Family History Newsletter

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Ogden FamilySearch Library
539 24th Street
Ogden UT 84401

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Directors Corner:

-- Elder and Sister Erickson

The Family History Guide will help you find your way.

Do you like family history, but feel a little overwhelmed by the firehose of information that is out on the internet? Then you'll like the Family History Guide, a fairly new learning, resource, and training center for genealogy.

Bob Ives, the Family History Guide Association's vice president and executive director, spoke at the Ogden FamilySearch Library Saturday, October 21, 2017 to a large crowd. He said the Family History Guide began about 2 ½ years ago, and they have seen one miracle after another as it has been brought on line. Their intent was to take the internet's firehouse of information and reduce it to a trickle, so you can focus your family history learning.
The Family History Guide is free and is available in 94 languages. It is also non-denominational. It has been approved to work with FamilySearch.

Some of the features include a convenient learning section. It's great for beginners and has FAQs, tips, and goals you can select to focus your learning. There are also nine project areas, which include learning about Family Tree, adding Memories, finding Descendants, a Discover section for developing your research skills, help with Indexing, as well as other areas titled Help, Tech, DNA, and Countries/Ethnic.

The best part is opening one of the projects. You'll find convenient links to Articles and Videos. The Family History Guide volunteers have sorted through the Web and have distilled out over 1000 of the best article and video links. Quick links can take you directly to records in

FamilySearch, Ancestry, FindMyPast and MyHeritage quickly and easily.

The Family History Guide offers a complete, easy-to-use training system for learners. You can select free on-demand classes just for you from an extensive Course Catalog, where you can find over 60 complete lessons and over 100 mini-classes, along with helpful training tips.

Finally, there's something for everyone, with courses on Computer Basics, Children's games and activities, and an online Tracker for keeping track of your progress. We enjoyed having Bob Ives visit us at the Ogden FamilySearch Library and hope you'll enjoy the well-organized family history learning materials you can find at thefhguide.com.

On Giving Thanks

— Emil Hanson

I am always amazed at how many things in our lives are almost always taken for granted, until we lose partial or full use of them. Why is it? Is there anything we have that is so well protected and secure that few things in the world could maim or destroy it? The majority of us seem to instinctively know, in our hearts, that something bad will not happen to us. We are special; we are strong; we are healthy and happy people. We are indestructible - right?

That very way of thinking is ridiculous. During war times families, homes and even villages have been completely destroyed in a matter of minutes, as if they never existed, had no value, no purpose, no reason for having been. Yet, maybe just weeks before the conflict started, the village people felt, as we, secure, happy and confident in their world. Now they are merely memories of those who survived. We may live in a quiet community, peacefully going about everyday living and a tornado, hurricane, earthquake wildfire or some other natural disaster will come up and even destroy most everything we have ever had or hoped to have. We may have a happy, healthy family and all of a sudden one of our members is taken in death or has contracted a debilitating disease and our whole life and way of living may be turned upside down. We should probably be thinking more like King David; "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. (Psalms 23:4) The Psalmist laid out for the world, the gloomy way many in his day thought and lived. On the other hand, we happily dance through the tulips unafraid. Possibly, we take peace, comfort, happiness, prosperity and safety much too casually.

That was a terrible way to start a thought about 'gratitude - However, it might make us take serious thought. I believe we are much too casual about our blessings and the blessings of life in general. I was talking to one of our sons the other day, he lives in New York City, he is a writer and one who loves music. In both of those interests he has to use his fingers to work a keyboard. He was playing basketball with friends for a little exercise and happened to sprain his finger and he chipped a small piece of bone off one of the joints. Even though it was a temporary injury, it was painful. I'm sure he felt as you and I would feel, "Oh no! why did that have to happen to me?" Did he expect it to happen to him, heavens no, those things only happen to other people? We have a relatively fragile existence and yet we take it all for granted and "we fear no evil".

This thought was not intended to scare or to make afraid. It was merely a thought from my strange

mind to make us all more grateful to a loving Heavenly Father for all those things we are blessed with and too often take for granted. King David probably had a lot of reasons to believe that he was walking through the valley of the shadow of death. But we are fortunate to have very little reason to believe that we are. I love this earth and all its beauty and glory, while recognizing at the same time, that we have little control over it. Expressing gratitude, however, is the one way for us to be reminded that at any given moment we are blessed beyond measure. For those moments, we owe our gratitude and love to the Supreme Being.

God bless us all to remember that gratitude springs from the fountain of life and is the very source of happiness. One cannot be happy and at the same time be bitter and afraid. Once in a while we should each say a detailed prayer that describes the things that we are grateful for. Many there are that do that daily. "Thanksgiving" is celebrated this month and that will be a great time to express what is in our hearts to a loving Heavenly Father. While doing so let us think of our ancestors and the difficulties they endured that we might be so blessed today. They, like King David, often and in reality, 'walked through the valley and were too often in 'the shadow of death'.

Find Green Icons or Temple Opportunities

-- James Tanner

Programs that find green icons or temple opportunities in the FamilySearch.org Family Tree have become very popular recently. In the FamilySearch.org App Gallery, there are 47 apps listed under the category of "Tree Analyzing." Many of these utility programs are the "favorite" programs for those who have only a casual involvement in family history. From what I see around me, whole Wards and even some Stakes, base their efforts at promoting family history on using one or another of these programs.

These Tree Analyzing programs are called "Ordinance Crawlers" by the programmers who support and maintain the Family Tree. In a recent newsletter dated September 29, 2017, aimed at developers of programs that use the Family Tree, i.e. the developers of the ordinance crawler programs, FamilySearch noted that certification and approval of additional such programs would be discontinued until further notice. This action is being taken because of the high load that these third-party ordinance crawler programs are placing on the internet resources available to FamilySearch.

From my own standpoint, the value of these ordinance crawler programs is marginal in advancing the integrity, value, and growth of the Family Tree. First of all, they all depend to a greater or lesser degree of the accuracy of the data already in the Family Tree. Some of these programs are better than others in determining the validity of opportunities found. In many cases, the "opportunities" turn out to be more accurately an indication that serious research is needed in a particular family. The Family Tree program is constantly becoming more sophisticated in analyzing the validity of the entries. Red warning icons that indicate serious errors in the data are increasingly common. Finding the overlooked or undone temple ordinances in the program is becoming more and more difficult.

When the Family Tree was first released and for several years after its introduction as a replacement for the new.FamilySearch.org program, green ordinance availability icons were abundant. However, in many cases, their abundance was an illusion caused by the Family Tree

program's inability to accurately determine the existence of duplicate individuals. Beginning in June of 2017, that limitation in the Family Tree was eliminated to a great degree and millions of duplicates were merged. This affected the number of apparent ordinance opportunities because many of those duplicates showed opportunities when completed ordinance work was recorded on two or more duplicate individual records in the Family Tree. For example, one copy of an individual may have some of the required ordinances and another copy might have other completed ordinances. When the two copies were merged, all of the ordinances showed as completed.

The issue of duplicate entries in the Family Tree still exists and to some extent, as information is added to the entries in the Family Tree, additional duplicates can still be found in great numbers. By adding information to the entries from research into the available records, more and more duplicates become evident. I have written about these "Ghost Records" on the Family Tree over the past few months. In one sense, the ordinance crawlers reduce the number of green icons by finding those that are available, but in another, real sense, they also increase the number of duplicate ordinances performed and effectively hide the multiple duplicate entries that exist when research adds information to the existing entries.

From the standpoint of FamilySearch, the "duplicate issue" has been solved. The Family Tree now detects most of the obvious duplicates. But the duplicates that appear only after research has added new information to existing individuals is still hidden and very extensive despite assurances from FamilySearch to the contrary. I have very recently spent hours working through the duplicates for one family that only appeared when I added information obtained from research and I am certain that I will have the same experience many times in the future.

Now, back to ordinance crawlers. These programs give an appearance of the fact that names for temple ordinance are already identified and waiting to be found in the existing entries in the Family Tree. A very few Family Tree users take advantage of these programs to do serious research. But in my own experience, I have found them to be less useful than simply spotting research opportunities and beginning research.

If the emphasis on working with the Family Tree was changed from "mining" to research, perhaps the problem of the overuse of the FamilySearch resources would be solved. Relying on these types of programs, not a solution to validating and improving the Family Tree.

[Duplicate Storms on the FamilySearch Family Tree](#)

— James Tanner

The issue of duplicate records on the FamilySearch.org Family Tree is far from resolved. However, instead of being generally spread all over the data in the program, they are clustered together in family groups like thunderstorms moving across the countryside. When these duplicate record thunderstorms are in progress, I can spend hours merging the duplicates in one family.

How does this occur? Where do these storms of duplicates come from?

First of all, it is always the case that these duplicates are NOT found by using the default duplicate search available on the Family Tree program. These clusters of duplicates are focused on individual families that are apparently duplicate free. The storms appear unexpectedly when I begin adding in information obtained from records either provided by record hints

or through research. Most of the time the initial duplicates appear as records that have already been attached to someone even though the records appear to apply to the person being researched. In every case, the duplicate cannot be seen by doing a duplicate search but only appears when the ID number is copied and the merge is done from the ID number. Finding one such duplicate usually sets off the storm and one merge immediate produces more records and even more duplicates. The only solution is to continue merging duplicates until they run out.

This entire process is often additionally frustrated by inaccurate Record Hints. I find these duplicate storms most commonly in English records that have been subjected to International Genealogical Index or IGI extraction. The situation with these records is also further complicated by extraneous family members who do not belong to the target family. Many times, accurate IGI records are mixed in with inaccurate ones. Sometimes these duplicates are obvious. One obvious example is shown at the top of this article.

The apparent duplicates are the two children with the same names, places, and dates. However, a search for a duplicate on Mary Ann Gwillium, KWJX-WRK does not show a duplicate. What will probably happen with this family is that I will merge the two obvious duplicates by using the ID number and then begin to do some basic research to see if there are any additional children etc. and I will begin to find a huge storm of duplicate entries for all of the family members that will take me many hours to unravel. The duplicate above is merely the first hint of rain in the coming storm of duplicates. This situation can go on for hours of research and merging.

How to Import Google Photos to FamilySearch

-- Alison Ensign

Google Photos, an online photo sharing and storage service, is a good place to store your high-resolution images. Its facial-recognition feature allows you to quickly search your photos for a specific person. And now, you can easily import photos from Google Photos to your FamilySearch family tree.

1. Sign in to FamilySearch.org.
2. At the top of the page, select Memories.
3. From the drop-down menu, choose Gallery.
4. Click the green plus icon, and then select the Google Photos button.
5. Enter your Google username and password. You will need to do this only the first time you import photos from Google.
6. Click Allow to authorize Google to access your information in FamilySearch.org. You will need to do this only once as well.
7. In the window that appears, select which pictures you would like to import, and click Import Photos.

You can follow the same steps to import photos from Facebook and Instagram to your Memories gallery. If you use the FamilySearch Memories app, you can also use your phone to import your photos from Facebook and Instagram. Soon you'll be able to use the app to import pictures from Google Photos as well. The addition of Google Photos to the FamilySearch site makes it easier to preserve and organize your important family photos

Over 2.8 million New Records and Newspaper Articles

-- Dick Eastman

There are over 2.8 million new records and newspaper articles available to searchin Find My Past, including;

London, Docklands and East End Baptisms, 1558-1933

Over 40,000 records covering the parishes St John Wapping, St Leonard Bromley, St Mary Bow & St Mary Whitechapel have been added to our collection of London, Docklands and East End Baptisms. The collection now contains over 783,000 records from 29 East End Parishes. Each record consists of a transcript created by Docklands Ancestors that will reveal your ancestor's birth date, baptism date, parent's names, address and the location of their baptism.

London, Docklands and East End Marriages, 1558-1859

Over 10,000 additional records have been added to London, Docklands and East End Marriages, 1558-1859. Covering the parishes of St John Bethnal Green, St John Wapping, St Leonard Bromley, St Luke Limehouse and St Mary Whitechapel, the new additions consists of transcripts of original Parish registers. The amount of information listed may vary but records can include the couple's names, marital status, the groom's occupation, the date of the wedding and where it took place.

Greater London Burial Index

Over 35,000 new records covering Clerkenwell in central London have been added to the Greater London Burials Index. The Index contains over 1.6 million names from more than 230 parishes in the Greater London area. Each record includes a transcript that lists the information found on the

original index entry. The amount of information listed varies, but most records will include a combination of the following information about your ancestor; full name (including maiden name if female) birth year, death year, burial date, occupation, denomination, relationship and address.

Kent, Canterbury Archdeaconry Baptisms

Over 13,000 records have been added to our Collection of Canterbury Archdeaconry Baptisms. The new additions cover the parishes of Chilham, Stalisfield & Staple and each record includes both a transcript and an image of the original document. Transcripts will reveal your ancestor's birth year, baptism date, baptism place and parent's names, residence and parent's profession. Images may reveal additional information such as the parent's residence and profession, the name of the officiating minister and any additional notes or remarks.

Kent, Canterbury Archdeaconry Banns

An additional 2,416 records covering Chilham, Stalisfield & Staple are now available to search within our collection of Kent, Canterbury Archdeaconry Banns. Banns are the publications on three successive Sundays of a couple's intention to marry. Note that many entries in the banns registers include the date of marriage as well. The images of the original registers will often provide additional information, such as the dates on which banns were read and whom they were read by.

Kent, Canterbury Archdeaconry Marriages

Add another branch to your family tree by uncovering vital information about your ancestor's spouse with over 6,000 new Canterbury Archdeaconry Marriages. Transcripts will reveal the couple's birth years, marriage date, marriage location and the names of their fathers, while images may reveal additional details such as the bride and groom's residence, occupation, and father's' occupation.

Kent, Canterbury Archdeaconry Burials

Explore over 9,000 records from the parishes of Chilham, Stalisfield and Staple to determine where your Kent ancestors were laid to rest. Records will reveal your ancestor's birth year, death year, burial date and burial place. Images may provide you with the names of additional family members such as your ancestor's parents, children or spouse.

PERiodical Source Index image update

We've added 30,004 new images to seven publications in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI). Additionally, 10,902 articles have been added to the index. Images have been added to the following titles:

- NewsLeaf, (2012-2013)
- Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine, (1918-1923)
- William and Mary Quarterly Historical Magazine, (1892-1923)
- Wisconsin Magazine of History, (1917-1924)
- Women's Canadian Historical Society of Toronto Transactions, (1896-1923)
- Wyoming Historical and Genealogical Society Proceedings and Collections, (1858-1922)
- Yorkshire County Magazine, (1891-1894)
-

British Newspaper Update

Over 2.3 million new articles and 16 brand new titles have been added to our collection of historic British Newspapers this month. New titles now available to search include;

- Whitchurch Herald
- Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard
- The Atlas
- Winsford & Middlewich Guardian
- Chard and Ilminster News
- Paisley & Renfrewshire Gazette
- Worthing Herald
- Denbighshire Free Press
- Barking, East Ham & Ilford Advertiser, Upton Park and Dagenham Gazette
- Loughborough Monitor
- Cardigan & Tivy-side Advertiser
- Leigh Journal and Times
- Thame Gazette
- Dover Telegraph and Cinque Ports General Advertiser
- Darlington & Stockton Times, Ripon & Richmond Chronicle
- Hants and Berks Gazette and Middlesex and Surrey Journal

The Holiday Season Will Soon Be Upon Us

The Ogden FamilySearch Library will be adjusting the hours of operation to allow staff members some time off to celebrate the joyous season with family and friends.

Thanksgiving Holiday:
The library will be closed from Wednesday 22 November through Saturday 25 November 2017.

Christmas Holiday:
The library will close at 5:00 from Monday 11 December through Saturday 16 December 2017 and will close all day from Monday 18 December 2017 through Monday 1 January 2018.

The library will reopen Tuesday 2 January 2018 to begin serving patrons and preserving records during normal operating hours.