



# TMG

## *Many Timeline Options in The Master Genealogist*



### ★ **Each PERSON VIEW is an individual timeline**

Last fall I saw three articles promoting the use of timelines in genealogical research. Each ultimately described a result that seemed just like the TMG person view. One defined a timeline as a list or chart showing all the events of an ancestor from birth to death with the date of each, the place it occurred, the person's age and hopefully including outside events that might influence personal events. See - TMG does it for us!

### ★ **Add person as a witness to the tags of others**

I've recently found it very helpful to add an ancestor to tags created for his parents. I wanted to write a paragraph about his childhood and needed to know what was going on around him, so I added him to his Daddy's Union Army enlistment, his parents' purchase of land to which they moved, etc. I didn't want these events to print in his own accounts, so I put an exclusion mark (-) at the beginning of his witness sentence. You can do this with history tags as well.

### ★ **Use the TMG timeline feature**

Beyond creating tags, TMG has a powerful tool using timeline data bases. The program comes with many sets of data, most donated by other users. Some provide the dates on which the counties of a state were created, e.g. Pennsylvania and Kentucky. There are three for the U.S. census, the first simply giving the official dates of every decennial census. One covers U.S. epidemics, another the inauguration of U.S. presidents. Germany and Norway are among other nations treated. Still more are available online.

Adding one or more of these timelines to an individual person view, a group of selected people or to everyone in a data set will give you a quick way to visualize your ancestors in an historical context. This is useful for basic research as it shows where records might be found and can point out the absence of data. This is also a super way to give the background you might need to better write a narrative account of the life of an ancestor who lived well before your time.

TMG also allows you to easily add timelines directly through the program. This is also one place where the versions meet! Any timeline created in one version can simply be added to the TIMELINE folder of the other. They are in dbase format and can also be created and edited in a database program using that format.

### ★ **Print an Individual Detail report**

When you have a wonderful ancestral timeline in TMG's person view, it is time to print a copy for your records or research notebook. REPORT > INDIVIDUAL > DETAIL will take you to the right area (in TMG v4). Always remember this is NOT a narrative report so it won't produce all your lovely sentence structures, but will put out the tag label, date, place, memo (if selected) and sources where desired.

The Option 2 tab in the report definition screen has a few interesting choices. Excluded and sensitive data may be included or not (double exclusion markers are not included) and timelines may be included. Even if timelines are turned off, ones globally selected and/or ones locked on to the subject of the report may be checked to print in the report.

