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July 20, 2002

Trust Your Research to



PRESENTED BY
BEVERLY LEVINE SMALLWOOD

Our CAGG-NI President will demonstrate ByGones, a Basic Genealogical Note-Keeping System to organize your research notes and logs.

ByGones is an electronic file cabinet where you can record your successful research as well as your unsuccessful research so you don't have to do it again. It is similar to CLOOZ except it is more flexible and it is a free download.

This is the research exactly as you found it while entry into your lineage software is your interpretation of that research.

August 17, 2002 Tips and Tricks to Stretch Family Tree Maker

DAN NIEMIEC

Dan will show how to make the most use of Family Tree Maker to improve custom reports and to help organize your research. Even if you're not a FTM user, you can apply these techniques to your software program.

September 21, 2002

Photo Retouching

ERIC BOND

Learn how to fix up those old photos to make them look like they were taken yesterday.

Colonial Records of Connecticut Go Online

by Beverly Levine
Smallwood

If you have colonial Connecticut ancestors, you are probably already familiar with a 15 volume set of books titled Connecticut (Colony). The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, from April 1636 to October 1776 ... transcribed and published, (in accordance with a resolution of the General Assembly). The original source material is in the State Archives at the Connecticut State Library. The staff at the University of Connecticut Libraries has digitized all 15 volumes from a microfilm version and put it online at:

<http://www.colonialct.uconn.edu/>.

You may browse these books using an alphabetical subject index, searching by date, or by selecting a volume and page number. It then displays a jpeg image of the page requested. You may click on "Next" or "Previous" to flip through the pages of the book to flesh out the context of the entry as necessary. If you want to save a copy of the page, click on the link to download a 300 dpi TIFF image to your computer.

Because it is an image, or picture, of the page, you can not do a ctrl+F text search to find the occurrence of your ancestor's name on the page. This is not a great impediment to most genealogical researchers, though historians might find it a problem as not every keyword they might find interesting has been indexed. The website notes: "Although full-text and keyword access to the text is not yet available, future phases of the project will most certainly incorporate this level of advanced access." My only complaint would be that there is no provision to search the indexes of all the volumes at once.

I would suggest starting with the alphabetical index and looking not only under the surnames of interest, but also the towns they lived in. Your ancestor might not be named, but a look under the towns may shed some light on what the hot topics of conversation were at the time.



In these pages you'll find lawsuits and divorce, service in public office, military appointments and actions, laying out of land and surveying of roads, settlements, purchases, and loans. Sometimes a person's death is a footnote to his successor's appointment. If you have Connecticut ancestors, you will want explore this site thoroughly.

Dick Eastman reviewed this site in his weekly newsletter on June 26th. For those of you who may have missed it, go to <http://www.ancestry.com/library/view/columns/eastman/5969.asp> for his complete review. You might also want to consider subscribing to his online newsletter. I always look forward to its arrival in my in-box.



*The Newsletter Editor
will be on vacation
in August so . . .*



Friday, July 26th

President's Letter

I hope everyone had a safe and happy 4th of July. Looking back at last month's program, I think Virginia did a fine job demystifying html. Some of you may have been thinking, "Well, I don't really need to know that. My genealogy program will create all my web pages for me." Yes... and no. You see, whether you create html pages using a genealogy program or a word processor, you just might find the need to do a bit of tweaking to get it looking the way you want. Remember how Virginia clicked on "view source" to see the html behind the web page? If you see a great web site and you wonder how it was done, you can view the source to learn new techniques.

We also passed out Shop and Share coupons at the last meeting. Our second set of dates was July 1st through 3rd. I hope you all stocked up on the staples and bought a huge watermelon for your 4th of July picnic. I hope you remembered to hand out these coupons to your family, friends, and neighbors as well. This is one idea we came up with to raise funds without raising dues so we can do more for you. It doesn't cost you anything extra to turn in that coupon at check-out. (Though I did have to tell a new cashier what it was and what she needed to do.)

I just got a check from Jewel Food Stores for our first Shop and Share effort. It seems that thirty-one of you went shopping at Jewel June 3rd through the 5th and spent a total of \$2,140.28. Jewel sent Cagg-ni a check for \$107.01. I was hoping we could get at least 50 people to do their shopping on one of those three days, but it's a start. Our third and final set of Jewel Shop and Share days for 2002 will be September 9th through the 11th.

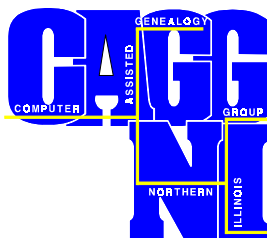
You may be asking yourself just why we need to raise funds. There are a couple of reasons for building a nest egg. Firstly, we have had some large turn-outs at some meetings this year, which is a good thing. There is no reason Cagg-ni couldn't or shouldn't be four times larger than it is at present. More members = more knowledge and experience to share with one another. Growth would also bring growing pains. The projector we use is fixed in a room of particular dimensions. If we out-grow the room, we would need to find another projector. Secondly, we've been discussing putting on or co-sponsoring a workshop. There are up-front costs attached to doing something like this and many societies like to have all expected costs in the treasury before embarking on the adventure. Successful workshops are not only great fund raisers in themselves, but they are also a great way of getting new members. If you have any ideas about or experience with workshops, please contact me. I'd also be eager to hear about any other fundraising ideas you may have.

This month's program is a demonstration of the Bygones Note-taking software. The program's author, Troy Adair, was kind enough to donate some CDs with the program and

slide-show tutorials. These will be available at our meeting for purchase as another small fundraiser for Cagg-ni. If you have a slow modem or being online means tying up your phone line, consider the advantages of a CD. I hope to see you all at the meeting. If you have never seen Bygones, you'll see why I'm a believer. If you've downloaded it, but still haven't gotten around to using it, I hope to get you started. If you are an enthusiastic Bygones user, I hope you'll join us and share your experiences. You see, Bygones is such a flexible and versatile program that every user might use it just a little differently.

See you soon.

Beverly Levine Smallwood



Officers

President	Beverly Levine Smallwood mailto:caggni_bev@yahoo.com
VP/Program Director	Patricia Weisshaus mailto:PatJW28@interaccess.com
Financial/Membership	Henry (Chip) Douglas mailto:CDouglas1@ameritech.net
Promotion/Publicity	Rick E. Sommer mailto:RESommer@aol.com
Acting Secretary	Mary Sparks mailto:mebreslin98@Yahoo.com
Newsletter Editor	Jim Cottrell mailto:JimboDeuce@Yahoo.com
Refreshments/Greeters	Janice Wasmer
Web Master	Robert Pulse mailto:ROPulse@aol.com
Computer Mentors	Ken Cramer Anne Jacobs mailto:Ancestorseeker@attbi.com Robert Pulse
Genealogy Mentors	Larry Olson Geneva Shay Patricia Weisshaus mailto:PatJW28@interaccess.com

Finding Eastern European Locations *By Anne Jacobs*

Even if you don't have Jewish genealogy research, there is a great tool available on the JewishGen site: <http://www.jewishgen.org> Pat Weisshaus first pointed this feature out to me. I have found it very useful even though I am not doing Jewish genealogy.

One of my problems with German genealogy is with locations. I am not familiar with Germany as I am with the United States. So any tool which I can find to help me with this problem in my research is welcome.

One such tool I have found helpful is on the JewishGen site called "ShtetlSeeker". A Shtetl is a "village", so this is a tool to find villages in Eastern Europe. Using this tool you can find all possible villages/settlements/cities with a certain name or similar name. After you have found the village then you can use another feature at this site to find all villages within a given distance of the target village. This is helpful as it gives you an idea of what is reachable from your ancestor's home town. One of the maps which Chris Kite presented in his Maps program earlier this year was one which showed how far you could travel from New York City in a day over the years (1810, 1850, 1900, etc.). It is important to know what villages are within a day's travel of your ancestral home; this should define the area of your research.

The Shtetl Seeker is found on the site listed under the main heading Research, subheading JewishGen Databases as a link to another page. This screen explains the purpose of the site and some limitations. At the bottom of the page is the Shtetl functions links. Start by clicking on the link "towns". This will bring up a "form" page which allows you to enter a town name and select a specific country. Type the name of a village of interest in the form slot and hit enter. I am interested in Bitburg so that is what I will use. Click on the button "Start the search".

The results are displayed in a table containing the Town name, Coordinates, Name Type, Country and Distance/Direction from reference point. There are 42 matches displayed. Many of them seem to be "way off base". However, that seemed to also be the case the first time I saw the results of the SOUNDEX search for one of my names. This site uses a different SOUNDEXing method called Daitch-Mokotoff which works better for Slavic and Yiddish names, pulling more divergent spellings together. An explanation of this method is found on the same site under the main page

link InfoFiles. I have found this list interesting as it presents many possibilities which I was unaware of such as Betberg and Bedberg. Frequently I have assumed that other researchers have misspelled a name and this list shows that there are other names very similar to the one I believe to be correct.

Find the most correct location in the presented list and copy down its coordinates for later use in the other neat feature of this site. If you are not sure of the correct town, by clicking on the coordinates, you are taken to a Mapquest map of the town which gives you an idea of the general location. (Hint: If you hold down your right mouse button and select "Open a new window" from the pop-up menu which appears, you will save your screen position on the Shtetl page. I find this useful in many of my searches as it maintains the original page position without hitting the "Back key".) After you are satisfied that this is the correct town, return to the Jewish site by hitting the back menu selection or just close the window, depending on how you got to this screen.

Now you are ready to find all the towns close to your ancestor's home town. Click on the word (link) "distance" in the last paragraph of the page. A new form page is presented into which you can key the coordinates you copied earlier. Up to 2 digits fit in each one of the slots. Bitburg's coordinates are 4958 632 so I key in 49 in the first slot, 58 in the second and 6 in the third and 32 in the last. (If you question how to split the numbers into Latitude and Longitude, look at a map of the area to determine what combination makes sense for the area.) I may select from 1 to 30 miles or kilometers using the form field just above the coordinates fields. Also, I can limit my search to only those villages beginning with a certain letter by keying it in the last form field on the page. After making all my selections (10 miles, 49 58 6 32 and nothing in the beginning letter slot), I click on the "Start the search" button. 171 Shtetls are returned in a table similar to the first table returned. However, this time the last column gives the number of miles from the target location. I have found many of the other villages in my genealogy listed in this table. If you know which town has the church in it, you can see how far they had to go. It is interesting to note how far my people had to travel to each place. This also gives you a list of towns you can take to the FamilySearch site to see what films the LDS Church has on these villages.

Chicagoland Family History Centers

Hyde Park FHC News
(Chicago, Cook County)

5200 South University Avenue
1-773-493-1830

Sun 9:00am-11:00pm and 1:00pm-6:00pm
Wed. 6:30-9:00pm, Friday 5:30-9:00pm,
Sat. 9:00am-4:00pm

Closed Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, Holidays,
1st weekend of April and October

Hyde Park has changed its hours making it easier to research
your family.

July Puzzler:

What determines the scope of the search when you use "Find" in a word processor or a browser (Netscape)?

July Puzzler Answer:

The entire document/page is searched until you have found something. Nothing in the "document" is highlighted at the beginning; after a find, the "found" text is highlighted. I have found that at times, only the highlighted text is searched. If I do subsequent searches, sometimes nothing is found which I have learned to question. If this happens to you, change the search to something you know is there, like "the" without the quotes. If it is not found, you know that the search is not working like you expect it to be. Make sure that nothing is highlighted and try the search again. I don't know why this happens sometimes but clearing the highlighting corrects the fluke.

Family Story Question of the Month:

What has been a long standing family incident/story regarding politics.

Tag Line:

Always remember you are unique, just like everyone else.

Publishing a Web Page

By Anne Jacobs

Virginia Jenkins presentation brought quite a few compliments on how well the material was delivered and that "she really knows her stuff". She gave the three steps to a personal web site as: Plan, Code, and Publish. I have received a few inquiries about the last step since the presentation, so I thought I would try to explain further.

In order to publish your website, you have to upload each page (file) to a unique place on the web. Every website page has a unique address. CAGG-NI's address, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni> is at RootsWeb. The first part of this address is RootsWeb, and the "~ilcaggni" is our little corner of the RootsWeb site. Think of it as our file cabinet. Unless you register and pay for your own domain name, your website will have a unique file folder name at the end of someone else's address as well.

Every ISP (Internet Service Provider) that I know of will provide you with a standard amount of space to establish a website. The first portion of your website's address is likely to be the same as your ISP's home page. The last portion will be your unique "folder" at this address. Many ISPs use your e-mail address as the name of your unique folder. If I were to establish a home page at attbi.com it would be <http://www.attbi.com/ancestorseeker> with ancestorseeker being my own unique identification, my e-mail account, (called a screen name by AOL). To find what your address would be visit your ISP's home page and look for the instructions on establishing your web page. Part of the directions at your ISP will tell you what your unique folder name is. (Not to muddy the waters, but there are also other websites which offer free space, such as MyFamily.com and Yahoo.com. Some are private and you invite "members" who can view the site and others are open to the entire Internet audience.)

Once you have your website address, you know where to publish the files(html, jpg, etc.) which will comprise your site. You publish your website by uploading each file to this address. Each page must have its own unique name. The software you use depends on your ISP or browser. The process is called FTPing (File Transfer Protocol) the files(s) to this folder. When I established the CAGG-NI site, I used Netscape Composer which has a Publish function listed in the File dropdown menu. Once you start this process, you will be able to identify the file to upload by supplying its full address (the source) as well as the address to send the file to (the target).

This is as specific as I can get because the exact steps are dictated by the software you use and the site to which you upload your web pages. If you have problems, send a message to the CAGG-NI e-mail account and help will arrive soon.

Other Group Events Compiled by Beverly Levine Smallwood

31 JUL 2002 - NAPERVILLE FHC

Preserving Our Family Photo Heritage

BY JANET SOLIS

To register for this class: email
deanna@spingola.com or call the FHC at 505-0233

04-09 AUG 2002 - TORONTO

IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

<http://www.jgstoronto.ca/Conferences2.html>

07-10 AUG 2002

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) at the Ontario Convention Center, in Ontario, California

<http://www.fgs.org/2002conf/FGS-2002.htm>

08 AUG 2002 - 6:30 PM

Dead Men Do Tell Tales:

On-Site Cemetery Research in Marengo

McHenry County Genealogical Society

<http://www.mcigs.org/MeetingNew.htm>

10 AUG 2002 - 10:30AM

TMG (The Master Genealogist) User Group Meeting

Schaumburg District Library, 130 S. Roselle Road

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni/>

13 AUG 2002 - 7PM

Fremont Library in Mundelein

Lake County Probate Research - Debbie Mieszala

Lake County Genealogical Society

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

13 AUG 2002 - 7:30 PM

Records in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago - Julie Satzlik

Schaumburg Township District Library
Genealogy Group

15 AUG 2002 - 7PM

Gail Borden Public Library

KATHRYN BARRETT

Are You Ready for 1930?

Elgin Genealogical Society

<http://www.elginarea.org/egs/page3.html>

19 AUG 2002 - 7PM

What is in a name, the History of Lake County - Diane Dretzky

Zion Genealogical Society

<http://nsn.nslsilus.org/wkkhome/zion/index.html>

Beach Park Village Hall

11270 Wadsworth Rd, Beach Park

25 AUG 2002 - 2PM NORTHBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY

MARTIN TOUHY

The 1930 Census and Related Sources

North Suburban Genealogical Society &

Jewish Genealogical Society

<http://www.wpld.alibrary.com/nsgs.htm>

21 SEP 2002 - ALL DAY

(early registration deadline is August 17th)

British Isles Research

Over Here/Over There

BIGWILL & McHenry County Genealogical Society
at McHenry County College

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wiilbig/meet.htm>

28 SEPT 2002 - 8AM-4PM

Fox Valley Genealogical Society Fall Conference

Unlocking Ancestral Mysteries

WITH HENRY Z "HANK" JONES

<http://members.aol.com/fvgs1/index.html/>

Grace United Methodist Church

300 E. Gartner Road, Naperville

03-05 OCT 2002

Iowa Genealogical Society Annual Conference,
Marshalltown, Iowa

Your Elusive Ancestor

BY SHARON DEBARTOLO CARMACK

http://www.iowagenealogy.org/Conference/2002Fall/fall_main.htm

04-06 OCT 2002

Polish Genealogical Society

2002 Conference - Basics & Beyond

Ramada Inn, 6600 N. Mannheim Rd., Rosemont

12 OCT 2002 - ALL DAY - WAUSAU, WI

Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Fall Conference

FEATURING HENRY "HANK" Z. JONES, JR., FASG

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wsqs/meetings.htm>

June Meeting Notes

By Anne Jacobs

Creating a Web Page

Virginia Jenkins gave her presentation on HTML codes to create web pages. She had already made the presentation to the TMG group and it was such a hit that she was asked back for an encore to the main group. Virginia started her talk by discussing the steps to creating a web site. First, decide what content you want to have on your website. After you have this focus, plan the site, using a paper and pencil. Sketch out its content and structure, breaking it into bite sized pieces because people dislike too much scrolling and smaller pages will load quicker. Next “code” the pages and lastly, publish your website (see my article on publishing elsewhere in this newsletter).

Although this seems to be an intimidating subject, once you see what is involved, it becomes easy to understand. All web pages are simple text documents. This is why the message at the bottom of your browser screen says “downloading document” when it is accessing a web page. Simple web sites are created using a specific format called HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language). It has its roots in newspaper markup language which printers would use to indicate special format instructions. More complex sites use java, applets, frames and cascading style sheets. These are mentioned only to let you know that they exist but you don’t need them. Your website can be quite uncomplicated. Once you have your confidence up after creating your first site, you can delve into these more sophisticated tools.

The basic format of most HTML codes is a beginning code and an ending code. These are almost identical except that the ending code contains a slash (/). Contained within the opening code boundaries may be attributes, these are not required. Most codes are bounded by less than (<) and greater than (>) symbols. So most HTML code pairs look like this:

```
<code attribute=”myattribute” > </code>
```

Virginia presented the basic codes used in web site organizing them into categories:

- Basic tags in HTML documents
- Tags which define structure
- Text effects and color tags including special characters
- Adding graphics
- Links and anchors

Virginia organized her material by creating web page elements which stated what was being demonstrated using the HTML code which created that effect. So she would have “This is bold text” surrounded by the HTML codes which causes the text to be displayed as bold. So this would be: `This is bold text.`

Naturally, there are some exceptions to the rules. Some HTML codes are composed of an opening code without a closing code such as a “next line” code which is `
` without an `</BR>` which makes sense if you think about it. A handout at the meeting contained all the codes you need to create a page.

One suggestion she made was to look at “what makes a web page tick” next time you see a page which impresses you. You do this by selecting the “View Source” selection from the View menu (Netscape) and “Source” selection from the View menu (Internet Explorer). Focus in on one area of page rather than trying to learn the entire page. Look for the English which is displayed on the screen and examine the HTML tags which are associated with this portion of the page remembering that `<code>` begins the structure and `</code>` ends the structure. Virginia has a website which is the outline she used for the presentation including supporting documents. Its address is <http://homepage.interaccess.com/~vjenkins/outline.htm> Try this with her pages.

Most genealogy programs today generate HTML to display your data on the Internet. However, frequently, this generated code does not meet your standards. With what was presented at this meeting, you can tweak this generated code to improve the appearance of your site and make it yours.

Virginia recommended a number of books for further study and as reference books. These were:

Scharf, Dean. *HTML 3.2 Visual Quick Reference*, Que Books, 1997.

Maran, Ruth. *Teach Yourself HTML Visually. & Creating Web Pages with HTML*. IDG Books Worldwide. 1999

Niederst, Jennifer. *Web Design in a Nutshell: A Desktop Quick Reference*. O’Reilly Books, 1999

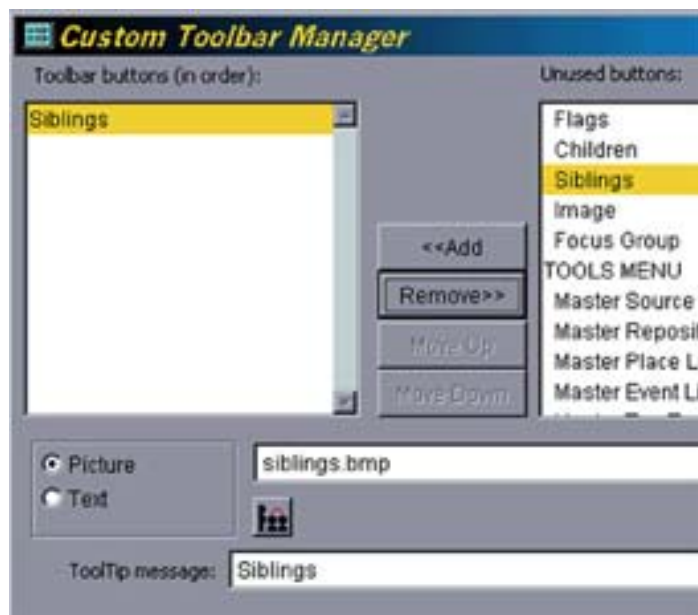
Wilson, Richard S. *Publishing Your Family History on the Internet*. Compuology, 1999.

The Master Genealogist Tips by Beverly Levine Smallwood

Creating Your Own Shortcuts

Is there something you do all the time? Why not create a custom toolbar button? A time saver is always desirable whether it is something you need all the time or just for now. Here is how to do it and some suggestions of buttons I've found useful.

To add a custom button, go to Tools → Options (or CTRL+O) and click on the Toolbar tab (in version 5 you simply right click on the toolbar and select Customize). The box on the left has all the buttons on your toolbar. The top item is the button on the far left; the bottom item is the button on the far right. The box on the right contains other items that can be added. Functions are arranged according to where they appear on the dropdown menus but some of the most interesting are all the way at the bottom. Select a useful function, like "Search for Siblings" and click on Add. Click in the left-hand box and go to the bottom; click on "Search for Siblings" then click on Properties. If you have a bitmap or icon to apply to the button, you may apply it here, otherwise leave it on Text and input something brief and informative like "Sibs" (without the quotes).



Anything you type next to ToolTip Message will be displayed in a pop up bubble when you hover your mouse over the button. Click OK and OK again to go back to TMG. You will now see a button labeled Sibs. Whenever you click on it, you will either be moved to the

person's brother or sister, or be presented with a list of siblings if there are more than one. I've found this button useful in data entry, particularly with census and other "whole family" type records.

I go to the Master Source List quite often so, rather than selecting Tools → Master Source List each time, I created a button that would open it with a single click. Creation of the button is just like adding "Sibs".

If you played with the Relative Auto-tag from last month's article, you might want to create a custom button to toggle it on and off. Create the button just like the "Sibs" button above. You'll find it near the bottom of the right hand box. One click will turn the feature off; another click turns it back on. Unfortunately, you will have to go through the steps outlined last month to change the target individual.

I've been doing a lot of the 1930 census lately so I added a button to add a census tag rather than opening the tag box and dropping down to select census. To do this, select "Add a tag of a specific type", which can be found near the bottom of the list. This button requires an additional parameter so when you add it to the left, a window pops up to warn you of this. You will see an extra spot at the bottom of the properties dialog box for the tag label. Make sure you type it in exactly - caps, lower case and all. Now a single click opens a census tag for data entry. When I've finished with the census and start working on a will book or land records, I can change the properties for this button to that tag type.

A good way to preview the sentence structure and narrative flow as you are doing data entry is to create a report to preview it a little bit at a time.

Since you will be looking at this report on a frequent basis, you'll want to attach it to a toolbar button.

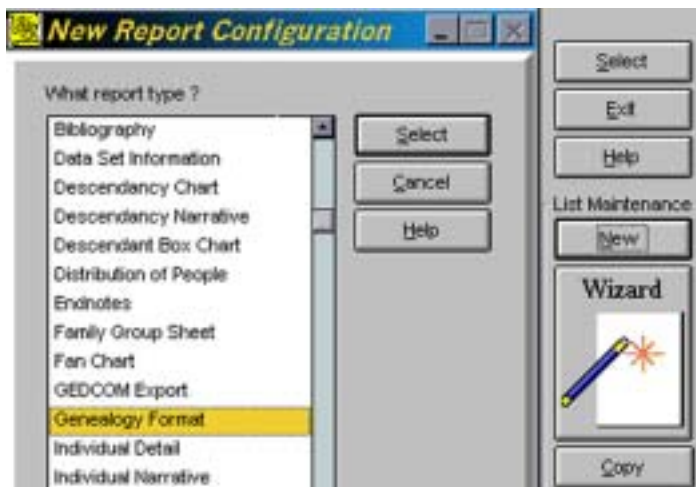
Let's start with report creation.

As with everything else, there is more than one way to do this. You can go to Report → Descendants →

Continued on next page

TMG Tips (Continued)

Journal (Narrative) → (design another) but I would suggest you go to Report → Custom Report Writer and click on New, then select Genealogy Format from the list. Give it a name and be sure you note what it is



exactly - upper case, lower case, spaces and all. This will be important when we create the button. On the General Tab, make sure output is to the screen, then click on Publication Tools and make sure Memos, Sources, and Exhibits are all set to "none" since the report is not meant to be printed and published. Leave the Focus Tab set to "Prompt When Generated" and click on the Type Tab to choose a style (Register, Record, TAG, or custom) and limit it to one generation. Make any additional choices on the Tags and Misc. Tabs, then click Generate to verify that the parameters you've set give the desired results.

Now that the report has been created, let's add it to a button. Type CTRL+O and click on the Toolbar tab. Look for "Execute a report by configuration name" under Special Functions in the right-hand box and add it to the toolbar box on the left. A warning box will tell you to modify the parameters. Locate and select it in the left-hand box, then click on Properties. In addition to naming the button and modifying the ToolTip message, put the report name in at the bottom exactly as it was named - case, spaces, and all. Now a single click will bring up this report so you can preview your results onscreen as you go along, rather than engaging in a major editing job when you are ready to publish.

What buttons will you create?

Keyboard Template for TMG Users

Well, TMG 5.0 has been released. Some TMG users around the country have developed templates which can be downloaded to help you get used to the new hot key assignments. Here are a few sites to check for these downloads:

The Roots Users Group of Arlington, Va. Site <http://www.rootsusers.org> has a PDF format requiring Adobe Acrobat and an zip version. Links to the un-zip software are provided.

Rusty Wright created his own Adobe version at: <http://eructate.berkeley.edu/tmg/tmg-quickref.html>

OR

<http://www.tmgtips.com/TMG-QuickRef.zip>

Tracking Life Span Using TMG

By Anne Jacobs

In reading this piece, please note that both Tags and Flags are discussed. There is both a Living Tag and a Living Flag in TMG. Which one is being addressed makes a difference in understanding my technique.

I have been collecting obits lately. Obituaries frequently have a list of surviving family members. It occurred to me that this information might be useful in narrowing down the survivors' death date. I was adding a Death Tag for each survivor and recording that they died, or would die, sometime after the date of their relative's obit. The problem with this method is that the "Living Flag" is changed to "N" when a Death Tag is entered for a person, and they might still be living.

This caused me to change my method. I discovered a tag called Living. (I believe this is a standard tag, in other words, one established in the base TMG package). I now use the Living Tag to record that they were last known to be living on a particular date. If I later obtain another obit, or any other data, with a later date, I just change the established date to the new one. In this way, I can keep "living" people as living which prevents their details from being copied to a GEDCOM when I select the "Suppress details for living people" option.