



HANDOUTS TABLE OF CONTENTS September 13, 2016

<u>Handout Introduction</u>	Page 2
<u>Schaumburg Township District Library (STDL) Genealogy Blog</u>	Page 4
<u>Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society (NWSGS) Program for October 1, 2016</u>	Page 5
<u>DuPage County Genealogical Society (DCGS) Program for September 21, 2016</u>	Page 6
<u>Computer Assisted Genealogy Group of Northern Illinois (CAGGNI) Program for September 17, 2016</u>	Page 7
<u>Schaumburg Township District Library (STDL) October 11, 2016 Genealogy Program</u>	Page 8
<u>Happy Birthday U.S. National Census!!</u>	Page 9
<u>Google Duo Video Chat App Now Available For Apple And Android</u>	Page 12
<u>Plan to Leave Your Digital Assets In Your Will</u>	Page 15
<u>"Finding Family Information in School Records"</u>	Page 17
<u>"Expand Your Research Using Facebook Genealogy Groups"</u>	Page 19

September 13, 2016 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our September 13, 2016 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"!

++++
++++

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

I will continue to remind participants of our library’s 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 “Research 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”. You may have to scroll down slightly on the page to see the information for the 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 the “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!

++++
++++

Handout #2 – NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST SUBURBAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY WILL BE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society will take place on Saturday morning, October 1, 2016. The program for the morning is titled **“Why Am I Stuck?: 10 Solutions to Common Genealogical Brick Walls”**. The speaker for the morning will be **Marsha Peterson-Maass**.

This lecture is a high energy eye-opener offering 10 solutions to common genealogical brick walls that most genealogists encounter. Solutions include search strategies & tools, helpful record types, networking tips & tricks, the Genealogical Proof Standard and other often overlooked genealogical fundamentals. Our approach is to take an in-depth look at each solution, then see exciting examples of breakthroughs using the advice! Along with the accredited advice, you’ll understand the importance of sharing brick wall solutions with other genealogists to further everyone’s success!

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.

++++
++++

**Handout #3 – DUPAGE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEXT
REGULAR SOCIETY PROGRAM ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2016**

Please note that meetings that will take place for the society will occur between September 2016 through May 2017. The September and October 2016 programs will occur at the DuPage County Historical Museum located at 102 E. Wesley Street in Wheaton, IL. The November 2016 through May 2017 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 8:45 PM.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, September 21, 2016. The program scheduled for that evening is "Lineage Societies". The speakers for the program will be a variety of lineage society members. The September 2016 program will occur at the DuPage County Historical Museum located at 102 E. Wesley Street in Wheaton, IL. It will NOT occur at the Wheaton Public Library.

Please join us for a panel discussion on Lineage Societies. Lineage Societies participating are Anan Harmon Chapter of NSDAR, Fox Valley Chapter SAR, John Butler Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the Union of the Civil War and Colonial Dames.

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.

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.

+++++

Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGGNI) NEXT PROGRAM ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 AT THE SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY

The next regular meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, September 17, 2016 at the Schaumburg Township District Library in Schaumburg, IL. The program scheduled for this day is "DNA and the Genealogical Proof Standard". The speakers will be Karen Stanbary.

DNA test results provide evidence to confirm and advance your genealogical research. Skillful correlation of the DNA data with traditional documentary research can break through bricks walls. We will discuss the specific use of DNA evidence within the framework of the Genealogical Proof Standard.

Karen Stanbary is a professional genealogist with expertise in the use of DNA test results to solve genealogical problems.

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.

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.

++++
++++

Handout #5 – SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY NEXT GENEALOGY PROGRAM ON OCTOBER 11, 2016

Our next genealogy program will take place on Tuesday evening, October 11, 2016.

The title of our next program is "Finding Your Roots in Naturalization Records". Our guest speaker is Steve Szabados.

Find your immigrant ancestors naturalization papers and see the beginning of your roots in America. This program starts with the history of the naturalization process and a review of the requirements. Steve discusses where your ancestors were naturalized which is the key to finding their documents. Traditional and online sources are discussed.

Steve Szabados is a genealogy speaker, author and columnist. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois and a MBA from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois.

He has been researching his ancestors for about fourteen years and has traced ancestors back to 1600s New England and 1730's in Poland, Germany, Bohemia and Slovenia. He has given numerous presentations to genealogical groups and libraries in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. His goal is to share his passion for Family History.

He is a member for the Polish Genealogical Society of America, the Illinois State Genealogical Society and Northwest Suburban Genealogical Society. He is also a genealogy volunteer at the Arlington Heights Illinois Library. He is the author of six print books – *Basic Genealogy*, *Write Your Family History*, *Finding Grandma's European Ancestors*, *Polish Genealogy*, *Memories of Dziadka*, *Quick Reference to U.S. Census Records* and *Deciphering the 1790-1840 U.S. Census Records*. He has also published five eBooks on genealogy. All are must have books for the beginning genealogist looking for their European heritage. Steve also is the genealogy columnist for the Polish American Journal.

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 and other libraries.

++++
++++

Handout #6 – HAPPY BIRTHDAY, US NATIONAL CENSUS!

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at www.eogn.com dated August 2, 2016.



Happy 226th birthday!

One of the most valuable tools for US genealogists is the National Census that is enumerated (created) every ten years. Census results were never intended to benefit genealogists. That is simply a side benefit. The primary purpose is to reapportion seats in the House of Representatives and to realign congressional districts. Over the years, the Census numbers also have become important for the formulas that distribute hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funds each year.

The first national census took place on August 2, 1790, when marshals under the direction of Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson canvassed the original 13 states plus Maine, Vermont, Kentucky, and the Southwest Territory (Tennessee). They asked six questions: name of the head of the household, and number of persons in each household in these categories: free white males over 16; free white males under 16; free white females; all other free persons; and slaves.

A total of 3,929,214 were counted. Compare that to 2010, when the count was 308,745,538. In what would become a decennial dissatisfaction, not everyone was happy with that very first count; both President George Washington and Secretary Jefferson expressed skepticism about the total, believing it was too low.

For anyone interested in the history and the impact of the cCensus, the US Census Bureau has created a web site where you can learn about legislation related to the censuses, the efforts to improve the count, and the technical innovations introduced to improve data collection, processing, and publication. You can start at https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/.

The web site even includes complete **Census Instructions** for each decennial census. When the information recorded about your ancestor doesn't make sense or seems to possibly be in error, a quick look at the Census Instructions will clear the mystery. Census instructions may be found at

https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/census_instructions/.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Yes, a big Happy Birthday to the U.S. Census! While intended for other than genealogical purposes, genealogists have come to be able to use it as possibly the first research source to discover information about their ancestors. And the ease of using it today is phenomenal. Data exists under subscription to individuals via a source like Ancestry.com. Or, you can find census data for free under the umbrella of the Mormon Church from within FamilySearch.org. If you do not have a home computer you can still search for this census data at a local library where internet access is readily available. Libraries subscribe to library products such as Ancestry Library Edition allowing on-site library users to do research for free to a subscription service paid for by the library.

The 1790 through the 1840 census can be a little daunting to use because the only named piece of information connected to your ancestors was the Head of Household that was identified. A wife and any other children of the couple are just noted as statistical summaries within age groups. And it is even worse, because that family may very well show statistics that include children or other family members that are not related to the named head of household.

The quest for more and more detailed information was as great then as it is now. Government officials felt the need to know more and more about the citizenry they governed and thus our Census data captured was enlarged and modified each decennial year. The 1850 census was the breakthrough census because it named all individuals with the family group. Instead of just tabulating statistics of the family members, we were now able to see the names of the family members. While this is better than before, you need to understand that there was no relationship identified to the head of household in this census or any census in the future until the 1880 census was designed. From the 1850 census through the 1870 census you can discover the name of an individual but you do not know that perhaps that child is actually the child of a brother of the head of household that perished and the child was taken in by that person's brother.

Then as the data collection expanded we also experienced the electronic digital age of today for those of us living today. Census data access prior to the year 2000 was basically available to researchers in microfilm format. Searching for one individual could take a researcher through a maze of microfilms that could have taken months from ordering the film to receiving the film to viewing the film and then ordering more films. Today in the digital world our search for one individual can take a millisecond spanning across all of the censuses available to use. Today we can search for ancestor after ancestor in a blink of the eye.

The above Eastman posting also notes that instructions on how census enumerators were to take the census information are also available. This can be valuable to know because we may only see one coded answer on a census image that might have had 1 page of instruction on how that information was to be captured. Always worth noting all of these details as you look at the results of your own ancestors.

Here is a real big Happy Birthday wish to our U.S. Census. For without you for your original governmental reasons we would not have the bountiful information we so much depend on to help us discover our families. Thank you so much!

++++
++++

Handout #7 – GOOGLE DUO VIDEO CHAT APP NOW AVAILABLE FOR APPLE AND ANDROID

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated August 17, 2016.

Want to have a two-way FaceTime video chat with family members, friends, or business acquaintances? I have done this frequently to chat with my grandchildren. I am presently 9,300 miles (14,966 km) away from them but Apple FaceTime is almost as good as being there in person. Not only do I see the grandchildren but they can show me their latest artwork, clothes, and other things that grandchildren love to show their grandparents. The highlight of the last video chat was seeing where the oldest grandchild had lost her first tooth.



There has been but one problem: Apple's FaceTime only works on Apple devices: iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, and Macintosh systems. That became a problem when I switched to an Android cell phone a few months ago in order to save a lot of money. (See my recent article at <https://goo.gl/lyFj5f> for the details.) FaceTime is a wonderfully easy solution, but it isn't available for Android.

I have used Skype to accomplish the same thing but it is buggy and clunky. Other video conferencing apps are also available but do not seem to be much better. Now Google has come to the rescue.

The new Duo app from Google is simple to use, is elegant, and seems to work well in my first few tests. Duo is available for both Android and Apple iOS. Even better, Google's Duo video chat app offers end-to-end encryption to keep your private conversations just that: private. It should be impossible for any hacker or government agent to wiretap your conversations. Admittedly, I do not have the equipment to test the encryption so I will have to accept Google's advertised claims. I believe them.



"Duo is simple from start to finish. To get started, all you need is your phone number and you'll be able to reach people in your phone's contacts list. No separate account is required, so you can sign up in just a few steps. From there, you can instantly begin a video call with a single tap", says Justin Uberti, Principal Software Engineer, Google.

I have only made a couple of calls with Duo so far but it has worked well for me. From my hotel room here in Singapore, I can have two-way video conversations with my grandchildren and check on that lost tooth. It is great to be able to talk with them and see them from 9,300 miles away.

The Duo app appears to be as easy to use as Apple FaceTime, perhaps even easier. The video and audio have been perfect so far. Duo works on either wi-fi networks or on cellular data networks. I suspect the video quality will be less on cellular connections as the speeds generally are lower. Standard cellular charges will apply when using a cellular connection, of course. Check your agreement with your cellular company for details. Wi-fi connections normally are free and also tend to be much faster.

Duo is available today in the USA for both Android and iOS and should be available soon in other countries. Unfortunately, there are no Windows, Macintosh, or web clients. Duo only works on Android and Apple iOS. At least, that is true today. If Duo becomes as popular as I think it will, I suspect Google will consider releasing it on other operating systems as well.

You can learn more about Duo in the *Google Official Blog* at <https://goo.gl/Q2NcNy>. Duo may be downloaded and installed from the Play Store for Android and from Apple's App Store.

Comments by Tony Kierna

I am actually very excited about this new development from Google. For those of us that use video chatting as a way to connect with our relatives and friends, we have all experienced the problem of how does one phone user connect with another one of different operating systems? There is just something nice about video chatting where you can see the person. For genealogists, we especially want to see our newly discovered cousins just so we can have that "Aha!" moment when we see how facially alike to other families we know.

For those of you that have an iOS iPhone, you are familiar with the App that Apple has called FaceTime. If a friend or relative also has an iPhone you can easily video chat with that person using Apple's App called FaceTime. Select the person from your contact list, click on the little video app that is part of that person's entry in the contact list and lo and behold you are initiating a video chat.

There are workarounds between different cell phone operating systems such as Android and Apple iOS. Skype has been one product that makes video chatting happen between different operating system. I have used Skype and it has worked well for my purposes. Sometimes the quality is not the greatest. Sometimes the person being called is not available. Sometimes it just does not seem to be as simple as iOS FaceTime.

Personally, our family has coalesced around the iPhone. Probably 90% of my family members have an iPhone. Once you get the taste of video chatting you want to be able to do it for everyone you know (well, sometimes you have to accept the fact that the other party may not want to video chat at the same time you do!). I miss the inability to readily connect with my relative that has an Android while I have an

iPhone because it just seems it should be able to happen as simply as it does for those within the same operating system.

Now, my ship has come in! Thank you Google! Based on what I understand, it now looks that if I use this new iOS App called Duo on my iPhone and a friend or relative with an Android has it on their phone, we will now be able to video chat as easily as if we were on the same operating system. No establishing some account. No Password. Just use the cell phone number of the person as the method to establish the video chat and you will be on your way. Hope so because I have not yet downloaded the App.

++++
++++

Handout #8 – PLAN TO LEAVE YOUR DIGITAL ASSETS IN YOUR WILL

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated August 18, 2016.

Our personal lives are far more complicated in the digital age than those of our ancestors. Genealogists may read their ancestors' wills but sometimes forget about their own estates, especially digital goods. From bank accounts to Facebook, PayPal and more, a good chunk of our personal and financial lives are online. If you fail to account for those digital assets in your estate plan, you risk burying your family or friends in red tape as they try to get access to and deal with your online accounts that may have sentimental, practical or monetary value.

The good news is that a growing number of states are enacting laws that help clarify the rules for how executors and others can access and manage the online accounts of someone who has died.

The revised *Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act* — which has been adopted in 18 states and introduced in at least 12 others — lays out the rules under which an executor can manage a decedent's digital accounts.

You can read more in an article by Andrea Coombes in the *MarketWatch* web site at <http://goo.gl/IDdbjj>.

Comments by Tony Kierna

In the days of old after you passed away, a will was the roadmap used by your executor to distribute your "things" to those you selected. Your wife got the house, your kids got some money and the heirlooms you had been saving, your brothers and sisters maybe got nothing, your charities got a little check etc. The thing that was common throughout was that these things were generally something tangible that could be held and used.

Turn the page onto the year 2016. Yes, you still have those physical things. More importantly, you have added on a whole lot of digital components of life that were important to you. Before, you had a passbook savings account from a bank. Today, you still have a bank account except that it is 100% on the Internet. Perhaps you do not even get paper statements reflecting your banking life. Who would know this unless you told someone before your passing. Even if you told them, you probably did not grant them access to this while you were alive. So you wind up with a bank account with money in it that might not be able to be directed to the person you want after your death because they may know nothing about it or have any ability to access it with passwords they know nothing about.

*Thank goodness it sounds like our legislators are making accommodations to help executors be able to access this material after your death when they may not be able to do their job without knowing logins and passwords to your treasured digital material. The general name for this kind of developing legislation is the *Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act*.*

For those of us in Illinois, it looks like this version for Illinois just became law on August 12, 2016. You can take a look at the legislative history of this Illinois act here:

<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocTypeID=HB&DocNum=4648&GAID=13&SessionID=88&LegID=93879>.

This sure seems pretty amazing in Illinois to have such a nice piece of legislation become law when so much more legislation for other things goes nowhere in our Illinois political system (try believing that the state of Illinois has had no budget process for over one year).

Even if the Illinois legislature has now helped executors do their job with digital assets, wouldn't it be even better if you told your named executor (you have a will or estate plan, right??) about your electronic digital assets. They may not always be money related but you might want someone to receive something after your death like your genealogy work that exists as family trees online. Even these organizations may be establishing methods for you to state your wishes of who should gain access to this material after your death. Check with these organizations now and designate access information now after your death so an executor just has to connect to this organization after your death and fulfill your wishes without jumping through a million hoops to gain access. Help your executor out now with proper paperwork to make their job easier when it is required.

++++
++++

Handout #9 – “FINDING FAMILY INFORMATION IN SCHOOL RECORDS”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the July-September 2016, Volume 42, Number 3 issue of NGS Magazine.

I thought that an interesting article in this issue is one titled “Finding Family Information in School Records”. The author of the article is Pam Stone Eagleson, CG.

Where did all of us spend a great proportion of our lives between the ages of 6 to about 21? More often than not, they spent a lot of time in school. For our more distant ancestors in time, perhaps the amount of time spent in school was not that much. Our ancestors in the more recent 100 years spent more and more time in school preparing for careers. Think of all of those years and all of the potential records they may have created. These may not be the easiest of records to find, but they can give you plenty of good information if you are fortunate to make a discovery on finding these records.

Here is a capsulized summary of what the author has put into this article:

- How To Locate School Records

- Check USGenWeb at <http://usgenweb.org> looking for the geographic area of interest for these records.
- Do a search on the Internet for the name of the county or school district.
- Search the National Union Catalog of Manuscripts at <https://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc>.
- Check the state archives for the state where school is located.
- Check local historical societies and museums in the research locale.

- School Census Records

- Some of these records date to the late eighteenth century. They were taken to help determine public school funding. You could find the following information:
 - Listed each child, their age and maybe name of parents
 - Named children who were born and died between federal censuses for which no other record may exist.
 - Helps to fill in the time between the 1880 and 1900 census due to the loss of the 1890 census.
 - May name children living in the era from 1790-1850 before children were individually enumerated on the decennial censuses during this time period.

- Look at the FamilySearch online catalog for the geographic area of interest to see if any microfilms exist for school information that you can order and read through.

- Other Types of School Records

- School Registers
- Teacher Contracts
- Records of School Commissioners

- School district Ledgers

- Parochial and Religious Schools

- Academic Archives

- Conclusion

- "School records offer genealogists a valuable source to consult. There is no uniformity to what records are available and once found most of the records will have their own idiosyncrasies. They can, however, provide clues and wonderful tidbits of information about our ancestors."

+++++

Handout #10 – “EXPAND YOUR RESEARCH USING FACEBOOK GENEALOGY GROUPS”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the July-September 2016, Volume 42, Number 3 issue of NGS Magazine.

I thought that another good article in this issue is one titled “Expand Your Research Using Facebook Genealogy Groups”. The author of this article is Kathy Petlewski. MSLS.

Social Media keeps us all connected on a one to one basis with friends and family. But don't forget to consider using it for your genealogy research, especially as the article itself focuses on using Facebook. **The article does clearly note that in order to access genealogy sites on Facebook you must have an active account yourself on Facebook in order to access the genealogy groups.** So be aware that any links I include in this summary may not work for you until you log in to your Facebook account or if you do not have an account, you may see an invitation to create an account.

The author did relate her experience speaking at a senior citizen retirement home. She asked the audience who used a computer for genealogy and almost the entire audience noted they did this. The author asked the audience who has a subscription to Ancestry.com or to any other genealogy service. She sensed that about 75% responded that they did subscribe. **The she asked them how many used Facebook for their research. Hardly anyone responded that they did. And even as a follow-up question the author asked who had a Facebook account. Quite a few responded they did and they used it to interact with family everywhere. Yet they did not think of using it for genealogy research.**

The author included in her article some good examples for us to consider using Facebook for genealogy research, especially if you are already have an account with them. Here are her examples:

- The author shares that she discovered a Polish Genealogy Facebook group located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/50089808265>. **(You need to have a Facebook account in order to access all of the Facebook links I note in this review.)** Here she was able to discover that there was a Poznan Marriage Indexing Project actively creating online records for that area of Poland. The area covered the geographic area of Polish research she was doing. **Once she started using the site she was able to make many advancing discoveries on her own research.** The author also notes that the Poznan Marriage Indexing Project has its own Facebook presence at <https://www.facebook.com/Poznan-Marriage-Indexing-Project-485985488129224/>. The above information was not included in any subscribable services that the seniors may have been connected to and appears to have only been posted in Facebook.

- A second example of material found in Facebook being used for Genealogy Groups was found on the Alsace & Lorraine Genealogy Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups.alsace/genealogy>. Membership in this group exceeds 1,200 people who post queries in German and French as well as English. The author notes that when you click on the Files part of this group's page, there is a long list of resources pertaining to:
 - Surnames
 - Lists of place names when it was part of the German Empire
 - Handwritten transcriptions of vital records
 - Many other documents

The author even noted she was able to make a discovery of a French written document that provided the birth location of her great-grandfather.

- A third group mentioned in the article is one devoted to surname registries. The author mentions the Irish Surname Registry at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheIrishSurnameRegistry>. This group has over 12,500 members and helps other researchers make connections to other researchers searching for the same.
- There is also a Scottish Surname Registry Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheScottishSurnameRegistry>
- There is a Jewish group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1609914609245515>
- There is an English group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/englishsurnameregistry>
- There is a Sicilian group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/1565570073697027>
- The author notes the benefit of joining such groups to save time and travel to connect with these groups or other groups that may have a physical presence in a locale. One such example given by the author is the Houghton Michigan Genealogy Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/264910143628749>.
- There are many more general genealogy groups on Facebook outside of Surname research or geographic areas of interest. One group mentioned by the author is the Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness group that you can find at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/raogkUSA>. This group has over 23,000 members. This group offers up help to other researchers in the form of handwriting interpretation help, look up obituaries from local sources and many others forms of help.
- The author notes that it is a very easy process to join a group. For some groups all you have to do is "like" them and you become a member and updates to the group will be posted on your own Facebook newsfeed. For some other groups are a more "closed" group and you have to apply to become a member. If this is the case the

process may take a couple of days rather than the more instant process by just "Liking".

- When you become a member, it is important that you read the rules of the group, especially as it applies to "Reply" or not. The author received a stern warning from her group when she inadvertently did that instead of using the process of "writing a comment".
- General principles of privacy are in play within these groups. No one will help you search for living people. Members are asked not to post information or photos on relatives that are still alive. This even applies to posting obituaries that may include family members that are still alive.
- The author indicated that there are over 8,000 genealogy groups on Facebook and all of them are listed in one place. Katherine R. Willson has compiled a directory of genealogy Facebook links at <https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2016/08/genealogy-on-facebook-list-03-august-2016.pdf>. *(The original link in the article was outdated. I searched and found this current one that is accessible by anyone. You do not have to have an account on Facebook to access the above link. This is a great link for non-Facebook users just to be able to see what genealogy groups are present on Facebook. Knowing what is there might convince you to become a member of Facebook just to access the genealogy groups of interest to you!)*

Don't forget to check out the variety of genealogy groups that can be found on Facebook. But remember, you must have a Facebook account in order to access all of the above noted links mentioned above.

++++
++++