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Directors Corner

The Nauvoo Temple's Past and Present

--Elder and Sister Erickson

Nauvoo came alive at the Ogden FamilySearch Library. On October 15, 2016 Brother David Wirthlin and his wife Anne, who presided over the Nauvoo Temple for three and one-half years, captivated the full house of patrons who had come to learn more of the Nauvoo Temple's history. As Brother Wirthlin put it, "It took unsurpassed courage to build it, and unsurpassed courage to leave it."

Sister Wirthlin focused on "the lessons of Nauvoo", primarily from 1839 - 1846. She noted that the saints were a group of refugees who "transformed a swamp" into the city of Nauvoo. They had no homes when they started, and no money with which to build them. When they began draining the swamp, they experienced two epidemics of malaria, resulting in many saints not surviving their first year in the area. Despite their hardships, they gave a 100% sustaining vote when asked about constructing a temple in that location. Sister Wirthlin said they had the faith to know that if they gave all they had to the temple, the Lord would supply the rest. Construction went forward.

Brother Wirthlin explained that after the martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith, the saints were forced to leave their city and their temple. To protect the temple, stewards

were charged with looking after the building. In 1848 three men stole a key to the temple. They entered through the door later that evening, and one of them lit a fire on the top floor that almost took his life. The flames could be seen 20 miles away, and severely damaged the interior.

In 1999 President Gordon B. Hinckley announced that the Church would rebuild the temple. Drawings from the original architect, William Weeks, were used in the reconstruction. Attention was given to every detail, from the basket-weave pattern chiseled on the exterior walls, to the intricate woodwork in the windows. Once again the Nauvoo temple stands where it began, a testament to the faith and sacrifice of the saints who gave their all to construct it then, and to those who finished it over 150 years later.

Reflecting on what we learn from the history of the Nauvoo Temple, Brother Wirthlin quoted President Hinckley, who said "Be grateful, and above all be faithful."

[Can I make a little apology for the error I made in last month's newsletter article? For some dumb reason I put as the author of "The Tale of two cities" Victor Hugo and I knew it was Charles Dickens. I'm getting old you know. -- Emil]

On "Being A Guide"

-- Emil Hanson

I enjoyed reading the following story several years ago. It was written in the first person so I assumed the author was writing about his own neighbor's animals. "Just up the road from my home is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each horse looks like any other horse. But if you get a closer look you will notice something quite interesting... One of the horses is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made him a safe and comfortable barn to live in. This alone is pretty amazing. But if you stand nearby and listen, you will hear the sound of a bell. It is coming from a smaller horse in the field. Attached to the horse's halter is a small, copper-colored bell. It lets the blind friend know where the other horse is, so he can follow. As you stand and watch these two friends you'll see that the horse with the bell is always checking on the blind horse, and that the blind horse will listen for the bell and then slowly walk to where the other horse is, trusting he will not be led astray. When the horse with the bell returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, he will stop occasionally to look back, making sure that the blind friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell. Like the owner of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect, or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need. Sometimes we are the blind horse, being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives. And at other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way." (Author Unknown)

We each serve as guides, from time to time, in our lives. My wife and I love being grandparents and even great grandparents many times over. I watched one of our grandsons standing behind his little 14 month old brother a few months ago, with little hands in big hands, he holding him up while he was learning to walk. God has ordained that first we are helped and then we are the helpers. Our eldest son would have been sixty this month of October 2016, had he lived, but unfortunately he passed on prematurely. Our other five are close behind, age wise, and as I reminisce about their growing up years their mother and I worried and prayed that they would turn out to be good people. They did, even though there were a few patches of rough times. It had to have been obvious to them that they were loved, because we told them every time they left the house, even now as older adults, as they leave us they will hear, "I love you!" and they will never leave without a hug. We took their hands and helped them to walk, then run and even as they got older, supported them as they become good men and for our daughter, a good woman.

We have worn our guiding bells for many years, but as we near our mid-eighties, we are starting to hear tinkling bells, with the sound now coming from the direction of our children. We are not hearing verbal warnings and directions yet, like, "Mom (or Dad) have you got your sweater with you, so you will be warm enough when you go out?" Or "Be sure you drive carefully." But! There is a certain (subtle but sometimes obvious) hovering over us making us feel our rolls are starting to be reversed. We are becoming the children and our adult children are becoming parental. We can hear a bell tinkling faintly, now - but..... I have also wondered if other elderly have noticed the sound of tinkling bells, too, as the roles begin to change??? Is this the pattern, is this the way our Father in Heaven meant it to be? I have wondered, too, if those bells have been tinkling down through the generations as each succeeding generation of children start wearing a bell. Have you heard the bells?

Interpreters for the Deaf

The Ogden FamilySearch Library is in need of people to assist deaf patrons who come in to research their family history. If you know sign language or know someone who might be willing to assist these patrons on an as needed or on call basis, please contact the Library at (801) 626-1132.

Inactive Ordinance Reservations Now Being Released

-- Ron Tanner

The Family History Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has begun canceling user temple reservations that have been inactive for more than two years. If you have reservations that you haven't been able to complete, now is a good time to share them with family members via email, or with the temple.

Canceling inactive temple reservations has become a priority due to the large number of ordinances that currently fit that two-year window, and is in line with instruction from the First Presidency to ensure that temple work for ancestors is completed in a timely manner. The process of unreserving ordinances that have extended beyond two years is being repeated periodically on an ongoing basis.

What you can do? If you have a large reserved list, there are different things you can do to help ensure that the work for these ancestors is completed in a timely manner.

Here are some ideas to help you get started.

Review your temple reservation list: Your temple reservation list is located under the temple tab, which appears in the top navigation once you log in. You can also follow this link. We've added the ability to sort the ordinances by reservation date. Check to see which ordinances you will be able to do yourself, and which might be good candidates for sharing.

Share with family members via email: We have added the capability to share temple ordinances with family members and friends through email. This is a convenient, "cardless," way to share the blessings of the temple with the living, and the dead. Click here to learn how this works, or read about someone's experience with this feature on the FamilySearch Blog.

Share with the temple: If you don't have family members that are able to perform temple ordinances, you can also share the ordinances with the temple. This is a great way to ensure that ordinances are performed expeditiously, as there are members all over the world who regularly attend the temple and need proxy names.

Unreserve/re-reserve: If an ordinance has been on your list for two years, and, for personal or research reasons, it needs to stay there, you can unreserve the ordinance and then re-reserve it to restart the clock.

Do nothing: A final option is to just do nothing. The ordinances on your list that exceed the two years will automatically be unreserved and other family members will be able to snap them up.

Please keep in mind that: Reservations shared with the temple will not be unreserved. Reservations for an individual will only be unreserved if the most recent ordinance was completed more than two years ago. (So, reservations with progress more recent than two years ago will not be unreserved.)

Answers to some of the most frequently asked questions can be found under the "Get Help" link at FamilySearch.org .

If you don't have a reservation list that fits this criteria, be on the lookout for ancestors who might be coming off of one of your relatives' lists, and complete that temple work. We're excited about this new development and know that it will lead to many more of Heavenly Father's children receiving saving temple ordinances.

FAMILY HISTORY WEBINARS

-- Stephen Felt

The Salt Lake Family History Library offers free webinars that you may register for and participate in on- line at home. A host of classes are offered each month and are becoming very popular. To view a list of the webinar classes, do an internet search for Family History Library Classes; under "class schedule" click the month in which you are interested. Register for a class by clicking on the word webinar associated with the class.

The following is a sample of webinar classes being offered in November 2016.

FamilySearch	November 2016	Family History Library 35 North West Temple
Family History Library Class Calendar		Salt Lake City, UT 84150

	DATE / T	IME	CLASS	SKILL LEVEL	ROOM
Wed	2-Nov	10:00 AM	Spanish Language Indexing Webinar	Beginner	B2 Lab
Thur	3-Nov	1:00 PM	British Case Studies <u>Webinar</u>	Beginner	B2 Lab
Sat	5-Nov	1:00 PM	Reading Spanish Handwriting Webinar	Beginner	B1 Lab
Mon	7-Nov	10:00 AM	FamilySearch Catalog	Beginner	82 Lab
Гuе	8-Nov	11:00 AM	Ask Your United States Research Question Webinar	Beginner	B2 Lab
Tue	8-Nov	1:00 PM	Lessons on English Life: A Fun Look at English Parish Registers Webinar	Beginner	B2 Lab
Wed	9-Nov	10:00 AM	Italian Language Indexing Webinar	Beginner	B1 Lab
Wed	9-Nov	11:00 AM	Family Tree Next Steps: Finding Stories About Your Ancestors and Their Community Webinar	Beginner	B2 Lab
hur	10-Nov	11:00 AM	Descendancy Research Webinar	Beginner	2N Lab

Join the Cause! Index Every Marriage Record in the United States

-- Collin Smith

The U.S. Marriages Project, a joint initiative between findmypast.com and FamilySearch.org, is actively working to save the marriage records from every state in the United States. Through the indexing efforts of online volunteers across the U.S, this service project will create a high quality, searchable database of nearly every marriage recorded in the United States since the early 1800s.

Valuable Records for Connecting Families: 1970s wedding Marriage records, often recorded by county clerks in beautiful ledgers, have valuable data that many records do not have-the wife's maiden name and her parents. This information was not generally captured in earlier census records or other government documents. As people fill in the branches of their family tree, it is often the lines of the women that are harder to fill in. Marriage records in this project will help many people fill in their family tress. Fueled by the joy of discovering fascinating surprises from their own family history, volunteer indexers are excited to join the cause of indexing U.S. marriages.

When complete, the index and images will be available to Findmypast subscribers and LDS members with FamilySearch.org accounts. Free access for everyone will be available at family history centers all over the world.

How to Participate: Marriage records for this project are listed by state. Indexers are invited to contribute to any state in the available projects. If there is a state that indexers feel connected to, then that is a great place to start.

To select a project, follow these steps:

If You're New to FamilySearch Indexing

Go to the list of U.S. Marriage Projects here https://familysearch.org/indexing/projects/country/us

Find a project with the term "Marriage Records" in the title, as in this example: US, California-Marriage Records, 1750-1990

Click Get Started, and follow the instructions.

If You've Used FamilySearch Indexing and Have the Software on Your Computer

Open the indexing program on your laptop or desktop computer.

Click the blue Download Batch button.

A pop-up window will open. Click the button to select Show all projects.

Click the column Project Name (this sorts the list alphabetically).

Select a US State-Marriage Records project.

BEGIN INDEXING!

Help Publish: Arbitrate Indexed Marriages

As you know, indexes cannot be published on FamilySearch.org until they are reviewed, and arbitrators make this possible. Thank you for your help in arbitrating these U.S. Marriage Records.



Free Access to Top European Family History Website

-- FamilySearch

Access to Geneanet is now free for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Geneanet is one of the largest family history websites in the world, with a focus on French and European records

and research. If your ancestors came from Europe, you should get to know Geneanet. Accessing this website is now easier for members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints because of a recent partnership agreement with FamilySearch that grants members of the Church free access to Geneanet's premium services.

About Geneanet: Geneanet has tremendous value to those with French ancestry, but the record databases often reach far beyond France into other European countries. Most records and all family trees are included with the premium account. Here's a summary of what you can expect with Geneanet:

Geneanet members have shared information on more than 400 million individuals in their Online Family Trees. Build your own family tree, contact other members, find ancestors, and share information about your ancestors with others.

Geneanet member have access to hundreds of thousands of digitized books, postcards, family pictures, a wiki, a blog, and a genealogy community.

Geneanet is available in French, English, German, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Norwegian, Swedish, and Finnish.

How to Sign Up for Your Free Account: You can sign up for your free Geneanet account by visiting the partner access page on FamilySearch.org. Once there click on the Geneanet logo, and log in with your FamilySearch account.

To create a new account, click Continue for your FREE Geneanet account. To convert an existing Geneanet account to FamilySearch version, click Sign in to connect your account.

Click Accept to agree to the access terms.

Complete the Sign Up information and click Create account. You'll be taken to a success screen with a link to go to Geneanet. Click on the Geneanet and try it out!

Get a Box: A new



approach to family history

-- James Tanner

Back in 2003, Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, President Boyd K. Packer published an article including excerpts from the following book:



Packer, Boyd K. 1980. The Holy Temple. Salt Lake City, Utah: Bookcraft.

Quoting from LDS.org's account of his writing in an article entitled, "Your Family History: Getting Started," President Packer wrote about the process of beginning your family history. I highly recommend reviewing and internalizing the concepts of this short article. One quote from the article has caught my attention over the years. Here is the quote.

"How to Begin--It is a matter of getting started. You may come to know the principle that Nephi knew when he said, "And I was led by the Spirit, not knowing beforehand the things which I should do" (*I Ne. 4:6*). If you don't know where to start, start with yourself. If you don't know what records to get, and how to get them, start with what you have."

There are two very simple instructions for those who are waiting for a place to begin. Here's what you might do: "Get a cardboard box. Any kind of a box will do. Put it someplace where it is in the way, perhaps on the couch or on the counter in the kitchen-anywhere where it cannot go unnoticed. Then, over a period of a few weeks, collect and put into the box every record of your life, such as your birth certificate, your certificate of blessing, your certificate of baptism, your certificate of ordination, and your certificate of graduation. Collect diplomas, all of the photographs, honors, or awards, a diary if you have kept one, everything that you can find pertaining to your life; anything that is written, or registered, or recorded that testifies that you are alive and what you have done."

Back in 1980, when President Packer wrote his book, the idea that we could use something called the Internet and an online program called FamilySearch.org to gather our family's memories was still way in the future. Today our box the FamilySearch.org Family Tree. Now, every time I go to the Brigham Young University Family History Library, I see people using advanced scanning devices to scan their family's history into digital files that can be shared in the Memories section of the Family Tree. We now have a marvelous digital box to store and share all of our precious memories.

But the idea of where to start is just the same as it was when President Packer wrote his book. We need to start with ourselves. As President Packer counseled, we need to start by writing our own stories. As he continued,

"Family history work has the power to do something for the dead. It has an equal power to do something to the living. Family history work of Church members has a refining, spiritualizing, tempering influence on those who are engaged in it. They understand that they are tying their family together, their living family here with those who have gone before.

Family history work in one sense would justify itself even if one were not successful in clearing names for temple work. The process of searching, the means of going after those names, would be worth all the effort you could invest. The reason: You cannot find names without knowing that they represent people. You begin to find out things about people. When we research our own lines we become interested in more than just names or the number of names going through the temple. Our interest turns our hearts to our fathers-we seek to find them and to know them and to serve them. In doing so we store up treasures in heaven."

Technology has now advanced to the point where you and your family can, through your combined efforts, share all of your work and thereby avoid duplication of effort. We now have our box and it is sitting there on each of our computers and other devices, waiting for us to fill it with our memories and our research into our ancestral families. We need to recognize that as much as things seem to change, they really do not change at all. We are still working towards the same goals of our personal salvation and the salvation of our kindred dead as we were back in 1980 and before. But now we can do the work with the assistance of wonderful digital tools.

Even though our tools have changed, I hope that you can see that the work itself has not changed. It is still work and it still requires a substantial effort, but it is certainly worth all the time and effort we can muster. Let's start with our new, sparkling digital box, the Family Tree, and begin our learning process about our families.



[The following announcement was written by the

folks at Findmypast:]

New Records Available To Search

- Dick Eastman

Over 2 million new records are available to search including:

Ontario Birth Index 1860-1920

The Ontario Birth Index is comprised of a massive 1.7 million civil registration records. Civil registration in Canada is the responsibility of the individual provinces and territories and did not become a standard practice until the late 1800s. Each record contains both a transcript and an image of the original document. Each transcript will reveal your ancestor's date of birth, place of birth parent's names and

registration details. These records provide a valuable link to the previous generation and images may include additional information such as parents' occupations, where the parents were married, the name of the attending physician, address of residence, where specifically the child was born, and any additional remarks.

New Brunswick Birth and Baptism Index 1769-1899

New Brunswick Birth and Baptism Index contains over 25,000 transcripts of civil registration records. Each record will include your ancestor's birth year, birth place and parent's names. The records will also provide you with the information you need to order a copy of an official birth certificate through Service New Brunswick at www.snb.ca.

Scotland Monumental Inscriptions Index

Scotland Monumental Inscriptions Index contains over 227,000 records and covers 209 burial grounds across 14 Scottish counties including the Isle of Skye. In each record, you will be provided with your ancestor's full name (including maiden names), birth year, death year and burial ground.

Scotland Deeds Index 1769

The Deeds Index 1769 consists of over 1,000 transcripts, each containing an index of the details found in minute books kept by the Court of Session, Scotland's supreme civil court. The collection contains a variety of different types of deeds including, assignations, discharges, bonds, obligations, protests and leases. Each transcript will reveal the type of deed, the date it was recorded and the two parties named in the original court document, their addresses, and occupations.

Scotland, Paternity Decrees 1750-1922

Containing over 25,000 records, Scotland, Paternity Decrees 1750-1922 allows you to find out your ancestor involved in a paternity dispute that appeared before Scotland's Sheriff Court. These records will help you identify illegitimate ancestors and break down brick walls. You will find cases from jurisdictions across Scotland such as Kirkcudbrightshire, Lanarkshire, Midlothian, Roxburghshire and more. Each record will reveal the date of birth and sex of the child whose paternity is in question as well as the name, occupation and residence of both the pursuer and defender.

Scotland Pre-1841 Censuses and Population Lists

Learn more about your Scottish ancestors with the new pre-1841 Censuses and Population Lists, a collection over 3,500 early census fragments and parish lists from Jedburgh, Greenlaw, Ladykirk, Melrose, Applegarth, and Sibbaldbie. Most of the censuses and parish lists were created by parish Kirk Sessions, the lowest of the church courts in the Presbyterian Church. Until 1845, these courts were responsible for governing the local parish and oversaw parish relief. It was in their interest to keep up-to-date lists of the parish residents, their occupations, and, in some cases, their birth places.

The details recorded in each transcript will vary although most will include a combination of your ancestor's birth place, occupation, address and an archival reference that you can use to access the original material held by the National Records of Scotland.

Scotland Registers & Records

Over 1,700 records have been added to our collection of Scotland Registers & Records. The new additions include Written Histories of the Highland Clans & Highland Regiments. Scotland Registers & Records now contains images taken from 22 different publications related to Scottish parishes and families. The records included in this collection are incredibly varied, ranging from parish records, topographical accounts and memorial inscriptions to a 19th century novel and a short history of the Black Watch.

Ogden FamilySearch Library, 539 24th Street, Ogden, UT 84401

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