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## November 14, 2017 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our November 14, 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](http://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](http://www.SchaumburgLibrary.org) by looking for the tab called "Services", pull down for "genealogy". This will take you to my genealogy page at the library. Scroll down a little and look for the bi-colored blue and black box. In the black part of the box is a hot link titled "Tony's Genealogy Blog". Click on the link for the blog title and you will get to my 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 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 JANUARY 6, 2018**

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society will take place on Saturday morning January 6, 2018. The program for the morning is titled "*Digitizing Photos and Slides*". The speaker for the morning will be **Debra Dudek**.

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 15, 2017**

Please note that meetings that will take place for the society will occur between September 2017 through May 2018. The September 2017 program will occur at the DuPage County Historical Museum located at 102 E. Wesley Street in Wheaton, IL. The October 2017 through May 2018 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 15, 2017 between 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Refreshments are offered at 6:30pm. The program scheduled for that evening is "The Journey to America: Federal Passenger Ship Records". The speaker for the program will be Jeanne Larzalere Bloom.

We are a nation of immigrants and the debate about who to allow into the United States is not a new one. The information recorded on passenger ship records, where these records are located, and what they contain is based on the restrictions that resulted from these debates.

You may visit the society's web page at:

[www.dcgs.org](http://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 18, 2017 AT THE SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY**

The next regular meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, November 18, 2017 at the Schaumburg Township District Library, 130 S. Roselle Road, Schaumburg, IL between 10:30am to 12:30pm. The program scheduled for this day is **"From a Birth of a Nation to a New Birth of Freedom"**. The speaker will be **Kevin Wood (As Abraham Lincoln)**. (This day is also the annual "Potluck" day that CAGGNI has.)

President Abraham Lincoln delivers a first-hand account of our nation's history from our establishment in 1776 through the end of the Civil War in 1865. He discusses how our bold experiment in democracy, founded upon the ideals of liberty and equality, appeared destined to failure by 1854, but how the next dozen years instead brought a renewal and eventually an expansion of those great ideals: a "new birth of freedom".

Kevin Wood is a professional Abraham Lincoln presenter/portrayer who bears a remarkable resemblance to Mr. Lincoln and who is extremely knowledgeable about his life and times. He does programs in a wide variety of settings and also writes a blog ("Loath to Close... Still!") to encourage others to reflect upon and learn from Mr. Lincoln's life and legacy.

You may visit the organization web page at:

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

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

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## Handout #5 – SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY NEXT GENEALOGY PROGRAM ON DECEMBER 12, 2017

Our next genealogy program will take place on Tuesday evening, December 12, 2017.

We will have another "break-out" session for our gathering on December 12, 2017. 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 as of 12/16!)

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 12, 2017.

You may visit the library's web page at:

[www.SchaumburgLibrary.org](http://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 – SUPER ACCURATE GPS CHIPS COMING IN 2018; WILL BE GREAT FOR ONSITE CEMETERY RESEARCH

*The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com) dated September 25, 2017.*

[Dick Eastman](#) · [September 25, 2017](#) · [Hardware](#) · [One Comment](#)

New GPS (Global Positioning System) chips will be used in future cell phones that will be accurate within 30 centimeters (11.8 inches), rather than five meters (16 feet) which is typical of today's cell phones. At least, that's the claim chip maker Broadcom is making. While this may not seem at first to be significant for genealogists, it should greatly improve the accuracy of locations recorded with a cell phone and its camera.

The big benefit for genealogists will be in the accuracy of locations recorded in [BillionGraves.com](#) and [FindAGrave.com](#).



Millions of tombstones are already recorded today with accuracy of plus or minus 16 feet or sometimes even worse accuracy than that. Sixteen feet sounds like reasonable accuracy in many cemeteries, but it still is not good enough for quick location of tombstones in many family plots and certainly not close enough for pinpoint accuracy in a columbarium, a room or building with niches where funeral urns are stored.

The recent announcement from chip manufacturer Broadcom says that some of its next-generation smartphone chips will use new global positioning satellite signals to boost accuracy. In a detailed report on the announcement, *IEEE Spectrum* says that the new chips, which are expected to appear in some phones as soon as next year, will also use half the power of today's chips and will even work in cities where tower blocks often interfere with existing systems.

I doubt if users of [BillionGraves.com](#) and [FindAGrave.com](#) will go back and re-visit all of the millions of locations already listed in those sites. However, as the new chips are used in more and more cell phones, the accuracy of future additions to those databases should be greatly improved.

You can read more about the new, high-accuracy GPS chips in a somewhat technical article by Samuel K. Moore in the *IEEE Spectrum* web site at <http://bit.ly/2hsdymK>.

### Comments by Tony Kierna

I do guess that 16 feet makes a dramatic difference in the ability to find or not find what you are looking for. For all this time we had to think that being within 16 feet of something on the ground for something being calculated hundreds of miles into space was pretty spectacular. But as the commercial says, "Wait, there's more!". And that "more" is an even more improved GPS calculation that will get us down to being within literally 1 foot of some location we are looking for. How incredible is that.

The application of this new GPS calculation is really spectacular as it can apply to doing cemetery research. Especially for Billion Graves and FindAGrave where GPS gravesite locations can be made when we are walking the cemeteries, capturing gravesite information and uploading that information to the apps associated with these wonderful genealogy tools.

However, there are two catches to this wonderful new technological development for GPS. One catch is that this new capability will be in the future production of cell phones probably starting in 2018 with new cell phone production. For an Apple iPhone user like myself that means the technology generally would not be seen in new iPhone models until about October and November 2018 when Apple starts selling its new models. The newest iPhones have just been hitting the market right now, especially the iPhone X that will get into the hands of customers around November 3, 2017. So there is a long way to go for iPhone users to see this. Plus, cemetery research in our neck of the Midwest woods starts winding down as Fall leaves start covering gravesites, followed by the snows of winter. You also have to consider the cost of upgrading to the next cell phone containing this magic GPS calculation. For me it may be an easier choice since my iPhone was obtained 4 years ago and I am probably in the "thinking" stage of upgrading sooner rather than later. If you upgraded last year you may simply think it is too early to upgrade to a new phone that would have the new GPS technology. Your call!

The other catch to this new technology development is that it is highly unlikely that all of the gravesite GPS information that currently exists in Billion Graves and FindAGrave will likely not change and be updated to the GPS coordinates that can be calculated with the new GPS capability. So gravesite GPS information contained in Billion Graves and FindAGrave will still get you down to the 16 foot range of locating something. You could actually be within a circle that is 32 feet in diameter with the object in the center while you are hunting for it. Still not too bad but still can open you up to the uncertainty of not finding a gravesite.

Cemetery research can be challenging even under the best circumstances. If you are trying to locate a gravesite for which GPS coordinates already exist then for a while you will still be looking for that location within 16 feet of the GPS coordinates that have been entered in. Good chance you will still find it even under the existing GPS parameters. But think of being only 1 foot away. In essence you will probably be standing right on the gravesite. I do hope that Billion Graves and FindAGrave will be able to identify a gravesite as having GPS from today's system as well as the GPS of the future so you will know whether you will be 16 feet away or 1 foot away.

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## Handout #7 – 2018 EASTERN CARRIBEAN GENEALOGY CRUISE

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com) dated October 10, 2017.

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 10, 2017](#) · [Travel](#) · [2 Comments](#)

This may be your last opportunity to sign up for an 8-night genealogy cruise, hosted by Gary and Diana Smith. Other speakers will include Donna Moughty, and some guy named Dick Eastman who writes a genealogy newsletter. If you would like to join this fun group of genealogy cruisers, you might want to mark **April 15-23, 2018**, on your calendar. While 2018 sounds like a long time in the future, it is only 6 months from now. This is the time to be making cruise ship reservations!



The 2018 Eastern Caribbean Genealogy Cruise will be on board the Celebrity Equinox and will sail the Eastern Caribbean. It holds 2,850 passengers. The Equinox was voted the "Best Overall Cruise (Large Ship)" by the Cruise Critic Cruisers' Choice Awards in 2015. You can learn more about the Celebrity Equinox at <https://www.celebritycruises.com/cruise-ships/celebrity-equinox>.

Departing from Miami, the Celebrity Equinox will stop in San Juan, Puerto Rico; Philipsburg, St. Maarten; Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands; Punta Cana, Dominican Republic; and Nassau, Bahamas. It will return to Miami on April 23.

The days at sea will be filled with genealogy presentations. This year's theme is, "Pilgrims, Pioneers, and Aliens Genealogy."



Of course, every day on this cruise will feature all the other activities found on first-class cruise ships. And then there is the food...

The Celebrity Cruise Line also has just announced some additional enticements for anyone joining this cruise:

If you book any Ocean View, Balcony, Concierge, or Aqua Class Stateroom between now and Oct 31, 2017, you will receive **FREE**, your choice of two (2) of the following amenities:

- Classic Beverage Package for 2 people (per stateroom) – Includes Spirits, Cocktails, Beer & Wine plus Sodas, Bottled Water, Specialty Coffees with All Gratuities Included
- Onboard Credit – \$150.00 per person (Guests 1&2)
- Prepaid Gratuities for 2: Covers stateroom attendants, dining room waiter, assistant waiter and Head waiter.
- Unlimited Internet Package

Even better, if you book any suite, you will receive all four (4) amenities.

For more information about this year's genealogy cruise, look at: <http://bit.ly/2xq16P7>. Then contact Herb of CruiseEverything at 800-959-7447. Herb can provide even more information and I am sure he would also be willing to book your reservation.

Will I see you on board?

### **Comments by Tony Kierna**

*Has anyone reading this ever been on a Genealogy Cruise? I have not yet gone on one at this time. I have thought about it. These cruises are becoming more and more popular whether it is about genealogy or cooking or yes, even politics! Combining vacationing while still having the ability to learn from the trip are becoming more and more popular.*

*Just imagine yourself going to 5 different major Caribbean cities and being able to take in all that is about these cities and locations. Think about being on these massive ships being treated in true cruising style while you are learning something new on a genealogical topic that is applicable to your own research. Plus, here is your chance to have Dick Eastman himself, be the focal point as an instructor for you in such a beautiful and relaxing environment. Whether it is Dick Eastman that interests you or not, these cruises generally have the "best of the best" onboard as genealogy instructors for the duration of the cruise.*

*The description of the ship's capacity is about 2,800. I do not think the entire attendance on that ship will be genealogists. I do have to think genealogists will comprise participation in the hundreds. I am trying to find out some statistics on how many genealogy participants often participate on these cruises.*

*Here is a little bit of the description of what genealogical topics you can expect to see on this cruise:*

*"Your hosts, Gary and Diana Smith, invite you to join them and other world renowned genealogists on one of our private genealogy cruise groups. You will enjoy genealogy programming and learning aboard a luxury cruise ship with other amateur and professional genealogists. Travel is arranged by one of the oldest and largest cruise only agencies in the world, Cruise Everything.*

*Each cruise is hosted by nationally known professional genealogists, Gary and Diana Smith, and with guest genealogists like Dick Eastman and Donna Moughty, you will have access to exclusive programming and teaching throughout each cruise as well as one-on-one consultations to address your individual genealogy questions. Topics such as Technology, Internet, Ireland, Scandinavia, Britain, Census, Family Health, Organizing, Immigration, Land and more than 20 hours of discussion and learning can be just some of the agendas on each of our cruises. All our genealogy activities take place in private meeting rooms, both in the morning and afternoon, on the days at sea. We will have meeting rooms available each evening after dinner for those who wish to continue their genealogy discussions."*

*Maybe a genealogy cruise should go on your Bucket List. Great fun, great locations, great speakers all in the wrappings of the world of cruising!*

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## Handout #8 – FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCHER ACADEMY NOW OFFERING FREE ENGLISH AND WELSH FAMILY HISTORY MINI-COURSE

*The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com) dated August 28, 2017.*

[Dick Eastman](#) · [October 24, 2017](#) · [Education](#) · [No Comments](#)

The following announcement was written by Nick Thorne:

Nick Thorne, from The Family History Researcher Academy has just added a FREE video mini-course for those searching for English or Welsh ancestors to his site at [FamilyHistoryResearcher.com](http://FamilyHistoryResearcher.com)

The short video tutorials deal with some of the mistakes that researchers sometimes make when they are looking for their English or Welsh ancestors in census and birth records. The mini-course also sets out some of the places that you could research for your elusive ancestors in and also sets out how to best begin the search of these British records. While the videos encourage viewers to go on to the more detailed written course, the mini-course stands alone in offering some very useful information.

These concise videos and the more in-depth downloadable pdf Family History Researcher Academy English/Welsh family history course were compiled by Nick Thorne from his experience of researching ancestors for private clients and working with one of the leading British genealogical research websites for whom he writes case study articles for publication in several of the U.K. family history magazines. He is also the author.

These FREE videos are available now at: [www.familyhistoryresearcher.com/free-video-course](http://www.familyhistoryresearcher.com/free-video-course)

### **Comments by Tony Kierna**

*You know how I believe deeply in online video learning as well as audio learning through podcasts. For those of you researching English or Welsh ancestors it may be worth your while to at least check out some of these videos.*

*The site above offers 4 free "mini-lesson" videos. Here are the titles of these 4 videos along with the run time of each video:*

- *3 Mistakes Researchers Can Make with English/Welsh Birth Records (2min 41 sec)*
- *3 Brick Walls to Finding Your Ancestors Birth Records (3 min 13 sec)*
- *Mistakes Made When Searching the English/Welsh Census Records (4 min 15 sec)*
- *Finding Your English/Welsh Ancestor (6 min 15 sec)*

There is more to the site available via subscription to their services. First off, you can get a 4 week trial for \$1 (followed by 11 payments of \$14 per month). From the website above here is a quote of what you can expect for your subscription:

**“But now I’m offering my most in depth English and Welsh family-tree-research course ever. You’ll get 52 weekly modules delivered to your computer, so that you can peruse them at your own speed and at the time that you want!”.**

You will get the first 4 weekly modules delivered to you for \$1. I am assuming you can make a decision as to the value of what you received and whether you would continue with the weekly modules after the first 4 for the cost to you of \$14 per month for the next 11 months. I am not clear if the weekly modules are text based learning exercises or further videos.

Here is a PDF link that provides you with the downloading process to access the weekly modules:

<https://familyhistoryresearcher.com/How-to-access-the-course.pdf>

The 4 videos are short and sweet but are very informative with key questions you should ask when doing your English or Welsh research. I think the same lessons apply to all genealogy researchers when approaching documents and the erroneous trails they could send you on! Plus, you can get some good quick lessons on reasons why you can’t find your elusive English or Welsh ancestors when looking through various documents they should have left behind.

I think it will be well worth your time to invest about 16 minutes of your time to simply look at the 4 short free videos on English and Welsh genealogy research. Perhaps you may even want to try out the 4 week \$1 trial of the weekly teaching modules offered by Nick Thorne.

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## Handout #9 – “REACHING THE END OF THE ROLL”

*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 2017, Volume 12, Number 4 issue of Internet Genealogy.*

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I thought that a very good and timely article in this issue is one titled “Reaching the End of the Roll”. The author of the article is Joe Grandinetti. The author shares his thoughts on the discontinuation of the microfilm distribution process from within FamilySearch.

FamilySearch and all of its predecessors have been using microfilms as the method of storing the records of human activities since the 1930s. Billions of images have been amassed over this long time. It is a laborious and costly process. As our world entered the digital image capability over the last 20 years, FamilySearch saw that it was time to start the transition process for its own captured data from microfilm to digital.

Microfilm was a media that could withstand the handling by so many users over time. It was also practical enough that duplication of master copies could be done and provided to those requesting access to that particular data. When it was the method of the time the costs associated with the processing of data in this manner were passed on to the user. You ordered a microfilm and paid for it up front. Lots of physical handling was required during the entire process of taking the order for the film to ultimately seeing it wind up at a Family History Center for viewing by the customer that ordered it.

Technology moves on and it really was a great move by FamilySearch to get on the train before it left the station. Filming over the last 10 years has been done with digital processing. New films were created digitally while old films were digitized. While FamilySearch has not transitioned all of its films yet to digital, the lion’s share have been converted to digital media that can easily be viewed on computer screens rather than in microfilm format via microfilm readers. FamilySearch has set a target year of 2020 when all the films that can be digitized will be digitized. Films that are currently in Family History Centers can continue to reside there rather than being returned back to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Also, FamilySearch through statistical analysis knew which films were the most requested and has worked on prioritizing those as the first to be completed for digitization.

The author has noted the following methods for researchers to further their research in the near future while FamilySearch digitizations are completed over the next three years:

- **Original Documents** – if information of interest to you may be contained on a microfilm that is not yet digitally completed, then consider the “old school” approach of tracking it down to the original source itself. If it exists in an archive, contact the archive. If it is a church record, contact the church archive to ask for access to it.

- **Existing FamilySearch Digitized Collections** – use material already digitized and available from FamilySearch. For an overview of how to access this material go to [http://broadcast.lds.org/fhd/FH\\_Find\\_Digital\\_Records\\_A4\\_WEB.pdf](http://broadcast.lds.org/fhd/FH_Find_Digital_Records_A4_WEB.pdf). There are three submenus titled Records, Books and Catalog. You can view these by going to <http://familysearch.org> and hover the cursor over “Search”. Searches can be initiated by keyword, location, collection title, indexes and so on. Once you have zeroed in on your material, you will discover that the digital images may be subject to additional restrictions. Some require you to first log in with your “free” FamilySearch account, while other images are only accessible solely at Family History Centers or FamilySearch Affiliate Libraries.
- **FamilySearch Collaborative Projects** – FamilySearch has partnered with worldwide archives for access to data on very mutually beneficial terms. One example is the National Archives of Italy. For a synopsis of this collaborative project see <http://familysearch.org/italian-ancestors>. Accessible images are available through a portal at [www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it](http://www.antenati.san.beniculturali.it). The site boasts over 57 million digital images covering 49 Italian archives.
- **Other Online Sites** – much is available through major sites such as Ancestry.com and FindMyPast.com although these are subscribable sites. Country-focused sites are also available such as for Ireland at [www.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.nationalarchives.ie), <http://registers.nli.ie>, and [www.irishgenealogy.ie/en](http://www.irishgenealogy.ie/en) should also be considered. Material covered in this data was at one time only available via the FamilySearch microfilms.
- **Local Resources** – Check in with genealogical societies, libraries and other groups dedicated to the history of the specific geographical areas of interest to you. Many have their own record collections in microfilm and/or digital format that are identical to or expand upon the LDS equivalents.
- **Research Networks** – Reach out to each other. Use the power of the internet and social networks to discover material that exists out there that can be useful to your own research.

Microfilms from FamilySearch are now an item of the past like so many other things we may have historically seen in the past. Technology leads the way usually to easier and better methods of access and use of materials. Digitization was the driver of data and documents. You knew that was the future path when you probably looked for the first time at an image of a picture on your first visit to the then “new” internet.

All of my initial successful family researching was accomplished via the use of actual microfilms from the Family History Library. Then we all thought it was a miracle to be able to see your grandfather’s census image from 1900 on a film. But once you see how things can be done in the digital world, we look back at our wonders of discovery of material on microfilms and think how jaded the process was. No keying in a search term back then. You just cranked and cranked until you had that “aha” moment! Your research successes took a lot longer to discover because you often ordered film after film and waited with baited breath until that film arrived. Now you can find the same amount of information in minutes that perhaps took you years of microfilm work.

Goodbye microfilms. Thank you for the research discoveries. Now get ready for the full LDS digital world.

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## Handout #10 – “THE CATHOLIC HERITAGE ARCHIVE”

*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 2017, Volume 12, Number 4 issue of Internet Genealogy.*

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I thought that another good article in this issue is one titled “The Catholic Heritage Archive”. The author of this article is also Joe Grandinetti.

FindMyPast, working in collaboration with the Catholic Church, announced the creation of its Catholic Heritage Archive (CHA). You can find a link to this information at [www.findmypast.com/catholicrecords](http://www.findmypast.com/catholicrecords). Data contained in this source comes from England, Scotland and the United States.

Currently you can find data for the following:

- Archdioceses of Birmingham and Westminster from England
- Records from portions of all eight Roman Catholic Dioceses, over 115 parishes, in Scotland
- The Archdiocese of Philadelphia in the United States. The Archdiocese of New York and Baltimore and Baltimore are planned to be added in the near future.

Records go back to the 1650s for England, 1730s for Scotland and the 1750s for the United States.

FindMyPast also make available for “free for always” the massive database of Ireland’s Catholic Registers. These records are searchable and linked to an image at the National Library of Ireland.

The Catholic Heritage Records will be part of the subscribable databases of FindMyPast and consequently will not be free. You can always do a free 2 week subscription to the FindMyPast data to gain access to these Catholic Church records.

Related to Catholic records, the New England Historic Genealogical Society has their own Catholic Church record collection for Boston for the United States. You can see these at <http://catholicrecords.americanancestors.org>.

While civil record collection was established in England in 1837 and in Scotland in 1855, the capturing of the data was not always timely. In the United States you will also find different starting years for the capturing of these vital record events at each different county level within a state. So you do face a hodgepodge of data availability even with an established year and the ultimate time when data was finally captured. So, if you are lucky to have had Catholic ancestors in these areas you will now realize you can possibly have records of church events for them that will significantly pre-date the availability of Civil Records.

The data in the CHA records largely pertains to "sacramental" records such as baptism, communion, confirmation and marriage. You should also expect to discover information related to burials, congregational lists, wedding or death anniversary announcements and information on church fraternal organizations.

Many of the registry entries were written in Latin. You can find a FindMyPast guide at <http://blog.findmypast.com/common-l-2000149851.html> to help you with these translations.

Like any other series of documents you may often discover material that is unexpected or that did not follow the normal protocol for inclusion of material. Sometimes you will see baptism information noted within the marriage record for a couple. Or, you may find a marriage record noted within a baptism record for an individual.

You now have the possibility of being able to access material that was previously solely only available via FamilySearch microfilm data.

The Catholic Heritage Archive at FindMyPast is only in the beginning stages of record availability. Ultimately, you will be able to access 100 million Roman Catholic Church records from previously noted locations from around the world in this massive database.

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