

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
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FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER

As you may be aware we have been having difficulties with our email system for the past few months, resulting in a number of you missing recent newsletters. This newsletter is the first we are sending from a new email provider and in a new format. Issues of previous newsletters are available on our website ogdenFSL.org .

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Ogden Family History Conference Update:

-- Joyce and Frank Decaria

September? September 12? Why does that month and day ring a bell? Oh, yes! That's the Ogden Family History Conference day! It's a be there or be square kind of event--or maybe rectangle--your choice. Certainly nobody wants to be square or rectangle. SO BE THERE!

Here's what "being" there can offer you: free parking, over 60 great presentations to choose from, cutting edge vendor displays to peruse, and drawings for free stuff from the vendors at 4:15 p.m.

This alone would be enough, but guess what, there's more: Marlin and Kathy Jensen will be giving co-keynote addresses to enjoy, and there will be experts to help individuals at the One-On-One Circle of Service area. Plus, instead of worrying about where and what you are going to do for lunch, you can purchase food right there in the food court area.

All in all, it will be a wonderful and exciting day-long experience learning about family history and genealogical programs, new research tips, insights into online search organizations, and many, many, many more good things for both novice and experienced attendees.

So don't forget Saturday, September 12th.

And remember this free conference, with free parking, will open its doors at 7:45 a.m. for information packets, 8:30 a.m. for keynote addresses by Marlin and Kathy Jensen, 10:00 a.m. for the first of five presentation sessions, as well as day-long opportunities to visit vendors.

Bottom line, your family history is something you need to take ownership over. Basically, no one can do it but you! Still, there are many wonderful programs, people, and online resources available to point you in the right direction--and most of them will be there on September 12th. So, be there or be square or maybe rectangle!

On "Making the Most of What We Have Left

-- Emil O. Hanson

Years ago, while I was remodeling our second home, I noticed that I was beginning to bend nails more frequently while I was driving them in. I had always prided myself on being able to drive nails in straight and fast. But now my well used hammer was getting old and I noticed that the head was becoming

rounded. I had to hit the nail as square as I could with the center of the hammerhead or the nail would slide off the rounding edge and bend. I "made the most" of a worn out hammer. Growing up during the depression years we did what every family did then, "make the most", of everything we had. It was not something that we thought about, it was just what we did, 'or had to do'. It was referred to as "Getting along" and/or "making the most of things". We did get along fine and our family was a happy one. Each of the eight children in our family had to wear hand-me-down clothes and worn out shoes from time to time. I remember walking to school with the sole of my shoe loose and each step I took I had to flip the loose sole forward before I put my foot down to keep it from folding up under my foot. More common was a hole wearing through in the sole and mother cutting cardboard out to fit inside the shoe to prevent wearing our socks out. But the cardboard would soon have a hole in it.

"Making the most of things" was sometimes a source of great humor, striking one or all of us in our funny bone. At times we would laugh so hard at our 'hard times' that sometimes we would be rolling on the floor laughing until our tummies ached. Jack Riemer wrote about Itzhak Perlman, the great violinist, who was performing at the Lincoln Center in New York City. Getting on stage was no small achievement as he was stricken with polio as a child, walking with braces on both legs and with the aid of two crutches he would slowly reach his chair to sit down. He put his crutches on the floor, undid the clasps on his legs, and tucked one foot back and the other foot forward. Then he bent down and picked up the violin, putting it under his chin, he nodded to the conductor and proceeded to play. ...But this time, something went wrong. Just as he finished the first few bars, one of the strings on his violin broke. You could hear it snap. We figured that he would have to find another violin. But he didn't. Instead, he waited a moment, closed his eyes and then signaled the conductor to begin again. The orchestra began, and he played from where he had left off. And he played with such passion and such power and such purity as we had never heard before. We could see him modulating, changing, and recomposing the piece in his head. At one point, it sounded like he was de-tuning the strings to get new sounds that they had never made before.

When he finished, there was an awesome silence and then the people rose and cheered... We were all on our feet, screaming and cheering. He smiled, wiped the sweat from this brow, raised his bow to quiet us, and then he said - "You know, sometimes it is the artist's task to find out how much music you can still make with what you have left."

Many of us serving at the Ogden FamilySearch Library are elderly and it would probably be appropriate to say that many of us have a broken string or two. But

we are in the Lord's orchestra and it is our task, as well, to find out how much music we can still play with what we have left. How many nails we can still drive home without bending them. "Making the most of what we have left", is sometimes a source of great humor as well as a characteristic that, I believe, is much appreciated by the Father of us all.

Previously Unknown Mormon Pioneers

In a blog post by Paul G. Nauta, posted: 17 Jul 2015 06:12 PM PDT entitled "New Records Reveal Previously Unknown Mormon Pioneers," FamilySearch and the The Church History Library announced: In a collaboration between the Church History Library and FamilySearch, individuals can now discover and explore more of their pioneer heritage on the newly redesigned Mormon Pioneer Overland Travel website that also includes information about previously unknown pioneers. In addition to discovering your pioneer ancestors, new features enable people to read their ancestors' personal journals, see available photos, and learn key details about major events in their ancestors' lives. Since the site was first launched, an influx of pioneer documentation has allowed historians to reconcile and expand their understanding of the trek west. The site now includes information about more than 57,000 individuals in 370 pioneer companies, with thousands of original trail excerpts that are authoritatively documented. "This is an extremely significant database," said Keith Erikson, Church History Library Director. "It reveals so much about individual pioneers and their experiences, but it also offers fresh new insights about their collective experience." Site updates include the ability to submit family photographs of pioneers and to link to digital copies of sources on the Internet. There are also new articles of interest, including humorous stories from the trail.

In conjunction with this new website update, FamilySearch is encouraging individuals today to see themselves as modern-day pioneers. Here is the excerpt. Millions of people continue to be inspired by the courage, faith, and triumphs of the Mormon pioneers. Many of us are unknowingly modern pioneers, whose courage, personal achievements, and applied faith will be equally inspiring to future posterity and generations. This updated site will be featured in the international "I Am a Pioneer" social media campaign (#IAmAPioneer) that will encourage individuals today to see themselves as modern-day pioneers and recognize the need to readily capture their

stories of triumph online for future generations. Learn more about this initiative at FamilySearch.org/iamapioneer .

Are you researching Greek ancestry?

Hellenic Genealogy Conference in Salt Lake City

--Dick Eastman Â· July 30, 2015

Are you researching Greek ancestry? If so, can you be in Salt Lake City on September

26, 2015? If you answered "yes" to both questions, plan on attending the first-ever

Greek genealogy conference held in the western U.S. The event will be held at the

Hellenic Memorial Building (Holy Trinity Cathedral) 279 South 300 West, Salt Lake

City, UT 84101, from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Hellenic Cultural Association, the HellenicGenealogyGeek and the

Ethnic and Mining Museum of Magna, Utah, the conference promises that attendees will learn effective strategies and contemporary resources for genealogical research in Greece. An important component will be to invalidate the prevalent but false myths that Greek records have been destroyed, and to demonstrate where and how historical and genealogical documents in Greece can be accessed both online and on-site at libraries, archives, and other repositories. There is a \$25 fee which includes breakfast and a catered lunch.

Details and registration forms can be accessed at the conference website at:

<https://hellenicgenealogyconference.wordpress.com/home/>

New Records Added to Findmypast

- Dick Eastman August 7, 2015

The following announcement was written by the folks at Findmypast: This week's Findmypast Friday marks the release of over 1.2 million new additions to our collection of Staffordshire parish registers. These new additions have been released in partnership with the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archive Service and are the second phase of an exciting project to create the Staffordshire Collection on Findmypast - a rich source, which on completion will comprise around 6 million fully searchable transcripts and scanned images of handwritten parish records. Over 17,000 records relating to Hillsborough Cemetery in Auckland, New Zealand are also available to search. Remember to

check our dedicated Findmypast Fridays page every week to keep up to date with the latest new additions. Be sure to check the FamilySearch blog frequently. Find it in small print at the bottom of almost every page on the FamilySearch.org website. There are inspiring blogs, informational blogs, warning and "heads-up" blogs--everything to help you be current as you serve your ancestors and all the families of the world.

Service to God and Country: Discovering the Mormon Battalion

-- *Savannah Kate Shelley August 6, 2015*

They rose to their call to serve their God and country. The men, women and children of the Mormon Battalion were faithful individuals who sacrificed so much to serve and to help settle the American West. They blazed a trail that blessed generations. Learn more about the Battalion, discover if any of your ancestors served, and read personal accounts and trail stories on the [Mormon Battalion page](#) .

Search for Ancestors

You may choose to begin your venture into the story of the Mormon Battalion by looking through your own family lines. The Mormon Battalion page offers a "My Ancestors" tab, which will automatically pull the names and records of anyone in your family tree that served in the battalion. As you click through the records of their lives and family information, these heroes will become very real to you. Even if you don't have a direct line to any of the members of the Battalion, you can get to know these inspiring individuals by browsing the "Companies" tab, where the names and records of battalion members are listed.

Discover Photos and Headstone Locations

Along with the names and basic vital information for battalion members, FamilySearch has also worked with [BillionGraves](#) to add headstone information where available. The headstones are linked to an interactive map. On an additional interactive map, visitors to the site are able to tour the 2,000-mile trek and learn about the experiences battalion members had along the way. A bibliography of sources where each person is mentioned is provided by the Mormon Battalion Association site to enrich the experience by providing reference information to more detailed Battalion stories and your ancestor's participation, helping you to discover what these brave people struggled with, rejoiced in, and accomplished.

Tell your Own Story

As you begin thinking about your family and how these strong-willed predecessors have impacted your life, you may feel inspired to share what

makes you or your family pioneers. The Mormon Battalion page also includes a link to the #IAmAPioneer page where you'll find simple tools to help you tell how you are a modern-day pioneer in your home, community, or country. Your stories will be preserved for future generations and will show others the way to follow, the same way that trail stories from the Mormon Battalion do. By sharing your story, others will get a glimpse of your life as a pioneer and be inspired in their own journey.

Come visit the [Mormon Battalion page](#).

OGDENFSL Monthly Speaker Series

Mark your calendar September 19, 2015 is the day; Ogden FamilySearch Library is the place. This month's presenter is Mariel Wangsgard, owner and editor-in-chief of the popular family ideas blog, "Or So She Says". She recently taught a class at the family history conference, Root's Tech, called Connecting Family Through Social Media, and will be sharing that same presentation at the lecture. The lecture does not involve family history, but teaches the very basics of social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest.) Social media can be a great way to connect with family and once the basics are understood, a new world of resources are opened up, including ones that could be of help with family history. Mariel has been blogging for 6 years and has a social media following of over 100,000 followers. She has frequently used social media to share her beliefs as well as all the great family ideas from her blog. She has made appearances on Good Things Utah, Studio 5, Fresh Living, and has also been featured in the Deseret News, Standard Examiner, as well as Mormon.org and KSL.com. Please contact the Library at 801-626-1132 with any questions.

New Ancestry.com Update now syncs with FamilySearch Family Tree

--Posted by James Tanner at 6:44 AM, 8 Aug 2015

For some time now, the older version of the Ancestry.com website has synchronized both details and sources with the FamilySearch.org Family Tree. Unfortunately, for some time, the newer version of the website was lacking that feature. Now, the ability to synchronize data between the two programs has been added to the new, updated version of the Ancestry.com website.

When you compare a person on your Ancestry.com family tree with the FamilySearch.org Family Tree, you get a screen that compares both details and sources between the two programs. You can then move the information, by

clicking the check boxes, from one program to the other.

You need to carefully consider which of the information is correct and make sure that the sources really apply to your ancestor or relative. The process is completed when you save the changes.

This is a big benefit to those who are keeping most of their information either on the FamilySearch.org Family Tree or on Ancestry.com.

Registration for RootsTech 2016

RootsTech, hosted by FamilySearch, is a global conference celebrating families across generations, where people of all ages are inspired to discover and share their memories and connections. This annual event has become the largest of its kind in the world, attracting tens of thousands of participants worldwide. Join us and celebrate your family across generations. As always, there will be a full lineup of inspirational keynote speakers, over 200 educational classes, exciting hands-on activities in the expo hall, and entertaining evening events.

Registration for RootsTech 2016 will open on Tuesday, September 15, 2015!

For a limited time, exclusive early bird discount pricing will be available on the RootsTech pass and the RootsTech and Innovator Summit pass, which will be available for \$149 and \$169 respectively. Mark your calendars today to be one of the first to register for what will be the most inspiring RootsTech ever.

FamilySearch blog

Be sure to check the FamilySearch blog frequently. Find it in small print at the bottom of almost every page on the FamilySearch.org website. There are inspiring blogs, informational blogs, warning and "heads-up" blogs--everything to help you be current as you serve your ancestors and all the families of the world .

FamilySearch.org App Gallery

-James Tanner

If you are one of the many people using a smartphone or a tablet regularly, perhaps it is time you looked at the programs in the App Gallery and give the developers some feedback.

The number of Apps in the FamilySearch.org App Gallery just reached 100 (although the number has been bouncing around a bit lately). To see all the

Apps, you have to click on the Categories pull-down menu and choose "All Categories."

This is partly an indication of the movement towards using mobile devices since many of the Apps (programs) are now dedicated to mobile operating systems. Here are some of the latest statistics from the PewResearchCenter, Internet, Science and Tech Center:

As of October 2014:

- 64% of American adults own a smartphone.

As of January 2014:

- 90% of American adults own a cell phone

- 32% of American adults own an e-reader

- 42% of American adults own a tablet computer

Here is a further quote from the PewResearchCenter, Internet, Science and Tech Center entitled, "U.S. Smartphone Use in 2015."

The traditional notion of "going online" often evokes images of a desktop or laptop computer with a full complement of features, such as a large screen, mouse, keyboard, wires, and a dedicated high-speed connection. But for many Americans, the reality of the online experience is substantially different. Today nearly two-thirds of Americans own a smartphone, and 19% of Americans rely to some degree on a smartphone for accessing online services and information and for staying connected to the world around them - either because they lack broadband at home, or because they have few options for online access other than their cell phone.

It is pretty strange to talk about a "traditional way" of going online, when going online has not been around long enough for any sort-of traditional way of doing anything online. Be that as it may, there is a definite shift to mobile devices. Those who want to promote family history to the "youth" should be aware that many of them are accessing online information primarily from mobile devices. Here is another quote from the Pew article:

Certain groups of Americans rely on smartphones for online access at elevated levels, in particular:

- Younger adults - 15% of Americans ages 18-29 are heavily dependent on a smartphone for online access.

- Those with low household incomes and levels of educational attainment - some 13% of Americans with an annual household income of less than \$30,000 per year are smartphone-dependent. Just 1% of Americans from households

earning more than \$75,000 per year rely on their smartphones to a similar degree for online access.

Â§ Non-whites - 12% of African Americans and 13% of Latinos are smartphone-dependent, compared with 4% of whites.

These figures will continue to increase in the short term. Nearly all the features of FamilySearch.org and particularly the Indexing program are presently only easily available to those who have desktop computers with a keyboard and input device, such as a mouse.

The movement to mobile devices is inexorable. From my own personal standpoint, nearly all of the tasks I do in conjunction with my family history, would be significantly more difficult on a mobile device. The programs that are listed on the FamilySearch.org App Gallery are a good start, but most of them are frustratingly limited when compared to the full-blown applications on a desktop computer. The real issue is data entry. Little, virtual keyboards do not work for those of us with old, fat, clumsy fingers.

Appeal for Information - Scots-Italians and Midwives

Do you have an ancestor who was a midwife in Scotland, or do you have Scots-Italians ancestry? If so we would be delighted to learn more about your ancestor's life and experiences in Scotland for two forthcoming projects. Please get in touch with us at

enquiries@scotlandspeople.hub.gov.uk

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