

There are several sites on the internet where you can look up your ancestors on the SSDI, but certain sites provide slightly different information and require different criteria for searching. Larry Olson will be comparing the various online sources of the Social Security Death Index (SSDI) as to content, ease of searching, etc. Along the way, he will also discuss historical details concerning the Social Security Act, the Social Security Number, the SS-5 application form, and why a person may not be listed on the SSDI.

AUGUST 18th

Palm Pilot Genealogy

Everett Butler

Learn how you can use these small hand held devices to further your genealogical research.

SEPTEMBER 15th

Research Using the Internet

Brother Joseph Martin

Learn how to utilize the internet to let your fingers do the walking.

OCTOBER 20th

Trust Your Research to Bygones

Bev Smallwood

Bev will demonstrate how to use this software package to supplement your current genealogical software.

NOVEMBER 17th

ELECTIONS/PROJECT MANAGEMENT/TIPS

Member Panel

Come and elect your next leaders and stay for the program.

Learn some of the top tricks and techniques from some of our most experienced members.

DECEMBER 15th

Planning Meeting

Club Officers

Help us plan for next year and pick meeting topics.

. . . I don't get those annoying messages about the site being too busy . . .

See page 6 for 'My Must Have CD'
by Beverly Levine Smallwood

June Meeting Notes by Anne Jacobs

BYU Molecular Genealogy

The June meeting was packed with information of all sorts. We had a great presentation by Brigham Young University personnel on Molecular Genealogy. This program was planned and coordinated by Chris Kite. Our group can honestly say that we gave our blood to the cause. More than 80 attendees contributed a 4 generation chart and a blood sample for this exciting project.

In addition, we had computers set up with FTM, PAF and TMG genealogy software as well as Bygones installed. Any member having questions or problems could ask a user of that software for assistance. This was proposed so that attendees would have something to do while waiting for their turn giving their chart and blood sample. Rose Marie Ducato was available to answer FTM questions. Pat Weisshaus uses PAF 4.0 and assisted many PAF users. Bev Smallwood and Larry Olson were available to respond to TMG and Bygone users.

The Molecular Genealogy presentation was given by Christi Embry who is a molecular biology major from American Fork, Utah working on a lot of the ancient DNA projects, but also helps with the molecular genealogy study. She isolates DNA from whole blood. Jamey Tolmen accompanied her and was in charge of taking the blood samples. Jamey is a Microbiology major from Big Piney, WY. She works on ancient DNA and helps with the analysis of the Special Cases. *

Christi gave an excellent presentation which answered many attendee questions on what is DNA and how does it relate to genealogy. As she stated most of the information given in her lecture is on the web site and can be reviewed at leisure. The site is <http://molecular-genealogy.byu.edu/>

After the presentation many attendees had comments that they now had a much better understanding of DNA and how it can assist in genealogy. Christi also responded to a number of additional questions.

Extra notes: Refreshments were officially provided by Gloria Frederickson, Leora Hofmeister, Mary Ellen Marek and Louise Miller. Many others brought treats unofficially which was much appreciated with the larger than usual crowd for the BYU presentation. There is a sign-up sheet available at each meeting. Please look

for it and sign-up. If no one volunteers, no refreshments so please volunteer. We now have an informal gathering for lunch at Dominck's, next door, after the meeting. Please join us if you have the time.

* Obtained from <http://molecular-genealogy.byu.edu/group.htm> website

June Puzzler

What makes it a read-only file? What does this mean? How can you use it to your advantage? How can you change it?

June Puzzler Answer

First a warning: You should only change attributes for files you create. Don't arbitrarily change attributes for files which you did not create. If system software set the attribute for a file, leave it alone or you may cause problems. Now that I have confused you, the answer.

Files can be protected by using a file attribute. Every file on a computer has 4 attributes associated with it. These attributes can be viewed on the Properties dialog window. From Windows Explorer, select Properties from the icon toolbar. The attributes are at the bottom of the Properties window. They are Read-Only, Hidden, Archive and System. If the Read-Only item is checked, the file cannot be updated.

Can you do anything when you have loaded a file and the software you are using will not allow you to update it? Right click on the file, go to properties, under the general tab look at the Attributes section of the tab. If the Read Only selection is checked, uncheck it. Then retry the file within the software you were using. This feature can be used to prevent updates to files you want protected.

You should only change attributes for files you create. Don't arbitrarily change these attributes for files which you did not create. If system software set the attribute for a file, leave it alone or you may cause problems with that software.

July Puzzler

You create a document using a number of fonts. You plan on printing it on another computer. What happens when you print the document on this new computer which does not have the fonts you have selected? If you have created an index, how does this printer change effect it?

President's Letter

**Somewhere a journey begins at the end of the
worldly existence we know,**

**Somewhere a path stretches over the stars, and
river of memories flow,**

**Somewhere a silence is heard far away and
the brightness of day fills the night,**

**Where the trial of life are resolved into peace
when a soul finds its way to the light.**

**May it comfort you to know that your loved
one is now at peace.**

During a recent loss, I had the help of the entire CAGG-NI group. Over the years we had a number of seminars on organizing our files, preserving our original records, labeling our photos, etc., etc. This all takes time, but it's worth it! Are your files in the shape or format that someone else can understand it and continue with your efforts? I found out recently that my Dad had his memories and possessions well organized.

How many members have written an obituary? I bet a number of you have. The best person that can write one is the closest person to the one that was lost. It is better to have the obituary publish correctly the first time or talking about the errors for the next few years? So I wrote my first obituary! Since I had dozens of examples and examples of other family member's obituaries from people that recently passed away, it turned into an easy task. Remember that there are CAGG-NI members that preaches, "documenting your source materials"

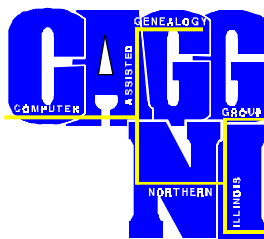
What about our "Tag Lines" that are published monthly? How about questions of events that we never asked about before, but we would like the answers for? I saw for the first time that one of my brothers was writing down answers to these questions. We were blessed that we had this extra time. I wrote in the tribute, "...maybe we started to really listen to his stories for the first time. There is a difference between hearing a story and listening to a story."

What about our photos? Most of us have hundred of photos archived and scanned into our computers. Well, how do we display them at funerals or family reunions where there is a chance that they might get loss? To put together a collage on a computer takes only minutes and to have a poster made just adds on a few

more hours to the project and it is worth it! Your originals stay home and you can give away your copies. Members that have tried their CD-ROM at the kiosk photos stations found that the CD-ROM reader only will work with the Kodak CDs. Well, a member in one of our meetings said that you just have to place them into a directory called "PICTURES" and save your file as a .jpg. It works and makes a beautiful 18" by 24" poster.

There are many more examples. Thank you for your sharing your thoughts and experiences!

Ed Rosenthal



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Family History Software Support (800) 346-6044
fhdfhsup@ldschurch.org



CAGG-NI's newsletter contains links to Internet sites and is not responsible for the content located on or through, any such third-party sites. You should always take care when downloading and using software from the Internet.

Compiler's note: You may be interested in this tool if you have a surname you are researching such as Schweisthal. Everytime you do a spellcheck, it will be questioned. By using this tool, you can eliminate this "misspelling".

Office 2000 Tip - Adding To Word's Autocorrect

From: TipWorld - <http://www.emazing.com/>

TipWorld is EMAZING! Welcome to the new home of TipWorld tips. For more info behind the change go to http://www.emazing.com/t_tw_welcome.jsp

Adding To Word's Autocorrect

When you need to add a word to AutoCorrect, you choose Tools>>AutoCorrect, type in your word and click Add. Then you click OK to close the dialog box and apply the correction. But you can shorten this up some. All you have to do is enter your word and press Enter twice — one time for Add, and again for OK.

-Sue Whitehouse

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Internet: The Key to Http://

From: DummiesDaily

<http://www.dummiesdaily.com>

The first section of a URL (the <http://> part) tells your computer what protocol (or language) it should use. The abbreviation HTTP actually stands for HyperText Transfer Protocol, the common language used by all computers on the World Wide Web. When a URL starts with <http://>, it is telling your computer that it is supposed to find and retrieve a specific Web page for viewing.

In some cases, URLs may start with other types of transfer protocols, which tell the computer to perform different kinds of operations. For example:

* <ftp://> informs the computer to use the File Transfer Protocol, the language computers use to download larger files over the Internet.

* <gopher://> instructs the computer to retrieve text-only information from the Web. This protocol was more commonly used before the WWW's graphical interface came into general use.

* <telnet://> is a protocol that enables you to access another computer over the Internet from a remote location.

Once your computer knows what language it should use, it needs to know where it should go to retrieve the information. And that is the function of the remaining sections of the URL.

For more on URLs, check out *Domain Names For Dummies* <http://catalog.dummies.com/product.asp?isbn=0764553178>] by GreatDomain.com, Steve Newman, and Susan Wels, published by Hungry Minds, Inc.

Internet: Disk Space Dilemmas

From: DummiesDaily

You may be wondering just how much disk space you really need to rent or borrow from a Web hosting provider if you're going to put up a Web site. After all, we're talking about a few megabytes of disk space, and you have several gigabytes of disk space on your machine. If you're worried that one or two megabytes of disk space isn't enough to host your Web site, keep in mind that Web pages are just text files, and they generally don't take up much space on a Web server. The biggest files are graphics and multimedia files.

Because large files take a long time to download over the Internet, you don't want your Web pages to have large numbers of big graphics or media files embedded in them. Visitors get tired of waiting for the page to show up after a while.

You can definitely manage with 2MB of space and 6MB is probably more than enough. Although you don't need it, Mac users can utilize their iTools iDisk that comes with 20MB of space, all of which you can use for a Web site.

For more about getting online, check out *The Internet For iMacs For Dummies*

[<http://catalog.idgbooks.com/product.asp?isbn=0764507966>] by Bob LeVitus and Natanya Pitts, published by Hungry Minds, Inc.

Internet Tools: Web Site Planning

From: "Dummies Daily"

The only tools you need to do the planning part of your first Web page are Web access (for doing research) and either a word processing and drawing program, or a pencil and paper — whichever is more comfortable — for sketching your plans and taking notes.

A few extra hours up front can save you a great deal of



time later, helping you produce a better Web page. Yet the planning step is the most frequently overlooked part of the Web publishing process.

To plan your Web site:

1. Determine the purpose of your site. Is this a personal site? Topical? Business? Entertainment?
2. Decide on the structure of your site and the layout of your pages. Decide how many pages you'll need. Try to build everything out from your home page
3. Decide what links to include. A Web page without links is pretty boring. Provide links to other pages within your site as well as to outside sites of interest. Create a list of possible links. Take a look at the list and see if there's a way to organize them into groups.

For more on getting your Web page up and running, pick up *Creating Web Pages For Dummies*, 5th Edition [<http://catalog.hungryminds.com/product.asp?isbn=0764507338>] by Bud Smith and Arthur Bebak, published by Hungry Minds, Inc.

Internet: Bounced Messages

From: DummiesDaily

Every Internet host that can send or receive mail has a special mail address called "postmaster" that is supposed to be guaranteed to get a message to the person responsible for that host. If you send mail to someone and get back strange failure messages, you may try sending a polite message to the postmaster.

For example, if mail sent to king@bluesuede.org returns with an error, you may send e-mail to postmaster@bluesuede.org asking something like, "Does Elvis the King have a mailbox on this system? TIA, Ed Sullivan."

For a great overview of all things Internet, check out *The Internet All in One Desk Reference For Dummies* [<http://catalog.hungryminds.com/product.asp?isbn=0764506765>], published by Hungry Minds, Inc.

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Ancestry Quick Tip

Ancestry Daily News, 4 June 2001

One of the fields I have been including on the main page of my family tree is "Lived In." This came about initially because of some notes I had about relatives living in a certain city. Since I didn't have any further information, I added

that field.

Later, I noticed the value of the "Lived In" field while looking at my grandmother's information. She was born in Tehuacana, Texas, in 1886. Then, she was married, had children, and lived in Teague, Texas. As she grew older, we put her in a nursing home in Friendswood, Texas, where she passed away. The statistics of her life would have said, "Born: Tehuacana, TX—Died Friendswood, Texas." There would have been no mention of Teague, where all the information could be located.

By having the field, "Lived In," you could not only alleviate this problem, but also enter the many locations where an ancestor had lived, thus making it easier to trace information. I suggest that this field become one of the standard fields when documenting an ancestor.

Sharon Moore

Virus Alerts

Dear Computer Lady,

I have been recently told by a friend that most of these virus alerts people send out to all their contacts could be and usually are hoaxes. I have been shown a web site that lists these hoaxes.

Like most people I panic slightly when I think my computer may become infected although I have a good anti-virus software, some virus seem to get through.

Here is the web site. It is very interesting and I think all your readers should have it in their favorites and check up on it often. <http://antivirus.about.com/compute/antivirus/library/blenhoax.htm>

Natalie

Vancouver Island, Canada

Dear Natalie,

You are right, most of the virus warnings that people send by e-mail are hoaxes. Here are several more places where you can check before you forward that next e-mail warning.

<http://www.vmyths.com/>

<http://www.datafellows.fi/news/hoax.htm>

<http://www.urbanlegends.com/>

Elizabeth

My Must Have CD

by Beverly Levine Smallwood

One of my favorite tools is the FamilySearch Family History Library Catalog on CD-ROM. I purchased it about a year ago and it's the CD I use the most. It gives me (near) instant access to a catalog describing over 2.5 million microforms and 300,000 books. Of course, I still have to go to the Family History Centers to order and use films.

But, why you ask, should you purchase this when it is readily available on the internet? Let me count the ways....

Firstly, it is more up to date. The CD includes entries through March of 2000 while the online catalog is only current through August 1999.

Secondly, it offers more ways to perform searches. They both allow searches by place, surname, author, call number, or film/fiche number. The CD includes a keyword search as well.

Thirdly, you don't have to look at things a page at a time. What? Well, when you pull up a very large record on the internet, you will be presented with 20 items at a time. If you request something really large, like NY ship arrivals, you get the first 20 films. Then you have to guess about how far towards the middle or end to click next. Forward, backward, all over town to find the date you need. The CD will pull up the entire record on one very large page. NY ship arrivals might take 10 minutes or more to load - so be patient. Once it comes up, CTRL+F [while holding the control key press "F"] to bring up the FIND window. Type in what you are looking for, in this case the year, and click on FIND NEXT. It will then drop down to the first instance of the number combination — which might be in a film or volume number. Keep clicking on FIND NEXT until it drops to the date.

Fourthly, for those of you with a slower connection to the internet, the pages load faster. I don't have to dial-in or log-on to the internet. I don't get

those annoying messages about the site being too busy and please check back later. I keep the disk in my CD drive almost all the time so it's always ready to go — even when I'm on the road, in a library, or even on a bus.

Convinced yet? There is a small dark side. It will only work with Internet Explorer. Even though I prefer Netscape, I have to keep Explorer on my laptop for the catalog. The only other complaint I have is that everything these days is in html tables. I very much preferred the old CD text catalogs that they had at the Family History Centers. I saved the catalog entries from the old catalogs to floppy and opened them in my word processor — easy. This requires much more copy and paste persistence. On the other hand, the old catalog didn't allow as many types of searches.

Are you still with me? In order to use it you must have: Windows(tm) 95, 98, or NT 4.0+, Pentium processor (or higher), 8MB RAM minimum (16MB recommended), 4x CD-ROM drive, VGA monitor with 256-color-capable video card, 4MB hard-disk space, Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 (or higher), Desktop area of 800 by 600 pixels recommended. Obviously, anything over these minimums will improve performance.

The cost is a mere five dollars. You may order it by phone (800-537-5971) or online by going to <www.familysearch.org>, click on ORDER/DOWNLOAD, then SOFTWARE PRODUCTS, then PERSONAL ANCESTRAL FILE & RELATED PRODUCTS. It is item 50081000 Family History Catalog on CD. I'm using it now to prepare for my trip to Salt Lake City, but I also plan to take it along. No more waiting to use the catalog.

Not convinced yet? Read: Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, CGRS, "The Family History Library Catalog on CD-ROM" GC Extra (6/15/2000)
< [HTTP://www.ancestry.com/library/view/columns/extra/1587.asp](http://www.ancestry.com/library/view/columns/extra/1587.asp) >.

Do you have a favorite software product? What about a great website? How about writing a review for our newsletter! We can all learn from one another. Ever waste your money on a book, CD, or website subscription. Help us to avoid it. Email your articles to Jim Cottrell at <jimbodeuce@yahoo.com>.

Other Group Events Compiled by Beverly Levine Smallwood

21 JULY 2001 - 10AM-12PM

Joy Reisinger will give two lectures on
Canadian research

BIGWILL

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wiilbig/meet.htm>
Grace Lutheran Church, 6000 Broadway St.,
Richmond, Illinois

26 JUL 2001 - 7:30PM

Polish History & Genealogy by Rosalie
Lindberg of the Polish Genealogical Society
of America

Kane County Genealogy Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilkcgs/>
meeting room of the Kane County Chronicle Build-
ing, 1000 Randall Road, Geneva

29 JULY 2001 - 2 PM

"Researching the Origins of Our Czech
Holocaust Torah"

presented by Donald Kraft and
"The Czech Torah Network"
presented by Susan Boyer

Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois (312) 666-
0100 <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/#meetings>
Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton Street, Skokie

31 JUL - 03 AUG 2001

2001 Genealogy and
Family History Conference

Brigham Young University - Email:
valiant_evans@byu.edu; Phone: (801) 378-4853.

07 AUG 2001 - 9:30AM

Origin and History of Surnames

by Kathy Wavrin

Elgin Genealogical Society [http://
www.elginarea.org/egs/page3.html](http://www.elginarea.org/egs/page3.html)
Gail Borden Public Library, 200 N. Grove Ave.,
Elgin

09 AUG 2001 - 7PM

Digging into Land Records II:
McHenry County

by Marilyn Koeller, Chief Deputy, Recorder of
Deeds Office

McHenry County Genealogical Society [http://
www.mcigs.org/](http://www.mcigs.org/)
Woodstock Public Library, 414 Judd Street,
Woodstock, IL

14 AUG 2001 - 7PM

Patricia Reeves - How to Read German
Church Records

Lake County Genealogical Society, [http://
www.rootsweb.com/~illcgs/meetings.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~illcgs/meetings.htm) Freemont
Library in Mundelein, IL

20 AUG 2001 - 7PM

Hereditary Diseases: Did Grandpa Give You
the Gout by James F. Hall

Zion Genealogical Society [http://nns.nslsilus.org/
wkkhome/zion/index.html](http://nns.nslsilus.org/wkkhome/zion/index.html)
Beach Park Village Hall, 11270 Wadsworth Rd,
Beach Park

22 AUG 2001 - 7PM

US Land Records

taught by Marlene Bedard
Naperville FHC phone (630) 505-0233
1320 Ridgeland Road (Ridgeland and Naper Boule-
vard)

Special Fall Events

12-15 SEPT 2001

2001 FGS/Quad Cities Conference

<http://www.fgs.org/2001conf/fgs-2001.htm>
Davenport, Iowa

Topics include British and Irish; Eastern European;
German; Scandinavian; "Back to Basics" Lectures; Immi-
gration; Naturalization; Afro-American; Computer/Internet.

29 SEPT 2001 - 8AM-4PM

Fox Valley Genealogical Society
Fall Conference

Explore the Future of Your Past
\$25, 30, 35

<http://members.aol.com/fvgs1/worksh01.html/>
Grace United Methodist Church, 300 E. Gartner
Road, Naperville

Michael John Neill will present four topics: Primary,
Secondary & Tertiary Sources; Tried and Tested Tidbits;
Documentation Roadblocks On the Information Superhigh-
way; and How to Use the LDS Family Search Website

29 SEP 2001

Cyndi Howells Conference

McHenry County Genealogical Society
<http://www.mcigs.org/>
McHenry County College (Details to be announced.)

Other Group Events

Compiled by Beverly Levine Smallwood

5-7 OCT 2001

2001 FEEFHS (Federation of East European Family History Societies) Eighth International Convention

**Ramada Inn South Airport
at Milwaukee, Wisconsin**

Their preliminary topics list covers Eastern & Central Europe, Germans from Russia, the German Empire, Jewish research, emigration/immigration, North America, Internet, and Maps, Atlases & Gazetteers. Registration form has been posted to the web site. <http://feefhs.org/conf/01mil/01mil-hp.html>

20 OCT 2001

Wisconsin State Genealogical Society's Fall 2001 Seminar Archives Research

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wsgs/seminar.htm>
Alliant Energy Center

(formerly the Expo Center), Madison, WI

Featuring Constance Potter, Archivist for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Genealogy Staff (Washington, DC); Peter Bunce, Director of Archival Operations, NARA Great Lakes Region (Chicago); (To Be Determined) Archives Division, State Historical Society of Wisconsin

03 Nov 2001

8AM TO 4 PM - \$25 - \$28 - \$30

Lake County Fall Workshop "Take the Mystery Out of Family Research"

College of Lake County - details at

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~illcgs/wkshp.htm>

Featured speaker is Kathleen Hinckley, genealogist, author and private investigator, Ms. Hinckley is a specialist on 20th century research. Glenn Longacre and Bob Heck are featured in an alternate track.

10 Nov 2001 - 8AM-4PM

NGS Regional Conference Sheila Benedict, CGRS & Cyndi Howells South Bend, Indiana

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/confSouthBend.htm>

Ms. Benedict's topics: The Importance of Collateral Research; Learn to Love Maps, County Histories, and City Directories; Newspaper Research Beyond Obituaries; Collecting, Recording, and Evaluating Data; Ms. Howells' topics: E-mail: How to Communicate Easily and Effectively with the World; The World Wide Web-Quit Surfing and Start Researching; Evaluating Web Sites; The Internet for Genealogy: A Twelve-Site Program

Page 8

Family History Centers

Compiled by Anne Jacobs

Buffalo Grove FHC News (Cook, Lake Counties)

15 East Port Clinton Road (Corner of Prairie & Port Clinton Roads)

1-847-913-5387

Hours: Wed., Thurs.

10:00am-2:00pm and 7:00pm-9:30pm

Sat. 10:00am-2:00pm

Closed Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Friday

The Buffalo Grove Family History Center would like to remind everyone that our indefinite loan collection has a heavy emphasis on Scottish research, Chicago Catholic Church and Cemetery records, as well as the Bari province of Italy. Please call to see if we have what you need.

Wilmette FHC News (Cook, Lake Counties)

2727 Lake Avenue

1-847-251-9818

Hours: Tues.-Thurs.

10:00am-3:00pm, 6:30pm-9:30pm

Sat. 9:00am-1:00pm

Closed Sunday, Monday, Friday

Closed: 2 weeks over Christmas & New Years and shortened August hours

The FHC will only be open on Saturdays during the month of August. Please take this into consideration when ordering films and making plans to view them.