors is a tool to use.

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