



e-PAFinder

Software Review: World Place Advisor/World Place Finder

By Allin Kingsbury

It appears that World Place Advisor is the only product on the market that checks places worldwide in a genealogy database in a single sweep. Several Web sites are available where you can look up places to find the correct spelling or county. None of these compare in usefulness to World Place Advisor. The same gazetteer used in World Place Advisor is also available on CD-ROM from Progeny Software in a no cost demo program called World Place Advisor. There is a \$6 shipping and handling charge. The gazetteer contains more than 3.3 million place names that span the globe.

What the Program Does

It will quickly check your genealogy file for place name accuracy and completeness. If a place name in your database is not found in the gazetteer, World Place Advisor will offer suggestions as to a correct name. You can check the spelling of all place names in a database at once. The program will offer corrections that you can cut and paste directly into your genealogy database. It does not force you to change your records. In fact, it never writes to your database. You decide which action to take.

You can define abbreviations which will then be accepted by the program. You can also compile an "Ignore List" of places that may need further research, but should be ignored for now. You can also add or remove places from the gazetteer should you find a place not there or learn of a name change.

Lookups can be done as you are entering data. You can type the name of a town, find the correct place on the list, and paste it into your database.. You can print reports of errors found in an audit or print a quick report of the results of a lookup.

The Place Database

The 3.3 million name gazetteer not only includes cities, towns and villages, but many unincorporated hamlets. Lakewood is an unincorporated area

bordering on Crystal Lake, Illinois. People there use a Crystal Lake mailing address, but the place is listed in the gazetteer. Nunda, a town that became part of Crystal Lake in the early 1900s as the towns grew together, is not listed. Nor are many of the names of towns listed that have changed to a new name or become extinct.

The gazetteer appears to be current on political boundaries. I tried a number of villages from the map of the former country of Yugoslavia. The countries of Bosnia, Croatia, and Slovakia were correctly identified. A few smaller villages on my map were not found.

Rural jurisdictions that subdivide counties were not included in the gazetteer. My grandfather had a farm in Scott Township, Johnson County, Iowa. None of the townships were included, nor were any of the parishes that subdivide counties in New Brunswick, Canada. Having been there, I tried a few small hamlets and found Little Shemogue, New Brunswick which is at the junction of two rural roads and in the midst of a number of farms. There is no sign to identify the place. It also listed Spence Settlement, an unincorporated area of farms and homes of fisherman along the shore of the Atlantic Ocean. I do not remember there being any signs to identify the place, nor did it appear any more populated than the other nearby areas.

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Ask Dr. PAF

by Dr. Cornelius D. PAF



"I Give No Answers Before Their Time!"

Moving from PAF 4 to PAF 5

Q. I am moving to a new computer and decided to move to PAF 5 also. How can I move my PAF data in PAF 4 to my new computer? Do I have to put the PAF 4 program on my new computer?

A. All you need to move your PAF 4 database to PAF 5 is a backup of your PAF 4 data. You do not need to have PAF 4 on your new computer. You take a backup of your PAF 4 data to your new computer, use Restore to enter it into a new PAF 5 data file. When you create the new file give it the same name as the file you are restoring. You will get a message that the version you are restoring is an earlier version than PAF 5 and will ask if you want to convert it. Click on Yes. You now have a PAF 5 data file on your new computer.

Moving backup without a floppy

Q. How can I get the backup from my old computer to the new computer? I don't have a floppy drive on my new computer.

- A.** There are several ways:
- If you can burn a CD in your old computer, put the backup on a CD. Then with the CD in the new computer, Restore the backup. If the file is marked "read only" see the instructions in the answer to the next question.
 - If you have USB ports in both computers, use one of the new "key chain" memory devices to move the backup from your hard drive to the new computer's hard drive.

- If you will have more need for a floppy drive in your new computer, buy an external floppy drive. You might need this to share data with relatives with older computers. Then you can send the backup to the floppy drive on your old computer and restore from the floppy in your new computer.

Moving PAF 5 data with a CD

Q. I want to move my PAF 5 data from my old computer to my new computer. I would like to use a CD but I can only read the file after copying it into my new computer, I can't make any changes.

A. A file on a CD is "read only" because you don't write changes on a CD. When the file is copied to your hard drive, you can change the properties of the file to that it can be modified. To change the properties, right click on the file name, click on Properties (last on the menu that comes up), and click on "Read Only" then on "OK." This will remove the "Read Only" and make it possible to modify the file.

Step and Half relatives

Q. I am confused about the relationship terms. Is the half sister of my father called my step-aunt or a half-aunt? What about the half brother of my grandfather?

A. First, what is the difference between "half" relationships and "step" relationships. A "half" relationship ship is when only one of the parents is the biological parent of both persons in the relationship. In a "step" relationship, the two persons (or ancestors) in the relationship don't share the same biological parents. The half sister of your father and your father may have the same mother and different fathers. An example of the two relationships: A man with a son and a woman with a son marry. The two children are now step_brothers. If that man and woman have a son, that boy will be a half_brother to each of the two step_brothers. The typical "his, hers, and ours" situation.

With this explanation, the half sister of your father can be called a "half_aunt." The half brother of your grandfather can be called a half-grand uncle. I noticed that for PAF, the Relationship Indicators did not include "half" and just said aunt and grand uncle. The Relationship Calculator gave the same

result. You can use those tools to find relationships and add "half" when needed if you want to.

PAF Companion will print a kinship list that shows relationships of those in your database to an individual. It does name "half" relationships. You can limit the number of generations that are considered. •

World Place Finder

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The gazetteer also includes US churches and cemeteries, but not for other countries. The Brick Chapel, a small brick church in rural Johnson County, Iowa, where my mother went to church as a child was listed. The church has not been used for many hears and burned to the ground a number of years ago.

Some family historians like to use the political boundaries that existed at the time of the event. World Place Advisor will flag these places as errors if country, county, district or other jurisdiction at the time of the event is different than the current jurisdiction. You can add them to the ignore list, which will take them off the error list. The gazetteer also includes Willow Glen, Alum Rock, Evergreen, Alviso and San Martin in Santa Clara County, California. These places are part of San Jose, and it would be confusing to use them as places in the family history database, even though they do provide a more precise location to an event.

With each location are the latitude and longitude of all locations in the gazetteer excepting counties. Genealogy programs are beginning to provide a place to enter these coordinates to give a precise location of a place and to make it easier and faster to find the place on a map.

Compatibility

World Place Advisor works directly from the database files of many popular genealogy programs. These include:

- Ancestry Family Tree™
- Ancestral Quest™
- Family Historian
- Family Tree Maker®
- Heritage Family Tree Deluxe
- Legacy Family Tree
- Personal Ancestral File®
- RootsMagic™
- The Master Genealogist

If you use a program that is not on the list, the program also will read GEDCOM 5.5 files (including data with Western European diacritics).

Installation

To install World Place Advisor, you: insert the CD-ROM disk and double-click on SETUP.EXE. You will be asked whether or not to copy more than 180 megabytes of place names on to the computer hard drive. This will result in faster operation, but may sink the ship if you have an older computer with a small drive. Before getting started with the program, check the preferences. One default is to add the word, "County" to all county names. Most family historians do not use the word county. Other preferences include the display format for latitude and longitude using decimal, or degrees/minutes/seconds, and selection of types of errors to list when checking a database.

Getting Started

There are two things you can do with World Place Finder. You can select a database and check all the places for errors or you can search for a place in the gazetteer. The opening screen gives few clues as to where you should start, but the first two of the four icons at the top of the screen will get you started on these tasks. The third icon is to print reports, once you have some errors to list for later study. The fourth icon is for help. Here you should find answers to your questions about the program.

Auditing the Database

To audit a database, you select the genealogical database. World Place Advisor then compares each place name with the contents of the Gazetteer, using a process known as "Geo-Coding." Once the data had been read, a window displays a list of all unknown and questionable places. I was able to go down this list and click on any entry with the mouse. The larger window then displayed details for that entry along with a list of suggested corrections.

World Place Advisor looks for eight different problems:

1. Misspelled: (a place is spelled incorrectly but is close enough to be recognized)
2. Ambiguous: (several matches are found but the program cannot resolve which one is correct)
3. Wrong Jurisdiction: (a match is found, but with the wrong county)

4. Unknown Places: (no match found in the Gazetteer.
5. Incomplete: (missing the county or state but listing a town, parish, village, or city)
6. Non-Specific: (places missing the town, parish, village, or city)
7. Missing Commas: (a match, but missing a comma to separate jurisdictions)
8. Events without a place: (all place fields empty)

In cases where there is an error in spelling or a missing county, the corrected location will be displayed. For some errors, there may be several possible places listed. In most cases, the correct place is obvious and can be chosen from the choices. If not, some research may be needed.

Editing the Errors

Corrections can be made one at a time with both the genealogy program and World Place Advisor opened. You can then highlight the place name, copy the correct place, go to the edit window of the genealogy program and paste the place into the place field. If an error is repeated, you can use a global search and replace to correct all instances of the incorrect entry of the place. As you make the corrections, you have the opportunity to review all changes to be sure they are correct before moving on.

Reports

You can print a list of errors found by the audit, or a part of this list. This list can be used to check off corrections as they are made and mark certain places for further research. The portion of the list for events without a place can function as a "to do" list for additional research.

World Place Finder

World Place Finder uses the same gazetteer as World Place Advisor. You can look up places with the program and have it find the first twenty errors in your database. It is a good way to try the program. Progeny would love to see you get hooked on the program and upgrade to World Place Advisor.

Requirements for Operation

Although World Place Finder worked on my aging, under 100MHz computer, it took about 4 hours to audit a database of about 18,000 individuals. That is probably why Progeny recommends a Pentium III or faster computer. The

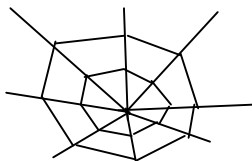
recommended requirements for operation are:

- Windows 95, 98, ME, NT, 2000 or XP
- A 300 megahertz (Pentium III) or faster processor
- Minimum 64 megabytes of RAM memory (128 megabytes or more recommended)
- 182 megabytes disk space to install the gazetteer or 75 megabytes for CD-ROM operation
- Additional disk space is needed for a geo-coded file created from your genealogy database.
- VGA or better monitor

Purchasing the Software

World Place Advisor is too big to download from the Internet so it comes on CD-ROM for \$34.95. To order, go to: www.progenysoftware.com/place_advisor.html. If you want the free CD-ROM with World Place Finder instead, you can order it there for a \$6.00 shipping and handling fee. •

Spider Webs



Savage's Genealogical Dictionary

Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England . . ., by James Savage, lists three generations of settlers who came to New England before 1692. It is an important resource for anyone doing genealogy research in colonial New England. This project was first published during the Civil War and remains popular among researchers today. Copies are found in most genealogy libraries. Recent reprints sell for more than \$100 and the CD-ROM version sells for a little less than \$50. Now these same volumes are available free on the Internet. To see *Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England . . .*, go to: www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/newengland/savage/ In 1994, Professor Robert Kraft made a transcription and corrected many errors that were in the original volumes. The transcription can be found at: www.usigs.org/library/books/ma/savage/savage.htm

Personal Genealogy Web Sites

House of Ancestors is a new company that has personalized Web sites for genealogists. To use this service, you upload a GEDCOM file and specify the parameters that define the look of the Web site. Access to the data can open to all or restricted to those who have the password. Each site has a custom home page where pictures or graphics can be displayed. Each site can also have an online newsletter or any other documents posted for visitors to read. Prices for these Web sites start at \$35.00 per year. For more information, go to: www.houseofancestors.com

GenFolder Backup

GenFolder is an online backup service for genealogists. It can be used for online backups of a genealogy database, scanned family photographs, correspondence, notes, and almost anything else. The backups can be set up to automatically back up data in a background mode so that there is no need to remember to do a backup. All information is encrypted before being transmitted over the Internet. You hold the encryption key and nobody, not even GenFolder employees can see the data. In the event of a disaster, all data can be restored to a repaired computer or to a different computer. For more information, go to: www.genfolder.com

Archaic Medical Terms

Back when you could become a doctor by reading a few medical books and medical school diplomas did not find their way on the walls of most doctors, terminology was not precise. That is not to say that it had no meaning. The names of diseases like green fever, trench fever and natural decay were well-understood in their day, but have been replaced by modern medical terms today. If you want to know what the cause of death meant on a death certificate from the nineteenth century, Paul Smith, a British doctor, has a Web site that defines the old terms. To visit the Archaic Medical Terms Web site, go to: www.paul_smith.doctors.org.uk/ArchaicMedicalTerms.htm •

Genealogical Quote

So far as is known, no widow ever eloped.

Edgar Watson Howe 1853-1937
American Journalist

News for Genealogists

Raymond Wright Now Director of the Family History Library

Dr. Raymond S. Wright III is the new Director of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Until recently, he was a professor at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, teaching family history and genealogy courses. He has M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from the University of Utah. Before working at BYU, Dr. Wright was the manager of library operations from 1979 to 1990 at the Family History Library. He had numerous research assignments in archives and libraries in the United States and in many foreign countries. He is a specialist on genealogical records in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. Dr. Wright was twice chairman of the American Library Association's Genealogy Committee. He wrote *The Genealogist's Handbook: Modern Methods for Researching Family History*.

Genealogy Microfilm Seized

In spite of a new guideline from the state of Ohio specifying the fees for making copies of birth and death certificates, the Huron County General Health District refuses to issue any certificates at any price. The Huron County General Health District has interpreted the new fee structure for ordering copies as meaning that the certificates should not be available at all. Tim Hollinger, a board member of the health district, cites his concerns that the certificates could fall into the hands of terrorists or criminals. The law clearly states that such information is public domain within the United States and cannot legally be withheld. The law does not seem to deter the health district. When they learned that the Huron County Genealogical Society had a copy of those records on microfilm, filmed by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, members of the General Health District visited the local library and seized the Huron County Genealogical Society's copy of the microfilm. The fact that other microfilm copies of the same records are available in many other places did not deter the health district. When the Huron County Genealogical Society asked for the return of the microfilm, but the Huron County General Health District refused.

Can this happen in America? You can read the account of this bizarre story

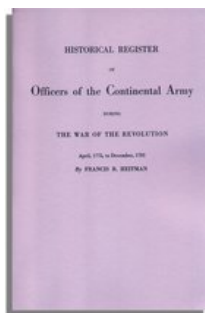
that appeared in the Morning Journal at: www.morningjournal.com/site/news.cfm?BRD=1699&dept_id=46371&newsid=10153455&PAG=461&rfti=9 •

Recently Published

Worden Index

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society has published a CD-ROM version of *Worden's Index to The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record 1870-1998*. The index lists more than one million names of persons mentioned in the 129 volumes of the publication. Material published in the periodical is primarily about New York families and records of interest to genealogists doing research on New York families. *Worden's Index to The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record 1870-1998* operates with Windows 98/ME/2000/XP and sells for \$27.00 (\$22 to NYG&B members and libraries) including shipping within the U. S. To learn more, go to: www.nygbs.org

Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army During the War of the Revolution



Historical Register Of Officers Of The Continental Army During The War Of The Revolution, by Francis Whitman, is the standard reference work on the officers of the Revolutionary War. The officers are arranged alphabetically, along with service records of 14,000 officers of the Continental Army, including many officers of the militia and state troops. Much of the data was not being available from official records, so other reliable sources of information were consulted and data were added to complete the service record of each officer. About 6,000 names not recorded in the earlier edition of 1893 were added and a great many records revised and completed. The book also includes a list of French

officers who served in the U.S. Army, as well as alphabetical and chronological lists of battles and skirmishes. The information given includes:

- the soldier's rank
- dates of service
- when and where wounded, taken prisoner, exchanged, or killed, etc
- the name of the state in which service was rendered
- a designation of company and command

Historical Register Of Officers Of The Continental Army During The War Of The Revolution. Is 698 Pages and sells for \$49.95. For more information, go to: www.genealogical.com/item_detail.asp?ID=2680

RootsWeb.com Video



Using RootsWeb.com is a new video narrated by Rhonda McClure, a computer and genealogy expert. She explains each of the services and features found on the RootsWeb.com Web page. She explains the use of the "how to" guides, how to search the RootsWeb.com archives of newsletters, how to use the internal search engine to find individuals, and how to use the Social Security Death Index. She also explains how to use online Post-em Notes, the WorldConnect Project, Mailing Lists, the threaded archives of the Mailing Lists, census images and more. There is also a look at the features of the Ancestry.com Web site. If you have not used the RootsWeb.com site, this video is a good introduction. If you have used most of these features you do not need the video. *Using RootsWeb.com* is an 88-minute video produced by 123Genealogy, and now sells for \$15.95. For more information, go to: http://new.123genealogy.com/shopping/product_details.php?id=57 •

Newspapers: A Window to the Past

By Allin Kingsbury

Today you see births, marriages and deaths in your local paper, and assume it will be a source of genealogical information in the years to come. You are correct, and if you are doing family history research, the old newspapers are a rich source of information. There is a difference between the big city newspapers we read today and the small-town newspapers of a century ago. The typical metropolitan newspaper does not have the space to print all the births, marriages and deaths that occur within the area where the newspaper sells copies. Small town newspapers tend to thrive on local news and many of them religiously cover all the births, marriages and deaths in their community. In the small community, people own their homes and farms and take part in community life. They are interested in what is happening to their neighbors.

Metropolitan newspapers often limit coverage to the rich and famous and a few of the infamous. However each newspaper is different. I visited Ottawa, Canada in the early 1960s. My brother-in-law commented that the Ottawa newspaper was still a small town paper in spite of the fact that Ottawa was the capital of Canada. Every day it contained at least a full page of news about local families. These items included visits of relatives from western Canada, wedding anniversary celebrations, family reunions, retirement parties, and vacations abroad by local families. These items could be very helpful to a family historian, because they often mentioned a daughter by her married name, or mentioned a distant location where a child had gone to live after marriage. Sometimes you can get dates for events that were not recorded in available records. An item about a fiftieth wedding anniversary celebration may mention the date and place of the marriage which took place before vital statistics of marriages were recorded. An obituary may mention the birth date and place of birth across the sea. The more recent vital statistics would be recorded in the various sections of the paper listing births, weddings and obituaries.

What Can You Find?

Occasionally an ancestor may be mentioned in the local paper as part of a

news item. These stories can be helpful in the preparation of a biographical sketch about the person. They may even add a little color to an otherwise drab sketch about the person. The Rhyolite, (Nevada) Herald reported on 21 July 1905 as follows:

“ Miss Velma Likens and Miss Gertrude Gensler gave a very enjoyable birthday party Wednesday evening to a few young friends at their home on Smith Street. Owing to the scarcity of ladies, several of the best-looking boys in the town were togged in skirts, shirt waists, paint, powder, and smiles, and acted the part in the most captivating manner. Games were played on the lawn and the party later repaired to the hospital pavilion where a short hop was enjoyed. A fine lunch was served. The young ladies proved themselves charming hostesses.”

Rhyolite was a wild, booming mining town in 1905. Today it is a ghost town. This quote would certainly bring a chuckle to most anyone reading your family history. Then again, some may consider it a bit too colorful for their family.

When searching newspapers, make a check list of places to look. Information you need can be scattered almost anywhere in the paper. The following are some of the more productive sections of the newspaper:

- Births: It was not so common to list births before 1900. The more recent papers often list names of parents, date of birth, sex; name of child and occasionally sibling information.
- Marriage announcements: These usually have the names of the bride and groom, date of marriage; church or place of marriage, the parent's names, and wedding party information.
- Obituaries: For adults, the information can include name, date of death, age, family members, places of residence for family members and a biography of the deceased. For a child, there may be little more than a name, date of death, and cause of death.
- Funeral Notices: These often list name, date of death; and place and time of the funeral. Occasionally, an

article memorializing the life of a prominent citizen will be published in the weeks following a funeral.. There may also be a news item about the disposition of the estate.

- Gossip: Gossip tends to be about celebrities and society but it can provide details about family and relatives.
- School: Usually the graduating class is listed for small town newspapers. School news may cover plays, concerts, sports and other school events.
- Police Blotter: Lists people arrested or charged for various crimes.
- Advertisements: Ads give you information about social history, but if you have a merchant in the family, an add for his or her business would be just the thing to illustrate your family history.
- Local News: This may cover social events, news of prominent citizens, local people in the military, business notices, and more.
- Legal Notices: These may include bankruptcies and information on estates (sometimes listing living heirs).

Locating Newspapers

There can be problems with newspaper research. Some of these are:

1. There may not have been a local newspaper, or the nearest paper at the time may have been too far away to have good news coverage.
2. Copies of the paper that you need may have been lost or destroyed.
3. Copies of the paper may be extant, but very difficult to find or to get permission to use.
4. Most newspapers are not indexed. You are fortunate if you can use one of the newspapers that has been converted to text and posted on the Internet where it can be searched.
5. Newspapers are secondary sources. There is the occasional typo and the informant that gives inaccurate information.
6. Repositories for old issues could be anywhere: the newspaper office, public library, local, state, or national historical societies, genealogical societies, museums, private libraries or archives, university archives or libraries, microfilm and microfiche

for sale, published abstracts, Internet sites, or other places.

To start, you need to learn about the local newspapers that were published at the time. For US newspapers, you can consult *Editor & Publisher International Yearbook* or *Ayer Directory of Newspapers and Periodicals*, which are found in the reference section of most libraries. Canadian researchers should consult *Union List of Canadian Newspapers* (in book form 1977; recent editions on microfiche) found in many Canadian libraries. You will want to know the names of the local newspapers, when they were published, if and when they went out of business.

The next step is to locate the copies that you need for research. If the newspaper is still operating, the best place to start is with their office. They may direct you to a library or historical society where you can read copies. For a defunct newspaper, you will need to compile a list of possible repositories. When you contact nearby repositories, if they do not have the issues you need, ask the reference librarian or other knowledgeable person where copies can be found. They may have had the same question asked before and found the answer.

The Internet is fast becoming a major source of old newspapers and aids in finding them. A major source is the United States Newspaper Project at: www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html This is a project of state and federal governments to locate, catalog, and preserve on microfilm the newspapers published in the United States from the eighteenth century to the present. Another is the American Newspaper Repository at: <http://home.gwi.net/~dnb/newsrep.html> This site lists a collection of about 7,000 bound volumes of original American newspapers which is being made available to the scholarly public. The Newsplan 2000 Project is a similar organization in the United Kingdom with plans to preserve over 1,700 unique collections of local newspapers held in libraries, archives, universities and publishers' offices throughout the United Kingdom. Their Web site is: www.newsplan2000.org/index.html The U.S. Newspaper Program National Union List at: www.oclc.org/oclc/promo/2894usnp/28

[94usnp.htm](#) contains newspaper repositories and lists their holdings. Ask the reference librarian at your local library if they have this tool available.

Searching Newspapers

Look for the birth announcements, weddings and obituaries first. They are the most reliable sources of dates and relationship information. Other sources are school graduations, wedding anniversary celebrations, birthday celebrations, retirement celebrations, family reunions. Sometimes, the information you need can be buried in a news story where you least expect it.

News events are also useful as you write biographical sketches. They make up the setting for a person's life and may have a lasting effect on their character. A flood, tornado, economic hard times, a hard fought election, or a nearby tragedy can be used to form a time line for a person. Events from the newspaper are the things your ancestor saw and talked about with friends and neighbors. Newspaper research can take time, but persistence can often get the information that you need, and occasionally pay unexpected dividends for your family history research.

Preserving Old Newspaper Articles

A look at the actual newspaper clipping is better than a quote or extract. You will want to scan the article and use it as an illustration in your family history. When visiting a repository, you may have to be satisfied with copying with a digital camera or making a Xerox copy. Make certain you record the title of the newspaper, its place of publication, the date of the issue, and the page number so you can properly cite the source.

Newsprint becomes brittle and darkens with age. If you have original newspaper clippings, they should be properly preserved by mounting them and recording the source on a separate piece of paper or on the backing. If you try to keep a clipping folded, the clipping will eventually separate at the folds from repeated unfolding and unfolding to look at the clipping. You should make a digital or Xerox copy of all newspaper clippings to avoid handling of the original.

Online Sources To Try:

www.cbsr.ucr.edu/cnp/index.html The California Newspaper Project
www.coba.wright.edu/bie/paper.htm Newspaper links
www.cslib.org/cnp/history.htm A History of Connecticut Newspapers
<http://dbs.ohiohistory.org/newspaper/home.cfm> Ohio Newspapers
www.ibiblio.org/slansw/internet/ForArchives.html International News Archives
www.indianahistory.org/library/library.php?page=45 Indiana Newspaper Microfilm Catalog
www.journalismnet.com/archives/ newspaper search engine
www.lib.utk.edu/spcoll/newspaper/publist.htm A History of Tennessee Newspapers
www.library.uiuc.edu/techserv/inp/webpages/history.htm A History of Illinois Newspapers
<http://libweb.hawaii.edu/hnp/newspapers.htm> Hawaiian Language Newspapers
<http://libweb.uoregon.edu/preservn/ImageSvcs/newshis.html> A History of Oregon Newspapers
www.loc.gov/rr/news/oltitles.html a global search engine for newspaper archives
www.mediainfo.com/emediajs/media-types.htm?category=newspaper Newspaper links
www.newspaperabstracts.com/ abstracts from U. S. and Canadian newspapers prior to 1923
www.newspaperarchive.com/ Search old newspapers
www.newspaperlinks.com/home.cfm links to newspaper sites
www.newspapers.com/ directory of current newspapers worldwide
www.nj.com/archive/ New Jersey newspapers
www.nross.com/new/index.asp Major publisher of newspapers on microform.
www.nysl.nysed.gov/nysnp/nygcty.htm Newspapers on Microfilm at the New York State Library
www.onlinenewspapers.com/ online newspapers
www.refdesk.com/paper.html List of newspaper links by country & by state
<http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/ncnp/counties.htm> North Carolina Newspapers
www.thepaperboy.com.au/welcome.html Online Newspaper Directory
www.uflib.ufl.edu/flnews/brief.html A History of Florida Newspapers
www.unl.edu/nebnews/newshis.html A History of Nebraska Newspapers •

Software of Interest

OpenOffice.org 1.1 Release

OpenOffice.org 1.1, a free package of software for the office similar to Microsoft Office, has undergone beta testing and is ready for release.

OpenOffice.org is available for Windows, Solaris, and Linux operating systems. A Macintosh OS X version is in final beta. OpenOffice.org has a word processor, spreadsheet program, a program for making presentation slides, a graphics drawing program that does simple diagrams to three-dimensional illustrations and a database program. Some features of OpenOffice are better than the Microsoft equivalent software, such as better HTML files, a better spellchecker, and a better thesaurus.

New features added to version 1.1 include:

- Creation of PDF files (not in Microsoft Word)
- Support for vertical writing in text documents, text frames, spreadsheet cells, and graphic objects
- Support for exporting as a flat XML file
- Support for Macromedia Flash (SWF) export
- Support for mobile device formats: AportisDoc (Palm), Pocket Word, and Pocket Excel for PocketPC
- Support for mailing as a PDF document
- Support for Arabic or Hindi numerals
- Enhanced footnote support
- Macro Recorder
- And more

Of course Microsoft Office has features better than are found on OpenOffice. They include:

- Microsoft Word's Word Art which can do fancy lettering for titles, book covers, and fliers
- Subdocuments which are used to build large documents such as books
- Import of other word processor documents

OpenOffice.org Version 1.1 for Windows needs the following:

- Microsoft Windows 98, NT, ME, 2000 or XP
- 64 megabytes of RAM
- 250 megabytes hard disk space
- 800-by-600 pixel video
- 256-color resolution

OpenOffice.org software can be downloaded from: www.openoffice.org. It is a 60-megabyte file; so anyone

using a dial-up connection should use a download manager that can continue file transfers after an interruption without starting over. If you have a friend with high-speed access, perhaps you can borrow their computer and write the file to a CD-ROM. •

News of the Weird

A Baby Born on the Internet

A child born in Great Britain is said to be the first known do-it-yourself Internet baby. The child was conceived using sperm from an anonymous donor ordered on the Web. The mother paid a fee, which allowed her to select a donor using race, eye color, height, weight, background, educational history, and artistic talent. An ovulation kit was included with the fee, so the young mother-to-be could alert the Web site and availability of prospective donors and have her purchase rushed to her home by courier at her most fertile time. The question arises, "How does one record the father of the child in database should you find an Internet baby in your family?" It seems all you have is a Web site and a list of criteria. Perhaps the baby's DNA will provide the identity of the father some day. •

Arrest in Genealogy Scam

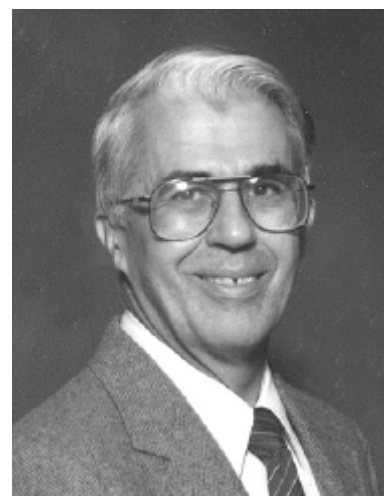
Elias Abodeely had a scam going called GenSeekers.com. Using GenSeekers.com and other Web sites, Abodeely was sending thousands of "spam" messages which claimed that recipients could, for a price, have access to millions of genealogy records. The unlucky victims would pay about \$60 for access to a password-protected link to free genealogy Web sites.

The Cedar Rapids, Iowa police department arrested Abodeely, age 22, and charged him with suspicion of identity theft, first-degree theft, money laundering, and ongoing criminal conduct. Three felonies are included among the charges. The 3-year genealogy scam had netted more than \$14,000 from between 220 and 260 victims. Elias Abodeely could serve up to 47 years in prison, if convicted. Two accomplices of Abodeely are also facing possible arrest. The federal government is also interested in Abodeely for possible income tax evasion, violation of interstate commerce laws and more.

GenSeekers.com and its other Web sites had no records of their own. Even more upsetting, subscribers who attempted to cancel and receive a refund found that their e-mails bounced. back as undeliverable. Abodeely began collecting money using a PayPal account, but PayPal began receiving complaints and soon shut him down. Abodeely then used other methods of collecting payments by credit card. The credit card companies began receiving complaints and promptly shut Abodeely down. He then tried electronic checks which do not have the same protection as credit cards. Abodeely got greedy and began cashing the same electronic checks again and again, each time with a new check number. The identity theft charge resulted from an accusation that Abodeely used the Social Security numbers of four women to establish new merchant accounts to process credit card payments. All of the problems facing Elias Abodeely do not seem to be worth the \$14,000. They are right in this case when they said crime does not pay.

Seminar ~

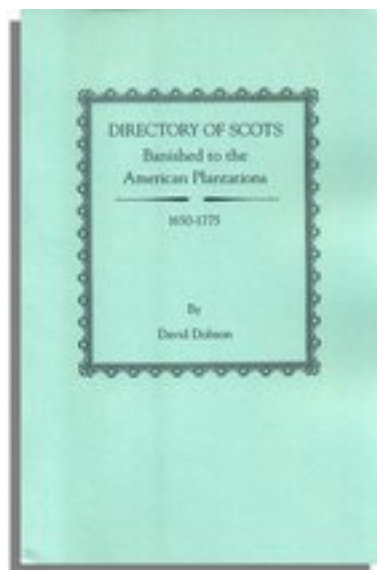
9:00 am November 8, 2003



Duane Dalley will present a four and a half hour seminar (plus a break for lunch) on the use of US military records for family history. These records are occasionally overlooked by genealogists, but often contain treasures that are otherwise difficult to find. The records discussed will start with colonial military records and include records into the twentieth century. A syllabus of the seminar will be available for purchase at the meeting.

Recently Published

Directory Of Scots Banished To The American Plantations



Directory Of Scots Banished To The American Plantations, 1650-1775, by David Dobson, contains a list of many thousands of Scots were banished to the American colonies for political, religious, or criminal offenses from 1650 to 1775. They include thousands of Scots soldiers transported by Oliver Cromwell to Virginia, New England, and the West Indies in the aftermath of the English Civil War; 1,700 Scots expelled as enemies of the state, for example, from the Covenanter Risings of the later 17th century; and 1,600 men, women, and children banished to the colonies in the Jacobite Rebellions of 1715 and 1745. These three groups of exiles, plus a stream of petty criminals, comprised a sizable proportion of the Scottish population of colonial America. For each person listed in this directory, some or all of the following information is provided:

- name
- occupation
- place of residence in Scotland
- place of capture and captivity
- parent's name
- date and cause of banishment
- name of the ship sailing to the colonies

- date and place of arrival in the colonies
- Directory Of Scots Banished To The American Plantations, 1650-1775* contains 239 pages and sells for \$26.00. The book is also available on CD-ROM. For more information, go to: http://www.genealogical.com/item_detail.asp?ID=1485

John Smith's Map Of Virginia

John Smith's Map Of Virginia contains a fold-out map that shows the features of Virginia, such as the Virginia shore lines, rivers, creeks and the location of 200 Indian villages in Virginia known to Smith as Virginia was first settled by the English colonists. Professor Ben C. McCary describes the various expeditions made by the Captain Smith and he discusses history of the map itself through ten published versions between 1612 and 1632. Other features of the book include a drawing of the Indian chieftain Powhatan and Captain Smith's arms and motto. *John Smith's Map Of Virginia* is 15 pages and sells for \$9.50. For more information, go to: www.genealogical.com/item_detail.asp?ID=9236

News of the Weird

Adventures of a Genealogical Spy

The spy trade has been confined mostly to the realm of the military, the CIA and a few corporate efforts at industrial espionage. It seems unlikely that you will find a genealogical spy at work, but it happened recently and the spy got caught.

The descendants of Sally Hemmings have been in the newspaper headlines the past few years with their claim that her children were fathered by Thomas Jefferson. Hollywood jumped on the bandwagon and made a movie about

Jefferson and Hemmings. Relatives of Sally Hemmings now claim that their Internet chat group was infiltrated by the head of the Jefferson family association, Nat Abeles, who pretended to be a 67-year-old black woman. Nat Abeles says the real spy was his wife, who participated in the Yahoo! message board created for Hemmings family members. For eight months, she continued her charade to help her husband by discouraging efforts of Sally's descendants to attend the annual Jefferson reunion.

Paulie Abeles of Washington D.C. says, "This started out as a prank. It might have been somewhat unethical. It might have been childish ... but I really think I was working in the best interest of the majority of the family members to make the reunion a calm and civilized gathering." The confession was made on the eve of the annual Jefferson family reunion at the Jefferson estate in Charlottesville. Members of both families were offended by the prank. The Hemmings clan had been formally excluded from membership a year earlier, but members of the Monticello Association had invited slave descendants to accompany them at the group's annual cocktail party and cemetery visit.

A sixth-generation grandson of Jefferson, David Works, who sympathizes with the Hemmings heirs has asked federal authorities to investigate the matter. He said, "This isn't a fraternity house party raid - this is serious." He supervised an Internet group and traced messages back to Abeles' computer.

Abeles became curious when she learned that the Hemmings family was communicating through an Internet group, and realized that her name would probably give her away. She created Cassandra Mays-Lewis, who became a descendant of Jefferson's blacksmith and slave, Joe Fossett. Cassandra described herself as an elderly woman,

stricken with emphysema, and having an interest in black genealogy. Abeles claims she never mentioned Cassandra to her husband until Works discovered that she was a fake. Paulie Abeles did pass the Hemings' conversations on to her husband by having Cassandra send them by e-mail.

"The information itself was quite valuable," according to Nat Abeles. "They were planning on all kinds of ways to get people in and trying to trick people into making inappropriate comments."

A Jefferson descendant, Lucian Truscott IV, believes the Hemings family should be recognized. He believes the imposter was Nat Abeles, and not his wife. "He's using his wife as a human shield," said Truscott, who had often invited all the Hemings family to attend the reunion. Truscott said that as the Hemings family started discussing the reunion on the Yahoo! Site, Nat Abeles promptly ruled that the Jefferson family were only allowed to bring two guests each. Truscott tried to get invitations from other Jefferson family members to accommodate several dozen descendants of Hemings. Some were not planning to attend, and Abeles, learning of the plan, countered by telling members they had to be present to bring guests. When Truscott tried using teenagers planning to attend, Abeles said that only adult members were allowed to bring guests.

David Works commented, "Every time we'd think of a way to get the Hemings there, he'd come up with a new rule," Works said. Many of the Jefferson descendants began referring to the episode "Cassandra gate."

The irony of the situation is that the chat group would have welcomed either of the Abeles as white descendants of Thomas Jefferson. There was no need to spy because

there was no effort made to keep any of the chat group conversations secret. •

Spiderwebs

Continued from page 66

Kentucky Oral History Index

The Kentucky Historical Society and the state of Kentucky have an online index of the Kentucky Oral History Collection. In 1976, the Kentucky Oral History Commission was created to promote and preserve oral history through programs around the state. Interviews in the collection are done by volunteers who work in county or community projects. A search engine will search by names, interviewer, places and other terms. The site does not have the interviews online, but is an index which lists the repository where the interview resides, along with phone number, number of interviews, hours of access, contact name, accessibility of materials, Web site, and e-mail address, if available. For more information or to use the index, go to: <http://205.204.246.206/oh/browse.aspx> •

Events

The events listed here are some of the major events that may be of interest to our members who may be travelling or vacationing, live nearby, or who may want to travel to attend an event.

California Conference

The San Francisco Bay Region of the California State Genealogical Alliance will host a California Conference on Oct. 17-19 at Foster City, California. The conference will cover California records, record preservation and research

methodology. On Friday and Sunday there will be guided field trips and indoor workshops on photo preservation, cemetery research, organizing a research project and hands on preservation techniques.

http://users.lmi.net/catch/ca_conf

Cyndi Howells Seminar

The Arkansas Genealogical Society Fall Seminar on October 17-18 in Little Rock, Arkansas, will feature: Cyndi Howells.

www.rootsweb.com/~args/

Stockton, California Fair

The Stockton California Family History Center will hold a free family history fair on October 18. The fair will feature Grandma's Attic, computer related genealogy, journals, newspapers, old pictures, poetry, quilts, scrapbooking, software, spinning, tating, ancestral stories, and a royal genealogies database. For more information, go to: stocktonfh@yahoo.com

Computers in Family History Conference

The Computers in Family History Conference, sponsored the Sussex Family History Group and Society of Genealogists (SoG) will be held on October 18 at Worthing, England. See:

www.sog.org.uk/events/conference2003.html

British Columbia Seminar

A free family history seminar at Surrey, British Columbia on October 18 will have 38 classes including Nonconformist Records for English Family History, Your Ancestors and the Poor Law, familysearch.org, ancestry.com, PAF - Illustrating Family History, PAF - Sources and Notes, Right Forest/Wrong Tree, Peccadillos of Patronymics. lmcgonigal@shaw.ca

British Columbia Seminar

The Abbotsford Genealogical Society will hold a family history seminar at Abbotsford, British Columbia on October 25. It includes twenty lectures, five demonstrations, and a market place. www.rootsweb.com/~bcags

Virginia Genealogy Conference

The Virginia Genealogical Society and Fairfax Genealogical Society will hold a conference on October 25 at Herndon, Virginia. There are 12 lectures on research in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and the National Capitol area. E-mail: mail@vgs.org

Arizona Seminar

The Family History Society of Arizona will hold a seminar featuring Sharon De Bartolo Carmack on October 25 at Scottsdale, Arizona. www.fhsa.org

London Research Trip

A conducted tour of London genealogical repositories sponsored by the National Genealogical Society from October 26 – November 1, 2003. This NGS tour includes a full week in London with time at:

- The National Archives (formerly The Public Record Office)
 - The Society of Genealogists
 - The Family Record Centre
 - The London Metropolitan Archives
 - First Avenue House (for wills after 1858, etc.)
 - The Guildhall Library and Corporation of London Record Office
 - other repositories as requested
- Introductory lectures and personal guidance by experts on genealogical research in the UK also come with the trip. The cost of the trip is \$2,175 for NGS members. You will want to sign up as a member rather

than pay the non-member cost. For more details, go to:

www.ngsgenealogy.org/london.htm

Southern Genealogy Workshop

The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society will hold a genealogy workshop featuring Linda Ellwood, who will cover East Florida researching in 1763 – 1821, and Linda Rosenblatt, who will discuss military research on the southeast coast. The workshop will be on November 1 at Jacksonville, Florida. For details, e-mail sgesjax@juno.com

San Mateo, California Fall Seminar

The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will hold a fall seminar featuring Hank Jones, author of "Psychic Roots", "More Psychic Roots" and five books on early Palatine emigrants to the United States on November 1 in San Mateo, CA. For details, go to: www.smccgs.org

New England Regional Genealogical Conference

Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, John Philip Colletta, Maureen A. Taylor, Dick Eastman, and Pamela Clark Cerutti are featured speakers at this conference held on November 6-9 at North Falmouth, Massachusetts. www.rootsweb.com/~manergc

Arizona State Genealogical Society Seminar

The Arizona State Genealogical Society will hold its Fall Seminar, featuring Henry Z "Hank" Jones in Tuscon, Arizona on Nov. 8. Topics include: When the Sources are Wrong; Tracing the Origins of Early 18th Century Palatine Immigrants; Family Tradition - How to Separate Fact from Fiction in Genealogical Research; and How Psychic Roots Became an Unsolved Mystery!. www.rootsweb.com/~asgs/

Michigan Seminar

The Western Wayne County Genealogical Society will hold their tenth annual seminar on Nov. 8 in Livonia, Michigan. Dr. George K. Schweitzer will give presentations (in costume) on German Emigration, Immigration, and Migration; Tracing Your German Ancestor Back Across The Atlantic and also Accessing German Records Here And There. www.rootsweb.com/~miwwcgs

ICAPGen Professionals' Conference

The International Commission for the Accreditation of Genealogists: will hold the ICAPGen Professionals' Conference with the ICAPGen Annual Meeting on November 14-15, 2003 at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. The classes are designed for professional genealogists. Four lecture tracks will cover:

- Immigrants, Immigration, and the Records They Left Behind
 - The Harold B. Lee Library: Hidden Treasures for Professional Researchers
 - Professional Development: Building, Maintaining, and Running a Professional Practice
 - Becoming an ICAPGen Accredited Genealogist CM, Renewing, and More
- Ren Cahoon, ICAPGen Commissioner, will speak Friday evening, 14 November 2003, at a Fireside sponsored by the BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy. Lorretto Szucs, genealogist, teacher, lecturer, author, and Vice-President of Publishing for Ancestry Incorporated, will be the speaker at the ICAPGen Banquet on Saturday, 15 November 2003, at the BYU Museum of Art.

For details or an application form, go to: www.icapgen.org.

GENTECH2004

The National Genealogical Society and the St. Louis Genealogical Society will hold the GENTECH 2004 conference in St. Louis, Missouri on January 22-24, 2004. www.stlgs.org/gentech2004/

A free electronic newsletter will be distributed to those interested with information about the conference, genealogical research facilities in St. Louis, and other fun things to see and do in the St. Louis area. To subscribe, send an e-mail with the single word "subscribe" in the body of the message to:

NGS-GENTECH-Conference-L-request@rootsweb.com.

Genealogy Tour of Ireland

A one-week research trip to Dublin, Ireland, for serious researchers sponsored by Celtic Quest, LLC will be held March 20-27, 2004. Richard M. Doherty, Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, CGRS, CGL, and Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CGRS, CGL, experienced researchers will hold introductory classes to the local repositories on Sunday and Monday, and then be strategically located at repositories to assist researchers. Registration information is found at www.celticquest.net or you can request a brochure by e-mail at: marie@celticquest.net

Florida Workshop

The Germanic Special Interest Group of the Genealogical Society of Sarasota will hold a workshop by Dr. Roger P. Minert, "Advancing Your Germanic Research." On Feb. 28, 2004 in Sarasota, Florida. www.rootsweb.com/~flgss

Elizabeth Shown Mills Seminar

An all-day seminar sponsored by the Sonoma County Genealogical Society will be held on April 24, 2004 at Rohnert Park, California.

www.rootsweb.com/~cascgs/mills.htm

Toronto Seminar

The Toronto Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will host an annual seminar on May 27-30, 2004 in Toronto, Canada. The theme is "The 3 R's of Family History: Resources, Research, Results." There are three streams of interest available:

- Methodology
- Technology
- Toronto, Ontario, and Canadian research

plus topics such as Society Management, genetics/DNA, and others.

www.ogsseminar.org

National Institute on Genealogical Research

The National Institute on Genealogical Research is an event to be held at the newly renovated National Archives building in Washington D.C. and in College Park, Maryland on 11-17 July 2004. It provides an on-site and in-depth look at the common and less-known federal records found there. This is an opportunity for experienced genealogists and for archivists, historians and librarians interested in using federal records for genealogical research. Attendees will spend a day at Archives II in College Park, Maryland, with presentations on records there, and for an opportunity to conduct research there. Other sessions will discuss census and records for African American, military, land, Native American, legislative and cartographic research. Lectures on less-frequently-used sources and sessions on naturalization, citizenship, and immigration documents are also scheduled. Evening sessions at the Local History and Genealogy Room of the Library of Congress and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Library are optional. Enrollment is limited and

will fill quickly. Tuition is \$325 for applications postmarked on, or before, 15 May 2004. For details, or an application brochure, go to: www.rootsweb.com/~natgenin; or e-mail: NatInsGen@juno.com •



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Articles contributed by readers are welcomed. Articles may be submitted as a text file on PC compatible disk, CD-ROM, or as an e-mail attachment. The editors reserve the right to accept, reject, or otherwise edit articles for publication. Articles are not returned.

Silicon Valley PAF Users Group

www.svpafug.org

Allin Kingsbury, President 408 257 8447

Allin8@juno.com

Please send inquiries, address changes, new memberships, and membership renewals to:
SV-PAF-UG, P.O. Box 23670, San Jose, CA 95153-3670 or
Leslyk@earthlink.net

SV-PAF-UG meets monthly, except December, on the second Saturday of the month from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints building, 875 Quince Avenue, Santa Clara, CA. We offer classes and sponsor guest speakers at meetings to help family historians with computer technology and research techniques. Membership dues are \$15 per year (\$20 for Canada and \$25 for other international). Members are offered classes at meetings, mentor help, *PAFinder* (a monthly newsletter published each month there is a meeting), and occasional publications by the group.

Please Contact:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Membership | Lesly Klippel Leslyk@earthlink.net |
| Newsletter | Allin Kingsbury Allin8@juno.com 408 257 8447 |
| Mentor Program | Robert White computer-bob@mindspring.com 408 733 4686 |
| Classes | Leland Osburn 408 243 8348 |
| Questions | Dr. PAF mlharline@aol.com |

The following can be ordered from www.FamilySearch.org or at 1-800-537 5950:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Personal Ancestral File 2.3.1 Macintosh (diskette or CD version) | \$10 |
| Personal Ancestral File 3.01M MS-DOS (diskette version) | \$15 |
| Personal Ancestral File 4.0.4 Windows (CD version) | \$6 |
| Personal Ancestral File 5.1 Windows (CD version) | \$6 |
| Personal Ancestral File Companion 5.0 Windows (CD version) | \$13.50 |
| Personal Ancestral File 4.04 and 5.1 downloaded from www.FamilySearch.org | free |

The following can be ordered from SV-PAF-UG:

| | |
|---|--|
| <i>PAFinder</i> back issues if available, per issue | \$1 (order by mail or purchase at meetings) |
| Videos of classes | see www.svpafug.org for titles and prices |
| <i>Family History Documentation Guidelines</i> | \$10 (see www.svpafug.org for volume price) |