



SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY
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 November 2015 --- No. 242



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PLEASE NOTE

The statements in this newsletter cited as quotes from other newsletters, quarterlies, etc., are quotations and not necessarily fact. I try not to reproduce statements that have been denied as being true and also those statements that are "old news" and have been quoted over a few years.

I would like to remind you that a few extra "paper" copies of all newsletters are filed at the "Ask Us" Desk on the 2nd floor along with the "handouts" summary sheet. Please remember that you can take any of the extra paper copies in the folder. The Newsletter as well as all "handout" summaries for a particular program will be contained in a folder specifically for that program date e.g. Newsletter as well as "handout" summary for program on 1/12/10 are contained in a separate folder. Each program date will have its own folder. If you do not find a copy in the manila "extra" folder, you will have to copy from the permanent file binder. If the staff has trouble finding the folders, please let me know.

More importantly, electronic PDF copies of the Newsletter and the "handouts" summary for our monthly program can be obtained electronically as PDF files from our Library's Genealogy Blog called "Tony's Genealogy Blog at the Schaumburg Township District Library". This is a WordPress blog that you can reach directly at:

<http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Look on the right side of the blog for links within the "Newsletter" category and the "Program Handouts" category. You can read the material online, download as a PDF file to your computer or print it from the blog.

If anyone needs to contact me via e-mail, you may reach me at the Schaumburg Township District Library at:

akierna@stdl.org

Or if you need to reach me the old fashioned way by phone, please contact me through the **Schaumburg Township District Library at 847-923-3390. I now can also be reached by direct FAX at the Schaumburg Township District Library. The FAX number in Reference is 847-923-3335.**

I am at the library each Monday, Tuesday (except on program dates) and Wednesday morning from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Reference Office should you need to meet me to obtain assistance in your research plan. Please let me know in advance if you plan on dropping in on these days so we can schedule a convenient time slot within those hours.

Tony Kierna - Genealogy Coordinator/Schaumburg Township District Library

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DECEMBER 8, 2015 GENEALOGY PROGRAM TOPIC

Our next genealogy program will take place on Tuesday evening, December 8, 2015.

We will have another "break-out" session for our gathering on December 8, 2015. Our previous attempts proved to be quite a good success. I would like us to build on those successes and afford those participants the opportunity to meet with those again or sample other groups.

After an initial introduction of new participants at the start of our normally scheduled meeting, we will establish our "breakout" groups at approximately 7:45 PM. We would have these breakout discussions from about 8:00 PM until about 9:30 PM. These groups would consist of about 7 to 8 participants. They would discuss some common topic of genealogy that interests them or from which they could learn even more to assist their research from sharing with others in the group and learning from others within the group.

The groups we previously tried seemed to work out quite well. I want to go with those same groups and am open to suggestions to attempt to add others or delete those that may not have a following.

I want to reconvene the following groups:

- Polish Researchers
- German Researchers
- Czech Researchers
- Irish Researchers
- Italian Researchers
- British Researchers
- Scandinavian Researchers
- Colonial Americans Researchers
- Sharing Your Printed Family Histories/How To

I also will have a Beginner's Group that I will lead.

We will also have the computer in the room for anyone to access the internet.

I would also encourage participants to bring their personal laptop or netbook to these sessions and tap into the internet via our WiFi network. I saw many researchers doing this at our last breakout session and they found it very productive to access internet information while being in one of the groups if they wanted to show something to someone else at the table.

Please remember that the group's composition is based on the numbers that will participate. If only one person is present to participate in the Polish group, then we cannot have a Polish group that evening. I cannot guarantee there will be enough participants to form a group. In that case I would always recommend participating in another ethnic group of interest if that is also in your research interests or join me at the Beginner's Group.

The key to this effort is to be flexible in selecting a group to work with.

I look forward to our next "break-out" session on December 8, 2015.

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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WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS

Glad you could join us as you embark on a rather adventurous journey into the unknown and far-reaching past! Please see me so I can get to know you and the details of the "journey" you plan to take. Make sure you receive from me a special "newcomer" package of materials that will help you take your first big steps.

I would greatly appreciate your taking the time to fill out and return to me a simple questionnaire that I use to better understand areas of research into which you may delve as well as your having access or not to a home personal computer.

Please feel free to become acquainted with the Genealogy Collection at Schaumburg Township District Library. Our book material is generally located in the 929.1XXXX to 929.3XXXX sections of both the Circulating Collection as well as the Reference Collection. The library also has a Video, Audio and Microform Collection of Genealogy material located in the AV-Department. The materials in AV are also identified in the same Dewey number range as the printed material. These are two great browsing areas for you to review introductory material.

For book material I would like to recommend as a starter a book titled Unpuzzling Your Past: A Basic Guide to Genealogy by Emily Anne Croom (929.1 CRO). A companion book that would follow Unpuzzling Your Past is The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook also by Emily Anne Croom (929.1 CRO). These two books present a good place to begin familiarizing yourself with the field of Genealogy. Feel free to check these out.

If you have access to the Internet, you may want to check out a Getting Started web page that appears at the National Genealogical Society web site. The address is:

http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/getting_started

Our participants are a great group of friendly people who are willing to help each other in their quest to discover their ancestors. Don't be shy to mingle!! You may be sitting next to a long, lost relative!?

Welcome to the group!

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WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE ARE LOOKING - FOLLOW-UP

Here is an update on our participant information that I am tracking. My database to date includes information on 201 participants that have returned a filled-out questionnaire to me. I have received updates from many of you since our last meeting. You truly are a very sharing group in your willingness to share your personal information with others attending our genealogy program concerning your research efforts.

From the filled-out questionnaires that have been returned to me, the numbers show that they are searching for a total of 1,612 surnames among all of the individuals.

Remember, that I will bring to the program a current group report that I would appreciate you reviewing and marking any additions, deletions or changes for your particular information that you would like me to make onto the report itself. I will leave one updated report by the genealogical material by the "Ask Us" Desk on the 2nd floor for you to reference in-between meetings. I will make additions/deletions to the participants that will be reflected in the listing of participants contained in the red binder that will be on the shelves at the combined Information/Magazine desk.

If you are in the library and need to review please ask someone at the "Ask Us" Desk on the 2nd floor for the material. Also check for this binder at my desk in the Reference Office if you do not find it at the "Ask Us" Desk.

Any feedback from you is welcome concerning the report and the material included in it. I do occasionally make typos or I possibly misread what you provided.

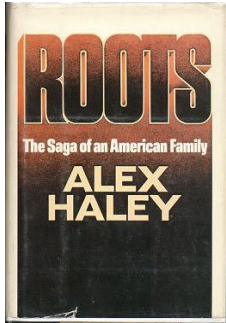
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SHORT TAKES / POTPOURRI

The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter September 28, 2015, September 29, 2015, October 5, 2015, October 6, 2015, October 12, 2015, October 16, 2015 and are copyright 2015 by Richard W. Eastman. They are re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

A Remake of the Popular "Roots" Television Program to Air in 2016 (September 28, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [September 28, 2015](#) · [Video & Television](#) · [7 Comments](#)



"Roots" was a 1977 television miniseries in the USA based on Alex Haley's 1976 novel, *Roots: The Saga of an American Family*. It received 37 Emmy Award nominations and won nine. It also won a Golden Globe and a Peabody Award. The program's Nielsen ratings for the finale still holds a record as the third highest rated episode for any type of television series, and the second most watched overall series finale in U.S. television history. Now a remake of the mini-series is planned for broadcast in 2016.

According to the Encyclopedia of World Biography:

The tale follows the life of Kunta Kinte, a proud African who was kidnapped from his village in West Africa. After surviving the middle passage (the brutal shipment of Africans to be sold in the Americas), he was made a slave on a plantation in the United States. Haley visited archives, libraries, and research repositories on three continents to make the book as authentic (real) as possible. He even reenacted Kunta's experience during the middle passage by spending a night in the hold of a ship (the storage room below deck) stripped to his underwear.

You can read more about Haley at <http://www.notablebiographies.com/Gi-He/Haley-Alex.html#ixzz3mwZa7hzy>.

The book and the television series were not without controversy. Alex Haley made several errors in his genealogy research. He claimed to have used oral traditions, supplemented by "plantation records, wills, and census records." Professional genealogists Gary B. and Elizabeth Shown Mills reviewed the documentation Haley used to obtain information about his ancestry and found, "In truth, those same plantation records, wills, and censuses cited by Mr. Haley not only fail to document his story, but they contradict each and every pre-Civil War statement of Afro-American lineage in *Roots*." Haley later admitted that his account of Kunta Kinte's life in *Roots* was a mixture of fact and fiction.

American author Harold Courlander also claimed that the section describing Kinte's life was apparently taken from Courlander's book *The African*. Haley at first dismissed the charge, but later issued a public statement affirming that Courlander's book had been the source. Haley paid Courlander \$650,000 in a financial settlement.

Despite the inaccuracies in the book, it is still widely read in schools.

A remake of the television series is now being planned by A+E Studios, starring Laurence Fishburne. Hopefully, the errors will be corrected in the new production. The new version of *Roots* will be a mini-series series to be simulcast on A&E, History and Lifetime in 2016.

DNA Testing: Seven Guidelines for Adoptees (September 29, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [September 29, 2015](#) · [DNA](#) · [2 Comments](#)

Richard Hill has written an article that may be helpful for adoptees or the children of adoptees looking for their biological ancestors. *DNA Testing: Seven Guidelines for Adoptees* describes the most common tests that will help adoptees. It also warns, "Whatever you do, don't waste your money on old technology "sibling" or "kinship" tests. Those tests only check a handful of markers and are nearly always inconclusive."

DNA Testing: Seven Guidelines for Adoptees may be found at <http://www.dna-testing-adviser.com/support-files/seven-guidelines-for-adoptees.pdf>.

Ancestral Background can be Determined by Fingerprints (October 5, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 5, 2015](#) · [Current Affairs](#) · [No Comments](#)

Really? That seems unlikely but a study at North Carolina State University finds that it is possible to identify an individual's ancestral background based on his or her fingerprint characteristics — a discovery with significant applications for law enforcement and anthropological research.

"This is the first study to look at this issue at this level of detail, and the findings are extremely promising," says Ann Ross, a professor of anthropology at North Carolina State University and senior author of a paper describing the work. "But more work needs to be done. We need to look at a much larger sample size and evaluate individuals from more diverse ancestral backgrounds."

Details may be found in an article in *Science Daily* at

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/09/150928123446.htm>.

My thanks to newsletter reader Jim Oldfield for telling me about this article.

Find Historical and Genealogical Information with WolframAlpha (October 6, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 6, 2015](#) · [Genealogy Basics](#) · [13 Comments](#)



The WolframAlpha web site claims it is "Making the world's knowledge computable." It offers all sorts of analyses about people, surnames, first names, family relationship, old occupations, historical events, and even the value of a US dollar at various

times throughout history. Have an ancestor who paid \$200 for a farm? You can find the value of that farm expressed in today's dollars.

WolframAlpha says that it "introduces a fundamentally new way to get knowledge and answers— not by searching the web, but by doing dynamic computations based on a vast collection of built-in data, algorithms, and methods." It will not find information about individuals unless they are famous for some reason. However, it will provide a lot of facts that are useful to anyone researching a family tree.

I decided to check a few facts about my ancestors and about myself. I entered my own surname and found it is a bit more rare than I thought. It is the 2,042nd most common surname in the US with 16,295 people sharing the name. (I guess I have to research a few more cousins than I had planned.) We comprise 0.006% of the population of the United States. I was a bit surprised to learn that 0.53% of the people with my surname identify themselves as Asian. I suspect that many of them either married someone named Eastman or have mixed ancestry. Then again, the Chinese phrase 男子从东 (Nánzǐ cóng dōng) translates as "Man from the east" so perhaps they are very, very distant cousins.

WolframAlpha is also good at calculating complex relationships. For instance, it reports that a "father's mother's sister's son" is a first cousin once removed. It also reports that \$25 in 1865 was the equivalent of \$381.11 in 2015 US dollars.

What else can WolframAlpha do? You can try these and a lot more queries by starting at: <http://www.wolframalpha.com/examples/PeopleAndHistory.html>.

"Who Do You Think You Are?" Seasons 4 and 5 are Now Available on Hulu (October 12, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 12, 2015](#) · [Video & Television](#) · [No Comments](#)



Past episodes of the U.S. version of *Who Do You Think You Are?* are now available on Hulu, the streaming video channel available on the Internet. Only season 4 (2013) and season 5 (2014) episodes are available, however. Those programs include the following guest celebrities:

Season 4:

Kelly Clarkson
Christina Applegate
Chelsea Handler
Zooey Deschanel
Chris O'Donnell
Cindy Crawford
Trisha Yearwood
Jim Parsons

Season 5:

Cynthia Nixon
Jesse Tyler Ferguson
Rachel McAdams
Valerie Bertinelli
Kelsey Grammer
Minnie Driver

Hulu is an on-demand streaming video service available on the Internet. Subscribers can watch movies and television shows on computers, tablet computers, smartphones, "smart" television sets, Roku, Apple TV, Playstation, Xbox game consoles, and other devices for a monthly subscription fee. Prices start at \$7.99 a month and includes not only "Who Do You Think You Are?" but thousands of movies, television programs, and other streaming media. Hulu is offered only to users in Japan and the United States and its overseas territories. Viewers in other countries will need to use a VPN or similar technology to view the episodes. (For an explanation of watching foreign television using VPNs, see my earlier article, *How to Watch Genealogy and Other Television Programs from Other Countries*, at <http://goo.gl/fPMonw>.)

I frequently watch movies and television programs on Hulu by accessing it on an Apple TV device and occasionally from hotel rooms by using a laptop or tablet computer. It works well as long as a moderately high-speed Internet connection is available.

The one-hour *Who Do You Think You Are?* programs are condensed to about 42 minutes on Hulu as most of the commercials have been deleted. In their place, Hulu typically adds one or two of their own commercials but only at the beginning and sometimes one commercial in mid-program. None of the videos of the celebrities and their ancestry have been deleted. I find watching television programs on Hulu to be much more pleasant than watching the same programs on broadcast or cable channels simply because of the fewer obnoxious commercial interruptions.

Even better, with the online streaming video services, you can watch the programs and movies whenever you want. You are not constrained to watching only at a time selected by the broadcasters. I now watch Hulu and Netflix and Amazon Instant Video and Apple TV much more often than I do cable or broadcast channels. I rarely watch "regular" television except for news programs and an occasional live football or hockey game.

You might find a Hulu subscription to be worth \$7.99 a month if it has content of interest to you. You can learn more about *Who Do You Think You Are?* on Hulu at <http://www.hulu.com/who-do-you-think-you-are>.

Microsoft Skype Simplifies Group Video Chats (October 16, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 16, 2015](#) · [Off Topic](#) · [One Comment](#)

Want to have a "family get-together" online or a meeting of the Board of Directors of your genealogy society, even if the participants are separated by long distances? Skype has offered group video chats for some time but it was always a bit awkward to set up such a chat and to invite others to join in. Now the process has been simplified.

Skype for Windows, Skype for Mac or Skype for Web users can generate a unique URL and send it to others, enabling them to join a group and start chatting. The recipients don't have to be Skype users; they can receive the URL via email, Messenger, WhatsApp, Twitter and/or other channels.

The new chat-invitation feature enables group instant-messaging chats, voice chats and/or video chats.

The new feature is now available most everywhere within the United States and should be available in the rest of the world within a few weeks.

Details may be found at <http://goo.gl/GVCdbU> and in the video below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ojly8VCTLGE>

LOCAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS/PROGRAMS

Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society (formerly called Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists)

Please Note: There is no program offered by the society during the month of December 2015.

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society (New Name) will take place on Saturday morning, January 9, 2016. The program for the morning is titled **"Using FaceBook to Break Down Genealogical Brick Walls (Live Webinar)"**. The speaker for the morning will be **Katherine Willson**.

Facebook is quickly becoming a favorite resource among genealogical researchers for its vast networking capabilities. With the formation of many thousands of regional and surname-specific genealogy groups, Facebook is breaking down brick walls that have blocked researchers for years - often within 24 hours of posting a query! This presentation will introduce members to Facebook as a genealogy tool and will guide the participants through the process of creating an account, joining groups, managing notifications, and efficiently utilizing Facebook for their specific genealogical needs. Participants will be given handouts as well as a link to a free downloadable PDF file listing 5,000+ genealogical pages & groups on Facebook.

Katherine Willson, of Ann Arbor, MI is a professional genealogist, educator and public speaker. She started researching her family tree as Junior Girl Scout working towards a "My Heritage" badge, and her passion was fueled when, in her 20s, both her mother's and father's relatives gave her binders containing generations worth of family information.

Her passion for genealogy combined with practical and creative strategies keeps Katherine's audience fully engaged and actively participating in her energetic and entertaining presentations. Participants leave with the tools necessary to do their own

research, as well as the inspiration to do it! Katherine is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Great Lakes Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild (newsletter columnist), the Federation of Genealogical Societies (Membership Committee), the National Genealogical Society and multiple regional and state genealogical societies.

This meeting will take place at the Arlington Heights Senior Center, 1801 W. Central Rd., 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/program 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:

<http://www.nwsgenealogy.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.

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.

DuPage County Genealogical Society

Please note that meetings that will take place for the society will occur between September 2015 through May 2016. The September 2015 program will occur at the DuPage County Historical Museum located at 102 E. Wesley Street in Wheaton, IL. The October 2015 through May 2016 programs are once again taking place at the Wheaton Public Library in the Lower Level. The address of the library is 225 N. Cross St. in Wheaton, IL. Please note the times for refreshments and the program. Refreshments are offered at 6:30 PM. The meeting will start at 7 PM and last till no longer than 8:30 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, November 18, 2015. The program scheduled for that evening is **"Beginning Polish Genealogy"**. The speaker for the program will be **Jason Kruski**.

You may visit the society's web page at:

www.dcg.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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*Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois (CAGGNI)*

The next regular meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, November 21, 2015 at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 130 S. Roselle Road, Schaumburg, IL starting at 10:30 AM. The program scheduled for this day is "**Visit with Benjamin Franklin**". The speaker will be **Terry Lynch**.

You may visit the organization web page at:

[www.CAGGNI.org](http://www.CAGGNI.org)

Please note that it has happened once in a while that the society may change a program schedule without actively sharing that fact. Checking their web site may also not give you notice of such a change if they do not change the web site. That is still the first place to check. You may also want to contact someone at the society if a phone number is available to verify that a program is still scheduled as they had advertised. That is always not available either.

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**INTERNET INFORMATION**

*The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter October 2, 2015, and October 9, 2015 and are copyright by Richard W. Eastman 2015. They are re-published*

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## Blog Your Family Tree (October 2, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 2, 2015](#) · [Weblogs](#) · [2 Comments](#)

Wikipedia's definition of a blog states, "A blog (a truncation of the expression weblog) is a discussion or informational site published on the World Wide Web and consisting of discrete entries ("posts") typically displayed in reverse chronological order (the most recent post appears first). "



Indeed, a blog is an easy-to-use web site where you can quickly post thoughts, interact with people, and more. Blogs can be personal, written by one person, or they can be produced by the marketing departments of multi-billion dollar corporations. A blog is simply an easy-to-use process that allows anyone, including you, to "get the word out." A blog is a great method of publishing whatever you wish to tell the world.

This newsletter is a blog although I don't use that term very much, preferring to call it a newsletter. I use this newsletter's web site at <http://www.eogn.com> to publish the articles that I write and to publish articles from a few other writers whose work I admire. If I had been restricted to publishing the old fashioned way, on paper, this newsletter would not exist; costs of printing and mailing are much too high. However, publishing on the Internet and by e-mail costs very little and sometimes is even free.

What material is suitable for a blog? Almost anything. I use a blog to publish a genealogy newsletter. Some people use blogs as their personal online diaries. Others use blogs to publicize an upcoming genealogy conference, to publish their photographs, to write about political topics of the day, to publish a band's music (often with MP3 audio files embedded in the blog), to publish videos, or to promote a company's products. Name an automobile; it probably has at least one blog and perhaps more. I regularly read a ham radio blog and several blogs about Corvettes. There are other blogs for almost every automobile ever produced. Still other blogs are devoted to NASCAR racing or Formula One racing or the Saturday night races at a local race track. You can find blogs that cover travel bargains and hints, sports of all sorts, blogs about boating, or blogs about military topics. I recently read a blog that solely covers luggage: how to find heavy-duty suitcases at bargain prices, how to pack effectively, and similar topics. Most every Hollywood actor has a blog, as do musicians, politicians, and others who are in the public eye. Interested in purchasing a new cell phone or a stereo system or a piece of computer hardware? You can probably find blogs that describe those things in depth.

Blogs can be used to publish most anything although I would suggest that blogs work best when you frequently have new or updated content. Many people use blogs to publicize their family tree research.

In fact, blogs are growing to become the new mass media of the twenty-first century. In years past, we all depended on newspapers, magazines, and printed newsletters for information about our personal interests. Now blogs are taking over, usually delivering more content and more in-depth coverage than we ever had before.

**COMMENT:** Do you know of any printed genealogy publications that have delivered five to ten or even more new articles **PER DAY**? This newsletter does that five days a week, and some other genealogy blogs do the same. Even better, these articles are delivered to you at prices far lower than traditional genealogy magazines.

Are blogs popular? Tumblr.com has more than 246.6 million blog accounts. (Details are available at <http://www.statista.com/statistics/256235/total-cumulative-number-of-tumblr-blogs>.) That probably does not include all the blogs available today.

Are you actively researching your family tree? If so, are there others with whom you would like to share your findings? Perhaps you are working with a distant cousin in an informal partnership, comparing notes quite often. Perhaps other relatives are less involved but still are interested when you find a new great-great-grandparent. In both cases, a blog with occasional updates can work well to publicize your findings.

I would also suggest that most every genealogy society or local history society needs a blog. So do many family name societies and lineage societies. Some societies publish their newsletters on a blog. That may or may not be a good solution for your society, but I would suggest that EVERY society needs to post notices of upcoming meetings, publicize various events in the area (even those events sponsored by other organizations), or announce new publications and other items produced by the society. A blog is an excellent, low-cost method of "getting the word out."

The best thing of all about blogs is the ease of reaching readers or subscribers. You may be surprised to find that a blog published by a local genealogy society can attract readers from all over the world. These new readers may have been born or raised in your area originally or perhaps their ancestors lived in your area. Others may read (subscribe to) your blog out of simple curiosity — to see how your society publishes in an effort to gain ideas for their own society's blog. Whatever the reason, RSS feeds and other tools make it easy for people around the world to read your blog.

**NOTE:** For an explanation of RSS newsfeeds, see my earlier articles: RSS Feeds Explained at <http://blog.eogn.com/2014/05/06/rss-feeds-explained>.

Starting a blog is simple. The technical knowledge required can be minimal. In fact, with most of today's blog publishing products, the process of creating a new article in your blog is very similar to writing a new article with a word processor. You possibly could be writing your first blog article within ten minutes after reading these words.

You can create a blog by installing software on a web server and configuring it. That is what I did to create the Plus Edition version of this newsletter at <http://www.eogn.com/wp>. However, that is probably the most difficult option of all, so I would suggest you first host your blog on someone else's server. After all, why not let them do all the work?

Many blog publishing services are available free of charge. **WordPress** is the most popular blogging service in the world. It offers free blog space that has very few strings attached. However, extra options are also available for a fee. You can read more at <http://www.WordPress.com>.

Other blogging services include: [TypePad](#), [Tumblr](#), [Ghost](#), [Xanga](#), [LiveJournal](#), [Blogger](#), [Weebly](#), [Squarespace](#) and many others. Some of these free blogging services are funded by inserting advertising into your blog pages, which may or may not be a good idea for your blog. If not, you can choose from a long list of paid blogging services that do not insert ads.

The free Standard Edition of *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* runs on WordPress.com's servers. For prices ranging from free to \$100 a year, WordPress provides a very powerful blog hosting service that is almost totally under your control. The company also offers a blogging platform for corporations at a much higher price but I don't think many genealogists will use that service. In fact, if you would like to control **EVERYTHING**, WordPress also allows you to download the blogging software and install it on your own server. The Plus Edition of *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* runs on that software, installed on the eogn.com web server. For more information about WordPress, go to <http://www.wordpress.com>.

For more information about genealogy blogs, along with a very long list of genealogy blogs already in operation, look at *Cyndi's List* and especially at the page for "Blogs for Genealogy" at <http://www.cyndislist.com/blogs.htm>. You can spend some time looking at other blogs in order to gain ideas on how you want to publish your own content.

How many genealogy blogs are already in operation? It's hard to say, but the *GeneaBloggers Blog Roll* at <http://www.geneabloggers.com/genealogy-blogs> now lists more than 3,000 genealogy and family history-related blogs.

The other thing I wish to stress about blogs is a bit difficult to describe. It is the feeling of self-satisfaction you achieve when you are able to share your ideas and concerns with the world. Whether you have an audience of a dozen or of several thousand readers, publishing is a great method of helping others while simultaneously achieving a feeling that you did something good for the genealogy community.

**220 Million Records of British Voters Available to Search Online for the First Time (October 9, 2015)**

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 9, 2015](#) · [Online Sites](#) · [One Comment](#)

The following announcement was written by the folks at Findmypast:

Electoral Registers document the evolution of modern British democracy from the passage of the Great Reform act of 1832 to votes for women in 1918, and voting equality in 1928

Records include details of property ownership, allowing you to uncover the history of your home

Now available online for the first time at <http://www.findmypast.com>

9th October 2015

Leading family history website [Findmypast](#) and [The British Library](#) have announced today the online publication of an estimated 220 million records of English and Welsh voters.

The period covered by [The England and Wales Electoral Registers 1832-1932](#) includes some of the most important events in the history of British democracy and demonstrates how the British electorate changed during the 19th and early 20th centuries: from the vote being extended to working class men and the reform of representation up until women's suffrage.

This is the first time these registers have been made available online. They can be searched by name and constituency, as well as by keywords which will allow you to discover the history of your family home in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. They are available online to Findmypast subscribers or can be accessed for free in the British Library's reading rooms in London and Yorkshire.

The registers form the largest single collection released by Findmypast to date, and are the result of a mammoth digitisation project to scan 100 years of microfilmed copies of the British Library's unique collection of printed registers, housed on 2.25 miles (3.62 linear km) of shelving.

Electoral Registers are listings of all those registered to vote in a particular area. The lists were created annually to record the names of eligible voters and their reason for eligibility, such as their residence or ownership of a property. Registration for voters in England has been required since 1832, and registers were typically published annually.

Previously only accessible as printed volumes or on microfilm at the British Library's Reading Rooms at St. Pancras and Boston Spa, the England and Wales Electoral Registers 1832-1932 can now be explored online at [findmypast.co.uk](#) anywhere at any time. Although there are gaps in the digitised collection for some constituencies, the registers that are now available open up a treasure trove of material that was never before accessible to automated searching: no expert knowledge is needed, allowing anyone to trace their family across 100 years of British history.

Highlights include:

- Records of the first eligible voters enfranchised by the great reform act of 1832. The act increased the voting population by allowing all men who occupied a property with an annual value of £10 to vote. After the act passed, one in seven men could vote.
- The first working class voters following the Representation of the People Act of 1867. The act doubled the electorate of one million voters, allowing two million of the seven million adult males in England and Wales to vote.
- The first female voters in British history. The registers document one of the most remarkable changes of the twentieth century, the extension of the vote to women on equal footing with men. The franchise was extended to all women over the age of 30 by the 1918 Representation of the People Act, and all women over the age of 21 by 1928 Equal Franchise Act.
- Lists of absent voters from 1918 to 1921 containing the records of registers of soldiers and sailors who were on active service during the First World War.



Findmypast historian, Paul Nixon, said, 'The England & Wales Electoral Registers are an incredibly powerful resource for family historians, as well as all those who want to understand more about social history and the stories of their own houses. With this record set now online, Findmypast now has an unbroken collection of census, land and survey records from the beginning of Queen Victoria's reign, right through to the start of the Second World War.'

Jacque Carter, Service and Content Lead for Science, Technology and Medicine at the British Library, said: "As a historian myself, I'm champing at the bit to get stuck into this resource. Having tens of millions of records available in digitised format will transform the way that researchers are able to use these registers to fill in vital gaps. It makes possible discoveries and connections that would simply never have been possible, trawling through print or microfilm registers – just a few clicks will replace hundreds of hours of page turning."

Find out more about the records at [findmypast.co.uk/electoral-registers](http://findmypast.co.uk/electoral-registers).

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## PERIODICAL NEWS

### **Your Genealogy Today**

We have received the September/October 2015, Volume 1, Number 4 issue of Your Genealogy Today.

Key articles in this issue are:

#### **"Dissecting Death Notices for New Clues"**

By George G. Morgan

*George G. Morgan offers a number of strategies for extracting the maximum information from an ancestor's death notice.*

#### **"Understanding Records Access Restrictions: Why Researching Living Persons Can Be Difficult"**

By Janice Nickerson

#### **"Between the Headlines: Sensational Snippets and Scoops"**

By Sue Lisk

*Sue Lisk offers seven tips to help you locate your ancestors in the newspapers of yesteryear.*

#### **"Interviewing the Elderly"**

By Brenda Ervin

*Brenda Ervin shares her successful strategies for getting the elderly to open up and share their memories for future generations.*

**“Have You Reached a Brick Wall in Your Native American Research?”**

By Stuart Doyle

*Stuart Doyle examines some strategies and resources for overcoming difficulties in Indian research.*

**“Reconstructing World War II Service Records”**

By Jennifer Holik

*Jennifer Holik looks at alternate record sources when dealing with a missing Army, Air Corps or National Guard service record.*

**“Researching Slavery: Intertwined Families”**

By Elaine Ford

*Elaine Ford researches a Mississippi ancestor and a connection to slavery.*

**“DNA and Genealogy: Can a DNA Test Confirm Native American Ancestry? It Depends”**

By Janine Cloud

**“The Rich Rewards of Your Roots: What I Found On My Journey Into the Past”**

By Martin Goldsmith

*Martin Goldsmith shares an extract from his book, Alex’s Wake: The Tragic Voyage of the St. Louis to Flee Nazi Germany – and a Grandson’s Journey of Love and Remembrance.*

**“Genealogy tourism in Ireland: How to Get Started”**

by Lora O’Brien

**“We All Have a “Rachel” in Our Family Tree”**

By Dave Obee

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled “Between the Headlines: Sensational Snippets and Scoops”. The author of the article is Sue Lisk.

The author notes that researching newspapers of the area an ancestor lived is a great way to discover great information about that ancestor as well as to learn what life was like during the time of that ancestor in that locale. The author provides seven tips on how to use these newspapers to discover the most about your ancestor and about the things going on in the area where they lived.

Here are the seven tips:

- **Pretend You’re A Local**
  - Late 19<sup>th</sup> century papers often focused on items of interest to the local community rather than at the national level.

- Read through an issue of one of these papers that would have been published at the time of an ancestor's life in the area. Get a feel for the layout and the organization of what was reported.
- Skim through the short items including lists of names.
- Look for graduates of schools at the end of school years in the May/June periods.
- Patents were commonly published along with the name of the person granted the patented. Look for these.
- **Browse Through More Than One Issue**
  - Looking at just one issue of a local historical paper will not give you the overall feeling of what was going on.
  - Perhaps you might discover the name of an ancestor. Perhaps there was life to the story about them and that further published newspapers continued reporting on that ancestor.
  - The author relates a story of an ancestor coming down with diphtheria. The story continued over time because it was not just about diphtheria for this one person. The names of the children of this ancestor were mentioned as also having succumbed to the illness. Yet, newspaper reports over the next weeks noted other children of this ancestor had been quarantined elsewhere and had survived. The researcher never knew about these children until she saw the story unfold over many issues of the paper.
- **Check Out The Ads**
  - If you know of the employment of an ancestor, check out and look for ads that might have appeared for this company in the newspapers. You can then discover the address and other information of this company and how your ancestor may have interacted with the company such as simply commuting to get to work.
  - The author notes a discovery of an ancestor via ads in a Syracuse newspaper. The ancestor was seen in a census record with an occupation as "ironer" for "W-House". At first the researcher thought the ancestor was employed by the "White House" in a Syracuse also known as the Hamilton White House. It later turned out the researcher discovered ads for a certain type of iron used at the time and connected this ancestor as being a "demonstrator" for this iron rather than being employed by the Hamilton White House.
- **Read The Society Columns**
  - Newspapers documented visits that occurred between family members from outside of the area and often noted where they were from.
  - Reports were often made on people that left the community and noted where they moved to. This can help you track an ancestor for whom you can no longer find them in the community they once lived in.
  - Weddings and funerals were often described in detail and listed individuals and where they were from.

- Fairs, picnics, private garden parties and other celebrations were often noted as well as listing the names of those in attendance.
- The author notes she discovered information about an outdoor party celebrating one of her ancestors. The reporter noted in the story the description of the house and garden of the celebrant, the story of the original log cabin and information about the celebrant's family.
- **Be On The Lookout For "Imposters"**
  - You may be unlucky to find the many stories of a certain named ancestor only to realize this story may be for someone else unrelated to you. This is especially true with common surnames.
  - Many of these stories also provided further information within the story that could help you verify if this person is your relative. Look for an occupation noted for this individual. Look for the mentioning of other family names. You can now use this information to see if it matches with discoveries of any of your previous research to confirm that the story is about your ancestor.
  - Keep in mind that if you see the exact name of someone mentioned that you know is not your ancestor it may be that you have not yet discovered the connection. The same name of a parent was often given to a child. Perhaps it is a child you have not yet discovered in your research as part of that family. Use this as a clue for further research.
- **Review Legal Notices**
  - Court case information often appeared in these notices. You could find the name of plaintiffs and defendants; names of jurors; names of witnesses.
  - Perhaps an auction was done on one of your ancestors. You know that but perhaps you can discover the life changing event that might have put them in the situation of being involved in an auction.
  - Look for an ancestor associated with a probate and guardianship notices. You may now know that a death was involved and that also other family members were involved in taking over guardianship for under-age children.
- **Study Obituaries**
  - You could discover a mini-family tree of the deceased, listing their parents, their siblings, their children and grandchildren. For siblings of the deceased, you may discover the names of spouses of these siblings.
  - You may also encounter the infamous description of the wife of a deceased man. She is often just noted as Mrs. John Smith which deprives you of her first name and maiden name. You should consider searching the census for this couple in a previous year to see if you can find her true name as well as a birth state that might be different from your deceased ancestor.
  - Sometimes a large part of an obituary might be about the deceased person's father or mother or sibling. While the deceased may not be a

person of notoriety, a relative may have such a prominent history that the story is put into the obituary.

The author also included some “free” and some “subscribable” sites to consider for access to online digital historical newspapers. Sites mentioned are:

- o Free Sites
  - o Chronicling America, Historic American Newspapers @ <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>
  - o News.Google.com @ <http://news.google.com/newspapers>
  - o OurOntario.ca Community Newspapers Collection @ <http://ink.ourontario.ca/browse/st>
  - o Fultonhistory.com has New York state papers @ [www.fultonhistory.com](http://www.fultonhistory.com)
- o Subscription Sites
  - o Genealogy Bank @ [www.genealogybank.com/gbnk](http://www.genealogybank.com/gbnk) (Check with your local public library. They may have this database in their collection with onsite access and access at home to library cardholders of the library.)
  - o Newspaper Archive @ <http://newspaperarchive.com> (Check with your local public library. They may have this database in their collection with onsite access and access at home to library cardholders of the library.)
  - o Newspapers.com @ [www.newspapers.com](http://www.newspapers.com)
  - o Ancestry.com @ [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

Take advantage of the growing amount of digital newspaper data that allows you to search by surname and other search combinations. Pair these newspapers to the time of your ancestors in the area. Put yourself in their position reading the newspaper then about life in their area.

I thought that another good article in this issue is one titled “Interviewing the Elderly”. The author of the article is Brenda Ervin.

One of the early mistakes budding genealogists make is to begin doing exclusive online research. They often never bother to connect with still-living aunts, uncles, grandparents or other known cousins. What makes this especially problematic is that those living relatives that are elderly and still alive are never contacted to obtain some of their life stories and family history they may know.

Do not forget your living elderly relatives. But it may still not be as simple as that. Many elderly pose an interviewing challenge. Many simply do not want to offer their stories or life history to an interviewer. How can a researcher overcome this challenge? According to the author, a trusting relationship needs to be fostered between interviewer and interviewee. This starts at a personal level and can translate to trust at a technical level with recording equipment.

The author of this article is a journalist by trade and so brings to bear much of what she does professionally to interview relatives. The author notes that it is imperative to create an atmosphere without distractions. These distractions could put any interview to an abrupt end and leave the interviewer with nothing to show because distractions can upset the person being interviewed. The author notes that this distraction-free setting begins with just having the interviewer and interviewee present. No other people should be present. This would be the goal but realistically this may not occur because a caregiver may very well want to be present during the interview. Be careful at this point with someone else present because they could take over the interview and provide conflicting information to the person being interviewed.

The author notes that it is worthwhile to have multiple recording devices available. If another person other than the main interviewee is present and wants to speak or even contradict the main interviewee, then offer a separate recording session to this person once the main interview has been completed with the main subject.

In this article you will also see some additional tips offered by the author. These are:

- o **Give A Reminder Phone Call** – this allows you to solidify what will be happening and also allows you to provide friendly trust-building between you and the interviewee.
- o **Speak Up/Speak Slowly** – you may have to raise your tone a little if the interviewee has some hearing issues. Also speaking a little slower can help. All of this connects to trust building between the two of you. Speaking slower simply allows the interviewee to have that much more time to process what is being asked as well as to process a reply.
- o **Saying Goodbye** – saying goodbye can be challenging as simple as that might be. The senior may simply be lonely and would want the companionship to continue. Maybe the senior has even more information to share and saying goodbye could cause you to lose some information. Offer to call back in a few days. If appropriate, give a sincere hug, as well as offering a hearty handshake.

First off, do not miss the opportunity to interview an elderly relative. Their stories could be golden for you down the road. Plus, they may have limited time to still be on earth. Don't be one of those researchers that comments that everyone is deceased and the stories cannot be gathered to begin research! Plan for the best and most meaningful interview you can obtain. Build your trust with the person you want to interview. That is the key.

This is another good issue of [Your Genealogy Today](#). Take a look at the beginning list of titles of articles in this issue to see if any intersect with your own areas of research. I am sure that some will be of interest to you and your research.

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

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## BOOKS IN PRINT

We have just added a new genealogy book to our circulating collection. The title of the book is ***Genealogy and the Law***. The authors of the book are Kay Haviland Freilich and William B. Freilich. The book was published in 2014. The book contains 119 pages. It was added to our circulating collection in October 2015. The call number of the book is 929.1 FREILICH, K.

I am currently reviewing the book at the moment, so the book is currently not on the shelves available for further checkout. It should be back on the shelves by the time of our next genealogy program that will take place on Tuesday evening, November 10, 2015, at 7:30 PM.

I did notice that there was a very nice review of this book posted by Dick Eastman in his online newsletter blog that was published on May 7, 2015. The review itself was created by Bobbi King.

It is important that genealogical researchers clearly understand the possible legalities surrounding their research as to copyright and copyright infringement. A book like this can help you better understand if you are doing something with your research that could put you in legal jeopardy. Better to be safe than sorry!

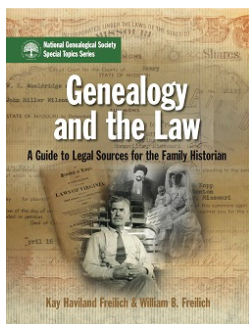
Take a look at the review that follows after the separator line:

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*Book Review: Genealogy and the Law*

[Dick Eastman](#) · [May 7, 2015](#) · [Books](#) · [2 Comments](#)

The following book review was written by Bobbi King:



*Genealogy and the Law*

*A Guide to Legal Sources for the Family Historian*

by Kay Haviland Freilich & William B. Freilich

Published by the National Genealogical Society. 2014. 119 pages.

The law and its application to genealogy have become more and more a topic of interest to genealogists. Credit Judy Russell and *The Legal Genealogist* with her “Oh-My-Gosh-Isn’t-This-The-Most-Interesting-Law” blog accounts that draw us into her world of making sense of applying law to genealogy situations, both explanatory and amusing.

*Genealogy and The Law* is the latest in the Special Topics Series of books published by NGS. The authors, Kay Freilich has taught the Law Library course at the Samford Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research, and William Freilich holds his JD from Villanova University and is retired from corporate law practice. The two authors have written a very nice introductory, and also useful for the experienced researcher, particularly the Citing Your Sources chapter, book that covers the whys and where-fors for considering the aspects of law in your research.

- Chapter 1 covers law and the courts, a general overview of Understanding the Law.
- Chapter 2 is Understanding Terminology, including a review of the law dictionaries.
- Chapter 3 covers the types of law: statutory, case law, public and private laws, civil and criminal actions.
- Chapter 4 covers finding the pertinent laws.
- Chapter 5 covers sources we need to use to find the law information we seek.
- Chapter 6 covers where to research: law libraries, other libraries, online sources.
- Chapter 7 covers Citing Legal Sources, a chapter an experienced researcher might need, as law citations are written quite differently from genealogy citations. Not only do you need to know how to write the citations, you need to learn how to read the legal citations.
- Chapter 8 is Applying the Law to Ancestral Events, the heart of why we do this law research for our work.

If you've already spent a lot of time studying law and genealogy, you might not need this book. But it's really handy to have, even if just for the occasional re-assessment of your work.

A friend of mine has the Kindle edition, and she especially likes the e-book version for its active links, and for its portability on her iPad.

Check out the books at the NGS booth at the upcoming St. Joseph, Missouri, conference, and see what you think.

*Genealogy and The Law – A Guide to Legal Sources for the Family Historian* is available from the National Genealogical Society at [http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/genealogy\\_and\\_the\\_law](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/genealogy_and_the_law) and from Amazon in both printed and Kindle ebook versions at <http://goo.gl/aY3asD>.

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## **SOFTWARE/HARDWARE**

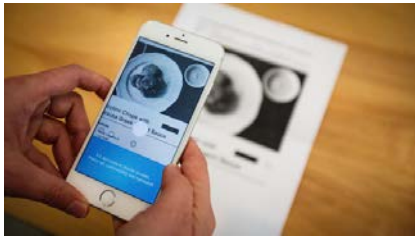
*The following articles are from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter October 8, 2015 and October 13, 2015 and are copyright by Richard W. Eastman 2015. They are re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>*



## The Best Scanning Apps for Android and iPhone (October 8, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 8, 2015](#) · [Genealogy Basics](#) · [3 Comments](#)

Genealogists love to copy old documents, census records, wills, deeds, and even old photographs. We used to make photocopies and save those in various filing systems. The 21<sup>st</sup> century solution is to make digital copies, either with a scanner or, even more common, with a cell phone camera.



Making digital copies is quick, easy, and also is easier to save for posterity. Digital images are also easier to insert into various reports and genealogy programs that you may use. In short, digital images provide convenience and security. Even better, for most of us, the cell phone camera is with us wherever we go.

A few years ago, the low-resolution digital cameras built into the cell phones of those days provided marginal results when snapping photographs of old documents or pictures. Luckily, the change in technology has now solved that problem. Today's cell phones typically include cameras of 8-megapixels or higher resolution, producing very good images of old documents, pages from books, or even good quality copies of photographs. These cameras are excellent substitutes for scanners.

Sarah Mitroff has written *The Best Scanning Apps for Android and iPhone* and it is available in the [C|Net web site](#). It doesn't mention the word "genealogy" anywhere in the article but I suggest it should be required reading for all genealogists who own camera-equipped cell phones. Best of all, Sarah mentions my two favorite cell phone scanner apps. I use Scannable several times a week, both for genealogy purposes as well as for "scanning" receipts and even bills received in the mail.

You can read *The Best Scanning Apps for Android and iPhone* at <http://goo.gl/hzFYbg>.

## Build Your Own Digital Library (October 13, 2015)

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 13, 2015](#) · [Hardware](#) · [4 Comments](#)

The new Czur (pronounced "Caesar") Scanner is a low-cost book scanner that should help to build your private digital library with an easier and faster way. You cannot buy one just yet but hopefully will be able to do so by January, 2016.



Most book scanners cost several hundred dollars. The Czur Scanner is being introduced at \$199 plus shipping. Equipped with 16 million pixels and creative algorithm, Czur reportedly can make scanning books as easy as turning pages. The most difficult problems, including flattening curve, erasing fingerprint, smart edge-cutting, have been solved. The Czur web site claims the new scanner will be the highest cost performance book scanner in the world.

Designed both for office and in-home use, the Czur can scan files, contracts, vouchers, individuals pieces of paper, and more.

Of special interest to genealogists, the Czur can help to build your private digital library with an easier and faster way. You don't need to install any driver or software when using Czur Cloud. It is the true smart scanner as some core functions are performed in the cloud instead of in the scanner or in your computer. Diaries, sketches and paintings can be scanned and stored by Czur Cloud, and you can check everything out on your laptop, iPad or your smart phone directly.

Czur is also a video presenter. By connecting to screen through HDMI, materials can be presented directly with 1080P.



You can learn more at the Czur Scanner web site at <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/czur-scanner-build-your-own-digital-library#/> as well as in the YouTube video below. Also, you might want to read a press release entitled Google Books Facing Challenge from Open-source Library that is shown below the video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZLSCyXFUxk>

### **Google Books Facing Challenge from Open-source Library**

Two years ago, a federal judge ruled that Google's sweeping book project did not infringe U.S. copyright law. The project, which includes more than 20 million scanned copies of library books, is now the largest digital library in the world. However, the preeminent status of Google's project is being challenged by a Chinese company named CzurTek, which is developing a book scanner it plans to sell for only \$169.

The Czur scanner is a 14x8x15 inch device that resembles a lamp. It uses a 16-million pixel camera to make its copies, reaching a scan speed of 0.8 second/page, almost 20 times faster than a traditional flat scanner. A 500-page book can be scanned in only 7 minutes. Moreover, the built-in algorithm allows the curve of the paper to be flattened and

the image of the user's finger to be removed. All the scanned digital files can be edited using OCR and saved as a PDF or stored on a cloud server. CzurTek aims to initiate a crowdfunding campaign for this scanner on Indiegogo this September. The company expects the device to have value for people looking to make their work and studies easier, and also to help preserve rare older books.

The Czur scanner is not in fact the first scanner Czurtek has released. The first model, named the "Changer Scanner," was released in China almost 1 year ago. The product has led to huge arguments there. Chinese publishers and authors think it will damage the publishing industry and make copyright very hard to protect, since users can easily scan their own books and share them online. However, many people also support the product, and the law is very vague when it comes to such practices. The Czur scanner can allow everyone to distribute electronic versions of books online, making them available to anyone with an Internet connection.

CzurTek's way of doing this is far more efficient than Google's, which has invested billions of dollars and hired thousands of people to do the scanning. "They have the capability to build the largest open-source library in the world, if their customers are willing to contribute digital copies of their books," a senior Internet expert has said. Since the price is so low, people may prefer to scan borrowed books and read them on their iPads, especially students who are strapped for money to buy textbooks. So far, CzurTek hasn't announced if it will allow users to share PDFs via its cloud server, since this may involve legal issues; they can, however, save PDFs to their PCs or mobile devices, and share them in any way they like. The more digital books are produced using the Czur scanner, the more people won't even need to scan, but can simply search for what they want on the Internet. The effect will be similar to that of the mp3 on the recording industry. If that happens, Google books will compete with millions of book owners and an open-source library.

It looks like that CzurTek also got Chinese government's support. While at the Summer Davos Forum, Premier Li Keqiang took an inspection tour of CzurTek. He exchanged ideas with the investors of Czur scanner. Learning that the Czur scanner will go abroad for crowdfunding, he said, "Our innovation and entrepreneurship are open. Makers are highly creative talents, and they are passionate about their ideals." He gave Zhou Kang (the first people from the right), the CEO of CzurTek, a golden key, which means a key to open the door of startup road.

Is this revolution progress or a disaster? What do you think about CzurTek and its impact on the American market? If you would like to discuss this project or report on it, feel free to communicate any questions or concerns to us.

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## FUNNY BONE

Here is some genealogy humor I found at a blog called GeneaMusings ([www.geneamusings.com](http://www.geneamusings.com)) that is authored by Randy Seaver. I have searched through his blog using the term "funny names". I have previously included "funny" names of people. This time I found he has some links to what are "funny" names of towns in England.

The link to Randy's post on the inclusion of all of the "funny" names of towns of England can be found at:

<http://www.ashton-under-lyne.com/placenames.htm>

Some names I happened to see in the list are under "G" and "H":

## G

- **Gamlingay Cinques**, near Cambridge.
- **Gay Street**, near Pulborough, Sussex.
- **Germansweek**, near Launceston.
- **George Nympton**, near Barnstaple.
- **Giggleswick**, near Settle, North Yorkshire.
- **Glossop**, Derbyshire. What a nice word.
- **Gog Magog Hills**, near Cambridge.
- **Golden Balls**, near Clifton Hampden, Oxfordshire.
- **Goldfinch Bottom**, near Newbury, Berkshire.
- **Good Easter**, near Chelmsford, Essex.
- **Goole**, East Yorkshire. (Just for the sound of it.)
- **Goonbell**, near Redruth, Cornwall.
- **Goosnargh**, north of Preston.
- **Great Cockup**, (mountain) near Bassenthwaite, Cumbria.
- **Great Snoring**, near Walsingham, Norfolk.
- **Green Street Green**, near Farnborough.
- **Grey Green**, near Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire.
- **Grike**, near Egremont, Cumbria.
- **Grimness**, on South Ronaldsay, Orkney.
- **Grimpo**, near Oswestry, Shropshire.
- **Grotton**, Oldham.
- **Grubb Street**, near Dartford, Kent.
- **Grumbra**, near Lands End.
- **Gussage St. Michael**, near Blandford Forum, Dorset.
- **Gweek**, near Helston, Cornwall.

## H

- **Halfpenny**, near Kendal, Cumbria.
- **Hamsterley**, near Bishop Auckland (also Consett) Durham.
- **Haselbury Plucknett**, near Yeovil.
- **Haseley Knob**, near Kenilworth, Warwickshire.
- **Heanton Punchardon**, near Barnstaple. (Might cause this page to be rejected by certain software!)
- **Hearts Delight**, near Sittingbourne, Kent.
- **Heckmondwike**, east of Halifax, West Yorkshire.
- **Heglibister**, on the Mainland of Shetland.
- **Helions Bumpstead**, near Saffron Walden.
- **Hen Poo**, near Duns, west of Berwick-upon-Tweed. (name of lake)
- **Henlade**, near Taunton. It must be an egg, as the next village is called Ham.
- **Hinton Blewett**, between Bath and Weston super Mare.

- **Hinton-in-the-Hedges**, near Banbury, Oxfordshire.
- **Hole in the Wall**, near Ross-on-Wye.
- **Honeystreet**, near Devizes, Wiltshire.
- **Honey Tye**, near Colchester, Essex.
- **Hopton Wafers**, east of Ludlow.
- **Horrabridge**, near Plymouth, Devon.
- **Horrid Hill**, near Gillingham, Kent.
- **Howle**, north of Telford, Shropshire.
- **Hoyland Swaine**, west of Barnsley.
- **Huish Episcopi**, near Langport, Somerset.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

***For An Even More Comprehensive List of All Kinds of Genealogy Programs Being Offered Locally and Even Nationally, Please Visit My Blog I Write for the Library and Look At My Page Titled "Calendar of Local Genealogy Events".***

***Here Is A Direct Link To the Calendar:***

**<http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com/calendar-of-local-genealogy-events/>**

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

- |                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nov 10<br>TUE<br>2015 | Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.<br>130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.<br><b>"Stories of the Lost; Researching World War II Military Records"</b><br>Presented by Jennifer Holik.<br>Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.<br>Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <a href="http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com">http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nov 18<br>WED<br>2015 | DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday<br>Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.<br>6:30 PM Refreshments. Society Business begins at 7:00 PM.<br>Program Presentation 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM.<br>Program title is <b>"Introduction to Polish Genealogy"</b> .<br>Guest speaker is <b>Jason Kruski</b> .<br>Society website at <a href="http://www.dcggs.org">www.dcggs.org</a> .<br>Society blog at <a href="http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/">http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/</a><br>DuPage County History Museum website at <a href="http://www.dupageco.org/museum">www.dupageco.org/museum</a> |
| Nov 21<br>SAT<br>2015 | CAGGNI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District Library, 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM.  
(Check CAGGNI website for meeting location. Meeting locations have occurred at other locations than Schaumburg Library main location.)  
Topic for the meeting **"Visit with Ben Franklin"**  
Presented by Terry Lynch  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567

Dec 8  
TUE  
2015  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.

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

Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Jan 9  
SAT  
2016  
Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society. Saturday, January 9, 2016.  
**"Using Facebook to Break Down Genealogical Brick Walls"**  
Presented by Katherine Willson (Live Webinar)

Arlington Heights Senior Center.  
1801 West Central Road. Arlington Heights, IL.  
Pre-Meeting Round Table/Helping/Sharing at 9:00 AM  
Speaker program starts at 10:00 AM  
Visit the society website at <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org/>

Jan 12  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.

**"Chicago Genealogy 101"**

Presented by Grace .  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Jan 16  
SAT  
2016  
CAGGNI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District Library, 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL.  
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM.

(Check CAGGNI website for meeting location. Meeting locations have occurred at other locations than Schaumburg Library main location.)  
Topic for the meeting **"Publishing Your Book: Tips and Tricks for the Writer"**

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

Jan 20  
WED  
2016  
DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday  
Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
6:30 PM Refreshments. Society Business begins at 7:00 PM.

Program Presentation 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM.  
Program title is **"Transporting Your Dead"**.  
Guest speaker is **Mark Hayes**.  
Society website at [www.dcgcs.org](http://www.dcgcs.org).  
Society blog at <http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/>  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)

- Feb 6  
SAT  
2016 Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society. Saturday, February 6, 2016.  
**"Irish Emigrants to North America: Before, During and After the Famine"**  
Presented by Paul Milner  
Arlington Heights Senior Center.  
1801 West Central Road. Arlington Heights, IL.  
Pre-Meeting Round Table/Helping/Sharing at 9:00 AM  
Speaker program starts at 10:00 AM  
Visit the society website at <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org/>
- Feb 9  
TUE  
2016 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Finding Your Ancestors in Ireland"**  
Presented by Paul Milner.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- Feb 17  
WED  
2016 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday  
Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
6:30 PM Refreshments. Society Business begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program Presentation 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM.  
Program title is **"Advanced Polish Genealogy"**.  
Guest speaker is **Jason Kruski**.  
Society website at [www.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.org).  
Society blog at <http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/>  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)
- Feb 20  
SAT  
2016 CAGGNI. Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois. Meetings held the 3rd Saturday of each month at Schaumburg Township District Library, 130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL.  
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM.  
(Check CAGGNI website for meeting location. Meeting locations have occurred at other locations than Schaumburg Library main location.)  
Topic for the meeting **"Uncle Jakes's Farm: Federal Land A to Z"**  
Presented by S. Elizabeth Ross  
Further information at: [www.caggni.org](http://www.caggni.org) or  
P.O. Box 59567, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0567
- Mar 5  
SAT  
2016 Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society. Saturday, March 5, 2016.  
**"Reading Between the Lines of the City Directory"**  
Presented by Teresa Steinkamp McMillin  
Arlington Heights Senior Center.  
1801 West Central Road. Arlington Heights, IL.  
Pre-Meeting Round Table/Helping/Sharing at 9:00 AM  
Speaker program starts at 10:00 AM  
Visit the society website at <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org/>
- Mar 8  
TUE  
2016 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**

Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

- Apr 2  
SAT  
2016 Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society. Saturday, April 2, 2016.  
**"Get the Scoop: Interviewing to Gather Family Stories"**  
Presented by Diane Dassow  
Arlington Heights Senior Center.  
1801 West Central Road. Arlington Heights, IL.  
Pre-Meeting Round Table/Helping/Sharing at 9:00 AM  
Speaker program starts at 10:00 AM  
Visit the society website at <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org/>
- Apr 12  
TUE  
2016 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"What's the Buzz About BillionGraves?"**  
Presented by Debra Dudek.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- Apr 20  
WED  
2016 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday  
Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
6:30 PM Refreshments. Society Business begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program Presentation 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM.  
Program title is **"Genetic Genealogy"**.  
Guest speaker is **Robert Sliwinski**.  
Society website at [www.dcg.org](http://www.dcg.org).  
Society blog at <http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/>  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)
- May 7  
SAT  
2016 Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society. Saturday, May 7, 2016.  
**"Researching at the Wisconsin Historical Society Library and Archives"**  
Presented by George Findlen  
Arlington Heights Senior Center.  
1801 West Central Road. Arlington Heights, IL.  
Pre-Meeting Round Table/Helping/Sharing at 9:00 AM  
Speaker program starts at 10:00 AM  
Visit the society website at <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org/>
- May 10  
TUE  
2016 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Mapping Your Migrating Ancestors"**  
Presented by Tina Beard.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>
- May 18  
WED  
2016 DuPage County Genealogical Society. Wednesday  
Wheaton Public Library, 225 N. Cross St., Wheaton, IL 60187.  
6:30 PM Refreshments. Society Business begins at 7:00 PM.  
Program Presentation 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM.  
Program title is **"Colonial American Ancestors"**.  
Guest speaker is **Jane Haldeman**.



Society website at [www.dcgcs.org](http://www.dcgcs.org).  
Society blog at <http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/>  
DuPage County History Museum website at [www.dupageco.org/museum](http://www.dupageco.org/museum)

Jun 14  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

Jul 12  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Using Ancestry.com Family Trees"**  
Presented by Caron Primas Brennan.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Aug 9  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Tips and Tricks for Using FamilySearch"**  
Presented by Dan Niemiec.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Sep 13  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

Oct 11  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Find Your Roots in Naturalization Records"**  
Presented by Steve Szabados.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Nov 8  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**"Using Fold3 to Research World War I and II Military Records"**  
Presented by Jennifer Holik.  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.  
Visit STDL Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com>

Dec 13  
TUE  
2016  
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.  
130 S. Roselle Road. Schaumburg, IL, 60193. 7:30 PM. Room opens at 7 PM.  
**Break Out Sessions/Small Group Discussions.**  
Contact Tony Kierna at 847-923-3390.

