

Chicago Genealogical Consortium News

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Happy Holidays!



January 21, 2006

Preparing Your Home Movies for Future Generations

Presented by Everett Butler

Learn the differences between our members' three most popular genealogy software packages. Each package is demonstrated by a member who uses that software.

Our Treasurer is Looking For Your Dues!



<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni/organization/application.html>

by Beverly Levine Smallwood

The Chicago Genealogical Consortium (CGC) was formed this summer to act as liaison for local arrangements when the National Genealogical Society puts on their national conference here June 7th through the 10th of 2006. In addition to CAGGNI, the other member societies include: the African-American Genealogical and Historical Society of Chicago; Bigwill – the British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois; DuPage County Genealogical Society; Elgin Genealogical Society; Lake County Genealogical Society; Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists; and the Scottish Genealogy Group of IL St. Andrews Society.

We will be calling for volunteers to help run the conference. There are many ways you can pitch in: monitoring a room, assisting a speaker, working the registration desk, stuffing bags, etc. A volunteer form will be distributed shortly and posted to our web site.

Brochures will be mailed in the next month or so, but here is some advanced news.

They Glided This Way: The Erie Canal and the Peopling of the Midwest. John P. Colletta, author of several books including *They Came in Ships*, will be speaking at the opening session.

Professor Allen Weinstein, the newly appointed Archivist of the United States, will be opening the Conference on Wednesday, June 7th.

Two local speakers will participate in the conference: Becky Higgins will be talking about *Orphan Train* riders and Craig Pfannkuche will be talking about *Excavating Grandma's Privy for Family History Data* during a banquet.

Additional background can be found in the pages of *Upfront with NGS: The Online Newsletter of the National Genealogical Society* at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/upfront/upfront.cfm>.

There will be a large hall filled with vendors from all over the world. You will have to choose one of seven or eight possible topics for each session. Mix and mingle with thousands of genealogists from all over the country and beyond.

More news will follow. Don't miss this opportunity!

Zero in on your interests with

advanced search features in Google: <http://www.google.com/help/cheatsheet.html>

What and When to Scan – Jan Alpert discusses her method of filing documents electronically as she moves between two homes. <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/upfront/upfront-Nov.pdf>

Fire at Northeastern Illinois University Temporarily Closes IRAD

<http://www.newberry.org/genealogy/news/default.asp?id=116&action=single>

CHICAGO
2006 ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN THE STATES
“They Passed This Way”
NATIONAL
genealogical
SOCIETY

7-10 June Chicago, Illinois, Hyatt Regency O'Hare

- More than 140 lectures, workshops, luncheons, and networking events led by recognized experts in the field
- Valuable sessions for beginner, intermediate, and advanced researchers
- Specialized programs for local, national, military, and ethnic research
- Records and technology tracks presenting the latest in high-tech innovation

www.ngsgenealogy.org for online information and registration or call NGS at (800) 473-0060 for a conference brochure

“NGS did a fantastic job with the conference. It was an incredible educational experience. I left with all the right knowledge and techniques I needed to research my ancestors. I thought it would be a once-in-a-lifetime experience, but now I want to go to Chicago!”
—Kate Parker, Gore, Virginia

Plan now to Attend

Sponsored with the Chicagoland Genealogical Consortium:

- African-American Genealogical and Historical Society of Chicago
- British Interest Group of Wisconsin & Illinois
- Computer Assisted Genealogical Group—Northern Illinois
- DuPage County Illinois Genealogical Society
- Elgin Genealogical Society
- Lake County Genealogical Society
- Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists
- The Scottish Genealogy Group of the Illinois St. Andrew Society

President's Letter

1. CAGGNI will be co-hosting the National Genealogy Society Program, June 7-10, at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Rosemont. Bev Smallwood and Dan Wertz will keep us updated. http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/ngs_chicago_flyer.jpg

2. CAGGNI is moving in the direction of becoming a Virtual or Interactive genealogy group.

This means that we will increasingly rely upon our CAGGNI Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni> as well as our Newsletter and Yahoo Groups List to communicate through any computer connected to the Web. Those members who are unable to attend our meetings will eventually be able to hear the program as well as ask for help and chat with other members.

3. We reserve our meeting room from 10 A.M. until 1 P.M. If you bring your laptop and A/C power cord, you can receive help with any software problems. Always check the daily calendar located next to the elevator to confirm our meeting location. The Schaumburg Library has the final decision about our assigned room.

4. Tony Kierna is the Genealogy Coordinator of the Schaumburg Library. He has been very cooperative with our group and he hosts an excellent Genealogy Group on the Second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 P.M. Tony is open to suggestions regarding new books or videos. He has subscribed to a comprehensive group of genealogical magazines in the Periodicals Section. <http://www.stdl.org/faq.asp#genealogy>

5. Michael Mulholland is a Reference Librarian who coordinates the Genealogy Room and collection at Arlington Heights Memorial Library. This library is authorized to receive LDS microfilms. http://www.ahml.info/find_information/genealogy.asp?

6. The LDS (Mormon Church) is looking for volunteers that will work during 30 minute on-line work segments to index their digitized holdings. <http://www.familysearch.org> (Look on the lower left-hand corner for news & events, then click on FGS presentations. The third Power Point Presentation illustrates the pilot project.)

7. NARA (National Archives and Records Administration) at 75th and Pulaski in Chicago is open on the First Saturday of the Month from about 8 A.M. until 4 P.M. on a trial basis. <http://www.archives.gov/great-lakes/chicago/>

8. IRAD (Illinois Records and Archives Depository) is open Monday-Friday from 8A.M. until 4 P.M. in the Library at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago and in the Library of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb for counties outside of Cook County. <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/irad/iradaddr>.

9. Mount Prospect Library has a Genealogy Room and collection. <http://www.mpppl.org/online-genealogy.html>

10. Glenview Public Library has an excellent genealogy librarian—Deena Butta. <http://www.glenviewpl.org/genearearesources.htm>

11. Winnetka Public Library has a genealogy room staffed by volunteers from North Suburban Genealogy Society. <http://www.wpld.alibrary.com/genealogy.asp>

12. The Wilmette Family History Center is the largest in the Chicago area. Schaumburg and other Family History Centers are listed in <http://www.familysearch.org>

I want to wish a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Festivus, and Happy New Year to all.

Harve Mankopf

P.S. Celebrating Elvis Presley's birthday on January 8th is optional.



Officers

President	Harve Mankopf waterlooboogaloo@yahoo.com
Vice President	Everett Butler waterlooboogaloo@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Christine Clark cclark60646@yahoo.com
Secretary	Gerry Czadowski GerryCzadowski@Covad.net
Membership Coordinator	Carolyn Meeker cmeeker8844@wowway.com
Promotion	Dan Wertz Wertz.mail@comcast.net
Publicity	Frank McGovern mcgovern342003@yahoo.com
Fund Raising Coordinator	Anne Jacobs
Newsletter Editor	Jim Cottrell Jim@JCottrell.com
Webmaster	Beverly Levine Smallwood caggni_bev@yahoo.com
Lending Librarian	Open
Archivist	Carolyn Meeker cmeeker8844@wowway.com
Refreshments	Chris Herrmann ucherm@yahoo.com

Starting With the Answer (Becoming a DNA time traveler)

Typical genealogy research involves pushing back your ancestry lines, generation by generation, to discover your ancestors. How would it change your research approach if you started with the answer - if you knew who from the early 1700's you descended from, for example, but didn't know the details of how. If that sounds like fun to you and you have \$150-\$300 burning a hole in your pocket, read on...

Researching my genealogy is a hobby I've always done for fun. I like history and there's something about understanding my personal connections to it that makes it even more interesting. I make my living from technology, so when I heard that DNA analysis could be applied to Genealogy... I was curious on a couple of levels, and decided to get tested. The following essay covers what I've learned from the experience. Speaking as a lay person, I'm no doubt over-simplifying and perhaps even unknowingly fudging a fact here or there. As with all information... consider the source.

DNA are the bits of biological information we all carry around that makes us unique - the stuff that determines, out of all the possibilities our bodies have... which specific set of characteristics an individual is given to work with. You get roughly half of this stuff from your mom and half this stuff from your dad, and in turn contribute half of what you got to your children. Which half? Well, nature loves both trial and error and continuing a good thing, so some portions are passed randomly, some portions are passed strictly father to son, mother to son, and mother to son and daughter. It's these "strict" portions that we're interested in for genealogy research purposes, because they prove a relationship.

The amount of information contained in your DNA is huge... even small portions of it contain enough information to uniquely identify you

apart from any other person. That's what a paternity test is - an analysis of a portion of the stuff that's passed parent to child. Now for the big ah-ha... if this stuff is unique between a father and a son, wouldn't it be unique for a grand-father and a grandson? YES. How about a great-grand-father and a great-grandson? YES. Now, before you get too excited, observe that this method of identification only works for one of two grand-fathers I have. Why? Because the DNA my father and I share obviously isn't shared by my mother's dad (they're not related biologically at all, or at least I hope they weren't :-)... so it requires an unbroken chain of the same-sex to work for identity purposes - either male to male to male or female to female to female.

Ok, if you're a deep thinker, at this point you might be wondering... "Hey, if a human male always passes these same bits to his son, why wouldn't all human males have the same bits?" Well, it turns out that every so often, nature, who loves trial and error, randomly tweaks these "strictly passed" bits so they're ever so slightly different between father and son (or mother and daughter - I'll explain later why I'm using father-son examples). Over a long time span, these occasional tweaks add up to some very diverse bits of information.

This occasional diversity is a boon for genealogists... since this rate of change is rather predictable and steady. In the commonly used male to male DNA bits, the rate of change is generally one change every 7 or 8 generations. So if a fellow researcher of my surname and I share the exact same bits, then we know we likely share a common father in the past 7 or 8 generations. If our bits are one step different, then it's probably 7-15 generations ago that we had a common father, etc. Different bits of the DNA do vary at different rates, so you can get a bit more precise by looking at the specific bit that's different.

Ok, back to you deep thinkers...

"Wait, if we know the rate of change of these bits of DNA, couldn't we do a sampling of all current DNA in the world and do some fancy math to figure out how long it took for it to diverge this much? And wouldn't that say something about the origins of all of us?" Yes, in theory. The Seven Daughters of Eve by Bryan Sykes is seen as one of the seminal books on that subject for lay people, if you're interested.

Getting back to genealogy... my mom's a Fike. She calls herself a Fike because that was her name growing up - her identity. She looked like and acted like people of that name who lived in the area because they were all part of the same extended family. For DNA identity purposes, my mother's not a FIKE. Why? Remember DNA identity only works along strictly male or strictly female lines. FIKE is a surname. Surnames are passed down from male to male to male. So while my mother has a unique DNA that ties here to her mother (a DAVIS) and to her mother before her (an ENNIS)... most cultures don't assign a consistent name to that. To make things tougher for female research, the strictly passed female to female bits of DNA don't vary much over time (compared to the male to male bits) so it's harder to pin down the time frame of a relationship. So most people using DNA for genealogy purposes are doing so for surname research, which is male to male to male... the same as those unique "male to male" bits of DNA. That's why I used father to son examples earlier.

People of the same surname form "surname projects", typically to try and collect samples of that surnames DNA. With enough samples, patterns emerge as to how many different "lines" of that surname exist. For example, in the US, with a surname like Hancock, and 35 or so samples collected, a pattern showing 3 or 4 original ancestors has emerged. If you're researching a Hancock, and you can get a male Hancock from your family (or yourself if it's your surname)

Starting With the Answer

to test for you... chance are reasonable that you'll tie to one of those known ancestors. Now that you know your original ancestor, you can research from both ends - from the original ancestor forward, and from your known ancestor backwards. With the Underwood surname project, it took us 6 samples before we found two people that were related.

My advice, money and fun aside, is to seriously consider using DNA testing for your lines where:

a) you have a male by that surname that can be tested, b) there's an existing "surname project" with 20 or more samples already collected, c) and your surname isn't Smith or Jones.

Family Tree DNA is probably the most popular vendor for adhoc surname projects and you'll find their list here (<http://www.familytreedna.com/surname.asp>). Relative Genetics (<http://www.relativegenetics.com/>) has a higher end service that's more appropriate for established groups or to support things like family reunions and

such. And there are others...

You'll find there are different types of test. The male to male test is called a YDNA test, and it's offered in different depths (typically something like 12 marker, 25 marker and 37 marker). While the 12 marker test is cheaper, it's not very useful in the surname projects I've described, because 12 markers simply aren't unique enough to tell you much. I did the 25 marker test, and so far haven't had any need for more resolution than that, so would suggest you start with that. Most companies will let you "upgrade" your test later to include more markers, so you don't have to resample and retest all over again.

There are a couple of forms of the test and sampling - from scrapping your cheek with a little device that looks like a piece of hard felt to a mouth wash that you swirl and deposit in a vial. You take the sample yourself and it's easy and not painful in any way. The sample is mailed in and results come back in 4-6 weeks.

No doubt some people are worried about the privacy of all this... As you would expect, the companies that do the analysis for you are very serious about protecting it and provide a number of safeguards and guarantees. From my perspective, my DNA is already compromised - I discard it all the time in a variety of ways. If someone wanted it bad enough, they could take it without me ever knowing. So my opinion about the privacy of my own DNA is something I don't really have anyway... but that's just my opinion.

I'm glad I had my DNA analyzed. I haven't turned up any related fellow researchers yet, but I really think it's just a matter of time before I make a connection.

About The Author: R. Aaron Underwood is a software author (the genealogy product GenSmarts - <http://www.GenSmarts.com>), living with his wife and three kids in Long Grove, IL, and has enjoyed Genealogy as a hobby for the past 30 years. He can be reached at aaron@GenSmarts.com

Forensic Document Examiners Reference Web Sites

Submitted by Larry Olson for

Christopher McAfee
Senior Conservator
Family and Church History Department
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
50 E. North Temple St. Rm. 227E
Salt Lake City, UT 84150-3420

British Library on Binding

<http://prodigi.bl.uk/bindings/welcome.htm>

Bookbinding and Conservation Dictionary

<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/don/don.html>

Conservation and Art Material Encyclopedia

http://www.mfa.org/_cameo/frontend/

American Institute for Conservation

<http://aic.stanford.edu/>

Canadian Conservation Institute

<http://www.cci-icc.gc.ca/>
http://www.preservation.gc.ca/index_e.asp

National Archives

<http://www.archives.gov/preservation/index.html>

Northeast Document Conservation Center

<http://www.nedcc.org/>
<http://user823621.sf1000.registeredsite.com/plam3/manhome.htm>
<http://www.nedcc.org/p101cs/p101wel.htm>

Preservation Services Book Repair Manual

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~preserve/repair/repairindex.htm>

Conserve-O-Grams

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/museum/publications/conservoogram/conserv.html>

Library Preservation

<http://www.librarypreservation.org/index.htm>

Minnesota Historical Society

<http://www.mnhs.org/preserve/conservation/bookspaper.html>

Paper from the inside out!

<http://lifesciences.asu.edu/paperproject>

Other Group Events *compiled by Beverly Levine Smallwood*

05 JAN 2006 - SKOKIE

Judy Frazin - Beginner's Workshop
Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/index.htm>

10 JAN 2006 - MUNDELEIN

Beverly Levine Smallwood
21st Century Census Tools
Lake County Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~illcgs>

10 JAN 2006 - SCHAUMBURG

Marian Richter Schuetz - Your Ancestors
Made News or Bloodshot Eyes That Are
Worth It: Newspaper Research
STDL Genealogy Group - Contact Tony Kierna at
847-923-3391
<http://www.stdl.org/>

11 Jan 2006 - Winfield

Membership - How Do You Share
the Results of Your Research?
DuPage County Genealogical Society
<http://www.dcg.org/>

12 JAN 2006 - NAPERVILLE

Dave Nordine - The Colony of New Sweden
Fox Valley Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm>

14 JAN 2006 - SCHAUMBURG

The Master Genealogist (TMG)
User Group - TBA
CAGG-NI TMG Special Interest Group
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni/>

14 JAN 2006 - HAZEL CREST

You Show Me Yours, I'll Show You Mine -
Annual Show 'N Tell
South Suburban Genealogical & Historical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ssghs/>

19 JAN 2006 - ELGIN

Larry Olson - All Social Security Death
Indexes Are Not Equal
Elgin Genealogical Society
<http://www.elginarea.org/egs/>

19 JAN 2006 - ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Genealogy Jeopardy
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists
<http://www.mtprospect.org/nsgs/>

21 JAN 2006 - RICHMOND, IL

Show 'N' Share Family History
BIGWILL - British Interest Group of Wisconsin and
Illinois
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wiilbig/meet.htm>

21 JAN 2006 - SCHAUMBURG

Everett Butler - Preparing Your Home
Movies for Future Generations
CAGG-NI
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni/>

22 JAN 2006 - CHICAGO

Judy Frazin - Beginner's Workshop
Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/index.htm>

26 JAN 2006 - CHICAGO

Gary Mokotoff - What's New in Jewish
Genealogy?
Newberry Library
<http://www.newberry.org/genealogy/genealogyevents.html#mokotoff>

29 JAN 2006 - CHICAGO

Genealogy Committee Meeting
Contact: Brian Donovan (P) 773-282-7035 (Satur-
days 9-2)
Irish American Heritage Center
<http://www.irishamhc.com/programs.asp#history>

29 JAN 2006 - SKOKIE

Ask the Experts
Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/index.htm>

Special Events

09-13 JAN 2006 - SALT LAKE CITY

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy
FEATURING JAY VERKLER & JOHN PHILIP COLLETTA, PH.D.
<http://www.infouga.org/slc.aspx>

04 MAR 2006 - ST. CHARLES

31st Annual Conference
FEATURING - JOHN KONVALINKA, ELIZABETH KELLEY KERSTENS,
CRAIG PFANNKUCHE, & MIKE KARSEN
DuPage County Genealogical Society
<http://www.dcg.org/>

Other Group Events

01 APR 2006 - AUSTIN, IN
Annual Conference

FEATURING - DIANE VANSKIVER GAGEL, NAOMI SEXTON,
DOROTHY RICE & KANDIE ADKINSON

Indiana Genealogical Society
<http://www.indgensoc.org/conference.html>

08 APR 2006 - ST. LOUIS
Genealogy Fair

St. Louis Genealogical Society
<http://stlgs.org/fair.shtml>

21-22 APR 2006 - SPRINGFIELD, IL
Pre-register by April 15th

**Illinois State Archives Tour and Death
Certificate Assistance Program**
[http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilsgs/spwkshp/
06SPregistration.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilsgs/spwkshp/06SPregistration.html)

21-22 APR 2006 - STEVENS POINT, WI
Gene-A-Rama - John Konvalinka
Wisconsin State Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wsgs/>

22 APR 2006 - QUAD CITIES
**32nd Annual Quad Cities
Genealogical Conference**

JAMES L. HANSON, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN,
WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Quad Cities Genealogical Conference
[http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilbgsrim/news/
2006GenConference.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilbgsrim/news/2006GenConference.html)

07-10 JUN 2006 - CHICAGO

**CAGNI is among the Consortia
Hosting the Conference of the
National Genealogical Society**

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/2006Chicago.cfm>

30 AUG-02 SEP 2006 - BOSTON

**FGS and New England Historic Genealogical
Society Conference**

Federation of Genealogical Societies
<http://www.fgs.org/2006conf/FGS-2006.htm>

14 OCT 2006 - ITASCA

ISGS Fall Conference

Illinois State Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilsgs/index.html>

16-19 MAY 2007 - RICHMOND, VA

National Genealogical Society
<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/>

15-18 AUG 2007 - FT. WAYNE

**FGS and Allen County Public Library Con-
ference**

Federation of Genealogical Societies
<http://www.fgs.org/2007conf/FGS-2007.htm>

BYU Conferences and Workshops

MARCH 10 AND 11

2006 Computerized Genealogy Conference
call 801-422-4853 or go to
<http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwcompu/>

AUGUST 1ST THROUGH 4TH

**38th Annual BYU Genealogy and Family
History Conference -
in the BYU Conference Center.**

Eight information tracks will be available: Beginning
Family History, Family History Center Support, Comput-
ers, Europe/Nordic Research, British Research, U.S.
Research, Methodology, and Publishing Family Histories.
Registration by telephone (801) 378-8925 or call (801)
422-4853 or e-mail cw136@byu.edu
<http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgeneal/>

**Announcements from
Michael John Neill:**

**8th Annual Genealogical Computing Week
MARCH 6-11, 2006**

Registration is limited to 20 participants per day with a fee
of \$35 per day. Classes are held at Carl Sandburg College
in Galesburg, Illinois. More information by web:

<http://www.rootdig.com/sandburg.html>

by email: mneill@sandburg.edu

or by phone: 877-236-1862 x 5337.

06 Mar - Online Genealogy Methodology

07 Mar - Over the Pond: European Research Online

08 Mar - Online Searching Tips and Tricks

09-10 Mar - Using Ancestry.com (two day class)

11 Mar - Advanced Family Tree Maker

Additionally, he is running a Family History Re-
search Trip to Salt Lake City, May 17-24, 2006.
He will be escorting and assisting before, during and
after the trip. For details check
<http://www.rootdig.com/slctrip.html>
or email him at saltlake@rootdig.com

Links Around the World

Genealogy Home Page

An index of genealogy resources including links to maps, libraries, software, and societies.

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

Genealogy Dictionary

A dictionary of old terms which may be of interest to genealogists.

home.att.net/~dottsr/diction.html

Relative Genetics

A good website to learn about genetic genealogy, DNA testing, etc

<http://www.relativegenetics.com>

Lindsay Surname DNA Project

Another good site for beginners to learn about DNA testing as it pertains to the genealogical pursuit.

http://www.clanlindsay.com/dna_project.htm

Family Tree DNA

Yet another website to learn about the benefits of DNA testing.

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

The Next Generation of Genealogy Sitebuilding V5 (TNG)

If you're interested in putting your genealogy online quickly and easily, here is a software program that may be of interest to you.

<http://www.lythgoes.net/genealogy/software.php>

OVS Genealogy (CemEditor2)

The CemEditor software is designed for individuals searching their ancestry, family historians, groups, genealogy and historical societies, cemeteries and other organizations desiring to organize a cemetery transcription. It will provide a very useful searchable database. It also works great to combine and manage all family cemetery pictures in one convenient package.

<http://www.ovs-genealogy.com>

We welcome website link suggestions from our members. We need more participation. Remember group participation makes every group grow. Send your links to dan.wertz@comcast.net or mcgovern34@hotmail.com



Archive CD Books USA

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2005 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

Archive CD Books USA Family history archiving project expands to the United States

Columbia, Maryland - 24 November 2005 - The international Archive CD Books Project today announced its expansion and renewed focus on family history resources within the United States with the debut of a new partner company, Archive CD Books USA (www.ArchiveCDBooksUSA.com).

The project makes digital reproductions of old family history resources available to the public, donates original publications to libraries and other institutions, and cooperates with those repositories to preserve their existing collections for future generations. Its uncommon focus on book preservation has led to cooperative relationships with some of the most important repositories of family history records in the world, including Trinity College in Ireland and The National Archives of England and Wales.

Many organized efforts to digitize old books result in the destruction of the original so that its loose pages can be fed through high-speed scanners. But the idea of cutting off an old leather binding is unthinkable to historians and book lovers. "The Archive CD Books project focuses on giving the public access to these fragile resources, some of which are more than 400 years old, while protecting the original so that it is still available to scholars in another 400 years," said Rod Neep, who founded the project in the UK in 2000.

In recent years, the popularity of the project has led to the opening of branch offices in Ireland, Australia, and Canada. "The new U.S. affiliate is key

to our goal of making these family history resources accessible to researchers around the world," said Neep. "After a false start under different management in 2003, the new U.S. partner company brings respected leadership and renewed focus on the priorities of American researchers," he said.

The principal of the new Archive CD Books USA is Bob Velke, who also founded Wholly Genes Software in 1991. That company's cornerstone software product, The Master Genealogist, has earned the reputation as the most powerful family history project manager on the market and is preferred by experienced researchers in more than 40 countries around the world.

Archive CD Books USA also benefits from the experience and reputation of Robert Charles Anderson, one of the pre-eminent genealogists in the United States. Anderson is a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists and is the Director of the Great Migration Study Project for the New England Historic Genealogical Society, editor of the Great Migration Newsletter, and co-editor of The American Genealogist. He serves as Genealogical Consultant to the new company.

"Like others in the genealogical community," said Velke, "we are passionate about old books. But some of the most valuable resources are held in protective custody and out of reach of researchers. By cooperating with libraries, societies, and other book lovers and by applying professional digitizing and preservation techniques, we are very pleased to help put that material back in circulation and into the hands of family history researchers who need them."

In addition to the thousands of digitized rare books which it makes available from its partner companies, Archive CD Books USA has already accumulated nearly a thousand rare books of its own through purchases,

gifts, and promised loans to the project. One of the company's debut products is a digital version of "A Genealogical Dictionary of The First Settlers of New England" by James Savage which was originally published in 1860 and is now offered for just \$9.95 on CD-ROM. "Even a hundred and forty years after publication," said Anderson, "Savage's four-volume set remains the starting point for most research problems in seventeenth-century New England. No other single source covers the first century of New England settlement so broadly." Even experienced researchers would benefit from the full-text search that is supported by the digitized version of this important work. It reveals thousands of embedded references to people and places which are lost to those who rely on the book's simple alphabetical list of surname headings.

The company web site (<http://www.ArchiveCDBooksUSA.com>) offers a free newsletter for those who want to be notified of special offers and the release of new titles. Dealer inquiries are also encouraged.

