



Scan either of the above Quick Response (QR) codes with your QR code smartphone reader and you will be taken to the genealogy blog I author for the library titled "Tony's Genealogy Blog at the Schaumburg Township District Library".

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July 10, 2018 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our July 10, 2018 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 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 AUGUST 11, 2018

THE SOCIETY WILL NOT BE MEETING DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE AND JULY 2018. THEY WILL RE-GATHER AGAIN ON AUGUST 11, 2018 INSTEAD OF A SEPTEMBER PROGRAM THAT WOULD CONFLICT WITH LABOR DAY. PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS AUGUST 11, 2018 PROGRAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE ARLINGTON HEIGHTS MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND NOT AT THE ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SENIOR CENTER.

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Genealogy Society will take place on Saturday morning August 11, 2018. The program for the morning is titled **"Finding Dead Ancestors is Easy; Finding Living Relatives Can be a Challenge"**. The speaker for the morning will be **Dr. Michael D. Lacopo**.

This meeting will take place at the Arlington Heights Memorial Library, 500 N. Dunton Ave., 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.

Michael has contributed to numerous periodicals and has helped numerous people in their quests to locate their relatives – living and dead. He appeared in **USA Today** in 2000 discussing genealogy and the proposed destruction of the federal census tabulated in that year. His national lecturing began in Sacramento, CA, at the National Genealogical Society's national conference in 2004, and has continued with several local, state, national, and international conference speaking engagements to this present day.

Michael's interests and strengths include Mennonite research, German and Swiss research, especially as it pertains to the 18th century immigration to America, among many other topics. He makes many trips throughout the Mid-Atlantic and Midwest states chasing ancestors in primary repositories, and also devotes a considerable amount of time to European research, being proficient in reading German script. Having ancestors from many geographic locales as well as immigrants spanning the 17th century to the 20th century, Michael has a wide variety of proficiencies. He believes that as genealogists we should tell the tales of our ancestors and is a vocal proponent for learning the social history that interweaves our ancestors into the fabric of the past.

In addition to his story-telling and educational blog, Michael's presence can be found online at www.Roots4U.com, or for more up-to-date lecture and research information, at his Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Roots4U>.

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 SEPTEMBER 19, 2018**

Please note that meetings that will take place for the society will occur between September 2018 and May 2019. The September 2018 program will occur at the DuPage County Historical Museum located at 102 E. Wesley Street in Wheaton, IL. The October 2018 through May 2019 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.

THERE ARE NO PROGRAMS SCHEDULED DURING THE MONTHS OF JUNE, JULY AND AUGUST 2018

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, September 19, 2018 between 7:00pm to 8:30pm. Refreshments are offered at 6:30pm. The program scheduled for that evening is **"To Be Determined"**. The speaker for the program will be **Timothy Pinnick**.

You may visit the society's web page at:

www.dcg.org

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

<http://dupagecountygenealogicalsociety.wordpress.com/>

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

We do our best here to try to be sure that information we convey about programs is accurate. However, sometimes we are unable to convey changes unless we are made aware of those changes.

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Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGGNI) NEXT PROGRAM ON JULY 21, 2018 AT THE SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY

The next regular meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, July 21, 2018 at the Schaumburg Township District Library between 10:30am to 12:30pm. The program scheduled for this day is "**Using Social History to Build An Ancestor's Story**". The speaker will be **Susan Mayer**.

What happened between the who, what and when of census data and birth, marriage and death certificates? Researching social history, the study of time and place of everyday people, lets you develop intriguing narratives that will transport readers back to the world your ancestor inhabited. Websites, archives and libraries for discovering a variety of social history themes will be discussed.

Susan Mayer holds a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science with a certificate in Special Collections from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She is a full-time researcher, DAR member and presents classes on genealogy around the Midwest.

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 AUGUST 14, 2018

Our next genealogy program will take place on Tuesday evening, August 14, 2018.

The title of this program is "Sharing with Others: How to Convey Genealogical Evidence". The guest speaker for this program is Jeanne Larzalere Bloom.

Learn techniques to construct and arrange genealogical reasoning so that our research is useful to future generations and facilitates effective collaboration with other genealogists.

Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CGSM is a full-time professional researcher specializing in Chicago and Cook County research, problem solving, and multi-generational family histories. She conducts research projects for government agencies, attorneys, authors, newspapers, heir-search firms, professional genealogists, family researchers. Her clients are international and include Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, England, France, Ireland, Israel, Norway, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. On behalf of the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force, Jeanne searches and identifies family members of unaccounted for servicemen from World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War.

Jeanne writes articles for scholarly journals and society publications and is a frequent lecturer at conferences, workshops, and institutes. She served as the editor of Chicago Cemetery Records 1847–1863; Sexton's Reports and Certificates, Treasurer Receipts, Deeds, and Undertakers' Reports.

Jeanne researched the ancestry of actor-comedian Jason Sudeikis, for the television series, *Who Do You Think You Are?*, and appeared in that episode that first aired in May 2012. In April 2012 she was interviewed by National Public Radio about the release of the 1940 U.S. census.

She is a trustee and the treasurer of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, a member of National Genealogical Society, Association of Professional Genealogists, Genealogical Speakers Guild, International Society of Family History Writers and Editors, and a multi-year alumnus of the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and the National Institute of Genealogical Research at the National Archives, Washington, DC. She holds a Bachelor of Arts [History] from the University of Illinois at Chicago and a second-year certificate from the University of Chicago's publishing program.

Doors will open at approximately 7 p.m. so you can pick-up handouts, review books and journals, and network with other participants. Tony Kierna will start the program at 7:30 p.m. with introductions of new participants and a brief review of handouts and genealogical matters.

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 – ETHICS ISSUES WITH USE OF GENEALOGY DNA TO SOLVE CRIMES

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at www.eogn.com dated June 1, 2018.

[Dick Eastman](#) · [June 1, 2018](#) · [DNA](#), [Legal Affairs](#) · [17 Comments](#)

I recently wrote about two different "cold cases" where murderers allegedly have been identified and arrested by using information found on the publicly-available genealogy DNA site at GEDmatch.com.

(See <http://bit.ly/2J0dHye> and <http://bit.ly/2LPaSOs> for my past articles.)



Privacy advocates and many others have since questioned the legality of using the information for law enforcement purposes. Admittedly, the information is publicly available for all to see. The genealogists who contributed the information did so willingly and presumably gave permission for the family DNA to be available to all. However, the relatives of the uploading genealogists may or may not have given permission for **THEIR** personal DNA information to be made available to the public. After all, it isn't the DNA of any one individual; it is indeed the family's DNA information. Not all family members have agreed to having that information made available to genealogists, law enforcement personnel, insurance companies, and worldwide hackers alike.

In the past, a court order was required for law enforcement personnel to legitimately invade the privacy of an individual or a family. The public information made available on [GEDmatch](http://GEDmatch.com) seems to circumvent the legal protections of having a judge review the intent of law enforcement personnel. Are we giving up some of our liberties and privacy protections by making such information available?

There is also an issue of having law enforcement personnel use the information only for legitimate criminal investigations. One of the alleged murderers, commonly referred to as the Golden State Killer, reportedly was a uniformed police officer at the time he allegedly committed the rapes and murders. If [GEDmatch](http://GEDmatch.com) had been available, would he have used the information on the web site to avoid identification and arrest? Indeed, [GEDmatch](http://GEDmatch.com) theoretically could be used by murderers and others to evade capture.

You can find dozens of online article questioning the wisdom of making such information public. I'll point to one such article by Carolyn Crist on the *Reuters News Service* web site at <https://reut.rs/2szWHUq> as one that describes the pros and cons of the issue. However, you can find many more articles about this issue by starting at any general-purpose Web search engine.

Perhaps the best quote of the article is, "Think carefully before uploading your genealogy data," said Benjamin Berkman, who heads the section on the ethics of genetics and new technologies at the National Institutes of Health's Department of Bioethics in Bethesda, Maryland. 'We're not saying it's unduly risky or a bad idea, but be comfortable with the idea that police may use your information to solve crimes before you sign up for these services.'

My thanks to the many newsletter readers who sent me links to articles about these issues.

Comments by Tony Kierna

And you thought all you wanted to do was to find more cousins with your genealogy DNA submission! How things have changed since that assumption you made when you submitted your DNA for genealogy testing. Now, the various DNA genealogy databases, especially GEDMatch, are becoming another resource for another use. And that use is to find those family members that are genetically connected to a criminal that may have left their own DNA at a crime scene that is being used in these DNA genealogy databases to find matches to connected family members regardless of how distant. The police see the results of the test and get a list of potential matches that could be as closely related as a parent or a sibling all the way to a 4th cousin. With the facts and evidence known by the police they use these matches to interview relatives of this yet unknown person to see if they can shed any light on family connections that could ultimately lead to the criminal. The identification of the "Golden State Killer" is the most recent discovery that is leading to this firestorm on using DNA genealogy results in public databases (GEDMatch) to lead to the criminal.

Now your DNA submission could lead down the road to a police connection trying to discover a criminal that is definitely genetically related to you no matter how closely or distantly related. Maybe some time in the future you will get that knock on the door from the police asking you to share your knowledge of research to assist them to solve a crime and identify the criminal.

The previous worse thing about submitting your DNA for genealogy was to discover unknown close family such as a sibling, half-sibling, or even discover that your father is not your biological father. One of our speakers did in fact make that discovery. As did Bill Griffiths, a nationally known CNBC business commentator.

All you want to do with genealogy DNA is to find more cousins. And yes, it is likely that has happened. It has happened to me. It probably has happened to you. However, there could be more life changing events to happen down the road for genealogy DNA submissions for you. And they could be life-changing in an unpleasant way.

Perhaps down the road the DNA testing companies will institute some form of privacy protection. But privacy protection leads to reducing DNA hits down the road. And you submitted your DNA to get more hits to research connections.

If you have not submitted your DNA at this point at least you know you will not make discoveries of new siblings or fathers that are not your father. But what are the chances of that happening. You think the chances are slim to none. Then go ahead

ask those that such discoveries happened to. They did not see it coming. Perhaps their lives have changed in a less than positive matter after the unexpected discoveries.

So look before you leap if you have not submitted your DNA. Know what can happen over and above discovering new cousins!

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Handout #7 – ARE YOU NEW TO GENEALOGY?

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated June 8, 2018.

[Dick Eastman](#) · [June 8, 2018](#) · [Genealogy Basics](#)

Welcome to the fascinating world of family history research! You can learn more about you, your ancestors, and why you are the person you are today.

Here is a list of articles from my newsletter that I think are the most useful resources for anyone who is learning how to find their ancestors:

[A Genealogy Intro](#)

[Family History for Beginners](#)

[Begin Your Genealogy Quest](#), an excellent tutorial for beginners found on FamilySearch

[Beginner's guide to family history documents](#), a video from MyHeritage.com

[Genealogy Basics](#)

[Are You a Family Historian or a Name Collector?](#)

[Online Genealogy Dictionaries & Other References](#)

[Family History Guide](#)

[Free Genealogy Software](#)

[The Genealogy Library Inside Your Computer: How to Increase Your Personal Genealogy Library without Additional Bookshelves](#)

[Who Owns Your Genealogy Data?](#)

[Always Keep Backups of Your Online Genealogy Information](#)

[GEDCOM Explained](#)

[Ahnentafel Explained](#)

["Second Cousins, Once Removed", and More Explained](#)

[Barking Up the Wrong Tree](#)

[Citing Sources](#)

[Using WorldCat to Find Genealogy Books](#)

[Beginners Guide To Genetic Genealogy \(in 16 lessons\) by Kelly Wheaton](#)

In addition, you need to become familiar with **Cyndi's List** at <http://www.cyndislist.com>. Cyndi's List has been a trusted genealogy research site for more than 18 years. **Cyndi's List is free for everyone to use** and it is meant to be your starting point when researching online.

What exactly is Cyndi's List?

- **A categorized & cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet.**
- A list of links that point you to genealogical research sites online.
- A free jumping-off point for you to use in your online research.
- A "card catalog" to the genealogical collection in the immense library that is the Internet.
- **Your genealogical research portal onto the Internet.**

Comments by Tony Kierna

*Yes, the headline of this article asks if you are new to genealogy. **However, new or experienced, I strongly urge you to take a look at all of the links offered within Dick Eastman's blog. I am certain you will discover a new technique under one of the resources that you were not aware of that could lead to better researching.***

***Most of the links Dick is offering are from within his blog** on postings on the topic mentioned. Some of the links are to outside groups that Dick included in his posting. He gives credit where these are identified.*

The links above cover a wide range of topics and resources within genealogy. In fact, they may even appear to be overwhelming to the beginner. But over time, as our research progresses, we often go down the pathways associated with these topical items e.g. documents, dictionaries, software, backups, GEDCOM, kinship, etc.

Dick Eastman has an incredible amount of helpful information on his blog. This has been a wonderful gesture on his part to bring all of these wonderful tools under the one blog posting above.

*New or experienced, please check out the links above to all of the wonderful genealogy resources. **Definitely bookmark this blog post for future use.** You can't go wrong having these at the tip of your finger.*

***And yes, Dick has even mentioned the link to CyndisList for another vast resource of genealogical material. Her list of links (336,000 plus) can connect you to just about any topic under the umbrella of genealogy.** CyndisList is also a must-have bookmark to have and more importantly to use. She has a great way of identifying her resources under many categories. Her site provides the viewer with a category to look just for new links she has added as well as a category identifying which links have been updated with new information. Cyndis List has been around for quite some time already (about 20 years). I can remember when I felt overwhelmed*

because she was touting over 20,000 links at a time when there still was not all that much genealogical information online!

I heartily encourage new or experienced genealogy researcher to check out the links above from Dick Eastman. You will not regret it!

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Handout #8 – ARE YOU MISSING MOST OF THE AVAILABLE GENEALOGY INFORMATION?

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated June 12, 2018.

[Dick Eastman](#) · [June 12, 2018](#) · [Genealogy Basics](#) · [23 Comments](#)

I recently received a message from a newsletter reader that disturbed me a bit. He wrote, "I have been doing genealogy research for 10-15 years but only through the Internet." He then went on to describe some of the frustrations he has encountered trying to find information. In short, he was disappointed at how little information he has found online.

I read the entire message, but my eyes kept jumping back to the words in his first sentence: "... **but only through the Internet.**"

Doesn't he realize that 95% of the information of interest to genealogists is not yet available on the Internet?

To be sure, many of the biggest and most valuable resources are now available online, including national census records, the Social Security Death Index, military pension applications, draft cards, many passenger lists, land patent databases, and more.

The national databases were the "low hanging fruit" a few years ago as the providers of online information rushed to place large genealogy databases online. These huge collections benefited a lot of genealogists; these databases were the first to become indexed, digitized, and placed online. We all should be thankful that these databases are easily available today and are in common use.

As the national databases became available to all, the online providers moved on to digitize regional and statewide information. State or provincial censuses, birth records, marriage records, death records, naturalization records (which originally were recorded in many local and state courts), county histories, and much, much more are still being placed online.

Of course, this is great news for genealogists who cannot easily travel to the locations where the original records are kept. For many of us, this is even better than having information on microfilm. Most of us don't have microfilm readers at home, but we do have computers.

Yet, I am guessing that 95% of the information of interest to genealogists has not yet been digitized. Why would anyone want to look for genealogy information "... **only through the Internet?**"

State censuses, birth records, marriage records, death records, naturalization records, county histories, and more are all "work in progress" projects. That is, they are not yet complete. In fact, I doubt if all of them will be available online for at least another two decades! If you only look online, you are missing a lot.

In many cases, church parish records, local tax lists, school records, land records (other than Federal land grants), and many more records are not yet available online and probably won't be available for many years. If you are limiting yourself to "... only through the Internet," you are missing 95% of the available information.

If you have the luxury of living near the places where your ancestors lived, I'd suggest you jump in an automobile and drive to the repositories where those records are kept. There is nothing that matches the feeling of holding original records in your hand. Make photocopies or scan them or take pictures of them or do whatever is possible to collect images of the original records.

If you do not know where to start, I would suggest reading ***Begin your genealogy quest*** at https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Begin_your_genealogy_quest for some great "getting started" information. Also, check out the links to many valuable tutorials and reference material in my earlier article, ***Are You New to Genealogy?***, at <https://blog.eogn.com/2018/06/08/are-you-new-to-genealogy>.

Which option would you prefer: accessing 5% of the available records or 100% of the available records?

Comments by Tony Kierna

This is not a unique observation by Dick Eastman. I also encounter it frequently when new researchers meet with me seeking guidance and help. I often hear similar stories of researching 100% from online material and 0% from books, original records, microfilms (including digital microfilms from FamilySearch) etc. Please know that by far the vast majority of all known data does not yet exist on the Internet in free or subscribable databases! For many, that is hard to imagine because as they begin their research they are often overwhelmed initially with how much they are discovering. That is a nice problem to have!! I am not sure where Dick Eastman is getting is statistics that only about 5% of the total amount of records that exist are available on the Internet. Think of it. Only 5% but it may be the easiest 5% imagineable and it may very well fill researchers with lots of ancestral information.

Perhaps your strategy is to research using only 100% of material that is at your fingertips. Honestly, that can be viewed as a strategy that can work if you have unlimited time to wait for new additions to be placed on the internet. However, even when placed on the internet you need to go back and re-visit all kinds of sites to see what has newly been added and what may coincide with your own research.

Right now our library is becoming a FamilySearch Affiliate Library. What does this mean? It means that when using our computers in our main library and our branches or when using your own laptops, tablets or phones when in our buildings and connected to our WiFi you will gain access to many more digital microfilms within the FamilySearch online catalog of films to view. If for no other reason when in our library and accessing FamilySearch and being logged into FamilySearch with your Username and Password at least check out some of the localities of your ancestors from within the FamilySearch online catalog. See what kinds of records FamilySearch has for that locality. Browse the images of the many films that are available to you with us being an Affiliate Library. Yes, they may not be indexed and searchable, but you can amaze yourself at how much more you can discover about

an ancestor from data that is online for practicable purposes but is not yet indexed and thus invisible to you at this time.

At least assess your search strategy and know you are leaving 95% of ancestral data on the table. I would not encourage you to only use online data but at least consider using online data in raw digital microfilm format from FamilySearch from within our library locations through us being a FamilySearch Affiliate Library. Yes, it is researching online but it will be like researching looking at images that are not yet indexed. When you make a discovery this way, you will be doing the "Happy Dance"!! I think if you opened yourself up to this discovery, you might open yourself up to other non-online resources to help make discoveries on even more ancestral information.

If you still do not want to consider researching data that is not in online format, maybe consider hiring a professional researcher. They are generally very skilled in accessing non-online material via libraries, archives and the like. Yes, it will cost you something, but you may discover that while you may not want to search within libraries or archives, the professionals will certainly use those resources to expand your ancestral family research.

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Handout #9 – “TOPSY-TURVY TO DOS”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the June/July 2018, Volume 13, Number 2 issue of Internet Genealogy.

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled “Topsy-Turvy To Dos”. The author of the article is Sue Lisk.

The author points out that we all face those genealogical roadblocks when things just get tough to advance our research. She suggests those are the times to take a break from trying to resolve the tough roadblocks and direct our attention to some of the more easier projects we have on our list of things to do. Some of these easy items to consider are:

- **Regard the Cards**

- It is not that uncommon for us to receive holiday cards from relatives that contain updates on their family developments, activities, discoveries, additions etc.
- Review those family update writings to see what you can glean from the information to add to current information on your relatives in your family tree.
- Perhaps some new pictures may have come your way. Now is the time to use these pictures with updated information on identifying who is in the picture.

- **Glance at the Past**

- Historical context is everything as it relates to your ancestral families.
- Now is the time to simply read some online historical information about the area where your ancestors lived.
- Local events of the time affected your ancestors more than national events.
- Look for published histories of your ancestors’ area that may have coincided with special commemorative publications such as the 100th year anniversary of the creation of a town or village.
- Look also for the history of counties in which your ancestor lived. They too often published special commemorative printings to celebrate. The town of your ancestor could certainly be included in such a celebration publication for you to capture the historical context of the area at the time of your ancestors.

- **Focus on Photos**

- Choose an unusual photo you have that is unknown to you. Scan and send to a cousin who might know something about it.
- Provide the history of the photo on how you obtained it and from who for them to have a clear picture of the trail for the picture.
- If there is something on the back of the picture be sure to include that to your cousin when you share the picture, especially including the handwriting.
- Sometimes it may actually be better just to send the complete front and back of the picture to a cousin without any additional story provided by you. They will look at it without hearing any suggestions from you that may in fact be incorrect. Your relative may have a better chance of correctly identifying all in the picture without any details from you.

- **Nose Out Newsletters**

- Do an internet search for free family history newsletters. Don't necessarily look for those associated with your own family history interests. You can find many articles of interest to you even when the entire newsletter may not match to your research interests.
- Examples used by the author are *The Weekly Genealogist* published by the New England Historic Genealogical Society at www.americanancestors.org/browse/publications/the-weekly-genealogist and the newsletter created by the publisher of *Internet Genealogy* at https://yourgenealogytoday.com/newsletter_optin.htm.
- Search for a newsletter from the town/area where your ancestors lived. You can learn more about that town. Subscribe to the newsletter. You may be given opportunities to purchase further materials at significant discounts.

- **Handle Heirlooms**

- Review and hold any heirlooms you may have in your possession. Take pictures of them if you have not already done so.
 - Take pictures in front of a solid background.
 - Take pictures from different angles.
 - Take close-ups of any printed or engraved descriptions on any of these items looking for date or place of manufacture.
- Consider writing a short description of the history of the object as best as you know it and how you came into possession of it.
- Share such photos of heirlooms and your written descriptions with cousins.

When you are stuck on research, consider addressing doing some of the above items that can rally help provide details and insights on your family. Share your work

efforts with cousins. Who knows, sharing such information and materials with cousins may lead to information that may actually help you on your "stuck" genealogical research issue.

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Handout #10 – “INKLINGS, HUNCHES, AND SNEAKING SUSPICIONS”

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the June/July 2018, Volume 13, Number 2 issue of Internet Genealogy.

I thought that another good article in this issue is one titled “Inklings, Hunches, and Sneaking Suspicions”. The author of the article is Sue Lisk.

The author notes that while it is essential to analyze data and prove hypotheses, intuition should play a role in our research. So how do you deal with those mysterious feelings you have in your research when you do not yet have facts but you believe your gut is leading you down a path that may payout for you.

The author suggests the following ways to approach these feelings:

- **Wonder About Them**

- Engage your curiosity.
- Ask yourself questions about things you run across that arouse your interest.
- Maybe when doing census research a relative turns up in an unusual place or with a group of people you cannot account for.
- Analyze these feelings and discoveries and look for possible connections.
- Note down your suspicions.

- **Examine Them**

- Focus on separating hunches from flights of fancy.
- You may have wished to be from royalty or have a descendant on the Mayflower but separate these “wishes” from real “hunches”.
- Are your hunches coming from already confirmed research?
- Which “hunches” might be simple to investigate? Move forward on those. Does proving a “hunch” right or wrong help you advance your research in other areas?
- Answer these questions before deciding which suspicions to pursue researching.

- **Organize Them**

- For each hunch, list all the facts you have already verified that are related to your research target.
- Do you have relatives who you could talk to who might know more about a particular subject?

- Have you checked to see if other genealogists have posted information online related to the focus of your hunch and search?
- Consider specialized books online via Google Books or Internet Archive, subject matter experts, maps, local histories etc.
- Create a basic research plan for each suspicion you would like to confirm.
- Mapping out how you will research the suspicion is critical.

- **Study Them**

- Your research process will not always be linear based on your discoveries.
- Check out each aspect of your hunch.
- Can you use other sources if you are unable to use or discover the ones in your original plan?
- Your research results may show you that your hunch may be incorrect.
- Maybe other evidence you discover may make you reconsider your original hypothesis.
- Evaluate the reliability of your resources. Primary are better than secondary.
- Do not waste precious time on a hunch that proves to be almost impossible to prove.

- **Set Them Free**

- You will reach a point when you are ready to halt the investigation.
- Maybe your research has shown that your hunch is not correct. Still save your research notes for any future referral. Hunches often have a way of coming back. Your research notes will show you have been down this path and do not need to embark on it again.
- Maybe your hunch has merit but you simply do not have the time or energy to continue pursuing it. Keep your research notes on this as future discoveries may happen that can shed further insight on your hunch but back when.
- Maybe your research actually proves your hunch to be correct. Consider sharing this information with family and fellow researchers. Your published results can help other researchers from going down the same path of a hunch and wasting their time when your research can be used to help them avoid going down the same path.

The author notes you should always listen for the whispers of ideas when they appear. Think about them with an open mind. Do not discount them but evaluate them over time with a research plan.

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