



GENEALOGY NEWS

Compiled by Jackson and Sylvia Sonneborn, York, PA

LDS MEMBERS: IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP FOR THE FREE ANCESTRY.COM, MY HERITAGE, OR FINDMYPAST, HERE IS THE SIGN-UP INFORMATION -

Anyone with an LDS account can now sign up (even if he/she didn't get an email invitation).

<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/create-free-account-familysearch-partners/>

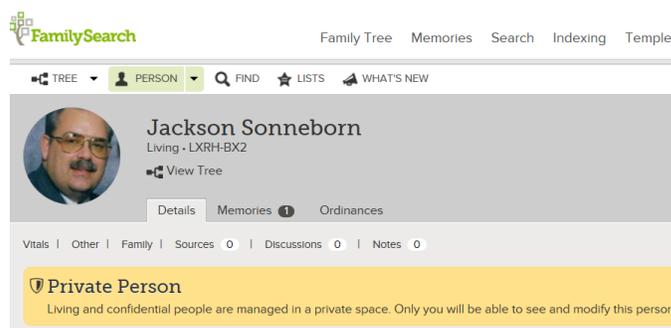
FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

Call for Partner Site Success Stories

How has using FamilySearch partner sites and services bolstered your family history experience? (If you or someone you know needs access to these sites, [click here](#).) In what ways have you benefitted from access to [Ancestry.com](#), [findmypast](#), and [MyHeritage](#)? We know you have amazing stories to tell, and we'd love to hear them! Leave us a comment and let us know about people you've found, roadblocks you've overcome, or developments in your search that have surprised and delighted you. We may use your stories in our materials to help others achieve their own success! If you have a success story you'd like to share, please email it to FSInfo@ldschurch.org

WHAT'S NEW IN FAMILYSEARCH.ORG?

1. FAMILY TREE IDENTIFIES LIVING PERSONS WITH YELLOW BAND



If a person is living (or deceased but the submitter has not checked "deceased"), a yellow band will appear at the top of the page. The message says, "Living and confidential people are managed in a private space. Only you will be able to see and modify the person." Note that you can now add photos for living people.

[Each user of Family Tree has a private space. Private spaces help manage data privacy and confidentiality for each user. ... Each owner of a copy (of a living Family Tree person) can modify it independently from others. Deceased persons should each be represented only one time in Family Tree and have a common PID. But a living person can be represented in multiple private spaces as a different Family Tree person, and that person will have a different Person Identifier number (PID) in each private space. Searching Family Tree using a living person's name will not find him or her. Searching by the PID will not find him or her in any other (private space) besides (your own). Living people cannot be sourced.]

Family Tree does not automatically change living people to deceased, even after they are older than 110 years. Users will need to mark their copy of the individuals as deceased and then search for any possible duplicates. From Help Center]

2. ADDITIONAL RECORD HINTS RELEASED AUGUST 18

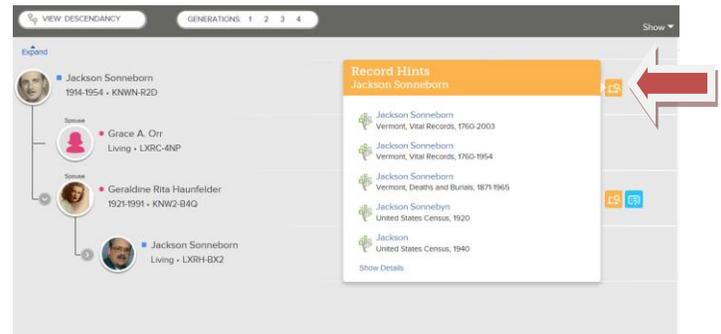
On June 17th, 2014, FamilySearch released a public preview of the record hinting feature. With this new feature, users can view the details page of any ancestor in the family tree and see suggested records that have a high confidence of being applicable to that specific ancestor. These hints are identified by comparing the ancestor's vital information, relatives and the relative's vital information against all the historical records published on FamilySearch database. FamilySearch.org has billions of records. You have a lot of ancestors. It would probably take a long time to search our collection for each name on your family tree. With a new feature called "Record Hints" we do a lot of the searching for you so you don't have to. Through Record Hints, we show you the results of an extensive search of our collection looking for your ancestors.

After reviewing the record hints we provide, you can attach the information from those records to your own FamilySearch Family Tree. This creates record source information and helps to verify your ancestors' vital information, which can be all that's lacking to qualify them for temple work.

On Monday, August 18th FamilySearch released a new update of the hinting data visible on an ancestor's detail page in the Family Tree. This data update represents advancements in the software that will allow users to view a whole new set of hints for each ancestor. Users of the Family Tree may wish to visit their ancestor pages again and evaluate any new hints that may be displayed.

The above example is found on the "Personal Details Page." More record hints are showing up for each person. You can click on each blue hyperlink [Jackson Sonneborn] and go directly to the record, where you can attach it as a source if it applies to your ancestor.

You can also find these hints on the "Descendancy View." There are little orange blocks at the end of the name, and if you click them open, the hints pop up in a window. The blue block tells you whether or not there are sources attached.



3. ILLUSTRATED NEW FEATURES THAT LET YOU CONNECT WITH YOUR ANCESTORS

Click the link below for detailed information. The FamilySearch blog gives illustrations of some of the new features of Family Tree. Rather than repeat what FS has so aptly illustrated, we are providing a link that will take you to the explanation of the feature and the accompanying illustrations. Just click the link below.

<https://familysearch.org/blog/en/features-connect-ancestors/>

Temple Challenge—Youth Accepting an Apostle’s Challenge

August 7, 2014 By [Lisa McBride](#)



Across the world, youth in the Church are responding to the challenge Elder Neil L. Andersen’s gave to them at the RootsTech conference in February this year. He said, “My challenge for you is to prepare as many names for the temple as you perform baptisms in the temple.” In July, this challenge was extended worldwide with the launch of the webpage templechallenge.lds.org.

The challenge is broken into four simple steps:

1. Accept the challenge.
2. Find a family name.
3. Go to the temple.
4. Share with others.

As youth accept the challenge, they can share their experience with youth around the world on Facebook with the hashtag #TempleChallenge. Thousands of youth are committing to the challenge. They can go to the site and click **I Accept**. A counter on templechallenge.lds.org shows how many youth have already accepted the challenge. Many of these young people are sharing their experiences and posting them on the LDS.org website.

This is a great opportunity for your family history center to support the youth in their efforts. Be sure your staff is trained and ready to assist these youth in reserving and printing temple ordinance requests. Many of these young people are finding family temple work for their distant cousins. To provide greater youth support, please take some time to review the consultant webinar [New Tools for Finding Our Cousins](#) with your staff. The webinar teaches about descendency research and the new tools available through FamilySearch for success in finding these cousins.

Pioneer Ancestor Page Goes Viral

Have Pioneer Ancestors?

Find out in one easy step, and read stories from the trail

[Show me](#)



Find this link on the familysearch.org homepage.

To honor and celebrate our pioneer heritage, FamilySearch recently released a feature that allows users to see if they have any direct ancestors who were in Mormon Pioneer Companies. It was recently revised to include a "View My Relationship" feature. If you haven't seen this amazing tool or would like to share it with someone,

https://familysearch.org/pioneers?et_cid=47718997&et_rid=767386822&linkid=https%3a%2f%2ffamilysearch.org%2fpioneers&cid=?cid=em-1690#/



Video: [Overcoming Addiction through Indexing](#)

Stephen Jezek was heading nowhere in life, overpowered by addictions to alcohol, drugs, and, particularly, pornography. Hear him tell how he overcame his demons and found purpose, direction, and the Spirit through indexing. [Watch this powerful video.](#)

https://www.lds.org/media-library/video/2014-06-01-redeeming-the-dead-redeemed-me?category=family-history/07-indexing&et_cid=47718997&et_rid=767386822&linkid=https%3a%2f%2fwww.lds.org%2fmedia-library%2fvideo%2f2014-06-01-redeeming-the-dead-redeemed-me%3fcategory%3dfamily-history%2f07-indexing&cid=?cid=em-1690

REDESIGNING FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS TO OPTIMIZE YOUR SPACE

Click on the link to take you to the article with information and illustrations about how to streamline your family history center.

https://familysearch.org/blog/en/center-directors-making-space-discovery-experiences/?et_cid=47718997&et_rid=767386822&linkid=https%3a%2f%2ffamilysearch.org%2fblog%2fen%2fcenter-directors-making-space-discovery-experiences%2f&cid=?cid=em-1690

If you are like most directors, you are probably scratching your head and saying, "What?"

We have been asked to make room for a Discovery space in our center. I am now going through and discarding all out of date materials (we had a surprising amount that I guess we held on to because just because it always "there") we will then have a corner space to work with. But to be honest - I am a little befuddled on how to actually put together the space and what to do. I would really appreciate some suggestions or if there is a link or something that I haven't found - there doesn't seem to be a lot of info out there on how to make a small space work well. I know I can use another classroom for some things, but I would really like to use our newly cleared out space in our center so that it is right there and permanent.

NOVEMBER 8 - HARRISBURG STAKE FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

Mark your calendar on November 8 for a family history conference which will provide some online classes offered at the Feb 2014 RootsTech.

http://www.genealogynow.org/uploads/1/1/7/0/11700143/aa_expo_class_list_for_blog-24_feb_2014_2.pdf

Below are some of the classes they streamed live. If you arrange with RootsTech to have a conference, I think you have access to others. Any ward can arrange with RootsTech to offer classes presented at RootsTech. You can also go online and watch them on your own computer, but it will be more fun to have someone there to ask questions or discuss ideas. Look for more information to follow. Here are some of the classes selected for live streaming during the conference.

<https://rootstech.org/videos?lang=eng>

Ancestry.com Drops BillionGraves

Ancestry.com and BillionGraves. There seems to be a growing rift between Ancestry.com and [FamilySearch](#) over support for grave marker websites. Previously, Ancestry.com hosted both [a Find a Grave index](#) and [a BillionGraves index](#). (See "[BillionGraves Teams Up with Ancestry](#)" on the BillionGraves website.) However, BillionGraves is a Find a Grave competitor and is growing fast. Sometime between January 2013 and April 2014, coincident with Ancestry.com acquiring Find a Grave, Ancestry.com dropped the BillionGraves database. The Ancestry Insider 7/8/14 <http://www.ancestryinsider.org/>

FHLC Retiring 2 September 2014

Posted: 11 Aug 2014 06:25 PM PDT

[FamilySearch](#) revealed this (Monday) morning that it is retiring the old Family History Library catalog on the 2nd of September. On that date, users will automatically be redirected to the new FamilySearch catalog. To give feedback before that date, visit the old catalog at https://familysearch.org/eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp and click Give Feedback. To use the new FamilySearch catalog, hover over Search on the menu bar and click Catalog. Or go directly to <https://familysearch.org/catalog-search>.

Ancestry Insider <http://www.ancestryinsider.org/>

VALENTINE'S DAY FGS AND ROOTTECH CONFERENCES COMINGLE

Josh Taylor, FGS president, announced that the 2015 annual FGS conference will be co-located with [RootsTech](#), 11-14 February 2015 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

RON TANNER SPEAKS AT BYU FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

- Here are a few other topics Tanner covered:
- You can find resources for training others about Family Tree at
- <http://familysearch.org/treetraining>.
- Tanner said that about 60,000 to 80,000 people still use New FamilySearch each week.
- Some users of Family Tree are new. They make mistakes, just like we did when we were new. We need to help them and encourage them.
- Discussions among users is not happening soon enough. This may be because notification of changes only occurs once a week. By then, the best moment for discussion is gone. "I'm trying to change that," he said. "I think you need to be informed sooner, maybe immediately." Another impediment to discussions is the inability to email others making changes who haven't made their email public. When consultants help people register, he said they should help the user set their email public. Click Settings > Contact > email > Public. Tanner said he recently got permission to implement a private message system that would allow the exchange of messages with other users even without an email address. [I picture it being similar to the capability that [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) has had for close to a decade.]
- Helping users recover passwords and usernames is straightforward. Go to Sign In and after "Forgot your..." click on "user name" or "password." For a member of the general public, recovery is via email. For those with an LDS account, recovery uses the lds.org account recovery system. Recovery can be via mobile phone, email, or membership record number (MRN). If recovering via email, some people may not be aware that most email systems can be accessed via the Internet. Just google the domain name (the part of the email after the @

at-sign). Once you have recovered your password, write it down and put it in your wallet.

- Members of the Church who can't see temple ordinance information need to enter their membership record number. Have them login and click on their username. Select Settings from the dropdown menu. Scroll down and select Yes for the "Are you a member...?" question. Enter the membership record number. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click Save Changes.
- To fix wrong relationships, it helps to understand how Family Tree works with relationships. All relationships in Family Tree are of two types: spousal and parent-child. A spousal relationship consists of two people and relationship events such as marriage date and place. A parent-child relationship consists of a child, at least one parent, and relationship types for each parent, such as biological, adopted, etc. Family Tree does not require a spousal relationship between the parents of a child. To correct a relationship, you must leave the person page and go to the relationship page. Go to the Family Members section of the person page and click on either Edit Couple or Edit Parents. The relationship page allows for sources and notes about the relationship. Posted by the Ancestry Insider 8/20/14 <http://www.ancestryinsider.org/>
- To subscribe to [the Ancestry Insider](http://www.ancestryinsider.org/), click [this link](#). Alternately, you can go to www.ancestryinsider.org (the www is required), and enter your email address in the box at the upper-right side of the page.

How to Get Your Teen Involved in Genealogy

[Click here](#) to follow this link to a recent article from Internet Genealogy exploring ways you can use to get your teenagers interested in their family history.

FROM THE ANCESTRY BLOG

SOME READING SUGGESTIONS:

- ["Is Your Lost Family Bible on Fold3 in a Pension File?"](#) by Jim Long, on *LongBranch Genealogy*. Jim found pages from his ancestor's family Bible in a War of 1812 pension file. Not a transcript – the actual pages! (And it's another reason to help out the [Preserve the Pensions project!](#))
- ["Lessons Learned from Photographing 1000 Tombstones,"](#) by Lynn Palermo, on *The Armchair Genealogist*. Lynn learned a lot while working on a photo project at her local cemetery and shares tips about photography and tombstone research.
- ["Our Cincinnati Union Terminal,"](#) by Cheri Daniels, on *Journeys Past*. Cheri takes us through her family's close history with Cincinnati's beautiful Union Terminal. What are some of the places that your ancestors are closely tied to?
- ["The Stories We Need to Read,"](#) by Angela Y. Walton-Raji, on *My Ancestor's Name*. Angela shows how reading historical fiction can give us insight into the lives and situations of our ancestors. She also has some recommendations for good books.

Ancestry Blog Posts: click on green link ~

- [Family History Conferences Offer Unique Learning and Networking Opportunities](#) by [Juliana Szucs Smith](#)
- [AncestryDNA: You Can Now Share Your DNA Results](#) by [Anna Swayne](#)
- [The new season of Who Do You Think You Are? \(UK\) opens with Julie Walters](#) by [Brian Gallagher](#)
- [The White Glove Debate Continued: What's Up With the Purple Gloves?](#) by [Amy Johnson Crow](#)
- [Throwback Thursday Topic: Birthdays and Un-Birthdays](#) by [Juliana Szucs Smith](#)
- [Who Do You Think You Are? Recap: Rachel and Kayleen McAdams Discover Land Grant for a Loyalist](#)
- [5 Things You Might Not Know About Wyoming](#) by [Juliana Szucs Smith](#)

- [What We Are Reading: August 8 Edition](#) by [Amy Johnson Crow](#)
- [Painful Memories and Warm Embraces in Episode Five of Long Lost Family](#) by [Brian Gallagher](#)

Videos

[Between The Leaves](#)

- [Getting Younger Generations Involved in Family History](#)

[From the Barefoot Genealogist:](#)

- [What's New at Ancestry.com: August 2014 Edition](#)
- [How Historical Events Shaped Our Ancestors' Lives](#)
- [Double Date: Julian Calendar or Gregorian Calendar](#)
- [FAN Club Research to Build Your Family Tree](#)
- [Not All Colonial Americans Were Patriots](#)

INVITATION TO JOIN LOST COUSINS

<http://www.lostcousins.com/newsletters/lateaug14news.htm>

Family Activity - A little family history tour

We hired a school bus and driver (not sure they do this anymore), and we took our kids and grandkids from one end of the valley to the other. Our main purpose was to show them the houses that our ancestors lived in, the homes we had lived in and special historical sites in the valley. We have lived from one end of the valley to the other, so we started at Hyrum Dam where I was born; then next we went to the Hyrum home of our grandparents, then to Hardware Ranch where my dad had lived. We then went to Young Ward, Cornish, Lewiston. We went to Franklin to show them an interesting museum. Of course we had a picnic on the bus and went down to Logan and North Logan . . . the other places we had lived. It was a fun family day and informative too.

Source: Eva Fay Anderson - Herald Journal

Accessing Indexing tools through the cloud...

Is there a way to make the indexing available via the internet instead of through the download of the application to a local computer? If this were possible, more people could do work on computers they don't have administrator rights to, say on a lunch hour or early in the morning before work begins.

April Robertson of FamilySearch responded:

By the end of the year or into the new year, the indexing will be done totally within the internet browsers. There will be no program to download. They are beta testing it now and we'll see indexers slowly moved over after the testing. They will just have to be able to log into FamilySearch .org and click on the indexing section when it goes live.

FamilySearch Tech Tips Alive and Well

A couple of years ago, FamilySearch.org started a Blog called TechTips. It was intended to fill the need for current information for family historians about trends in the tech world, computers and other devices as well as other subjects such as software for genealogy. The Blog attracted a lot of attention and had a significant following. For whatever reason, the Blog languished and virtually disappeared for a considerable time. However, it finally resurfaced as a section in the main FamilySearch Blog page. (Right hand column under categories). Here are some of the subjects that have been covered in the past while:

Avoiding the inevitable Crash, Hashtags, Tweets, and Blogs: the new language of family history - Phishing, Scams, Viruses and Trojan Horses - How to Protect Your Computer, What Your Grandchildren Wished You Would Have Tweeted. **Source: James Tanner**

Where do I obtain training for my family history calling?

President Thomas S. Monson - June 2014 Ensign

"Now, family history is not easy.

For those of you from Scandinavia, I share your frustration. For example, on my Swedish line, my grandfather's name was Nels Monson; his father's name was not Monson at all but Mons Okeson. Mon's father's name was Oke Pederson, and his father's name was Peter Monson - right back to Monson again."

The Lord expects you and me to perform our family history work well. I think the first thing we must do if we are to perform our work well is to have the Spirit of our Heavenly Father with us.

When we live as righteously as we know how to live, He will open the way for fulfillment of the blessings that so earnestly and diligently we seek.

We are going to make mistakes, but none of us can become an expert in family history work without first becoming a novice. Therefore, we must plunge into this work, and we must prepare for some uphill climbing. This is not an easy task, but the Lord has placed it upon you, and He has placed it upon me.

As you pursue family history work, you are going to find yourself running into roadblocks, and you are going to say to yourself, "There is nothing else I can do." When you come to that point, get down on your knees and ask the Lord to open the way, and He will open the way for you.

I testify that this is true.

If we are called to a Ward or Stake position in family history work, the best way to progress in family history work is to follow the council

and guidance of the church handbooks and instructions. The implementation of family history work in Wards and Stakes is carefully outlined in the handbooks of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Handbooks have help for each level of the organization:

[High Councilor](#)

[Stake Indexing Director](#)

[Bishop](#)

[Ward Council](#)

[High Priest Group Leader](#)

[Ward Family History Consultant](#)

We have not been left without help in our callings. We must move forward and hasten the work, but this can be best accomplished by following the counsel already given to us in the handbooks and other instructions about how the work should move forward.

The one best way to advance family history work in the church is for the leaders to assume their individual responsibilities in this work and help the members answer their prayers for assistance as admonished by President Monson.

Memory Size for Online Photographs

Is there a conversion ratio for scanning photographs to be posted on the web? How many pixels per inch, for example (for higher quality photographs so that someone else can zoom in to get better face details, if they want)? Also, where is that data stored?

Once a photo, document, or story is added to FamilySearch, they are stored by FamilySearch. They don't pull like Drop Box.

This is a big commitment by FamilySearch to store these, free to us. The minimum scan should be 600 PPI, file size up to 15 MB per image. Currently 5MB and .jpg and .png file type are all that is allowed, but it will change soon to include .tiff and increase to 15MB.

Small photos that are scanned may require a higher PPI to allow higher quality when they are enlarged.

Inspiration for Achievement

A man was putting up a sign in a window: "Puppies for Sale." Before he had taped the last corner, there was a small boy standing by his side. That kind of sign seems to attract small boys. The youngster wanted to know how much the puppies were going to cost. The man told him that they were very good dogs and that he didn't expect to let any go for less than thirty-five to fifty dollars. There was a look of disappointment and then the question, "I got \$2.37. Could I look at them?"

The man whistled and called, "Lady." Out of the kennel and down the runway came Lady followed by four or five little balls of fur and one lagging considerably behind. The boy spotted the lagger and, pointing, asked, "What's wrong with him?" The reply was that the veterinarian had said that there was no hip socket in the right hip and the dog would always be lame. The boy's immediate rejoinder was, "That's the one I want. I'll give you \$2.37 and 50 cents a month until I get him paid for." The man smiled and shook his head. "That's not the dog you want. That dog will never be able to run, jump and play with you." The boy very matter-of-factly pulled up his trouser leg and revealed a brace running down both sides of his badly twisted leg and under his foot, with a leather cap coupled over his knee. "I don't run so well myself," he said, "and he'll need somebody that understands."

Using the FamilySearch Memories App

By Todd Powel

FamilySearch Memories allows you to take photos, record stories, and make audio recordings without having to first navigate to a person. You can take photos or make recordings and indicate later who is in the photos or stories. This is great for capturing a special moment at a family gathering, making digital copies of the photos from a family album, or recording a family member telling stories. See what you can do with this app, [click here!](#)

Video Collections for Training Stake and Ward Family History Leaders

– James Tanner

I frequently refer to the need for Ward and Stake leader to follow the guidelines in the guidebook entitled, "To Turn the Hearts, Leader's Guide to Temple and Family History Work." To reinforce the teachings in the guidebook, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has produced a series of videos. Links to these videos are on the Leader Resources page of the Family History Callings section of LDS.org.

The video instructions fall into four categories:

- Featured Videos
- Training for My Calling Videos
- Individual Stories and Topics Videos
- Leaders' Secrets of Success Videos

One of the key factors to success in implementing family history activities in the Wards and Stakes is following the guidelines in the guidebook. From my own experience, there are two key components to implementing a successful program: first, that each individual act in accordance with the activities and duties outlined in the guidebook and second, that the Wards and Stakes call adequate numbers of qualified family history and Indexing consultants.

An Invitation from FamilySearch

- Submit at least one family name to the temple.
- Index at least one batch of records to help others in their search.
- If you have done both, please extend both invitations to the members of your stake and ward.

Notice of link for early Sign-up for LDS Member Free Access to Select Commercial Genealogy Websites

We thought your LDS subscribers and readers would like to know how to receive their free personal accounts to Ancestry.com, FindMyPast.com and MyHeritage.com. The first phase of the offer campaign has been managed by email invitation. More than 138,000 members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have taken advantage of the offer to get free personal accounts.

FamilySearch has received numerous requests from LDS members who want access to this offer who have not received the email invitation for whom we did not have email addresses. The following link allows any LDS member, age 13 and above, to initiate the process of getting a free account with any of the commercial partners.

The link is:

<http://familysearch.org/partneraccess>.

If LDS members have any difficulties creating new accounts or converting existing partner accounts, they will need to contact FamilySearch Support at support@familysearch.org or 1-866-406-1830 for help.

In October 2014, we are planning a full-scale campaign letting members of the church worldwide know of access to these partner accounts. More details will be shared as we get closer to that launch.

Paul Nauta FamilySearch Public Affairs Manager

Does Family Tree have the ability to find a person?

When working in your own tree, how can you save having to scroll a lot or having to keep pages of ID numbers? The Family Tree pages in Ancestry.com has a search box "find a person in this tree," where you type in a person's name and it takes you to that segment of your tree, which is so helpful.

Open iTunes to buy and download apps.

LDS Youth is an official application of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints that gives you the latest youth content at your fingertips.

With this application, you can get mobile access to videos, articles, music, and Mormonads all specifically tailored to youth in a fun and engaging way. LDS Youth also allows you to share content so you can let your friends enjoy what the Church has to offer to young men and women. This application would also be a great resource for parents and leaders of youth for teaching at home or in Church settings. See the i-phone screen shots and Learn more [here](#).

In FamilySearch Family Tree there is no "your own tree,"

Although you can view your particular ancestral pedigree in a few types of charts, the FS-FT search engine simply is not geared to first cache a list of people related to you (could be thousands of people or more, including large numbers of duplicates), then search within that group. In Ancestry.com Member Tree system, individual owners' tree persons are already grouped for the servers to list them. They are two completely different approaches. In FS-FT you can use the watch list to separate out your relatives so you can easily find them.

Response by FamilySearch

New Online Training Now Available – August

A new set of classes has been added to the Learning Center on FamilySearch.org. These new classes include: Three research classes for Spain, Latin America and Mexico, a new FamilySearch class on dealing with duplicate records that exist in your Family Tree. [Click here](#) to see Duplicates in Family Tree.

What is a Family History Consultant?

Follow the Leaders Guide to see an explanation for the work of the Family History Consultant in a Ward. See what experience and skills suit a consultant and learn what a Family History Consultant is supposed to do.

Everyone involved in Family History in a Ward should [follow this link](#).

So what are the Family History Consultants supposed to do? They work with the leaders in the Ward and with the members. Here is what the Leader's Guide has to say on the subject:

Working with Leaders, Consultants help ward leaders learn about family history so they can share it with those they serve. Consultants take the initiative to reach out to leaders by:

- Helping them work on their own family history so they can perform temple ordinances for their deceased relatives.
- Demonstrating how family history can help them in their calling to minister to those they serve.

Working with Members, Consultants take the initiative to reach out to members, especially those who are not comfortable using technology, by:

- Helping a few individuals or families at a time to work on their own family history so they can perform temple ordinances for their deceased relatives. The most effective place to do this is in members' homes. The ward council could determine specific individuals or families for the consultant to work with. The high priests group leader assigns these families to the consultant.
- Answering family history questions from ward leaders and members.

Read the entire article [here](#).

Source James Tanner

ONLINE BOOKS

The Joseph Smith Papers Project

The Joseph Smith Papers Project is a fascinating trip into the early history of the church. The project, led by the Church Historian's Office, gathers documents that pertain to the Prophet Joseph Smith. The project's purpose is to provide a record of the life and history of Joseph Smith, Jr., so scholars and students can easily access the foundational documents of the church. Visit their website at <http://josephsmithpapers.org/>

Being Polite

Sidney J. Harris

I walked with a friend to the newsstand the other night, and he bought a paper, thanking the owner politely. The owner, however, did not even acknowledge it.

"A sullen fellow, isn't he?" I commented as we walked away.

"Oh, he's that way every night," shrugged my friend.

"Then why do you continue being so polite to him?" I asked.

And my friend replied, "Why should I let him determine how I'm going to act?"

Church-Service Missionary Facebook page!

You can "like" our page to receive inspirational stories, videos, quotes, and messages in your newsfeed. Share with your friends and help us spread the word about this incredible way to serve!

Click [here](#) to like us!

Here is a representative list of online book websites, not in any particular order:

- [Internet Archive](#) -- 6,454,689 digitized books, all in the public domain and freely downloadable including over 144,000 books from the Library of Congress
- [Open Library](#) -- borrow, read and browse over 2,700,000 free eBook titles
- [iPL2](#) - the Internet Public Library
- The [Herzog August Library in Wolfenbüttel \(HAB\)](#) -- Renaissance Books
- [University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign](#)
- [Project Gutenberg](#) 46,488 free eBooks
- [Trove.nla.gov.au](#) - The National Library of Australia
- [The Library of Congress](#), see particularly the Rare Book and Special Collections Reading Room
- [The Hathi Trust](#) - 11,434,302 total volumes with 35% in the public domain
- [New York Public Library Digital Collections](#)
- [University of Virginia Library](#)
- [California Digital Library](#)
- [Center for Research Libraries](#)
- [Cornell University Library, Windows on the Past](#)
- [Digital Library of Georgia](#)
- [Digital Public Library of America](#) - 7,675,354 items
- [Europeana](#) - Millions and millions of items
- [Harvard University Library](#)
- [Internet History Sourcebooks Project](#)
- [JSTOR](#)
- [Maryland Digital Cultural Heritage](#)
- [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#)
- [New Zealand Electronic Text Centre](#)
- [University of Texas at Austin](#)
- [Open University](#)
- [Oxford Text Archive](#)
- [Pandora Archive](#)

- [Project Gutenberg Australia](#)
- [Rare Book Room](#)
- [Texas Digital Library](#)
- [UCLA Library Special Collections](#)
- [United States National Agricultural Library](#)
- [National Library of Medicine](#)
- [Universal Digital Library](#)
- [Digital Library Production Service](#)
- [University of Wisconsin Digital Collections](#)
- [World Wide Web Virtual Library](#)
- [Wikibooks](#)
- [Wikisource](#)
- [The J. Willard Marriott Digital Library at the University of Utah](#)
- [Wisconsin Heritage Online](#)
- [Wisconsin Historical Society Digital Collection](#)
- [World Digital Library](#)
- [Zeno.org](#)
- [Duke University Libraries Digital Collections](#)
- [Digital Collections | Columbia University Libraries](#)
- [University of Washington Special Collections](#)
- [Mississippi State University Digital Collections](#)
- [Emory University's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library \(MARBL\)](#)

What you need to learn from this list and my attempt is to search for a book by title in every case, copyright or no copyright, to see if a website has an eBook for your particular search. Even then, it would be a good idea to search in the larger websites to see if Google missed the eBook. At some point, it will become possible to assume that an eBook always exists, and then the search will be to find it online in some sort of library and gain access to the book. Interlibrary loans will very likely become completely digitized. Authored by James Tanner -Genealogy's Star

<http://genealogysstar.blogspot.com/> 25 August 2014

It's time for Going In-Depth!

You'll want to be sure to read (or, even better, download!) the August 2014 issue of ***Going In-Depth*** – including:

- **Stories from the Battlefield:** “Writing a Love Story” by Jennifer Holik
- **The Heritage Tourist:** “Travel to Shenandoah Valley Battlefields NHA” by Dr. Bill Smith
- **Deep into DNA:** “Out of Africa, Hand in Hand: Leaving the Nest” by Mike Maglio
- **Tracing Your Criminal Ancestors:** “The Horror of the 18th and 19th Nineteenth Century London Prisons, Part 2: Fleet Prison” by Kirsty Gray
- **The Society Pages:** “Celebrating Ancestors from Mr. Madison’s War” by Shannon Combs Bennett
- **Tracing Blue & Gray:** “The Very Best: Sites for Researching your Confederate Civil War Veteran and Ancestors” by Cindy Freed
- **Genealogy Solutions:** “Walk Away” by Leslie Drewitz
- **In Search of Your Scottish Roots:** “Banished to the Americas” by Christine Woodcock
- **Beyond the Obituaries:** “A Look at Church Records” by Debbie Carder Mayes
- **Index of Advertisers/Surnames/Places/Subjects**

You won't want to miss any of the articles and special features. Read it here: [Digital Magazine page on The In-Depth Genealogist website.](#)

8/15/14

SCOTLAND'S PEOPLE

Click on the link to discover a website devoted to Scottish research:

<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/>

MOCAVO IMMIGRATION RECORDS

Many of us share a common experience as descendants of immigrants who came to America in the 19th and 20th centuries. Faced with many opportunities and challenges, our ancestors uprooted themselves in hopes of making a better life for their families. Immigration records can help you trace their journeys and how their lives changed once they arrived at their final destination. As a Mocavo Basic member, you can individually search more than 17 million immigration records for free in our immigration collections.

[Browse Immigration Collections Now](#)

[View All Mocavo Collections](#)

Elder Quentin L. Cook, "Roots and Branches"
"The doctrine of the family in relation to family history and temple work is clear. The Lord in initial revelatory instructions referred to "baptism for your dead." Our doctrinal obligation is to our own ancestors. This is because the celestial organization of heaven is based on families. The First Presidency has encouraged members, especially youth and young single adults, to emphasize family history work and ordinances for their own family names or the names of ancestors of their ward and stake members. We need to be connected to both our roots and branches. The thought of being associated in the eternal realm is indeed glorious.



Engaging Youth in Family History Using BillionGraves

Webinar recording now available

We hope that many of you were able to watch the webinar titled "Engaging Youth in Family History Using BillionGraves" on August 6 and 7. We were able to record the webinar, and it is available now for your review.

Webinar Recording Available: Engaging Youth in Family History Using BillionGraves

Watch now

To accompany the webinar are a [Cemetery Documentation Project Guide](#) and [Handout](#). The handout can be shared with others that may want to have more information about the pilot program. You can access these materials, including the webinar video recording on the [Consultant Webinar Series](#) page of LDS.org.

We'd love to hear from you about your willingness to participate in this pilot program. Many of you that were able to view the webinar expressed interest. To be sure we know who you are and so we can share resources with you as they become finalized, please send a follow-up email to our team at

billiongraves@familysearch.org. Please include the following in your desire to participate:

- Stake and ward name (if participating as a stake, the stake name only will do)
- Contact person's name
- Contact person's phone number
- Contact person's email address

We are very excited to expand this pilot program between FamilySearch and BillionGraves and look forward to working with you further in hastening family history and temple work.

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The FamilySearch BillionGraves Team

billiongraves@familysearch.org

ROOTS MAGIC BLOG

RootsMagic's blog page is at:
<http://blog.rootsmagic.com>

If you use a news reader for reading blogs, you can [subscribe to the RootsMagic blog](#) so that it will automatically appear in your reader

SOME INTERESTING TIDBITS FROM DICK EASTMAN

<http://blog.eogn.com/>

Use Crowdsourcing to Identify the People in Photographs

[Dick Eastman](#) · [August 13, 2014](#) · [Photography](#), [Preservation](#)



Jeff Phillips discovered a big pile of funky-smelling Eastman Kodak boxes containing dozens of projection trays filled with Kodachrome slides at a consignment antique shop near St. Louis. The 30 boxes contained about 1,100 slides. Only two of the slides were labeled. One said "Edna" and another was labeled as "Harry, 1958." Those are clues but do not provide much to go on. Jeff decided to identify the people in the slides. Jeff then embarked on a crowdsourced search to identify the people in the photos by using social media. He received hundreds of suggestions from Facebook users.

Many of the comments did not help but a few provided great clues. And the end result? You need to read the story for yourself at <http://harryandedna.com>. Another version of the story may be found at <http://www.art.org/2014/05/lost-and-found-the-search-for-harry-and-edna>.

Mapping Migration in the United States

[Dick Eastman](#) · [August 20, 2014](#)



The New York Times has published an interesting series of maps of the United States showing where the residents of each state were born. It shows the percentage of natives of each state, along with the other states where people were born and also the percentage of residents who were born outside the U.S. Within a state, larger shapes mean a group makes up a larger share of the population. The map shows data from 1900, 1950, and 2012. You can view the map at <http://goo.gl/9wCJVR>.

Dick Eastman Discusses How Tech Has Changed the Family History Industry

[Dick Eastman](#) · [August 27, 2014](#)



I recently had the pleasure of talking with Jessica Murray of Ancestry.com. She and I discussed a number of genealogy-related topics, including the availability of apps on your mobile and tablet devices, saving many hours

by verifying research, the quality of software, and how blogging technology has revolutionized genealogy.

You can view a video of our conversation in the Ancestry.com Blog at <http://goo.gl/lphbV6>.

Archive of pre-Holocaust Jewish Images in Eastern Europe Digitized

[Dick Eastman](#) · [August 28, 2014](#) · [History](#), [Photography](#) · [No Comments](#)

A vast archive of photographs of pre-Holocaust Eastern European Jewish life is being made available to the public and researchers. The International Center of Photography in New York and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., announced the joint creation of a digital database to facilitate access to photographer Roman Vishniac's archive.

Vishniac was a Russian-born Jew who moved to Berlin in 1920. He documented the rise of Nazi power and its effect on Jewish life in Central and Eastern Europe. The International Center of Photography said it believes the project "represents a new model for digital archives" and it's excited to bring Vishniac's collection to a wider audience.

You can read more in an Associated Press article published in the *National Post* at <http://goo.gl/A5vSRr>.

Arizona Woman Works to Identify Those Buried in a Navajo and Hopi Cemetery

[Dick Eastman](#) · [August 29, 2014](#) · [Current Affairs](#) · [5 Comments](#)

Historical preservationist Gail Sadler was both heartbroken and appalled at the condition of a cemetery when she first laid eyes on it in 2008, soon after she had been appointed to the Winslow, Arizona, Historic Preservation Commission. She soon made it her mission to

unearth the identities of the roughly 600 people buried there and help their descendants reconnect with their history.

Her mission quickly became an obsession. On nights after work and on weekends, Sadler would go online and scour death certificates – some 8,800 from 1932 to 1962 – looking for the Indian Cemetery as the final resting place.

You can read more and see some pictures in an article by Felicia Fonseca at <http://www.whdh.com/story/26390067/woman-unearths-past-of-forgotten-indian-cemetery>.

FAMILY SEARCH ADDS MANY NEW RECORDS TO FAMILYSEARCH.ORG

Posted by Dick Eastman

- [FamilySearch Adds More Than 1.5 Million Indexed Records and Images to Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ghana, Italy, and the United States](#)
- [FamilySearch Adds More Than 5.1 Million Indexed Records and Images to Brazil, New Zealand, and the United States](#)
- [FamilySearch Adds More Than 7.2 Million Indexed Records and Images to Argentina, Germany, Jamaica, Netherlands, Sweden, and the United States](#)

ARE YOU USING WIKI?

If you are looking for information on a certain locality, be sure to go to the Wiki sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Once you open the Wiki Homepage, in the Search box, type in the name of the locality. If you check York County, PA, you will be impressed with the wealth of information that has been submitted.

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page

SYLVIA'S GENEALOGY CORNER

BREAKING DOWN WALLS

I read obituaries. Last week I noted in the local newspaper that my ex-husband's nephew had died in a motorcycle collision in MD. I was sorry to see a young father lose his life. What is sadder is that this young man is my son's first cousin, and they had never met.

My ex-husband Patchel was adopted, so he never knew his parents. As a genealogist, I have always had a desire to know my own child's paternal birth line. We have researched the adoptive family line of Landises, but we were not even sure of my son's paternal grandparents' names.

With the death of this young man in the motorcycle accident, I decided to input his vital statistics and obituary into Family Tree. This led me to wonder about this family. My first husband Patchel had met his sister Carol in a restaurant in York. She had heard someone call him Patchel, and she knew that that was the first name of her little brother. In 1841 her birth mother had put her and her baby brother in the orphanage in York. Now how many people would there be with a name, "Patchel"? She approached him and told him that his name was unusual. Did he know the origin? He told her that he was adopted, and that was the name his birth mother had given him. His new parents had kept the first name but they had given him their last name of Landis. The woman who posed the question said, "I believe that you are my brother." They compared a few more notes, and it became evident that they were brother and sister. Her name was Carol Reisinger- later Zutell after marriage.

Carol wanted to have a relationship with her brother, but he felt that this family had abandoned him. While Carol grew up in an orphanage, her birth mother had visited her, and she was still in touch with their mother by the name of Ellen Getz. My then husband declined to meet his birth mother. He also declined any relationship with his sister Carol. Ironically, I was asked to speak at a reunion of the orphanage, and I met Carol and spoke to her for a short time. Years have passed, and I have been under the illusion that the birth mother was a Getz. It was not until Carol's son Joe died last week that I

decided to revisit this family's history. Carol, her husband Joe Zutell, and my former husband Patchel have all died at this time. I decided to proceed because this is my own son's blood birth line. I was amazed to find Carol Reisinger's name on Ancestry.com in the 1940 Census of the family of Ellen Geltz. I had left out the L in her last name when I had searched for the mother Ellen before.

Ellen Geltz
 KNV4-191
 BIRTH 1899 Pennsylvania, United States
 DEATH York, York, Pennsylvania, United States

Ellen Geltz
 United States Census, 1940

View in Family Tree
 Review Attachments

COPY | PRINT | SOURCE BOX | SHARE

Name:	Ellen Geltz
Event Type:	Census
Event Date:	1940
Event Place:	Ward 9, York City, York City, York, Pennsylvania, United States
Gender:	Female
Age:	41
Marital Status:	Married
Race (Original):	White
Race:	White
Relationship to Head of Household (Original):	Head
Relationship to Head of Household:	Head
Birthplace:	Pennsylvania
Birth Year (Estimated):	1899
Last Place of Residence:	Same House

Household	Role	Gender	Age	Birthplace
Ellen Geltz	Head	F	41	Pennsylvania
Virginia Geltz	Daughter	F	24	Pennsylvania
Richard Geltz	Son	M	23	Pennsylvania
Mary Geltz	Daughter	F	20	Pennsylvania
Carol R Reisinger	Son	M	4	

District: 07-132, Family Number: 137, Sheet Number and Letter: 05, Line Number: 77, Affiliate Publication Number: T627, Affiliate Film Number: 3645, Digital Folder Number: 005456785, Image Number: 00792

Not only did I find Carol's and Patchel's mother's name, but I also found that they had 3 half-siblings. It was an amazing discovery. Carol was said to be a son, but that is incorrect.

The 1940 Census was somewhat confusing. It listed Ellen as head of house but also listed her as married, so Mr. Geltz must not have been in the picture any longer. Ellen had reared her 3 oldest children - Virginia, Richard, and Mary Geltz - and they were in their 20's in 1940, but there was also four-year-old Carol with the name of Reisinger, and since my ex was born in 1940, Ellen must have

been ready to deliver him in 2-3 months. It was all very interesting to begin the break-through. This was helpful, but there was also a problem. What was Ellen's maiden name? It more than likely was not Geltz, for that appeared to be her first husband's last name.

At this point, I asked a fellow genealogist who does a lot of York County work by the name of Harry Senft to ask his friend Donald Boyer if he had any ideas about the Geltz family. I had seen a huge newspaper feature on Donald Boyer in the York Sunday News. I knew that he was a really excellent professional genealogist, and he had shared a lot of his York County information to Harry in the past.

Within a few hours, I received a long genealogy of the Geltz Family. This is the father of Patchel's half siblings but probably not his father. Included was also the answer to my question about the maiden name of Patchel's birth mother. Don Boyer had found her as Ellen Fleming of Lancaster with parents Samuel Fleming and Marie Goldfoose. Unfortunately, there is a brick wall at that point. We do not know if Patchel had the same father as his sister Carol Reisinger Zutell or not, so there is no paternal line, but we have connected him to his maternal line and at least part of the mystery is solved. My son is descended from the Fleming Family on his natural grandmother's side.

We loved the Landises, Patchel's adoptive parents, and we do not want to take anything away from that heritage as we have researched that line and sealed Patchel to his adoptive parents, but for the sake of my son and grandson, it would be nice to know their blood lineage. As for my ex-husband's father, we have a few alternatives. One is to check the library to see old York newspapers and try to find a birth announcement that might name a father. Another option is to approach the Orphan's Court to see if the records could be unsealed since all parties are deceased. My son would have to do that, but I have been advised that Pennsylvania is still very private with adoption records, and there has to be a good reason to open them.

Meanwhile, some of the mystery of my ex-husband's reason for adoption has surfaced. Ellen had been married to Earl Geltz, and she had borne 3 children to him. When she was in her late 30's, she was divorced from Geltz, and in 1936 she had Carol out-of-wedlock to a Mr. Reisinger. Four years

later she was carrying my ex-husband (father unknown). She worked for People's Laundry and probably was not making much money. By 1940, Ellen had all 3 children living at home, the youngest being a twenty-year-old, and now 16 years later, she had a four-year-old named Carol and a baby on the way. In her desperate situation, she must have placed Carol and Patchel in the orphanage in York. At 18 months the baby boy was adopted, but Carol grew up in the orphanage. Later Ellen (Fleming) Geltz married a widower named Charles Moose, and when she died at age 58, she was still married to him.



I have had some satisfaction with this information, but we may never know the paternal line of Patchel Landis. But nonetheless, I was to express my appreciation to Harry Senft for his referral to Donald Boyer and for the excellent research that Donald Boyer did for me. The newspaper said that he is one of the best, and I can concur with that! Thank you. We now at least know of my son's relationship to the Flemings and the Goldfooses.

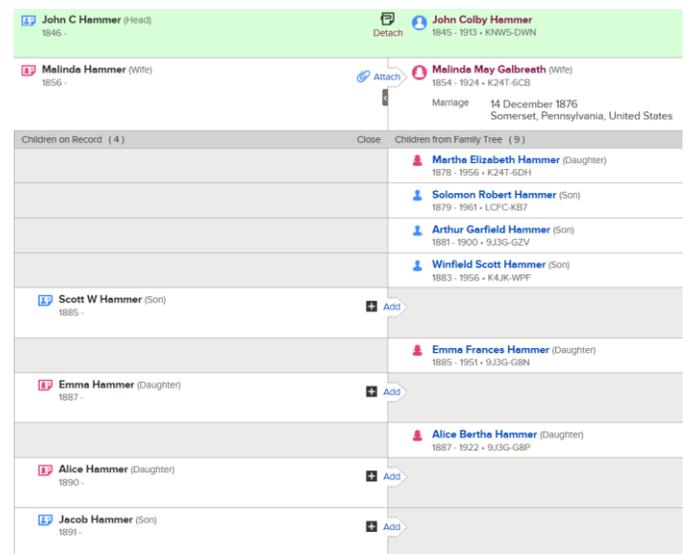
By Sylvia Hott Sonneborn



Elder Quentin Cook said, ““Much of the heavy lifting in hastening the work of salvation for both the living and the dead will be done by you young people. If the youth in each ward will not only go to the temple and do baptisms for their dead but also work with their families and other ward members to provide the family names for the ordinance work they perform, both they and the Church will be greatly blessed.”

CAUTIONING YOU WHEN ATTACHING RECORDS IN RECORD HINTS

Hints: Be careful that the record in the Record Hints box is attaching to the correct ancestor. When you attach the record to the person you are researching, there is an opportunity to attach the record to all members of the family (particularly if it is a census record). Sometimes the names do not line up with the children correctly in the census and Family tree. Click on the name that needs to be moved and drag it to the correct person in Family Tree. Do not attach if there is no match, but you can add a new person from the census into Family Tree if you do not have his name recorded.



Below I have left-clicked and dragged the unmatched children with my mouse to their proper spot. Some of the children did not line up because names varied. John Jacob went by Jacob in the census, for instance. I see that Scott W has no match, but upon closer looking, I see that he is Wendell Scott, so I will need to drag his name to the matching person.

All children are attached since I was still able to move Scott and can now click "attach."

Children on Record (4)	Close	Children from Family Tree (9)
		Mertha Elizabeth Hammer 1878 - 1956 • K24T-6DH
		Solomon Robert Hammer 1879 - 1961 • LCFC-KB7
		Arthur Garfield Hammer 1881 - 1900 • 9J3G-GZV
Scott W Hammer (Son) 1885 -	Attach	Winfield Scott Hammer 1883 - 1956 • K4JK-WPF
Emma Hammer (Daughter) 1887 -	Detach	Emma Frances Hammer 1885 - 1951 • 9J3G-G8N
Alice Hammer (Daughter) 1890 -	Detach	Alice Berthe Hammer 1887 - 1922 • 9J3G-G8P
Jacob Hammer (Son) 1891 -	Detach	John Jacob Hammer 1891 - 1918 • 9J3G-GDM
		Dolly A. Hammer 1893 - 1894 • 9J3G-GDH
		Dortha A. Hammer 1895 - 1896 • 9J3G-GDX

I have used this new method to attach the census to the parents and then to the children instead of having to repeat the attachment to each child one by one. Written by Sylvia Sonneborn

TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT YOU CAN DO AT ANCESTRY TO HELP WITH FAMILY TREE



Do you have lots of ancestors in a family tree on Ancestry.com? Do you wish there were an easy way to move the information to FamilySearch Family Tree without having to cut and paste it?

Tim Crabb, a Senior Program Manager at Ancestry.com, explains:

- How to exchange information between your Ancestry.com tree to FamilySearch Family Tree.
- How to submit names for temple work directly from your Ancestry.com tree.
- Exciting new features that Ancestry.com has planned for

the future.

- Help members find a place they can start researching their family history.

You can download the [presentation slides](#) for your own use. You can also download the [handout](#).

Try it yourself, and then help someone else!

[Watch Now](#)

For copies of **Genealogy News**, go to <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~payork/York2Ward/>

Thanks to Don and Jeanine Hartman of Utah for posting the newsletter online for us. You can contribute your family history of original York County ancestors to them at <http://familyhart.info>

This newsletter is compiled by Jack and Sylvia Sonneborn, family history consultants. It is also e-mailed to parties interested in family history, but it is not an official publication of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Sylvia - slysyl@verizon.net Jack - jsonneborn@verizon.net

That's all, Folks! Jack and Sylvia

Dear Family and Friends,

September has arrived in York, and it seems as though there is a bit of fall in the air already, making me wonder where this year and summer went. It seems like time to send out one of those long-winded Gloria letters. The truth is that I like to remember and to write, and I hope by doing so to revive the almost lost art of correspondence. So below is a little news from my home and a fall memory or two.

A little news:

This has been a busy summer and I was fortunate to spend a long weekend in Virginia Beach and a trip home to Oil City for the family reunion plus a few short day trips, but perhaps the most exciting part of the summer was family history research.

When I was 19, I was introduced to the fine art of genealogy research and was hooked almost immediately. So many more records have become available over the years, and you can actually do quite a bit of quality research at home on the computer. You can also do a lot of garbage research on the computer too, but that is another story.

My father Wilford had a brief marriage before marrying my mother Elsie. I always knew I had a half brother from that early marriage, and I knew that this little baby died at or near birth. I also knew the baby was buried in the family plot in Freedom, PA, but I did not have a birth or death date, and the cemetery could not provide one.

I always said if the state of Pennsylvania ever opened the death certificate files to the public, I could find the baby in ten minutes. This year the state finally did and published them on line through the website "Ancestry."

True to my prediction, I discovered my baby brother after only minutes of research and found he was stillborn. This greatly touched my heart but to my shock after a little more research, I discovered that I also have a baby half-sister who died 3 days after her birth. This little sister had an old fashioned name--Elva Mildred Smith.

As my dad was 50 when I was born, my little half brother and half sister were many years older than me and actually would be in their late 90's if they were still living. It has made me wonder if I would have known them as they had parents who divorced?. Would I have liked them and would they have liked me?. Would they have had the same light colored hair I inherited from my father, and would they have been short like all of my father's brothers and sisters? Would they have had that same sense of humor that all the Smiths have seemed to have.

These little ones have captured a place in my heart. I hope that when I pass over to the other side, these little ones will be waiting to greet me along with my parents and my brothers Arley and Ed. Then I will learn what name the little boy has been given and tell him and Elva, "I am so happy to meet you at last".

I do believe families are forever.

A memory from the past:

My house is just a block from Devers Elementary School, which is named after General Jacob Devers who was a York boy who grew up to be a prominent World War 2 general. The kids from Devers have started classes already and are a week into the new school year.

When I was a kid, school started the day after Labor Day. In preparation for the big day, my Grandmother Graham and my Aunt Emma Taylor always took me to Pittsburgh for a day or two of school shopping. My mother, who did not like bargain-hunting crowds, was quite content to have them take me off to search for dresses and shoes and coats

We did most of our shopping in the big Pittsburgh department stores, like Kauffmans and Hornes, where I insisted on riding all the escalators the 10 or 12 flights to the top of the stores. Certainly no store in Oil City had anything as wonderful, and my grandmother was patient enough to accompany me to the very top and back.

The stores had racks and racks of brightly colored dresses. No little girl would dare to wear slacks or jeans to school in those days, After much trying and looking and trying some more, the purchases were made, and there always was a navy blue coat among the packages. I had such a navy coat every year of my life from grade school to college.

Then we headed for lunch at Kaufman's tea room, where without fail, I would order a fruit salad with orange sherbet. Sometimes we went to the Mystic Tea Room instead, where after lunch a fortuneteller would bring out a crystal ball or cards and tell us what lay ahead in our future. As my mother thought such things were foolishness and would have been furious that I was at the tea room, I was careful to not mention this adventure to her.

While we were in Pittsburgh, my mother shopped for school supplies, like pencils and a new sharpener, thick pink erasers, rulers and notebooks, a book bag and a new lunch box. Labor Day picnics and fireworks could be enjoyed completely, knowing that the new things awaited me the next day.

Long ago memories crowd my mind, and I can still smell the newness on the erasers and pencils and smile at me in pictures of some of those long ago purchases. Maybe this year I will buy a navy blue coat with brass buttons.

Love, Our friend Gloria Smith