HANDOUTS TABLE OF CONTENTS
November 8, 2016

November 8, 2016 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our November 8, 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"!

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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!

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Handout #2 – NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST SUBURBAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY WILL BE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2017

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society will take place on Saturday morning, January 7, 2017. The program for the morning is titled **"German Immigration to the United States"**. The speaker for the morning will be **Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG**.

Germans began immigrating to the United States in 1683, according to documented history. This talk will highlight significant aspects of the first four major waves of migration, through 1910. The areas from which they came, and motivations that typified each wave will be detailed. Available immigration and emigration records help tell the immigrant's story. Laws changed over time and impacted various aspects of the immigration experience.

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.

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Handout #3 – DUPAGE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEXT REGULAR SOCIETY PROGRAM ON NOVEMBER 16, 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, November 16, 2016. The program scheduled for that evening is **"Luck of the Irish Uncovers the Truth"**. The speaker for the program will be **Patricia Biallas**.

You may visit the society's web page at:

www.dcgs.org

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

http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/

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

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Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGGNI) NEXT PROGRAM ON NOVEMBER 19, 2016 AT THE HYATT PLACE SCHAUMBURG

The next regular meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, November 19, 2016 at the Hyatt Place Schaumburg in Schaumburg, IL.   **(Program Will _Not_ Be Held At the Schaumburg Township District Library).** The program scheduled for this day is **"Over There: The War to End All Wars"**. The speaker will be **Terry Lynch, HFK Productions.**

It's been 100 years since the beginning of World War I. This war, more than any other, brought with it changes to the leadership in Europe, changes in warfare, and changes to society, especially for women. Hear how World War I resulted in - to quote a song from another war - a world turned upside down.

Terry Lynch has been a professional actor performing on stage, TV, film and radio in the Chicagoland area for more than 20 years. He has also appeared regularly on the WGN Morning Show.

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.

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Handout #5 – SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY NEXT GENEALOGY PROGRAM ON DECEMBER 13, 2016

Our next genealogy program will take place on Tuesday evening, December 13, 2016.

We will have another "break-out" session for our gathering on December 13, 2016. 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
> DNA/Adoption Researchers (New!)

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 13, 2016==.

You may visit the library's web page at:

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www.SchaumburgLibrary.org

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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.

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Handout #6 – WHY YOUR FAMILY NAME WAS NOT CHANGED AT ELLIS ISLAND

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at www.eogn.com dated October 13, 2016.

The New York Public Library is the latest organization to publish an article about the myth of "the family name was changed at Ellis Island" and then describes exactly one exception. Almost every genealogy writer in the US, including myself, has written about the myth before. It is nice to see someone with the authority and credentials of the New York Public Library write about it. Perhaps this fairy tale will now be put to rest.

The article by Philip Sutton says many things, including:

"There is a myth that persists in the field of genealogy, or more accurately, in family lore, that family names were changed there. They were not. Numerous blogs, essays, and books have proven this. Yet the myth persists; a story in a recent issue of The New Yorker suggests that it happened. This post will explore how and why names were not changed."

The article then humorously goes on to describe one exception. Despite the clarification of the name change myth, there was one person's whose name actually was changed at Ellis Island. Harry Zarief, "the assistant concert master for Morton Gould," and famously a father of quadruplets, had his name changed at Ellis Island from Zarief to Friedman. The man now named Harry Friedman apparently was not happy with the name change.

In 1944, HarryFriedman went to court and obtained a legal change of name, **BACK TO ZARIEF!**

You can find the article, *Why Your Family Name Was Not Changed at Ellis Island*, at https://goo.gl/DxpnMy.

My thanks to newsletter reader William M. Wilson for telling me about the article.

Comments by Tony Kierna

As our library's genealogy coordinator, I can't tell you how many times over the years I have heard the story while trying to help a researcher that his/her ancestor's name was changed upon arrival to the United States at Ellis Island!! As individuals, we like to hear these unique stories and we tend to believe them because why would our family members lie to us about what happened. The stories do sound good, and when they are good we just want to continue telling it to anyone that wants to hear it.

Unfortunately, the stories are not true and this myth has been proven wrong time and time again over the years. Yet it still lives on! Such stories embellish our family histories and through that process embellish each of us and individuals. The stories

just make us feel more unique compared to our fellow researchers that may not have stories of name changes at Ellis Island.

I highly recommend reading the story accessible within the link above to the New York Public Library blog post. All you have to realize is that **the Ellis Island inspectors NEVER wrote down the names of the individuals as they processed the immigrants. They were using the passenger lists supplied by the steamship companies during immigrant processing.** *The names could have been incorrect from the start via the passenger list created by the steamship companies in the various ports of embarkation used by the immigrants. If they left from a port that was part of their home country, it would appear to be difficult to get the names wrong because the language spoken was a common language in that port city. If the immigrant from Germany left via Bremen or Hamburg and went to Southampton, England for the first leg of the journey, one could imagine the passenger list created in Southampton could have errors because of the language differences there between steamship employees and immigrants.*

In fact, name changes you have discovered in your research were often the result of the immigrant themselves making the name change for the family so as to fit in more with the American social way of life and culture. Ellis Island inspectors did not make name changes!

Perhaps you know the name of ancestor's surname at their point of origin and also as it is now known within the family. Maybe there is a legal name change trail. Maybe not. Yes, you have discovered this name change between Point A and B but you cannot Carte Blanche identify the name change occurred via the Ellis Island processing of the immigrant upon arrival. As a good researcher it behooves you to document your research as you make your discoveries. Don't blindly keep spreading the myth of your ancestor's name change in light of what the process was at Ellis Island. A good story is hard to pass up, but a good genealogy researcher sticks with the documented trail of evidence.

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Handout #7 – DNA'S NEW MIRACLE: HOW ADOPTEES ARE USING ONLINE REGISTRIES TO FIND THEIR BLOOD RELATIVES

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated October 14, 2016.

The Washington Post has published an interesting article by Tara Bahrampour about adoptees using DNA to find their birth relatives, sometimes even their birth parents. The article states:

Most people who register with DNA databases are looking for information about their ethnic origins or exploring distant branches of the family tree. But the rapidly expanding databases have also had an unintended consequence: They are helping people find biological parents whose identities had long been mysteries.

The implications are wide-reaching. For adoptees, birthparents, children of single mothers with unknown fathers, and fathers unaware that they had a child, the answers to lifelong questions or the revelations of closely guarded secrets may now pop up in inboxes without warning. The technology can raise privacy concerns and lead to emotional complications.

Some adoptees have found biological relatives when they didn't set out to.

You can read this interesting story at https://goo.gl/d9Vkof.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Genealogy researchers routinely submit their DNA for testing and some have been shocked to make discoveries that change their world. I use the example of Bill Grifffeth, famous CNBC Business News Anchor on "The Closing Bell" financial show. His brother told him to submit his DNA for testing just so they would have more to work from in their future genealogical research. He did. His results basically showed that he did not have the same "Y DNA" results he should have expected between himself and his brother. After much personal turmoil and further research, he was able to determine that the person he knew of as his father was in fact not his father. His mother who was still alive at this time confirmed the story to him and acknowledged who his real father was.

Adoptees and genealogy researchers that determine that a particular ancestor was an adoptee are also now using the DNA process to make blood line discoveries themselves. Adoptees have a very difficult time doing genealogy research in the normal ways because so much of their ancestry has been legally made unavailable to them via the adoption process and court-sealed documents of the time of adoptions. So they now see using the DNA submission as a tool to possibly help them make their blood line connections.

The genealogy researcher has to understand that these possible bloodline discoveries do not happen magically. Think of it like this. I am a general genealogy researcher that is going to submit my DNA to a particular DNA processing company. I may

have no idea who my biological parents are or if I have siblings, or worse yet, as in the case of Bill Griffeth above, I think I know who my parents are and siblings are and I submit my DNA thinking all results were be uneventful. If I happen to have a different biological parent or have siblings I do not even know about **AND** these unknown parent or siblings also submitted their DNA to the same company for processing, then the results I receive for my DNA will also list the contact information for a parent that matches to my DNA at a high level as well as siblings that match to me at a high level but a little lower level than parents.

Adoptees see that it is worth taking a DNA test to see if by luck they do receive high matches. Matches from DNA processors give us an idea how closely we are related to someone else. As an example, a 3rd to 5th cousin might show me a "centimorgan" scale match of 80. A sibling might show me a centimorgan scale match of 1200. A parent might show me a centimorgan scale match of 2600. Once an adoptee sees such high matches, they can assume that they may have matched biologically to someone else that submitted their DNA at a very high level. The higher the centimorgan number, the more you can assume you are matched to a parent or a sibling, and thus you may have discovered a previously unknown parent or sibling. **But all participants would have had to have their DNA submitted to the same company.**

There are ways to broaden your testing results to see if you match to others within other DNA testing companies. There is a website called GEDmatch at www.gedmatch.com that allows you to take your DNA results from let's say Ancestry.com and post them within GEDmatch to see if you match to anyone that may have submitted their results from Family Tree DNA. But the key is that those taking DNA tests have to actively put their results into GEDmatch to broaden any matching results they may have genetically to others that tested within a company different from the one they submitted to.

It makes perfect sense that adoptees submit their DNA for testing even if they are not genealogical researchers because there is a possibility they might obtain results helping them better identify who might actually be genetically related at a high level as parent or sibling. But it is still a slim chance to make these discoveries simply because there may be only 3 to 4 million DNA submissions, mainly by genealogical researchers, in comparison to a population of over 300 million. The pool is simply not yet large enough to make the odds for adoptees to make these miraculous discoveries on parents and siblings.

Please be aware that if you have not yet submitted your DNA for genealogical purposes, if the day comes when you do submit, be aware that you could get some unexpected results that could be life changing to you. So submit your DNA, know what can happen, and cross your fingers!

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Handout #8 – HOW FINDAGRAVE COULD, AND SHOULD BE, MADE BETTER

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated October 21, 2016.

Amy Johnson Crow has posted an article in her blog that illustrates one of the problems with FindAGrave and offers suggestions for how it could be better. If you have an interest in FindAGrave, you might want to read Amy's article, *How FindAGrave Could – and Should – Be Made Better*, at: http://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/2016/10/21/findagrave-made-better/.

Comment: FindAGrave's biggest competitor, BillionGraves.com, certainly is not perfect. It has some problems of its own but does not share the problems that Amy wrote about. For one thing, BillionGraves.com starts with a picture of the tombstone. No picture? No entry on BillionGraves.com.

Perhaps FindAGrave should adopt a similar policy.

Comments by Tony Kierna

For the vast majority of genealogy researchers, we find that FindAGrave is an invaluable resource for us to find material not only about the location a person is buried but also often be able to see photos of the gravestone and much more family information that is included in the memorial that is posted at FindAGrave. I am a contributor to FindAGrave (have not uploaded any in the last few years) and initially uploaded information and photos of gravestones on some of my ancestors that are buried at St. Adalbert Cemetery in Niles, IL.

However, as the above link to the article points out, there are many volunteers who just roam cemeteries and take photos of gravestones and gravestone names and then upload those to FindAGrave. They have no idea who it is for whom they are uploading information. Also, many contributors just look at their local obituaries that may be in local newspapers and also create memorials in FindAGrave for that person.

Sounds like a nice thing for us as researchers to be able to make these discoveries in FindAGrave when it applies to our ancestor or relative. However, as the author points out in the article, making a discovery of an obituary for a father-in-law made her feel a little different since the obituary had not even yet been printed in the newspaper when she discovered it already existed as she herself was going to contribute it to FindAGrave. In her cases, she was upset because she wanted to be able to do this herself. She is a professional genealogist and has been involved herself as a contributor to FindAGrave. She contacted the contributor and discovered that the obituary got posted so fast to FindAGrave because there are often contests going on between contributors as to who can upload more material faster and build up their numbers as contributors. The contributor did transfer over the memorial of this father-in-law without any problem. But the author of the article still feels that FindAGrave should not be a numbers game with death information and obituaries being uploaded as if it were a contest.

Her comparison to BillionGraves is that a photo of the gravestone is what triggers an entry into BillionGraves. That assumes there is some time after the death of an individual when a family can create something to enter into BillionGraves after a gravestone has been completed and photographed and uploaded. With FindAGrave, all someone has to do is enter in death information and it becomes a part of FindAGrave with the person entering it in becoming the keeper of the memorial. The rub comes in that maybe it would be nice if a family member were to create the memorial with information rather than a stranger. For that to happen with the death of a family member, more time is required to do that rather than someone just finding an obituary online and posting it because they just want to add numbers to their stats as a contributor.

This is just something to think of if you are a contributor to FindAGrave. While it is nice that you are uploading information perhaps on stranger to you, just remember that there is a real family behind that death of a person. Maybe wait a month before you enter in an obituary or death information on a total stranger. Maybe a family member would like to do it but not within 12 hours of the death of someone.

The author's article sure opened up my eyes to a concern that family members have about not only adding information to FindAGrave in their own timeline but also to what they discover in FindAGrave so quickly after a death of their own loved one. FindAGrave should not be a contest of numbers of those deceased that are strangers to you unless a good amount of time has passed since their death and perhaps no family member has uploaded information.

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Handout #9 – "DEVELOP YOUR ANCESTOR'S STORY"

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the October/November 2016, Volume 11, Number 4 issue of Internet Genealogy.

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I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "Develop Your Ancestor's Story". The author of the article is George G. Morgan.

Names and dates are often the initial foundation when researching genealogy. However, it is discovering the context of the lives of our ancestors through the discoveries made over and above dates and places associated with our ancestors. The author then identifies many different types of resources that add context to the lives of our ancestors. Those mentioned are:

- Home Sources
    - Letters
    - Postcards
    - Handwritten Notes
    - Greeting Cards
    - Emails
    - Diplomas
    - Photographs
    - Old Driver's Licenses or Passports
    - School Report Cards
    - Yearbooks
    - Receipts
    - Paid bills
    - Church Bulletins
    - Newspaper Clippings
    - Diaries and Journals
- Interviews
    - Perhaps a parent is deceased and you think a story from them cannot be discovered. These stories may have been provided by a deceased parent through another branch of the family you need to connect with.
- Census Records
    - The 1900 Census is especially rich in much information the researcher can use to add to the life of an ancestor.

- - Only census that shows both the birth month and birth year for an ancestor to help you better find other documents with this information as a guide.
  - Ages and marital status are included along with number of years married.
  - Number of children born noted and number currently surviving. You now have better idea that you can search for a deceased child sometime in the past.
  - Census shows if someone attended school the previous year.
  - Census shows if family owned their home and did it have a mortgage.
  - First census to include Citizenship columns that also included year of immigration, number of years in the US, and status of naturalization (Alien, Papers Filed or Naturalized).
- Birth, Marriage and Death Records
  - Commencement of civil registration for these events varies by geography.
    - Civil Registration began in England and Wales on July 1, 1837.
    - Began in Scotland on January 1, 1855.
  - Use the Wiki at FamilySearch to determine dates of implementation by countries, states etc. of capturing of Vital Statistics. FamilySearch Wiki is at www.familysearch.org/wiki.
  - Look for name of officiating clergy on marriage records. This can lead you to a church and other records.
  - Prior to civil registration of these events, you can discover these via church records. Using church records, you can go much deeper in research than you can with the more recent civil records recordings.
- Land and Property Records
  - Look for Grantor Index records for land records that names the person selling, gifting, bequeathing or otherwise conveying ownership of real property.
  - Look for Grantee Index for land records that names the person receiving the items mentioned above.
  - Deeds might include date of death related to date of transfer of property.
  - Dower Law research and data may show the maiden name of a wife.

- o Tax rolls are often related to property owning individuals especially important between census years.
- o Look at county web sites to see if any land and tax records may have been digitized.
- Voter Registration
  - o May contain birthdate, address, date of residence in the area, date of naturalization of citizenship and maybe even political party affiliated.
  - o Voter registration contains voting precinct and district. Can help with identifying location of individual also between census years.
- Military Service and Related Records
  - o Registration for the draft records
  - o Conscription
  - o Enlistment records
  - o Muster Rolls
  - o Medals and Commendations
  - o Casualty Reports
  - o Medical Records
  - o Discharge Papers
  - o Military Pensions and Bounty Records
  - o Fold3.com great resource for military data; available as personal subscription or library product for free.
  - o Other national and state archives as keepers of military records.
- Obituaries and Death Notices
  - o Maybe you will see a first notice telling details will follow.
  - o Second notice was the actual obituary.
  - o Third notice might be lengthier description of the person's life or could possibly be a first year anniversary published memorial celebrating the person.
  - o Actual obituary may contain details of the funeral schedule, pallbearers, officiating clergy and interment information.
- Wills and Probate Records
  - o Executor performs many tasks and numerous documents are created.
    - ▪ List of beneficiaries
    - ▪ Possible probate package

- Newspapers
  - May find social information about ancestors that appeared in newspapers in the past.
  - Advertisements of the time can connect with your ancestors.
  - Community news
  - Chronicling America @ http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov
  - GenealogyBank @ www.genealogybank.com (Also check to see if this product is offered by your local public library; free access to library users.)
  - Newspapers.com @ www.newspapers.com
  - MyHeritage.com @ www.myheritage.com
- Family and Local Histories
  - May discover ethnic, religious and other groups with which your ancestor was associated.
  - Most books published prior to January 1, 1923 are out of copyright and available to you.
  - Google Books provides access to many old family history books that were created prior to the copyright concerns. Can find these at Google Books at http://books.google.com.
- Periodicals
  - Allen County Public Library has amassed large collection of periodicals associated with genealogy. Can find these within PERSI which stands for Periodical Source Index. 11,000 titles and 2.5 million indexed articles.

As you can see, you can start with the high level categories of resources for genealogy but you can take that down to a very detailed level of other resources that will definitely add more contextual detail to the lives of your ancestors.

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Handout #10 – "IT'S THE DNA AGE: WE NEED TO GIVE IN ORDER TO GET"

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the October/November 2016, Volume 11, Number 4 issue of Internet Genealogy.

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Another good article in this issue is titled "It's the DNA Age: We Need to Give in Order to Get". The author of the article is Dave Obee. Dave always writes a one-page article on some good topic in genealogy that he personally relates to. This one caught my eye because he lists his top ten gripes when dealing with looking at his matches of individuals he receives from his DNA testing provider. I am sure we can all tell our own stories about the things that gripe us when we are trying to help out someone else that appears as one of our DNA matches.

Here are his Top 10 (in reverse order):

- (10) The matches that are so close. I already have these people in my database. What they have online is flawed so I whip off an email saying boy oh boy, this is your lucky day; look at what I have for you! And they never get back to me.

- (9) The Ancestry matches that include a tree with 30,000 carefully researched (yeah, right) names. (One person has several trees on the go; total count, more than 100,000 relatives.) Oh, and they don't respond to my emails anyway.

- (8) A Family Tree DNA email that says "We Found a New Y-DNA Relative." These matches have a genetic distance somewhere close to infinity, and the people behind them have posted no tree information, and won't respond to my emails.

- (7) The Ancestry matches that show the person last checked the page three years ago. Has the person crossed the great divide, or just lost interest? I don't know. If I knew the reason, I would know whether I should bother writing again and again.

- (6) The GEDMatch connection that is apparently a third cousin who apparently lives less than two hours from me. No response to my emails.

- (5) The matches that are oh so close, but offer no family information.

- (4) The matches that hold great promise, lots of names, but turn out to be filled with people identified as "private". Dead for a century, so why keep them "private"?

- (3) The matches that are linked to trees that include my grandparents, yet the person claims we have no connection.

- (2) The matches that are so close, but the information is locked and my emails are not – oh, you know the rest.

- (1) <mark>The matches where we have great communication and no matter what, we still can't sort out the connection</mark>.

Dave had a wonderful perspective in his short one page article that truly describes the things we ourselves have when trying to interact with newly discovered cousins through DNA results or other ways we may have discovered them. <mark>Just the one item on no response to your email probably tops the list for us. Looks like an email went through to the recipient. Why not just acknowledge that on the receiving end and then interact with the sender if even in a minimal way.</mark>

As Dave says "Oh well!"

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