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August 21, 2004

Report Definition - GEDCOM Export

General Focus Optio

Tag Types : None
 All
 Selected
Define

Names : Primary Only
 All Variations

Events : Primary Only
 All Variations

Miscellaneous : ID Numbers
 Memos
 External Files
 Sources
 Event level only
 Sureties
 SOUR level
 Widowed note to SO
 Name NPFX/NSFX
 Suppress details for
 Extract recognizable
 External image and a

GEDCOM Files

Presented by Anne Jacobs

Everyone has their own favorite piece of genealogy software. If you want to exchange research with your cousins, you need a method to do this. If your first software choice no longer meets your criteria, you need a method to migrate your data into your new choice. GEDCOM provides this vehicle. In order to exchange data, whether it be between software packages or between other researchers, creating a GEDCOM is a time saving tool. You don't have to enter your data. A GEDCOM file is the commonly accepted method of transfer. Come to see "everything you ever wanted to know about GEDCOMs but were afraid to ask".

September 18, 2004

GenSmarts

Presented by
R. Aaron Underwood

GenSmarts is an inexpensive software "add-on" that uses artificial intelligence to analyze your existing genealogy file and produce research suggestions.

October 16, 2004

How to Learn Software in 30 minutes

Presented by Everett Butler

Everett has years of activity in genealogical research and enjoys helping others get started. His passion is learning to leverage new software tools and guiding others to do the same.

July Meeting Notes

Where in the World Wide Web is Carmen Sandiego's Genealogy Presented by Carolyn Meeker on July 17th, 2004

Reported by Joe Feitler

Carolyn's talk focused on reviewing the "geography" of the Internet to perform genealogy. She explained her early interest in the Meeker family ancestors, in conjunction with her cousins' efforts already in progress in Wisconsin, Alabama, and Tennessee. Since her genealogy work preceded the PC era by about ten years, she used paper forms, sent letters to ask for information, and went on research trips. Since then she has gradually switched to the Internet for her research to

- § share information
- § query appropriate databases,
- § investigate searchable files and web sites, and
- § learn about new search techniques most appropriate for genealogical research.

Then she proceeded to explain how she had prepared for this particular presentation:

- § Searched her memory and files to draw on her many personal experiences
- § Recalled the strategies and methods based on a talk given by Cindi Howell (of "Cindi's List" fame)
- § Solicited helpful ideas from other CAGG-NI members
- § Played several versions of the children's game "Where in the World in Carmen Sandiego" that tries to teach geography to youngsters
- § Looked for helpful genealogy magazine articles, such as the ones published in

- Family Tree Magazine – 101 Best Web Sites
- Heritage Quest
- Genealogy Computing

Carolyn then reminded us that the Internet as a resource really resembles a library. For example, its contents can be categorized as

- § Facts
- § Fiction
- § Romance
- § Intrigue
- § Comedy
- § (And perhaps even some others to suit your personal preferences)

She pointed out that the Internet normally contains resembles an (old-fashioned) library card catalog with the aid of:

- § Search Engines and
- § Directories

The location (or "Web address") of any material corresponds to a particular URL ("Universal Record Locator"). This corresponds to the relevant library shelf location where this particular material is kept.

Usually, there are a few cross-references between some different Web-stored materials ("Hot Links"). But there is a big difference between an old library card catalog and the Web: In the card catalog, any cross-reference was a separate reference card provided by a librarian. But in the Internet environment a current user can create a customized "Hot Link" between a word in a document in process and a particular Web resource. This becomes a very important advantage when using the Web for genealogical research. For example, a genealogical researcher can enter data into an appropriate search form on a PC where this entry can also serve as a "Hot Link" to some pertinent resource material appearing at a Web site.

At this point Carolyn alerted us to the following potential problem situations for a given Web site's information: Specifically, a particular web site may:

- § Lead back to the Ancestry.com

site

§ Charge for using material on this web site, either as an annual subscription or on per-use basis

§ Publish your personal data that you submit for public use (and then even charge a fee for its shared use)

§ Appear on a "hosted web site" where your personal data is accompanied by paid advertisements (some of them are not always germane to genealogy)

§ Move, or change the web site's name (its URL) with minimal notice to you and your fellow researchers

§ Suddenly lose a site's promised maintenance so that you are no longer able to update your personal information (or — even worse — cannot even reach it at all)

§ Involve a very long web address, or one that is hard to remember or spell properly

§ Require pass-word controlled access to your information to protect it from it from vandalism

§ Include personal information (address, phone number) that should not be made public for privacy reasons, or could be misused by a specialized search engine as a source for unwelcome ("SPAM") messages

§ Display the information in a foreign language; sometimes an English version may become available by clicking on a small British or US flag on that site's "Home Page"

§ Include completely (or partially) inaccurate information; frequently, this situation may be quite difficult for a user to recognize

Our speaker also offered the following list of Web site categories of interest to a genealogical researcher:

Archives, Cemetery, Census, Communication, Death Index, City Directories, Courts, Educational Institutions, Ethnic, Genealogy, History — General, History — US, Immigration, Library

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President's Letter

Last month, **Carolyn Meeker** took us on a genealogical tour of the internet. Many interesting web sites were displayed and a list was distributed to all attendees. Anne Jacobs told us how we could get Google to send us Alerts of new web pages for a particular search. I set one of these up as soon as I got home.

This month, Anne will be teaching us all about GEDCOM. If you've ever had problems downloading and importing a GEDCOM file, you'll want to attend this session.

Next month, **R. Aaron Underwood** will be demonstrating GenSmarts. This software can import your genealogy data directly from most major software programs without using GEDCOM as an intermediary. The software will then analyze your data and suggest research sources you should be using to help you put your to-do list together. I know you'll want to see this software in action.

Fall will soon be upon us and that means: Time for the annual members survey. Please get your suggestions in so we can include them on the survey.

If you're a big fan of Dr. George K. Schweitzer, he will be doing an all-day program in Indianapolis on August 28th. Details may be found at http://indianahistory.org/pub_prog/genealogy/gen_programs.html. If you've never had the Schweitzer experience, he is not to be missed.

Looking for a nice fall vacation? Why not attend The International Society for British Genealogy and Family History British Institute in Salt Lake City, Utah, from 10-16 October 2004. There will be a week's worth of courses, one-on-one sessions, and plenty of research. Details on the program may be found at: <http://www.isbgfh.org/institute.htm>.

I mentioned an article at the July meeting that you might find interesting. A follow up article appears this month – both of them in *UpFront with NGS*, the online newsletter from the National Genealogical Society. Anyway, the series is titled “Digital Imaging for Genealogists (DIG)” by Dennis Ridenour. Last month he presented “The Difference Between a Digital Camera for General Use and a Genealogy Camera” – which you may read at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/UpFront/071504/web/page7.html>. This month's contribution is titled “Paring Down Our List of Digital Cameras” <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/UpFront/080104/web/page7.html>.

One last quick note. If you are planning a quick trip to Fort Wayne, be aware that the library will be closed on Friday, August 20th.

See you soon.

Beverly Levine Smallwood

Internet Copyright Infringement site

Submitted by Christine Clark

I got this link from a newsletter I subscribe to Research Buzz. You can put in a webpage address (presumably your own) and find out where else on web someone is using that same information.

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

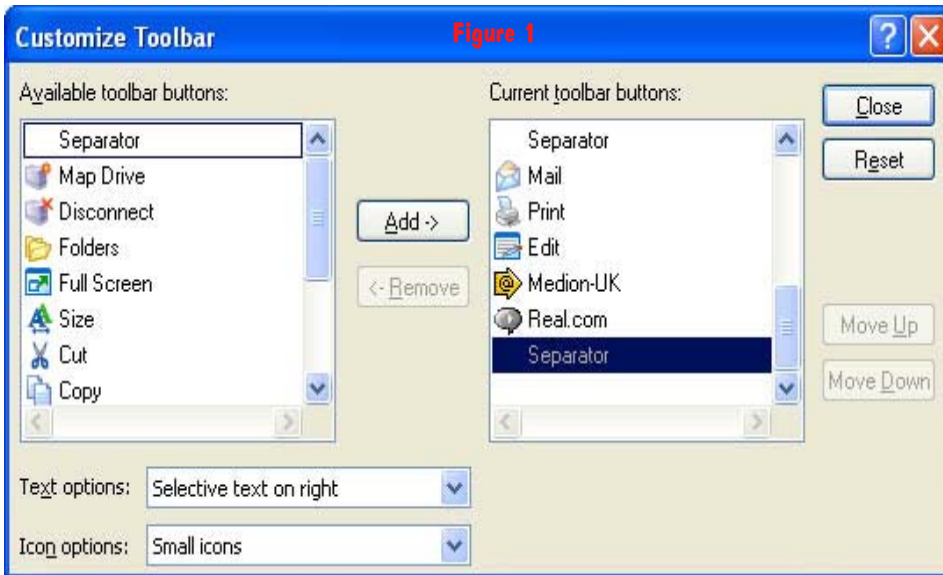


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Internet Tips

by Beverly Levine Smallwood
Internet Explorer -

Did you know you could customize the tool bars? Right click on the tool bar or select Views → Toolbars → Customize... to bring up the dialog shown in Figure 1. You may now select which func-



tions appear on the tool bar, the size of the icons, and whether or not you want text labels in addition to the icons.

Ever want to see more of the screen at a time? Pressing F11 will toggle between regular view (with toolbars) and Full Screen view.

Sometimes it's really nice to open new windows rather than leaving the page you are on. If, for example, you've done a Google search and are working your way down the list of results you'll find it easier to close the window than to keep hitting the back button to get back to the search results. There are several ways to open new windows. You can right click on the link and select "Open in New Window", but that takes too much time. The quick way is to press and hold the shift key while you click on the link. [You may set up Preferences in Google to automatically open all links in new windows as well.]

You can easily change your "Home" page so that every time you open Internet Explorer it goes to a particular web site. It is usually preconfigured to go to

MSN.com, but you might find yourself going to a different web site most of the time – so why not just have it start there? First, open the web page you want to always go to. The home page is set from Tools → Internet Options → General tab. You may type in an address or click on

Use the computer to find the word(s) you are looking for on the web page. Select "Find on Page" from the Edit menu or press Ctrl+F to get the Find dialog. [Figure 3] If you don't get any results, try searching for a word you can easily see to make sure that the search is working properly. Sometimes you have to be clicked in the right frame before it will work. Sometimes it won't find images that are cleverly disguised as words.

Depending on how the web site is set up, you may be able to make the text larger or smaller. Go to View → Text Size and pick a size that works for you. If you need extra help, try the Magnifier utility. It takes over the top couple of inches on your screen and follows your mouse around. In other words, it would be like a magnifying glass was attached to your mouse that projected up to the top of the screen. It can be accessed from Start → Programs → Accessories → Accessibility → Magnifier.

To learn more about Internet Explorer:

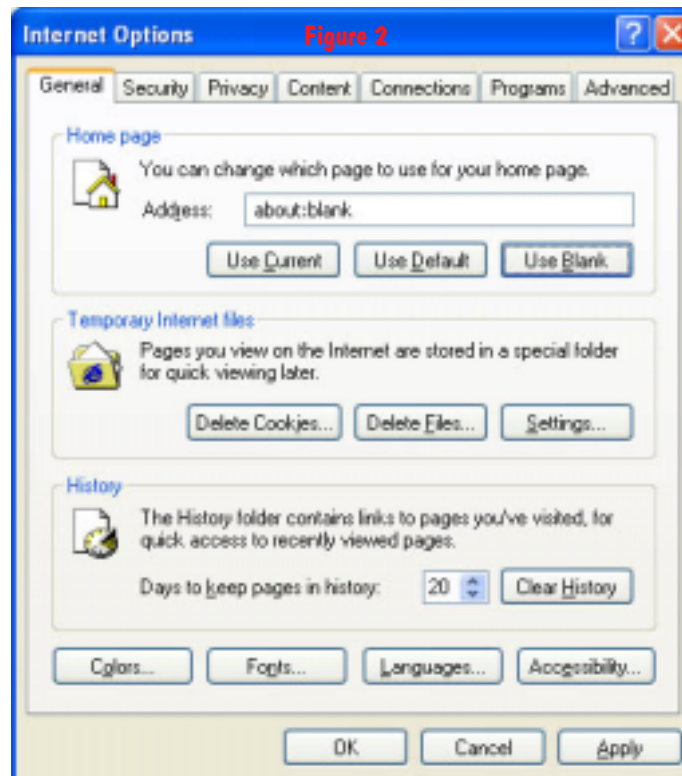
Paul Gil "IE Handbook: Internet Explorer Tips and Techniques"

[About.com http://netforbeginners.about.com/cs/browsing/a/IE_handbook.htm](http://netforbeginners.about.com/cs/browsing/a/IE_handbook.htm)

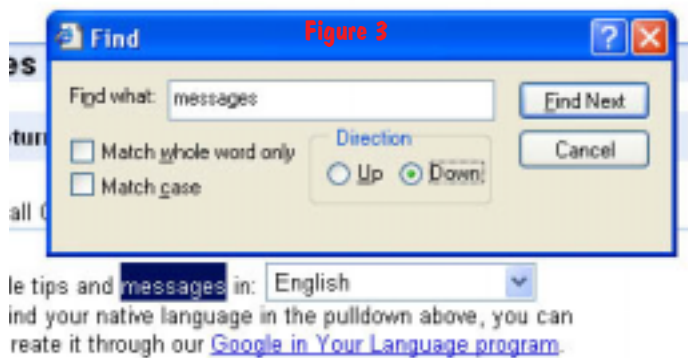
Eastern Illinois University *IE Tutorial* <http://www.eiu.edu/~mediasrv/ie/menu.html>

NetGuide Web
"Great tips to make the most of your browser" added 2002-01-31 http://www.netguide.com.au/useful_stuff/tutorials/article.php?iid=47

"Use Current", "Use Default", or "Use Blank". [Figure 2] You may also clear your cookies, cache, and history entries from here.



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Outlook Express -

Create multiple signature files to insert into your messages. You might set up one signature file to have your name, address, and phone number. Another signature might just have your name and the surnames you are interested in for a particular county. Still another signature file might list your name and all the areas of a particular country that you are doing researching in. When composing an email, just insert the appropriate signature. You can even create an icon for your toolbar... by opening a new message and right clicking on the toolbar to customize it. Now add Insert Signature to the Current Toolbar buttons box. You may also rearrange, add/subtract, monkey with the icon size and text, etc. before closing this.

While you are in this blank email, click on View → All Headers. This will add Bcc: to your address lines. What is Bcc you ask? Bcc stands for Blind Carbon Copy. It is a way to send someone a copy without including them in the message headers. Have you ever received a joke that had been forwarded 18 times? All those email addresses that are showing were not blind carboned.

Ever wonder how to delete a suspicious email without opening it? Turn off the Preview Pane. This is a toggle button that you can add to the main toolbar by right clicking and choosing Customize. Click on it once and the preview pane goes away. Now clicking once on a message just selects it. To open it you would have to double click. Unsure if it is spam? Try right clicking on the message and

peeking at the message source. The message source is a pure text “picture” of the email. Scanning the headers and some of the text should help you decide whether this message should be opened or sent to the trash folder.

Set up folders and subfolders to contain

your various mail lists, friends and colleagues. Now, set up Outlook Express to sort your incoming mail by going to Tools → Message Rules → Mail. A typical rule for me might say “If the To: or CC line contains HANDS-L@Rootsweb.com, move it to the Hands Folder.” This doesn’t stop it from checking the message against the next rule down though. The next rule says exactly the same thing, except I’ve added “AND the body contains ‘Henry Benjamin’ or ‘Morgan’ or ‘Kensington’ or ‘West Ham’ or ‘London’ or ‘Cross’” to the Conditions and told it that, in addition to moving to the Hands folder, to highlight it with Red, flag it and stop processing any more rules. Now I can skim over busy lists looking for messages with key words and phrases that are of more interest to me if I don’t have time to read every message.

Take a few minutes to look over the possibilities for both *conditions* to look for and *actions* to take. If there is someone especially annoying on a list or in your life, tell it to look for that sender and delete the message immediately. Tell it to delete messages from the server without downloading if they are from a particular person and contain attachments or are larger than a certain size.

If you filter all your family & friends into one folder, business email into another, and mail lists into their own folders, then your inbox might only contain questionable items. Take a minute to sift through them and refine your filters if necessary.

Unfortunately, Microsoft made it

very difficult to back up your stuff. The email messages are buried under a vast collection of arcane file folders. The message rules are actually stored in the registry and who knows where your customizations are kept. And don’t forget your address book. Anyway, don’t let that stop you from doing a back up. There is a nifty, free, utility that gathers all the vital stuff to one place and quickly backs everything up. Use Outlook Express Freebe Backup – freeware written by Majik (David Guess) <http://www.oehelp.com/OEBackup/>

Looking for something? Use Edit → Find → Message to locate a message based on sender, date, subject, or key words in the body of the message. Alternately, you may find a particular piece of text in a message by opening the message and selecting Edit → Find → Text in this message.

To learn more:

Koch, Tom C. *Inside Outlook Express* @ 2000, Last revised 12 Oct 2003 <http://insideoe.tomsterdam.com/>

“Outlook Express Tips” *ABC ~ All ‘Bout Computers* <http://personal-computer-tutor.com/abc/gman.htm>

Baynes, Mike “Internet Safety and Security” *ABC ~ All ‘Bout Computers* <http://www.personal-computer-tutor.com/abc/authors.htm#mike>

Zaharov-Reutt, Alex “How to get the most out of Outlook Express” added 2002-10-21 *NetGuides Web* http://www.netguide.com.au/useful_stuff/tutorials/article.php?iid=16

Other Group Events *compiled by June Buller*

22 AUG. 2004

Wilmette Public Library - 2:00 P.M.
ALEX FORSYTE (POLISH HOLOCAUST ESCAPEE)

Preserving Your Family History on DVDs
Jewish Genealogical Society
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/meetings.htm>

26 AUG 2004 - ST. CHARLES

FARNSWORTH MANSION AND CAMP KANE

Presenters from

Farnsworth Mansion Preservation Museum
Kane County Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilkcgs>

26 AUG 2004 - DARIEN - 7:00 P.M.

Karl Vorres - Search Engines

Indian Prairie Library Genealogy Computer Group
http://www.indianprairie.lib.il.us/genealogy_group.htm

29 AUG 2004 - CHICAGO - 2:00 P.M.

Becky Stewart Higgins - Orphan Trains
Polish Genealogical Society of America
<http://www.pgsa.org/meetings.htm>

8-11 SEPT. 2004 - AUSTIN, TX

**Legends Live Forever: Researching the Past
for Future Generations**
Federation of Genealogical Societies
<http://www.fgs.org>

9 SEPT. 2004 - McHENRY - 7:00 P.M.

Maralynn Jeflum - Scandinavian Research
McHenry County Genealogical Society
<http://www.mcigs.org/>

10-12 SEPT. 2004 - CHICAGO

UPDATED INFORMATION

PGSA Annual Conference

Schaumburg-Marriott

Polish Genealogical Society

<http://www.pgsa.org/2004ConfFlier.pdf>

11 SEPT. 2004 - CHICAGO - 1:30 P.M.

Reviewing Chicago Family History Resources
CRAIG PFANNKUCHE WILL DESCRIBE WHAT FAMILY HISTORY
RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE IN CHICAGO AND WHERE TO FIND THEM
Chicago Genealogical Society
<http://www.chgogs.org/calendar.html>

11 SEPT. 2004 - SCHAUMBURG - 12:30 P.M.

Dan Niemiec - Italian Cemeteries
POINTers In Person Italian Genealogy Group
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~itappcnc/>

11 SEPT. 2004 - HAZEL CREST - 10:00 A.M.

Subject to be announced

South Suburban Genealogical and Historical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ssghs/sscal.htm#SSGHS%20Calendar>

13 SEPT. 2003 - GLENVIEW 2:00 P.M.

DEENA BUTTA

**Using the Genealogy Resources of the
Glenview Library**

North Suburban Genealogical Society
<http://www.wpld.alibrary.com/nsgs.htm>

14 SEPT. 2004

**Carol Knigge - Clues on Finding Your English
Ancestors in the Parish Records of England**
Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~illcgs/index.htm>

14 SEPT. 2004 - SCHAUMBURG - 7:30 P.M.

Break Out Sessions/Small Discussion Groups
Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy
Group

CONTACT TONY KIERNA AT 847-923-3390

16 SEPT. 2004 - ARLINGTON HEIGHTS - 7:30 P.M.

BECKY STEWART HIGGINS

Genealogical Computer Programming
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists
<http://www.mtprospect.org/nsgs/>

18 SEPT. 2004

BOB HECK

**Computers, Family History Library Website
and searching for your British ancestors**
BIGWILL

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

20 SEPT 2004 - ZION

Craig Pfannkuche - Civil War Research
Zion Genealogical Society
<http://wkkhome.northstarnet.org/zion/zgsmeeting.html>

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

25 SEPT 2004 - ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PAUL MILNER AND BROTHER JOSEPH MARTIN, SPEAKERS

Hopping the Pond...and Back

Fox Valley Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm>

Other Group Events

30 SEPT - 2 OCT. 2004 - CLARION, IOWA

CINDY HOWELLS AND LELAND MEITZLER

Using the "Net" On Your Family

Iowa Genealogy Society

<http://www.iowagenealogy.org/>

9 OCT. 2004

Family History and Genealogy Fair

Walworth County Genealogical Society

CONTACT: DONNA KJENDLIC OR WRITE

Walworth County Genealogy Society

P.O. Box 159, Delavan WI 53115

16 OCT. 2004 - MADISON, WI

Exhibition Hall, Alliant Energy Center Fall Seminar

PRINCIPLE SPEAKER - JAMES L. HANSEN

Breathe New Life Into Your Research

Wisconsin State Genealogical Society

Visit website for more information and updates

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

24-31 OCT. 2004

Fall Research Trip to the

Family History Library

Palatines to America

MARY LOU DELAHUNT, TRIP LEADER

For more information: Call 309-344-5116

6 NOV. 2004 - COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY

SANDRA LUEBKING, BEVERLY SMALLWOOD, DANIEL NIEMIEC

Ancestral Harvest: Sources and Techniques

Lake County (IL) Genealogical Society

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

Pendaflex Classes

By Larry Olson

There's a website offering free on-line instruction in topics that could be of interest to our members. It's <http://www.pendaflexlearningcenter.com>, sponsored by the Esselte Corporation, which makes office supplies under the brands of Pendaflex and Oxford. Pendaflex also offers a regular newsletter via e-mail called "Keeping Tabs."

Some of the classes currently being offered:

Introductions to PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel

Touch Up Digital Photos with Photoshop Elements

Several existing courses listed at the bottom of the Home Page in the Knowledge Files:

Creating Macros in Microsoft Excel 2003

Organizing Your Scrapbook Supplies

Organizing Your Home Office

Take Control of Your Desk

A Filing System That Really Works

Meeting Notes (continued from page 2)

(public, university, state), Maps, Military/War, Newspapers, Newspaper Obituaries, Photography, Publishing, Religious, Reunion (school, family, military), Search Engines, Societies (social, fraternal, ethnic, . . .), Software, State Archive/Library, Timeline, Translation.

Carolyn also distributed a multi-page list of Web sites that she has found helpful. Our attendees suggested several additional Web sites.

The following additional Web sites and retrieval schemes were mentioned and demonstrated on-line:

§ The Census Soundex Index

§ Stephen Morse's site and its Soundex search schemes for Ellis Island lists

§ CindisList

§ PERSI (Periodical Source Index, a feature of HeritageQuest)

§ Bev Smallwood's templates available at our CAGG-NI site for various letter types asking for genealogical information from government officials

§ "Avotaynu.com" and "JewishGen.com" refer to the "ShtetlFinder.com" Web site; it contains a special retrieval capability to find Eastern European villages or towns whose names may have changed for political reasons, or that have disappeared completely since World War Two

Since an Internet connection was available, our enthusiastic audience suggested the special search capabilities at several Web sites as an on-line demonstration.

Special thanks to Carolyn for providing an outline of her excellent presentation, as well as to Eleanor for taking good notes.

Running Old Software on a New Operating System

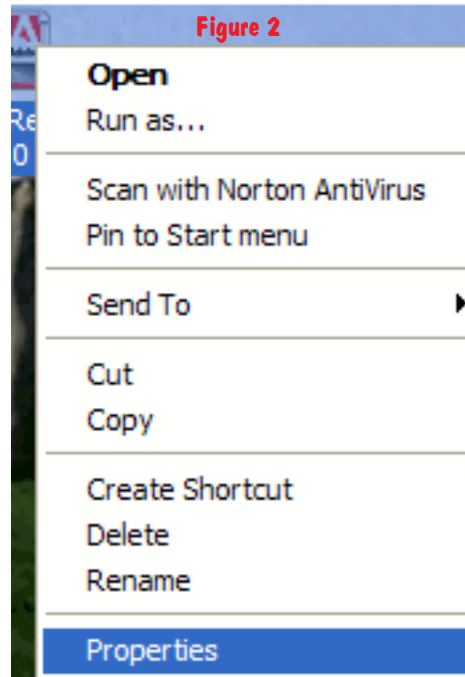
By Anne Jacobs

You have finally migrated to a newer operating system, Windows XP. Now that special program you just don't want to give up does not work. This could be a game or a utility which performs a special function you are accustomed to using. As newer operating systems are developed, particular functions of the older operating system are "improved" right out of existence. Your older software used that function; it is no longer available; your software does not work. Do you have some older software like this? There maybe one last method to explore to resurrect this software. It may work, it may not; there is no guarantee but it is worth a try. Before you give up on the software, try the *Compatibility* feature of Windows XP.

There are some steps which you should try prior to this. First, read any documentation you have for the software. Follow any directions you find there. If this is not available (including checking the Internet), try updating your drivers. Every piece of equipment has a driver. Drivers may be different from "platform" (operating system) to platform. Applications also use drivers which may vary from platform to platform. Updating drivers is generally done by accessing the website for the software (or equipment), looking for updated drivers to match your new environment, downloading the driver(s), installing and testing the results of this change. If this does not work, or is an unavailable solution, you might try this feature to get the software to work.

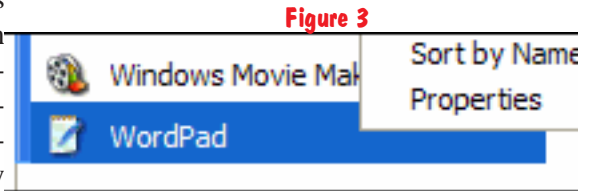
Select the "Compatibility" tab available from the Properties dialog window. See figure 1. To use the Compatibility feature, you must access the target

program's "Properties" which is accessed by right-clicking its icon on the desktop or name in the program list. Figure 2 shows a dialog window containing the Properties menu item, obtained by clicking the right mouse button of a desktop icon, Adobe Acrobat in the example.



The same menu can be displayed by using the program list. Access the following "path": START>>All Programs>>{move to program of interest in list}>>{right click after highlighting this program name}. See Figure 3. The compatibility tab is only available for software installed on your hard drive. You may also run the Compatibility Wizard against your install CD or floppy for the software but the settings will not remain from use to use.

If the software is already compatible, this is indicated on this tab. If it is not

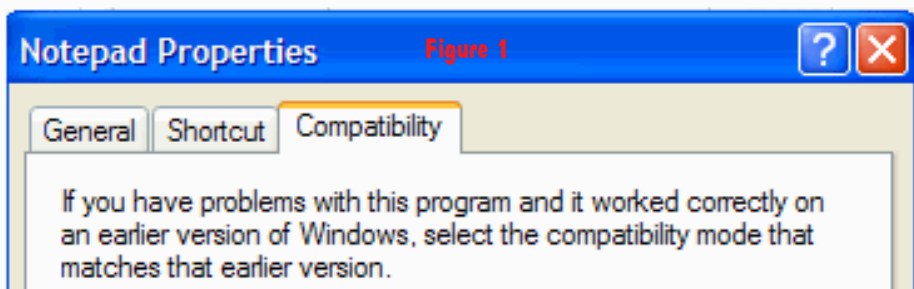


possible to use this compatibility feature, that is indicated by the message on the tab. Notice the difference in the verbiage displayed in figure 4 as opposed to figure 1. Note that the compatibility selections are unavailable (grayed).

Once the compatibility box is checked, choices appear of various compatibility modes. Select one and see if the software works by using this compatibility feature. See figure 5.

Who knows it might work. If not, you haven't lost anything.

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Genealogical Book Review

By Tony Kierna

Genealogy Coordinator

Schaumburg Township District Library

We have added *Genealogical Guide to East and West Prussia: Records, Sources, Publications and Events* to our collection. The authors of the book are Edward R. Brandt, Ph.D and Adalbert Goertz, Ph.D. A modified, revised edition was published in 2003. The book was added to our collection in September 2003. The call number of the book is 929.3 BRANDT, E. It is available to check out from our library.

The Parts of the book are as follows:

Part I - Institutional Sources of Genealogical Information

A. - Repositories: Inventories, Catalogs and Similar Publications

Part II - Metrical (Parish and Jewish) and Civil Registers

B. - Parish Registers (Kirchenbucher)

C. - Jewish Records and Resources

D. - Civil Registers and Related Documents

Part III - Land, Tax, Court and Migration Records

E. - Land Tax Registers and Related Records

F. - Court Records, Including Non-Tax Land Records

G. - Migration and Related Records

Part IV - Data from Lineage Books, Card Collections and Indexes

H. - Data from Lineage Books, Publishers' Series and Card Collection

I. - Indexes and Queries

Part V - Religious Refugees and Non-Germanic Natives or Settlers

J. - Religious Refugees and Their Kinfolk

K. - Natives and Non-Germanic Settlers

Part VI - Other Useful Records and Publications

L. - Lists of Residents or Members of Particular Groups

M. - Documents of the Teutonic Order, It's Secular Successors and Latter Feudal Records

N. - Other Records Pertaining to Individuals

O. - Military and Related Records

P. - Civilian Victims of War

Q. - Other Government or Public Records

R. - Church and Private Organizational Records

S. - Reviews and Other Useful Publications

Part VII - Historical, Cartographic and Surname Resources

T. - Histories and Jubilee Publications Relevant for Genealogy

U. - Gazetteers, Atlases and Other Place Name Resources

V. - Origins and Occurrence of Surnames

Part VIII - Regional Names, Boundaries and Genealogical; Regions

W. - Differences in Regional Names by Language, Period and Author

X. - Changing Boundaries, Names and Jurisdictions Since 1815

Y. - Genealogical Regions in East and West Prussia

Part IX - Dates of Events Relevant for Ancestral Research

Z. - Historic Dateline

Part X - Frequently Asked Questions about East and West Prussia

Part XI - Appendices

A. - Appendices Compiled by Adalbert Goertz

B. - Pertinent Holdings in the Germanic Genealogy Society Collection at Concordia University (St. Paul)

C. - Other Appendices

Part XII - Maps

Part XIII - Personal Names, Place Name and Ethnic and Religious Group Index

This is a very large book consisting of 478 pages. My personal interest of research covers West Prussia. This book looks to be a "bible" of that area. For anyone doing ancestral research that covers East or West Prussia, I would recommend that this book be a part of their personal home library.

For brevity, I did not include even further subdivisions under each of the Parts that was very specific. The Table of Contents is even a wonderful area to just browse.

The book is predominantly a textual based reading instrument. There are many large and informative tables also included and scattered throughout the various Parts.

I found Part IX on the Historic Dateline to be a very concise and informative section of this book. The timeline starts at the year 992 and continues through 2000. You can always gather some good information in these timelines to provide historical background. You always want to see the timeline period described during the time of your ancestors. Oftentimes decisions they made in life were triggered by events surrounding their daily lives in a political institution like a

Review

state.

Part X is also an outstanding source of information that highlights Frequently Asked Questions concerning East and West Prussia. The authors highlighted 22 of these questions and answer them in a concise and informative manner. The FAQ section is also a recommended read of this book.

The Appendices are also filled with great information. Appendix 1 contains a list of East Prussia towns for which films exist in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Appendix 2 does likewise for towns of West Prussia. My observation is that the town names are the Germanized names. If you know your town is in Poland today this list may give you the impression no film exists because the town is in German. Be aware of that. You can search the LDS catalog for your town name and you should find both the current Polish name and the older Germanized name.

The authors do a great job of identifying resources by their German name. This can also help you do searches in catalogs for material by searching using the German word for the material.

The authors also include in the various appendices many leads to articles that appeared in a variety of scholarly or genealogical journals throughout periods of time. Some of the articles make mention to surnames or family names as part of the article itself.

The more I looked through the material to write for this small overview, the more I realized I plan on purchasing a copy of this book for my own personal home use. It appears it is filled with so much that can help my own personal research efforts that I see the need to have my own copy. For anyone researching ancestral ties to East or West Prussia this book is a must to at least review at a more detailed leveled. This book is that good with insights into these areas from which our ancestors came.

This book is available to check out from our library. The call number of the book is 929.3 BRANDT, E.

Old Software (continued)

Figure 4

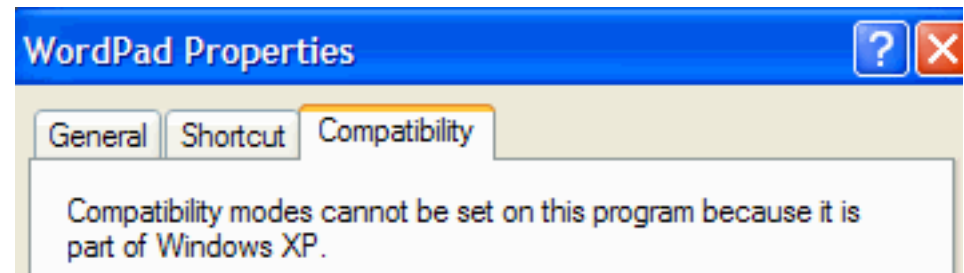
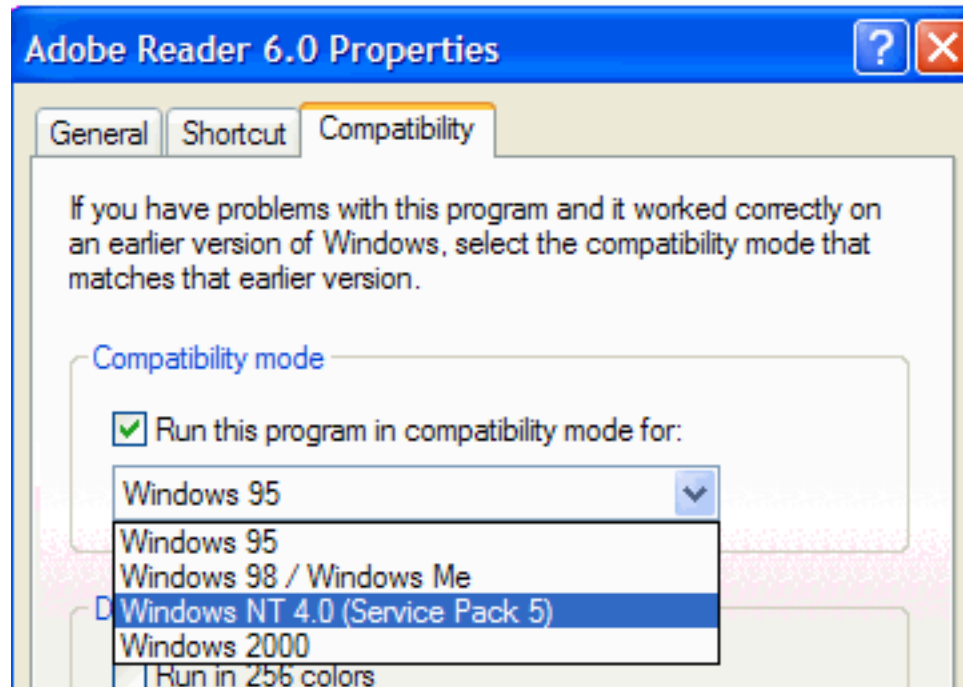


Figure 5



State of Missouri Puts Inquest Database Online

submitted by Christine Clark

<http://www.researchbuzz.org/archives/001774.shtml>

The state of Missouri has announced that the Coroner's Inquest Database is now available. This database covers the records of Andrew, Cape Girardeau, Clinton, Perry, St. Francois, and Stoddard counties, dating from 1842 to 1932. There are also nineteenth century records from the City of St. Louis and the St. Louis Medical Examiner.

The database is available at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/coroners/>.

The records are searchable by several factors, including name, cause of death, and year span. You can also do a simple keyword search. A cause search for "pnemonia" found one result even though I spelled it wrong. A corrected search for "pneumonia" found 490 results.

Results are shown in a table including the name of the deceased, county, date of death, and cause of death (some of the causes are in addition to pneumonia — "Accident - Pneumonia; Run Over By

Wagon") There's a link to more details which includes case number, race, gender, age, and the location of the record.