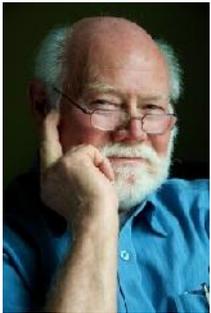


FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER



From the Director's Desk

MAY 2015



On Hearing It Through the Grapevine

A very popular song of many years ago and made popular by Marvin Gaye was called "I Heard It Through The Grapevine." One of the lines reads "People say, believe half of what you see, son, and none of what you hear." I personally believe that half or more of what we know or think we know, 'we heard it through the grapevine'.

To me that means, from someone or some place other than the actual knowledge source. I don't know what percentage of people in the world could be classified as scholars or someone who actually studies and researches to find information and knowledge about a subject they are curious about but it wouldn't be a significant percentage of the whole. The rest of us get our information from the grapevine. The grapevine would incorporate friends, family, newspapers, radio, T.V. and the Internet. The grapevine is the most quoted source among humankind. The Internet can be an accurate source if we access the Wikipedia or some other primary information pool that may be found on the Internet.

I don't want to make it sound like we are not a well informed society nor do I want to make it sound like all those sources mentioned are totally unreliable sources because they are not. But much of what we know or think we know, is

only partially true or at best an incomplete report. Yet, we may hear arguments between two people in respect to information that neither of them know accurately but who are expressing their understanding of it correctly based on their particular grapevine source.

I love the story about A father and son who went fishing one day. After an hour out in the boat, the boy started asking questions of his father, "Dad, How does the boat float?" The father thought about it for a moment, then replied, "I don't rightly know, son." The boy thought for a few minutes longer and then asked, "Dad, how do fish breathe underwater?" Once again the father replied, "Don't rightly know, son." A little later the boy asked, "Why is the sky blue?" Again the father replied, "Don't rightly know, son." Worried that he was going to annoy his father, he says, "Dad, do you mind my asking you all these questions?" "Of course not, son. If you don't ask questions...you'll never learn anything!"

That father is the grapevine for that little boy and his vine was deficient of grapes. However, children are naturally curious and most will ask questions, such as the boy in the story above and many will get similar answers too. Some may hear 'Quit asking me such stupid questions'. Then, of course, a few will get "Gee, son, that is a good question, lets go look it up in the encyclopedia or Wikipedia."

You and I both know that they will most likely go to the grapevine to get the answer that is the wife or mother, etc. We live in a busy world and

our busy life, in today's world, includes surfing the web or in many cases our playing games or watching videos or listening to music, sports, etc. on iPADS. Even books are read on electronic devices, it is a different world than the one in which I grew up.

I remember as a young boy reading a popular comic book called 'Dick Tracy', Dick Tracy was a detective with a police force in some large metropolitan city like Chicago. Not all comic books were comical in nature. This was a very serious storyline with wicked criminal characters like 'Flat top', 'Prune face' etc. The interesting thing about Dick Tracy's character was that he was, technically, way out in front of his counterparts in the detecting field. He was even way out in front of the readers. Why? Because Dick Tracy had a radio watch on his wrist that he could use to communicate with his department and with individual squad cars. This was long before TV, and at a time when home radios that worked without static were a premium.

As a young boy I was so enamored with his watch that I carried a mockup of it around on my wrist for several days. I would actually communicate with my friends via my watch, even though they were sitting or standing next to me. Regardless of our era, it is still a wonderful world we live in. Too, regardless of the era we will probably always get most of our information from/through the grapevine.

There have always been people in every group or community, and everyone knows who they are, that are social grapevines. They are people that just seem to know the answer to everyone's questions. True their answers are not usually from an academic source, but they sound good enough to us. But! If we ever have an opportunity to pass that information on we will do so with a confident tone as if it were gospel truth. We will never admit that, 'we got it through the grapevine.'

However, in Family History work, there are many things we have to learn, and much of it is detail work that has to be done right or in a certain procedural way or we may make mistakes. Some of the work we are bound to learn through the grapevine but we are encouraged to study and learn so that the work we submit to the common data bases will be correct. We all find things in the major databases that someone had submitted that is obviously in error. Correct and accurate family history information carefully researched and submitted to a common database for any and all to use is a blessing to all of us, especially if they are sourced.

– Emil Hanson, Director Ogden RSL

Genealogy by Barry Newsletter

Barry Ewell has a very comprehensive source of family History information that everyone would be blessed to use. You may access the site by putting the following address in the address line of your computer.

<http://genealogybybarry.com/blog-resources/>

Annual Ogden Cemetery Tour

The annual family history walking tour of the Ogden City Cemetery will be held Saturday, May 30 and Monday June 1, 2015. It will be conducted on 1st Avenue in the cemetery. Tours will start at 5 P.M. and continue until 6:30 P.M.. Early pioneers will be highlighted this year with descendants telling their stories. The tour is a great Saturday date night or Monday family Home Evening activity. If you have any questions: call 801-644-3234.

Thought

You should always know where you are going in life, but never forget where you came from.

– Ric McKenzie

Keynote Speakers Chosen For OFSL Conference

– Joyce and Frank Decaria

We are thrilled to announce the keynote speakers for our 2015 fall family history conference. Marlin and Kathleen Jensen have graciously consented to address the 9am session in the Shepherd Union Building at Weber State University on Saturday, September 12, 2015.

The Jensens are experienced and entertaining public speakers who are well versed in genealogical and family history topics. Marlin served as the LDS Church Historian and Recorder from 2005 to 2012. Kathleen, a self-proclaimed wife, mother and homemaker, was selected as Weber County Mother of the Year in 2013, and has been school teacher and is currently serving on the Weber County Library Board.

Marlin was released from his position as a full time General Authority 2012 and was designated as an emeritus general authority. Much of his experience stems from working with LDS church historical events, such as the Joseph Smith Papers and the history of the Mountain Meadow massacre, bringing a new openness to this history. He worked to make the LDS church history department authoritative and trusted. Under his direction, thousands of documents were mass digitized and made freely available online. He was instrumental in

Marlin and Kathleen are dedicated to family history and the technological changes that are occurring at the Ogden FamilySearch Library. They are both advocates for the exciting genealogical and family history expansion involving worldwide digitized records for computers and the wonderful creation of new internet genealogy programs.

We are excited that Kathleen and Marlin Jensen Will be our Conference keynote speakers in September.

Who Owns Your Genealogy Data?

– Dick Eastman, March 20, 2015

Overheard at a genealogy conference recently (repeated from memory so the wording might not be exact):

Person #1: "I won't put my genealogy information online because I am afraid someone might steal it."

Person #2: "Where did you obtain all that information?"

Person #1: "From freely available public records, including census records, birth and death records, newspapers, and such."

OK, now let me add my own comments and questions: All of those records are always available to everyone else. What is person #1 trying to hide? You may refer to the information you collect as "my ancestry" or "my records," but that doesn't mean that you own the information. In fact, most genealogy information in the U.S. and Canada is freely available to everyone in the public domain. Nobody can claim that data as their own. Yes, there are exceptions for new interpretations or for any analysis that you create, but the names, places, and dates are always public domain and typically are already available elsewhere to anyone who cares to take the time to look. Since it is already freely available elsewhere, I see no reason to try to hide the information. You certainly cannot claim ownership of names, dates, and places. It isn't "your" information!

Indexing Scorecard

A recent FamilySearch Indexing Newsletter shared these numbers:

Total Records Completed – 1,303,151,011

Records Awaiting Arbitration – 24,032,335

Records Completed in 2015 – 31,800,258

Total Contributors in 2015 – 113,550

Current Projects – 380

The Patient Genealogist

– *Logan FamilySearch Library, 18 Mar. 2015*

In "The Step Before We Search For Cousins,"

I mentioned that before we tell people to look for cousins they need to be told "Prove It." Now, I don't mean to be critical of anyone's campaign to involve more folks into family history and genealogy. I also think there is truth to the desire for some 'old guard' genealogist to keep shoddy work to a minimum.

Do the folks on your family tree have a big, fat zero next to the word "Sources"? A source is a record of the event, documented at the time of the event with information given by a witness to the event. I attempted to point out that without sources, your family tree is fiction.

Recent Improvements to FamilySearch

– *The FamilySearch Departments Weekly News:*

Marriage Information. The marriage information is displayed for each couple.

Users can now use the mouse scroll (in addition to clicking and dragging the screen) to move the view.

The preferred photo is displayed for each person. This feature will be introduced gradually to ensure that the Memories system can handle the load.

The icons for research suggestions, data problems, record hints, and temple opportunities are displayed when they are available for a person.

Two Color Schemes. Users can choose between two color schemes (Daybreak and Nightfall).

Simplified Alternate Parent and Spouse Selection. It is much easier to select which parents or spouse you want to see. (For example, if a woman married twice, you can choose more

easily to see her with the husband who was your ancestor.)

Easier to Identify the Descendant. It will be easy to tell at a glance whether the husband or the wife is the direct descendant of an ancestor.

No Hover Actions. The control that lets you see the children for each couple is always displayed. You no longer have to hover over the couple to see the control. This feature improves support for touch devices.

New Research Guides from Ancestry.com

– *Tuesday, April 7, 2015*

In a recent Ancestry Blog post, Ancestry Anne pointed out several short, Research Guides. They include:

- Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors
- African American family research
- Finding Your Irish Ancestors
- Finding Ancestors from the UK and Ireland
- Finding Your Swedish Ancestors
- Finding Your German Ancestors
- Finding Your Canadian Ancestors
- Researching American Indian Ancestors

FamilySearch RESEARCH WIKI

The above Research Guides from Ancestry.com, in a very limited way, are similar in purpose to those guides developed by the LDS Church's Brigham Young University and the Family History Department. They can be found now under the name of FamilySearch RESEARCH WIKI. The FamilySearch Research Wiki's can be readily accessed through the 'Ogdenfsl.org' website under the label 'Research'.

What is the Research Wiki? The Research Wiki is a free online guide explaining how to find ancestors in different time periods and places all around the world. The Wiki also includes Research tools: some particularly useful categories, with a lot of information for beginning researchers, can be

found listed in the following Research Wiki articles:

- Research Procedures
- Geographic Regions
- Libraries & Websites
- Research Aids
- Organizations & Ethnic Groups
- Miscellaneous Tools

(There are many useful tools besides the Wiki found at the Ogdenfsl.org website.)

New Descendancy Research Tutorials

Available to Everyone from the Ogden FamilySearch Library

There are now three different tutorials describing in great detail how to do descendancy research. These tutorials can be found in the OgdenFSL.org website under the Learn Tab for anyone's use. They have all been developed using the FamilySearch Database in conjunction with three commercially developed tools. They include descendancy research using Rootsmagic, Ancestral Quest or Legacy or one can use the FamilySearch's Descendancy program.

These tools are most beneficial in identifying family names as well as primary collateral line names that can be reserved and taken to the temple. If you have descended from a pioneer family and feel, as many do, that your family work has all been done you will be amazed what descendancy research will find for you. The three commercial tutorials (above) were developed by our staff at the Ogden FSL and have been proven to be very effective in descendancy research. Sometimes it is referred to as gathering or picking the low hanging fruit.

When finding names using descendancy procedures. Please do not try to do temple work for the names you find until you have checked for duplicates and have verified their relationship with at least one primary source.

Did Your Ancestors Vote?

– About.com Genealogy, March 31, 2015

Archived official records such as voter registration can often be a valuable source of information for genealogists. What you may find in voter registration records: name, date of birth, place of residence, naturalization information (possible), signature, occupation, marital status, whether they owned any land.

Voter registration records in the United States are most commonly found after 1870. There are exceptions, however. The city of New Orleans had a system of voter registration as early as the 1850s. In August 1920, ratification of the 19th Amendment first gave women in the United States the right to vote, making that year's voter registration records a great place to begin the search for female ancestors who were U.S. citizens at the time.

In the southern U.S., the 1867 registration of voters was the first to enumerate the recently emancipated black citizens, as well as men who had survived the Civil War. This particular registration is especially helpful for genealogists, because many Southern families both black and white relocated during the period between the Civil War and the 1870 Federal Census. Many of the extant 1867 voter registration records, which include names of voters who registered to vote between 1867 and 1869, can be found at the state archives, or on microfilm from The Family History Library. There are also some examples of these valuable records online such as Alabama 1867 Voter Registration Database from the Alabama Department of Archives & History.

The United States, of course, is not the only country with voter registration records. Freeholders' Records in Ireland are an especially valuable resource for genealogists due to the scarcity of Irish documents available for the 18th and early 19th centuries. The Public Record Office of Northern Ireland has digitized about 5,500 sheets from pre-1840 Irish Registers and Poll

Books, and offers them online for free accompanied by a searchable name index. The Canadian Genealogy Centre offers an excellent online article concerning the many voters lists available in their collections and how to access them. Similar voter lists and electoral rolls exist for England, Australia, France and other countries around the world.

Other significant online collections of historic Voter Registration rolls include many individual states, some individual cities such as Chicago who recorded voter registration from 1888, 1890, and 1892. (*For more detail about specific area voter records go to the article in About.com March 31, 2015*)

Visualize Your Family Heritage Using RootsMapper

– Fred Graham, March 19, 2015

(edited by Emil for space purposes)



Introducing RootsMapper. By using this FamilySearch compatible tool, people can watch the journey of multiple generations of their ancestors plotted on an interactive map. Their hearts will turn to their ancestors as they virtually accompany them along their family's migration path.

Imagine watching your ancestors "cross the pond" from the countries of their birth. For example, when I tried RootsMapper, I saw my birthplace in Southern California displayed as well as the birthplaces of three generations of my ancestors who were born in the United States

and their migration paths that led to me. Then, when I selected the fourth generation, I saw my ancestors' birth locations in Europe, including England, Ireland, and Switzerland, and their migration paths across the Atlantic to the United States. To try RootsMapper, click this link FamilySearch.org/products/rootsmapper, or copy it into your browser. (Google Chrome is the recommended browser for this program)

Follow these steps: Click Visit RootsMapper, Click Login to begin mapping, then enter your LDS or FamilySearch account username and password. After logging in, you will see a basic map that displays family data already entered into Family Tree about you and your ancestors. You see the migration of paths of multiple generations of your ancestors displayed on the map. You can then explore various display options and can view Family Tree information about ancestors by clicking individual pins on the map or by clicking through a simple pedigree chart.

You can go back farther on your Family Tree in RootsMapper by changing the ID number of the person being displayed. Select an ancestor on your tree, Copy his or her ID number. Paste or type the number into the ID field in the upper left corner of RootsMapper. Click Start. Select the number of generations you want to see. Now watch as additional people and generations from your tree appear on the map. Enjoy!

Youth Family History Consultants

– 5 Great Tips from Mesa FamilySearch Library

1. Register your calling on LDS.org. Sign in to lds.org. Click on Resources, Under Callings click on "All Callings" on left sidebar click on "Family History Callings" scroll down to "Register Here" <https://familysearch.org/consultant/profile>

2. Get in the habit of checking out "What's New" at the top of FamilySearch and don't forget to follow the FamilySearch "Blog" for recent news as well.

3. After Registering, go back to "Training for My Calling" (right above the "Register Here") link. Click on this link and you will be able to navigate to a collection of online resources to help you fulfill your calling.

4. Become familiar with Leland Moon's "SHORT" training videos. Go to FamilySearch, click on "Get Help", Click on Learning Center Video Courses, under Most Popular Courses click on first link, "Family Tree Training Lessons and Videos." Scout out the FamilySearch Family Tree Curriculum <http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/fhd/Community/en/FamilyTreeCurriculum/index.html>

5. Working with your counterpart Family History Consultant, set up a training night for your group. Prior to beginning your research, start with a prayer in your heart. Seek out the assistance of the spirit of Elijah and invite your ancestors to assist you. They share your joy and experience your challenges and they want you to succeed!

Help Wanted

Time on your hands? Wondering what to do with yourself? Want to help others?

Come and serve at the Ogden Regional Family History Center. We will teach you what is required so that you can do your Family History and help other to do theirs. There are 16 shifts per week. Two each on Monday, Friday and Saturday. Three shifts per day Tuesday through Thursday. Shift #1 - 8:30 AM to 1:00PM, Shift #2 - 12:30 PM to 5:30 PM, Shift #3 - 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

As a missionary you can live at home and serve on a full time or part time basis. For volunteers we can arrange our schedule to fit your schedule. This is a great work and you will be blessed for your service. Please call us at 801-626-1132 or come in for an interview