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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

--Elder and Sister Erickson

The annual RootsTech conference, held in Salt Lake City, was apparently the largest family history gathering in the world. More than 26,000 people from every state in the United States and about 40 countries participated. We shared an elevator with a gentleman who came from Hong Kong. One presenter came from Lyon, France. Everyone we talked to about the conference was impressed with the variety and quality of the presentations.

"Celebrating Families across Generations" was the theme for the sixth RootsTech conference. It was created and organized by FamilySearch

International, the LDS Church's internet genealogy service, which also sponsors our FamilySearch Library.

It was our first visit to RootsTech, though we have seen video clips from earlier conferences. You can view the videos of this year's keynote speakers and related proceedings at RootsTech.org.

We followed the LDS track of courses and they were awesome. Perhaps in future newsletters we can share some of our observations.

As you watch the videos, observe how often the presenters showed pictures of their families and ancestors, and how often they shared stories about those relatives. It convinced us of the need to keep adding stories, memories and photos to our Family Tree-because those stories may have the power to change lives as we connect our families across the generations.

On "Love" (a Valentine Message)

-- Emil Hanson

"... love one another; as I have loved you," (*John 13:34*) To love everyone, as suggested by that scripture, is to be able to see yourself, your hopes, desires, fears and your ambitions in the eyes of everyone else. My granddaughter, Sarah (a recently returned missionary) in one of her letter's home wrote a statement about loving others saying: "We are all children of God, we are all brothers and sisters and we need to take care of each other... I have learned on my mission to love people no matter who they are, what they look like, or what they have done. You just love em! In one of the wards where I served a little boy named Sammy (11 years old) got in a fight with his dad, stormed off and in a decision of rage went into his parent's room took his dad's gun and shot himself in the head. We went over to their house and there were 15-20 people in the house cleaning in preparation for the funeral... After we helped, one of the little girls in the family named Kalli asked me, "Where is your mom?" I told her that she is in Utah. She then said, "That's really sad." And I told her, "It is sad, but it's okay because I will see her again." To which this little girl replied, "Just like I will see Sammy again?" He isn't gone forever; it's not a goodbye, just a "see ya later!" But to make it back home (Heaven's family) we all need to help one another. No one gets left behind; remember this and I promise you that you will have a deeper love for all those you meet."

Someone has said, that in respect to romantic love, caution rules, because to risk

loving another is to risk not being loved in return." Fortunately most people are willing to take that risk. Once love is found it fills a void that only love can fill. The emotion of true love is much more powerful than the emotion of fear. It is actually an art according Van Gogh who said, "There is nothing more truly artistic than to love people." Fear flees when love comes along because that is when they start applying the paint to the canvas. Fear always succumbs to love and that is demonstrated in the way a person will, without a second thought, risk their own life to save a loved one. Even the thought of a loved one being in danger can be a strong emotion that starts the adrenalin moving. Real and true love always implies sacrifice. Jack Kornfield suggested that in the end just three things really matter: "How well we have lived; how well we have loved; how well we have learned to let go." A single person may justify their singleness by saying I don't want to lose my freedom. Freedom from what? Freedom from the responsibilities of marriage and family? Most single people of marriageable age look forward to losing their freedom, look forward to that responsibility. They want to be married and to have children. It is a natural desire that I believe is in our very genetic makeup. It would be a very powerful act of selfishness for a person to deny themselves of that natural desire.

I remember reading a love story about a sacrifice that was supposedly made in our pre-earth life. The story is about Moses Mendelssohn, the grandfather of the famous German composer, a man who was far from handsome. Along with a rather short stature, he had a grotesque hunchback. One day he visited a merchant in Hamburg who had a lovely daughter named Frumtje. Moses fell hopelessly in love with her. But Frumtje was repulsed by his misshapen appearance. When the time came for him to leave, Moses gathered his courage and climbed the stairs to her room to take one last opportunity to speak with her. She was a vision of heavenly beauty, but caused him deep sadness by her refusal to even look at him. After several attempts at conversation, Moses shyly asked, "Do you believe marriages are made in heaven?" "Yes", she answered, still looking at the floor. "And do you?" "Yes I do," he replied. "You see, in heaven, at the birth of each boy, the Lord announces which girl he will marry. When I was born, my future bride was pointed out to me. Then the Lord added, "But your wife will be humpbacked." Right then and there I cried, "Oh Lord, a humpbacked woman would be a tragedy. Please, Lord, give me the hump and let her be beautiful." Then Frumtje looked up into his eyes and was stirred by some deep memory. She reached out and gave Mendelssohn her hand and later became his devoted wife. (*Shared by Barry and Joyce Vissell.*) All marriages are not crafted in heaven, obviously, or there would be fewer divorces.

Men and women differ in many ways yet someone has said: "You cannot love or

hate something about another person unless it reflects something you love or hate about yourself. One thing that I am sure of is that the things that make me sad or happy are the same things that make me sad or happy when they happen to my sweetheart and/or to any of my family, even those beyond our family circle. Love, marriage and family is the mixture or combination that holds a society and even a country together. I believe that where there is love, there is an answer and a solution to every problem that has and ever will confront those who love. If you have love in your life, it can make up for a great many things that you lack. If you don't have it, no matter what else one else has, it isn't enough."

February is the month that we officially celebrate "Love". Actually, we should celebrate it the same for March, April, May and all of the rest. February is especially for those who need to be reminded that, "It's time to show my love." For the rest of us, we'll just continue to show our love, day after day, for we have been taught: "As I have loved you, love one another." That includes those here on earth as well as those who have completed their sojourn and have moved on. Take some time to show your love for them in February, March, April.....

Ogden FSL JUBILEE YEAR

-- Shelley Felt

It's Jubilee Year at the Ogden FamilySearch Library. Did you know that Ogden is one of six locations where book scanning missionaries are working to digitize materials to support the FamilySearch.org website? More and more family history books and other materials are available online under the "books" tab at FamilySearch. Search for your ancestors' names and home towns today!

You could even become a FamilySearch book scanning volunteer or missionary. FamilySearch book scanning locations include: Utah: West Valley City and Ogden; California: San Diego; Indiana: Fort Wayne; Texas: Houston; Missouri: Independence with upcoming locations in Syracuse, New York; London, England; and Brussels, Belgium.

Other places to search for online books and media include archive.org (this site is attempting to digitize the world), and books.google.com. Here is an interesting link to explore: *A Guide to Finding Digital Books: [20+ Free Online Libraries](#)*

NEW & INFREQUENTLY OFFERED CLASSES

-- *Stephen Felt*

The Ogden Family Search Library will offer the following new or infrequent classes in March 2016. The class title, number of sessions, instructor, and date and time are listed.

- Scottish Research on the Internet - 1 session, Barbara Lewis, March 14, 1:30 ~ 3:00.
- How to use GOOGLE More Effectively -3-4 sessions, Allen Hardison, March 1, 10:00~11:30.
- Virtual Pedigree and Chrome Extensions - 1 session, Diane Newren, March 1, 1:30~3:00.
- Can DNA solve your Genealogical Problems - 1 session, David Havertz, March 28, 2:00~3:30
- Family History Library Catalog - 1 session, David Havertz, March 7, 2:00~3:30
- How to Find Your Ancestors in Foreign Countries - 2 sessions, David Havertz, March 14, 2:00~3:30
- Snipping Tool - 1 session, Diane Newren, March 15, 2:00~3:30

You may register on-line for these and a host of other classes at ogdenfsl.org > classes > course

Future Plans for Family Tree Maker

-- *Dick Eastman*

There has been a lot of news lately from Family Tree Maker, a popular genealogy program formerly produced by Ancestry.com. (See <https://goo.gl/BDkhPQ> for my recent articles about the program.) At the RootsTech2016 conference last week, I had a chance to talk for a while with two representatives from Software MacKiev, the new owners of Family Tree Maker. I didn't record or write verbatim what was said, but here is a summary of the information they told me: The software developers at Software MacKiev are already very familiar with Family Tree Maker. In fact, they wrote the Macintosh version under contract to Ancestry.com. In order to make the Macintosh version compatible with and similar to the Windows version, they also had to learn a lot about the Windows version of the program.

The biggest issues today with both versions of Family Tree Maker are (1.) stability and (2.) speed. The programmers at Software MacKiev are already

working to improve both the stability and the performance of both products. Improvement of stability and speed will be the primary goals for at least the next year.

Because of today's emphasis on both stability and speed, the company is not yet working on adding any new features to the program. New features are probably at least a year away. In fact, the company has not yet even developed a list of possible new features.

The emphasis on improving the present product's speed and stability strikes me as good news for all present Family Tree Maker users who do not wish to switch to a different product. I would not expect any upgrades in the next two or three months as it does take time to develop and properly test improvements. However, I suspect the long-term improvements will be worth the wait.

BYU Family History Library adds Webinars, Classes and Videos

-- James Tanner

The Brigham Young University (BYU) Family History Library will be moving into the world of online, live webinar broadcasts starting in February, 2016. We have discussed doing webinars showing the presenters, but for now, we will be doing primarily presentation software based classes. The University has a huge number of professors, teachers, and volunteer genealogists as a pool to draw on for presentations. We will be doing as many as three webinars a week to see how that goes. At first, attendance at the webinars will be limited to the first 100 people who sign in, but if there is a demand, we may increase that number in the future.

Of course, we keep adding more content to the YouTube.com channel and the classes on the second and fourth Sundays of each month are usually well attended.

<http://sites.lib.byu.edu/familyhistory/>

OFSL Quarterly Speaker Series

-- Elder Erickson

Nancy Goldberg Hilton will be speaking at the Ogden FamilySearch Library on April 16, 2016 at 10 am. Nancy, who was born and raised Jewish, compiled a list

of over 4500 Jewish records at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. This huge database was then donated by the Church to the International Jewish Genealogy Society and is currently available on their web site.

Nancy is the author of "My Miracle from God", which details her conversion to believing in God and his son, Jesus Christ. Her book also describes LDS doctrines which she feels fulfill her ancient Judaism. Her latest book, "God's Wake-up Call," is a collection of short stories with morals, like modern parables.

She is married to Lynn M. Hilton, a former Brigham Young University professor, and author of "The Lehi Trail in Arabia" and "The Kolob Theorem." Lynn and Nancy are now serving their tenth senior mission together in the Church History Archives. Four of their missions were in Family History. In 2005 they were the directors of the Family History Center in Athens, Greece.

Join us at the OFSL located at 539 24th Street Ogden, UT on April 16 at 10 am in room 12 to hear Nancy Goldberg Hilton. For questions or additional information please call the Library at 801-626-1132.

Findmypast Announces a Raft of New Partnerships as Part of its U.S. Growth Strategy

-- Dick Eastman

On February 6, 2016 Findmypast announced at RootsTech a range of new global partnerships with leading technology providers. This will further strengthen its reach in the U.S. as well as U.K. markets. The raft of new partnerships include deals with RootsMagic, Legacy Family Tree, FamilySearch, Family-Historian, Puzzilla, Billion Graves and RootsCity.

Findmypast will make its vast record collection of more than 8 billion records available to customers via these partners. The rollout of these partnerships will begin in 2016, with exact dates to be detailed later. Customers using these various family history products will benefit from having Findmypast's record collection embedded within the actual product in ways that each partner determines will benefit their customers most. Adding to the excitement, Findmypast also announced that in 2016 it will build on its extensive British and Irish data base by adding hundreds of millions of new U.S. records including the most comprehensive collection of US marriage records available anywhere.

Commenting Ben Bennett, Executive Vice-President North America and

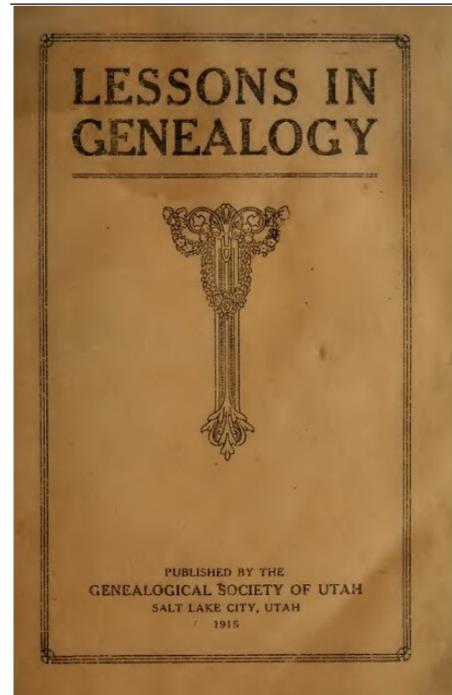
International for Findmypast said: "2016 is going to see us expanding our partnerships across the U.S. Our aim is to provide our customers with more and more records and family history resources to aid them in their family history research. Regardless of where the customer is doing the research, Findmypast will bring the full benefit of the more than 8 billion records that Findmypast has in order to help them discover more about their family."

How do I Start Doing my Family History?

-- James Tanner

Most traditional models for pursuing an interest in family history begin with an admonition to collect home sources and talk to relatives.

Back in 1913, updated in 1915, the Genealogical Society of Utah published the booklet shown on the right.



Quoting from pages 18 and 19: "The beginner should write out first of all, in his notebook, all the information he already has in his possession, according: to a plan which will be given in a later lesson. He should recall with exact care the names of his parents, their birth-place, their marriage and death dates, and these must be entered in proper and exact order. If he can recall the names and dates of his grandparents or great-grandparents, on his father's line only-for one line is to be given in one book-he should begin with them, of course; or if he can go back several generations, he should begin with his oldest known ancestor, and put down in proper order the full name, birth date, place of birth, death date, and then follow this with the wife or wives and children of said ancestor. The method for arranging these names will be given later. But the personal recollections are first to be carefully recorded."

"After all personal information is recorded, then you should set down in writing all data in the possession of relatives or friends that can be reached personally. Old people especially should be visited and questioned, for these, generally, have a valuable fund of information, which if not secured will disappear when they die. Before it is too late, all information in the possession of grandfathers, uncles, etc., should be obtained."

Of course this admonition applies to us today. Our basic genealogical information must still come from personal and family sources. But for those who have ancestors who joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the basic information about their families is very likely already in the vast collections on FamilySearch.org and particularly the Family Tree program. Some of the information may be missing or inaccurate, but unless you are the first or nearly the first generation in the Church there may be considerable information already present online.

Many members of the Church are overwhelmed with the information already present and come to the unwarranted conclusion that "all the work has been done." This is particularly true when one or more of their ancestors has spent a considerable effort gathering and submitting information about the family. In reality, there is a rather simple answer to this assumption as shown in the following table:

n	2^n	n	2^n	n	2^n
0	1	11	2,048	22	4,194,304
1	2	12	4,096	23	8,388,608
2	4	13	8,192	24	16,777,216
3	8	14	16,384	25	33,554,432
4	16	15	32,768	26	67,108,864
5	32	16	65,536	27	134,217,728
6	64	17	131,072	28	268,435,456
7	128	18	262,144	29	536,870,912
8	256	19	524,288	30	1,073,741,824
9	512	20	1,048,576	31	2,147,483,648
10	1,024	21	2,097,152	32	4,254,967,296

This is a diagram of the powers of two. Setting aside considerations of multiple marriages and marriages between cousins, this chart illustrates the number of direct-line ancestors you would have in each generation going back in time. At ten generations, you have about 1,024 ancestors. If you consider the number of descendants these ancestors likely produced, you likely have tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of cousins. Where would you be historically in the tenth generation?

Either despite the fact or because of the fact that a considerable amount of research had been done on my own ancestral lines before I ever got interested in working out my own ancestry, I could certainly have bought into the story that the work was all done. The fact is that some of my ancestral lines ended after five generations and many more ended after six, seven or eight generations back in

time. Very few of my lines actually ended as a result of a complete absence of records. Most ended because the records were not readily available to my relatives who had done the work. Many of my ancestral lines ended in the early 1800s or mid-1700s. In addition, I found and continue to find rather obvious errors in what was recorded. Those lines going on and on back into antiquity were uniformly based on little or no substantiated information. They appeared to be nothing more than name matching.

As I have noted in previous posts, I have been slowly verifying and working my way back six generations. So, where do you start? I would suggest getting to know what is already in your online FamilySearch.org Family Tree. I would not simply click back to the first end of line and feel some duty to extend the line, first, I would strongly suggest looking to see how accurate and believable the information is that is already there. Check dates, places and relationships. Look for consistency and sources. Any information in the Family Tree that lacks sources is questionable.

At this point, I often get objections from those who have little or no written ancestry. If your family comes from a culture or region where the genealogy is orally maintained, then record it and preserve it. But also record a source and tell us where you got the information. If you are an orphan abandoned on a church doorstep, then maybe you will have to wait until some future time to discover your family, but most of us have at least one line to pursue. Even if you do not know one of your parents, the numbers are still in your favor. You still have relatives and making an effort to learn about them will be immensely beneficial to them and to you.

Trying to do family history without getting to know your ancestors is like trying to eat unprepared dehydrated food. Get busy and bulk up your ancestry. If you do so, you will find many people who have been overlooked or who are still waiting to be found.

If you are missing the point of this post, you need to realize that the FamilySearch.org Family Tree works equally well to assist in descendancy research as it does in ascendancy research. If this does not mean anything to you, then start learning. Attend a class, read a book, watch a video or ask a friend to help.

Look out for some exciting new records coming to ScotlandsPeople in the near future.

Valuation Rolls for 1930 will be made available on 3 March 2016. Fully searchable by name or address, the new records are an interesting snapshot of the property and social landscape of Scotland 1930, and are a vital resource for capturing the location of your ancestors beyond the published census years.

Also coming soon is a refresh of the statutory indexes to include the new birth, marriage and death entries for 2015. You will soon be able to search the indexes of all birth, marriage and death events that took place in Scotland in 2015. Read the annual report released by National Records of Scotland which reveals Scotland's top baby names of 2015.

SOUTH DAVIS FAMILY HISTORY FAIR

Saturday April 23, Woods Cross High School

More information at fair.ugagenealogy.org

UGA Member prices -

- Fair Registration: \$15.00 (electronic syllabus is included in the price)

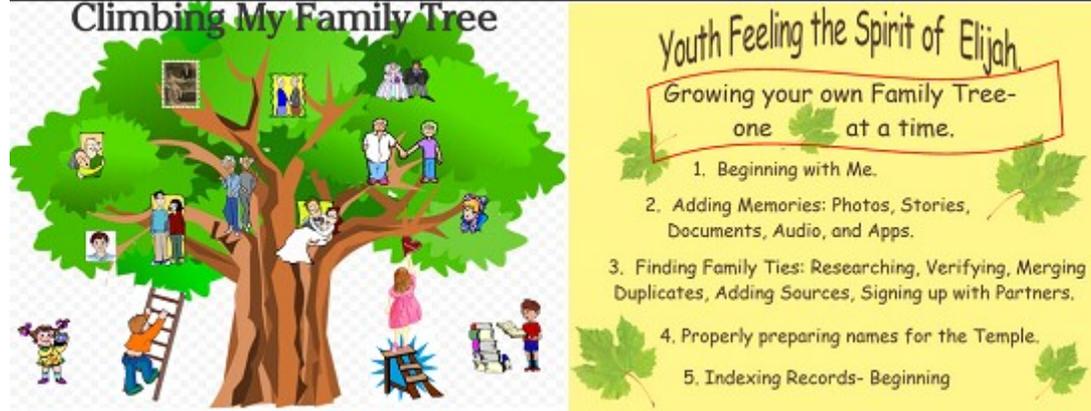
Non UGA member prices -

- Fair Registration: \$20.00 (electronic syllabus is included in the price)

Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to make this conference an enjoyable time for everyone. Please e-mail Ginny at groovifamily@msn.com if you would like to contribute your talents and time to make this event a success. Also, let us know if you are a speaker or vendor that would like to participate to make sure we can include you. Thank you!

**Ogden Family Search Library's
FAMILY HISTORY SUMMER ACTIVITY 2016**



PRIMARY (ages 8-11), **YOUTH** (ages 12-18) and **ADULTS** have the opportunity to participate in age-appropriate family history activities throughout the summer at the Ogden FamilySearch Library.

PRIMARY: The 2016 Family History Summer Activity for children 8 - 11 years old is new. This year's theme "Getting to Know You, Finding You in My Family Tree" is based upon the song "Getting to Know You" from the King and I. During this hour and a half adventure, participants will follow a treasure map to four discovery stations. At one station they will play games their ancestors played. At another, they will visit a make-believe cemetery to explore tombstones. At the computer station they will discover the meaning of their family's surname. Finally, they will learn how to interview relatives to hear family stories. As they complete each station they will receive a sticker to apply to the treasure map.

YOUTH and ADULTS: Groups of those 12 and older will feel the Spirit of Elijah as they participate in one of the following workshops: 1. Beginning with me - Building a Bridge to Your Ancestors, 2. Adding Memories - photos, stories, and documents to your tree, 3. Finding Family Ties through Research, 4. Properly Preparing Names for the Temple, or 5. Indexing Records - The Basics.

DATES: June 6 through August 13, 2016 (Except holidays)

LENGTH: Each group activity is 1.5 hours

SCHEDULE: Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays

9:30-11:30 or 1:30-3:30

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

9:30-11:30, 1:30-3:30, or 6:00-8:00.

HOW MANY: Each session will accommodate about fifteen participants. Larger

groups may reserve two different sessions.

BRING: Children ages 8-11 will receive a booklet that costs \$1.00. Youth and adults should know their FamilySearch username and password and names, dates, and places of deceased ancestors and bring photos as needed.

LOCATION: Ogden FamilySearch Library, 539-24th Street Ogden, Utah

RESERVATIONS required: Call 801-626-1132

STAY CONNECTED:

