



HANDOUTS TABLE OF CONTENTS

April 11, 2017

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April 11, 2017 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our April 11, 2017 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, MAY 6, 2017

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society will take place on Saturday morning, May 6, 2017. The program for the morning is titled **"Courthouse Discoveries"**. The speaker for the morning will be **Tina Beard**.

Courthouses are great resources for personal family history. Probate files, chancery cases, land sales, and lawsuits are just a handful of the types of records one can find in their local courthouse files. Join Tina for tips and tricks for preparing for your trip and where to secure these records once you've arrived on site.

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 APRIL 19, 2017**

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, April 19, 2017 between 7pm to 8:45pm. Refreshments are offered at 6:30pm. The program scheduled for that evening is "Family History Research in the British Isles". The speaker for the program will be Maureen Brady.

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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Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGGNI) NEXT PROGRAM ON APRIL 15, 2017 AT SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY

The next regular meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, April 15, 2017 at the Schaumburg Township District Library in Schaumburg, IL between 10:30am to 12:30pm. The program scheduled for this day is "Researching Italian Records". The speaker will be **Dan Niemiec**.

Many people with Italian ancestors don't read Italian, and thus they don't try to research Italian civil or church records. Dan will show you that you can learn to find the genealogical information without reading every word on every page. He will show you an overview of common document formats and indexes so you can work with them easily.

Daniel Niemiec has been the monthly Italian genealogy columnist for Fra Noi for the past 12 years. He has researched his family for 26 years and has traced his Italian roots back to the mid 1600's. By tracing the descendants of those ancestors he has well over 80,000 known relatives.

You may visit the organization web page at:

www.CAGGNI.org

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

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Handout #5 – SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY NEXT GENEALOGY PROGRAM ON MAY 9, 2017

Our next Genealogy Program will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the 1st floor KidsZone Combined Room. The guest speaker for the evening will be Raymond Johnson. Raymond will present a program titled "Navigating the Cook County Clerk of the Circuit Court Archives".

Guest speaker Raymond Johnson will discuss naturalizations, Declarations of Intention, probates, wills, divorce/law/chancery records, criminal case files and "burnt records." The room will open at approximately 7 p.m.

Ray Johnson is a former criminal investigator in Du Page County, Illinois. He was born in Chicago and has spent his entire life in the Chicagoland area. He is a graduate of The University of Illinois at Chicago and has taught College Classes in Criminal Justice at the College of Du Page in Glen Ellyn as well as lecturing on Chicago folklore and history and teaching adult education classes on historical research techniques.

He is a life-long fan of Chicago history and especially the stranger side of Chicago's history such as Chicago area urban legends, folklore and other little known Chicago tidbits. His first published work on the subject is "Chicago's Haunt Detective" by Schiffer Publishing out of Atglen, PA which was published in July 2011. His website for the stranger side of Chicago is HauntDetective where you can also order an autographed copy of his book.

He is a former Chicago area representative of the Association of Professional Genealogists, a member of the Hyde Park Historical Society and a member of the Jackson Park Advisory Council. He runs a historical research service from his other website, HistoryCop. His second book, Chicago History-The Stranger Side was released in February 2014.

The 1893 World's Columbian Exposition is one of Ray's favorite historic topics in Chicago history and he recently started a not for profit called "Friends of the White City"

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.

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Handout #6 – WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR GENEALOGY COLLECTION WHEN YOU DOWNSIZE OR DIE?

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at www.eogn.com dated March 6, 2017.

Many of us have collected all sorts of genealogy information. Not only do we have our personal data, most of us also have collected books, magazines, photographs, and more. Someday, somebody will have to dispose of all that material. Perhaps your heirs will make that decision soon after you die. If it was me, I would prefer to make those decisions myself long before my demise.

Another reason for planning to get rid of materials is a word that I fear. This word sends shivers up and down my spine:

DOWNSIZING

Again, I prefer to make decisions about downsizing while I am still able to do so. I don't want to wait until someone else makes the decision for me.

What to do with all that material? One possibility is to donate it to FamilySearch. Yes, the Family History Library accepts donations.

In reality, you cannot simply bundle everything into boxes and send them to Salt Lake City. In short, FamilySearch is only interested in unique material that is not yet available within their extensive collections. If FamilySearch already has 36 copies of a certain genealogy book, they don't have much need for a 37th copy.

According to FamilySearch's *Gifts, Donations, and Loans* guide at <http://bit.ly/2mf8RAs>:

FamilySearch looks for genealogical records and family histories so we can preserve and share them on FamilySearch.org.

FamilySearch will accept only materials that:

- Are readable, very well organized, and accessible to help researchers identify individuals and relationships by name, date, and place.
- Add new information to FamilySearch's collection (duplicate materials are not accepted).
- Do not violate current privacy and copyright laws.

FamilySearch does not organize collections. Submit GEDCOM files or place photographs and stories (memories) in Family Tree or the Memories section of FamilySearch.org.

FamilySearch does not enter or add information from Pedigree or Family Group charts on Family Tree.

The same guidelines also state:

"Written works, such as family histories, should be in a clear, readable format. They should include a title, the author's name, and the publication date."

The same guidelines also state:

"Contact FamilySearch before submitting a donation, as the materials must meet established criteria or they may be returned to the donor."

For complete donations guidelines, read *Gifts, Donations, and Loans* at <http://bit.ly/2mf8RAs>.

Your local genealogy society, historical society, or library also may be interested in accepting your genealogy information, books, and other material. However, most societies also are only interested in materials that "Are readable, very well organized, and accessible to help researchers identify individuals and relationships by name, date, and place."

Contact your local genealogy society, historical society, or library for further information about acceptable donations.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Guess what? You have been researching and researching for all of these years reporting on the ultimate end of your own ancestors. Now you realize that old man time is actually catching up to you! The best thing you can do regarding this inevitability is to simply recognize it and do not deny it. You can certainly deny it, refuse to develop a plan of transition and then once that last breath has been taken, have your family now pitch all of that clutter that is taking up space. It would be a shame but that can be the inevitability of years and years of research. Your family members may simply not have the desire or interest to do what you have done. And I guess that in the picture of life's events this may be the end of your "genealogy stuff". The fun lasted for you and ends with you. Such a shame that things could not have been discussed nor plans made long in advance of someone needing to now clear out the empty house of all of that "genealogy clutter".

If you have been collaborating with cousins on your common genealogical research then it would make sense that this group of cousins should be your "go to" group. After all, you know them, they know you and all of you are working on that one big family tree. Perhaps you already have all of your research available for them to use in paper format or online format. Congratulations! If you have not worked collaboratively, then get that going as an immediate goal now. Build up a transition team through collaboration. Offer to be a repository for their stuff but think of it as being connected to you.

You have a will? Right? A living trust? Some form of legal paperwork to transition your life's accumulations to whom you would like? If not, get going on that as a separate project for an orderly transition of your end of life wishes. If you do not have a will, the state you live in has rules and regulations for how your things are distributed. Their rules, not necessarily your ultimate wishes. If you have a will or

an estate plan, make sure there are words in these documents that include your wishes for where your genealogy material will go to a family member. Don't have wording of such directions in your current document? Then include words with a codicil that is a common tool to make changes to your will. Here is a sample of one I found online at Ancestry:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~gazetteer2000/codicil.htm>

Take a look at the links in Eastman's article above on the guidelines of making donations. It will not be as easy as you think but it will at least make you think through the process on what you can do yourself to prepare your material well in advance of when the action to donate your material will need to happen.

Just don't put your head in the sand and pretend all will be well!

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Handout #7 – ANCESTRY.COM WEIGHING AN INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING (IPO) OF ITSELF

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated March 14, 2017.

An article in the Bloomberg Markets web site reports that the owners of privately-held Ancestry.com are weighing an initial public offering of the company this year. The company's owners, which include Permira and Silver Lake, have held talks with banks and are taking formal pitches from potential advisers who want to have a role in the offering, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the information is private.

No final decision has been made and the owners may opt to keep the business for now, the people said.

Ancestry earlier became a public corporation and operated as such for several years. Permira and Spectrum Equity then took company private in 2012.

The company had an enterprise value of about \$2.6 billion last year, according to a statement at the time. The assumption is that the new asking price would be for a significantly higher value.

Details may be found at: <http://bloom.bg/2mntRmd>.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Well, I guess opportunity does come knocking more than once! Years ago, Ancestry.com was a publicly traded company on the stock exchange. You could have bought in to it and made some money or even lost some money. That is the nature of investing at the public level. However, back in 2012, reverse actions were taken to once again remove Ancestry.com from the public view when it was once again turned into a private company.

Now however, it looks like Ancestry.com may be going back into being a publicly traded company as recent rumors seem to indicate. If that happens, you can buy shares of the company as an investment. At that time, I would do your financial diligence for stock evaluation and look into the investment crystal ball to see if a publicly traded Ancestry.com is a good investment.

Sometimes, investors and subscribers can be one in the same and ride the wave to financial success and monetary gain. If you subscribe to Ancestry.com and if it becomes publicly trades, you might consider buying some shares of the company and simply hope that the total value of your Ancestry.com stock portfolio can at least increase by about \$300, the value of a full subscription. If that happens your investment profit will have offset the cost of your subscription. So owning future Ancestry.com shares could be a way to cover your subscription costs if the value can increase year over year.

If you believe the future looks bright for genealogical research as being a good financial investment, then it sure looks like Ancestry.com might be the company to place your bet on.

Either way, if you are a subscriber, it should still be business as usual for you in your genealogy endeavors whether or not Ancestry.com goes public or stays private.

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Handout #8 – SOFTWARE MACKIEV INTRODUCES FAMILYSYNC TO FAMILY TREE MAKER

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated March 20, 2017.

If you use Family Tree Maker software, you need to be aware of the following announcement written by Ancestry.com and Software MacKiev:



Last year, we announced the purchase of Family Tree Maker desktop software by Software MacKiev and because we wanted to make the transition to a new owner as smooth as possible, we committed at least a year of customer and product support. The goal has always been to maintain the capability to share your family tree data between files on your computer with your personal Ancestry online trees. We've been hard at work co-developing a new Ancestry gateway with Software MacKiev to use in their Family Tree Maker 2017, which will be available soon. We believe Software MacKiev continues to deliver the best value to users of Family Tree Maker with their focus and expertise in software solutions.

What you should know:

- TreeSync will be replaced by Software MacKiev's FamilySync™. In the new FamilySync, Ancestry's search, merge, and Ancestry hints will all work as they do now for users who sync with their Ancestry trees and you can also look forward to more exciting new improvements.
- FamilySync will be available only in Software MacKiev's Family Tree Maker 2017 edition, which will be released on March 31, 2017.

The upgrade is free for all users who purchased a copy of a MacKiev Family Tree Maker edition since March 1, 2016. Those with previous Ancestry editions, or who got a free copy of Family Tree Maker 2014.1 or Mac 3.1, are eligible for discounted upgrades. The pre-order upgrade is \$29.95 for those who sign up for Software MacKiev's mailing list before March 29 and the upgrade will continue to be a discounted price (\$39.95) for a limited time after March 29.

- Between Wednesday, March 29 and Friday, March 31, there will be a short period where syncing functionality may be interrupted as Software MacKiev rolls out their new syncing technology.
- As of March 29, 2017, Ancestry will no longer be supporting TreeSync, given the introduction of Software MacKiev's FamilySync™. Software MacKiev will continue to handle all related customer questions for Family Tree Maker. Visit Software MacKiev's Family Tree Maker Support Center at support.familytreemaker.com if you have questions.

For additional information, news and discounted upgrade offers for Family Tree Maker, visit www.familytreemaker.com.

Comments by Tony Kierna

If you are a Family Tree Maker user it is important to be aware of the above mentioned developments. As the Eastman blog post notes, April 2017 will be the time-period when MacKiev will be releasing Family tree Maker 2017. It is also the time-period when the Ancestry support will be ending.

TreeSync from Family Tree Maker under Ancestry will now be replaced by FamilySync under support of MacKiev. FamilySync will now be included in the version of MacKiev Family Tree Maker edition that should be out shortly. If you purchased Family Tree Maker since March 1, 2016, then you will be able to upgrade to this new pending release for free. Please look at the other details if you purchased the product earlier than that. Looks like you will be able to upgrade to the new 2017 version at discounted upgrade prices.

Hopefully, users of Family Tree Maker since the purchase by MacKiev will now feel a greater sense of stability of this popular product. It has really been a bumpy road over the last two years since the announcement was made by Ancestry to exit the Family Tree Maker software business. Many of you simply could not tolerate the uncertainty that was in the air and how it would affect your lineage data family trees. Many of you took advantage of the offerings by other lineage product developers to switch over your data into their products such as RootsMagic and Legacy Family Tree. Whatever works best for you and your data.

It just looks like MacKiev is your company going forward for Family Tree Maker as of the version soon to be replaced for 2017 and their version of FamilySync to get your data into Ancestry's online family trees.

It is likely that by the time you read this all of the new release information should have been completed. It will now be between you as a MacKiev's Family Tree Maker product and MacKiev with Ancestry no longer in the picture.

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Handout #9 – “DID YOUR ANCESTORS TUNE IN?”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the March/April 2017, Volume 3, Number 1 issue of Your Genealogy Today.

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled “Did Your Ancestors Tune In?”. The author of the article is David A. Norris.

For all of us the starting point of our genealogical research is our self. That means that it will not take too many generations back for us to connect with our ancestors that were alive at the time of the introduction of radio on a mass scale. And of course, if you are already in your 70s or older you were actually born soon after radio became a staple for many families for entertainment and news.

Guglielmo Marconi is the name associated with the invention of radio that was patented in 1897. The invention was soon used by ships on the expansive oceans to be in touch with their home bases. Even up to the 1920s radio was more known as being experimental, amateur, military and maritime use. But it soon took off for normal consumption in the house during the 1920s. In fact, station KDKA, in Pittsburgh, is known as the first commercial station to start in the United States. By the end of 1920 there were 30 commercial stations in the United States. That number soared over the next few years to over 618 stations in 1930 and 765 stations in 1940. By 1930 40% of US households owned a radio and by 1940 fully 80% of US households owned a radio. As of 2016 there are an amazing 15, 508 licensed commercial and educational radio stations in existence in the United States.

Amplitude Modulation (AM) was predominant used early on because the signals could bounce off the atmosphere and carry a long way. Unfortunately, distance did not often equate to quality and the reception was often filled with static. Frequency Modulation (FM) has become more important since about the 1960s. This signal does not bounce off the atmosphere and consequently does not travel a long distance. It is limited to good reception on a “line of sight” basis.

And then there is the naming of the radio stations. Radio stations east of the Mississippi all generally start with the letter “W” (locally, WGN, WLS, WBKB etc.). States west of the Mississippi have radio stations starting with the letter “K”. There are exceptions. Connected with the first letter naming convention, you will generally find radio stations having 4 letters to identify them. There are exceptions to this name-calling convention.

Music was the mainstay early on for radio stations. Recordings were broadcast un-licensed initially. Over time, licensing came about for stations to use the music they played and to pay a fee for the privilege to use it. Early on performers did not want their music that was recorded played on air. The quality was often poor, plus it cost them theater bookings for live performances because their music could now be listened to over the airwaves.

So think of the time of your ancestors in the 1920s when this new invention really started taking off. Imagine them listening to radio in their family gatherings. The article does make some great observations as to how we can connect to the time of these ancestors and the radio that filled their lives.

The author notes that you can access the Internet Archive (<https://archive.org>) to discover listings of the radio stations that were in existence in the 1913-1914 time period. Search for "Radio Stations of the United States, 1913-1914" at this source. Also search the Internet Archives to discover publications of the 1930s that were geared to radio. Search for "Amateur Radio Callbook Magazine".

Even better, you can still tap into actual recordings of programs and speeches of the time broadcast over radio. You can listen to Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his presidential speeches aired over radio. Find these at his presidential library at <http://fdrlibrary.org/utterancesfdr>. Or better yet, you can access over 2,400 episodes of Old Time Radio Collections at the Internet Archive at <http://archive.org/details/oldtimeradio>.

It is always nice to place our ancestors at a geographic location for this next tip. The author suggests accessing newspapers at the time of radio in the area the ancestors lived and spend some time looking at how our ancestors were able to plan their radio listening time by seeing what the upcoming radio programs were. Check out the Wikipedia radio station entries to discover much more about the stations your ancestors may have listened to in the area in which they lived.

Just picture your ancestral families huddled around a radio in their homes in the evening. Music, comedy, news etc. was all there for them to listen to and while away their free time. Remember, no Internet, no Facebook, no YouTube, no Cable. Radio was king for our ancestors in the United States from the 1920s to the end of the 1940s.

Other resources noted by the author in this article to check out are:

- Media History Project at <http://mediahistoryproject.org/yearbooks> where you can find periodicals related to radio and television.
- History of American Broadcasting maintained by Jeff Miller at <http://jeff560.tripod.com/broadcasting.html> has links to lots of radio history.
- Media History Digital Archive at the Internet Archive at <http://archive.org/details/mediahistory> where you can find issues of *Radio Guide* and *Movie and Radio Guide* in which you can find schedules and much more related to television and radio.
- The Old Time Radio Researchers Group (OTRR) at www.otrr.org where you can find vintage radio magazines and original radio show scripts. The Newspaper Radio Logs section lets you find the radio programs for each day from 1930-1960 for the New York Times, Washington Post, Chicago Daily Tribune, and the Los Angeles Times.

This was a fun article to read for the history aspects you can receive. It really does make me think about my mom and dad and what they listened to during the

heyday of radio during their lives. It also makes me think of the wonderful large size combination radio/record player piece of furniture we had in the house when I was growing up. If only that beautiful combination radio/phonograph player did not get "thrown out" when I was a child. I can still remember it and see it in my mind. That was when radios were large scale furniture pieces. Oh well, can't cry over spilled milk!!

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Handout #10 – “DEALING WITH THE INEVITABLE”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the March/April 2017, Volume 3, Number 1 issue of Your Genealogy Today.

Another good article in this issue is one titled “Dealing with the Inevitable”. The author of the article is Lisa A. Alzo.

While we as genealogists are digging deep into our family history, we must recognize that there will come a time when we will add our name to the family history we have been doing. No one lives forever. Do not pretend that you will go on forever!

So, what are you going to do with your “stuff” when the grim reaper comes calling for you? Or are you already practicing minimalist living and have few possessions at home already? Probably not! Our “stuff” may have taken over our life.

The author does a great job of describing what preparations we can make in advance of our demise. Wouldn't you rather have a plan in place today so your family does not have to guess what should happen to your research and all of your genealogical/family memorabilia. And one of the scarier facts related to our succeeding generations is that younger people today simply do not have a great interest in antiques and heirlooms. So, what you thought could go to your grandchild who is a millennial may not actually be wanted by them at all, even though it may mean a whole lot to you.

One of the first things to do to plan for a transition of your “stuff” to others is to take a complete inventory of all of that “genealogical” stuff e.g. documents, photographs, heirlooms etc. Hopefully, your problem will be solved when your spouse or sibling or cousin becomes the person to take over your research and materials and continue down the path to discover even more. But if there is no one or no one actually wants to take on your “stuff”?

Now is the time to make that determination. If there is no one the author suggests now is the time to think creatively. Think in terms of the following:

- Libraries
- Museums
- Local genealogical or historical societies
- Ethnic clubs or groups

For your compiled genealogy research, consider donating the material to the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library. You can find them at www.genealogycenter.org/Donate.aspx.

The author even suggests what sounds like a very difficult choice to even consider. The author even suggests burning or shredding your personal papers and photographs. The author acknowledges this is extreme and strongly suggests you

work at connecting to someone or some organization that will take on your material. The author suggests this extreme end of your materials is worthwhile if you do not want unchecked disclosure of your materials after you are gone.

The author also included some "further reading" links to gain other perspectives on this difficult decision to line up a transition of your materials after you are gone. The following were noted:

- "Boomers Often Rebuffed When Passing Down Heirlooms" by Virginia Rohan, November 8, 2016, The (Bergen County, N.J.) Record, USA Today Network
- "Stuff It: Millennials Nix Their Parents' Treasures" by Jura Koncius, the Washington Post, March 27, 2015 at www.washingtonpost.com/local/boomers-unwanted-inheritance/2015/03/27/0e75ff6e-45c4-11e4-b437-1a7368204804_story.html
- "The Real Value of Our Antiques and Heirlooms" from the Estate Lady Speaks at <http://estatelady.wordpress.com/tag//irony-of-heirlooms>
- "Who'll Inherit Your Family Heirlooms, If Not Your Kids?" at www.amp.com.au/news/2016/september/who-will-inherit-your-heirlooms-if-not-your-kids

None of us are immune from the inevitable ending. It is better to face the end and start planning now for your materials while you can. If you don't it can be very likely that all of your hard work and research will wind up as nothing more than paper recycling! There is something to be said about collaborative researching with many cousins. They may very well be the most likely recipient of all of your hard work.

The worst thing you can do is put your head in the sand and hope your work will find a home after you are gone. Unfortunately, I have never seen that "hope" is a good strategy for success.

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