



e-PAFinder

Documenting Personal Family History Documents

by Richard Rands

Once you strike pay dirt while poring over parish registers or probate records, the process of recording the source information in your database is fairly straightforward. The title of the source is easily determined from the name of the register or the probate file, and the remaining source entry fields are just as easy to figure out. The *Family History Documentation Guidelines* is full of examples of how to enter these widely used sources for your family history.

But what about the file folders full of personal documents that you have stuffed in boxes stashed in that certain closet in the back room, or in file cabinets lining the wall next to your computer? If you are like my family, you have stacks of scrapbooks and albums with birth certificates, marriage certificates, and diplomas interspersed between the photos from years of family outings and celebrations. Chances are you have collected a sizeable amount of documents that represent the source data for much of your immediate family. So how do you document the material in your own personal cache? What about the original copies of your parents' birth certificates, and their marriage certificate? When your children leave the nest, more than likely they will take their birth certificates with them. How should these be documented? There may be hundreds of such items in your files that represent a significant portion of the details in your most recent family history.

There are two questions that you will need to work out when dealing with your personal family history documents. The first is how to organize the material with a workable identification method, and the second is how to enter the information as a source and citation in your database. The two issues are related to each other because the identification method you assign to the actual document will provide a key for how you identify the document in your database.

The most challenging problem is how to organize the material. If every item consisted of an 8½ x 11 inch sheet of paper, you could just file them all in a standard file cabinet and be done with it. The situation is probably more like this: Your marriage certificate is framed and hanging on the family-room wall; a copy of your birth certificate is mounted in your baby book passed down by your parents, while the original is in a safety deposit box in the bank; a copy of a grandparent's death certificate is in a file cabinet in the basement; a pair of bronzed baby shoes engraved with the birth date of your mother-in-law's father is in a display case in the living room; a Bible containing the genealogy of your own great grand parents is on a shelf in the den; and some newspaper clippings are folded carefully in a folder you have yet to decide where to file; and much, much more that doesn't lend itself to simple techniques for organizing.

Some months ago I went to the historical archives at the university in a town where my family had lived in the late 1890's. A search of the catalogue revealed that there was a photo of one of my ancestors, and the citation listed a catalogue number. I was somewhat dismayed when the librarian brought out a large, dusty box that contained a hefty stack of photos, few of which were identified. I located the photo in question, but only because my

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Software Review:

U. S. Cities Galore

by Allin Kingsbury

When the personal computer first appeared in the office, a few of the new features of the word processor programs made it a much better product than the electric typewriter. The most endearing of these features was the spelling checker. It seemed an easy feature to include, especially if it did not have to concern itself with the meaning of words. As genealogy programs appeared, a date checker was included, although it seldom catches an error. You will know that it is functioning if you try to enter a date like February 30. What genealogists sorely needed though was a place checker. This year, several place check programs were released and as genealogists begin to check their places, they see immediately how much the function was needed.

U. S. Cities Galore is a place checker which looks up and corrects the spelling and syntax of cities, towns, and villages in the United states.. This Windows program can be used to check existing databases, or used to look up places as data is entered into a family history program. The program scores high marks for listing almost all the places in the United States where a person would be born, married or would die. For places in the United States, it does the job well. It is no help for Canada, Europe, or other places around the world.

Cleanup of a Database

To clean up a database, you must create a GEDCOM file. You could do the entire database in a single file or you could divide the database into a series of smaller files. I tried a GEDCOM file of a large database containing more than 20,000 individuals and after an hour of processing, the job had not completed so I quit and went to bed.. A smaller GEDCOM file with about 300 names took several minutes to process on my early vintage Pentium computer.

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Cleanup is the most powerful feature of the program. During the cleanup operation, all the places in the file are checked and those with misspelled place names are corrected. If the county is missing, but the town and state are specified, the name of the county is added to the place. Places with only the state or only the state and county specified are marked as incomplete. If a town is listed without a county and there are two towns with the same name in the state, the program cannot tell which is correct. When this happens, the place is marked to note that there are two identical town names. The program also corrects the county if it is entered wrong.

The Cleanup Report

When the cleanup is complete, the results are listed in a table, but not listed with the RIN number. The first column in the table is an icon which designates that the place is correct, incomplete, corrected, or could not be corrected because there were two towns with the same name. The other four columns are the name of the individual, the event, the place as entered, and the corrected place. The program did find and correct several spelling errors on my database. If the spelling is bad enough, the wrong town may be picked. For this reason, it is best to check each correction before accepting it as valid.

Correcting the Database

The program writes a second GEDCOM file with the correction of errors found by the program. A corrected database could be created from the second GEDCOM file. There is some risk in using this procedure. Some programs may not restore all of the notes, sources, and data when the GEDCOM file is restored as a data base, even though the same program wrote the GEDCOM file.

The other procedure for correcting the data is to copy and paste the corrected location into the database. This is done by copying the corrected place, moving to the genealogy program, finding the individual, going to the edit screen, and then pasting the corrected location over the location that was corrected. If you are using PAF 5.2, you can quickly go to the individual needing correction by typing the first few letters of the last name until the surname appears on the

search screen. Then you may need to use the page down key until the name appears on the list. Usually half a dozen keystrokes get you to the individual needing correction.

Preferences

A small selection of preferences can be set to the style you want for your database. The first preference choice is the method of listing the state. The choice is between using the two letter postal abbreviation or spelling out the full name of the state. The second choice is an option of placing the word "County" after the name of each county. The last preference selection is the events which the program is to check for correct places. These include birth, christening, marriage, death, burial, and residence.

Looking up Counties

By entering a city and the state, the program will look up the county. You can then copy and paste the county to any Windows genealogy program. You can also copy and paste places to spreadsheets, word processor documents and any other application programs needing correct places.

Another option is to list all the places in a county. You enter the state and county and then you can scroll through all of the cities, towns, hamlets, and townships. By copying and pasting the place to your genealogy program, you can avoid errors

A Thorough List of Places

The development of the place list defines to quality of the program. The place name database in the program has 193,000 cities, towns, and townships, all in the United States. An atlas or gazetteer usually lists about 40,000 locations. To develop the large database, Frustration Solutions began with the U.S. Government's GNIS database, and then merged several other databases. Other additions were made. Frustration Solutions will include contributed additions to the database in future releases of the program if you send them in electronically. The program will accept places that you want to add that are not already on the list.

I checked the place list for the town of Crystal Lake, Illinois, of which I am familiar. The modern town of Crystal

Lake has two business districts. One of them was the former town of Nunda, which ceased to exist in the early part of the last century. Nunda is listed in the U. S. Cities Galore database. Looking at the list of places in the same county as Crystal Lake, I found all the hamlets and unincorporated settlements that I could remember. There were also a number of subdivisions of tract homes that have been built and incorporated in the last 30 years as the area built up as part of the Chicago suburbs.

You can add to the list of places should you find a place that did not make the list. There are many reasons that you may want to use a place name that is not on the map, especially if the location of the place is not near anything on the map. Also, should they ever decide to create a new county, you have the ability to modify locations and be the first one on the block with an up-to-date database.

All counties in the place database are based on the current county boundaries. Counties were divided and boundaries redrawn as the land was settled. Records were kept in the county with jurisdiction at the time. If a birth is recorded with the county name of an earlier county, the program will flag the entry and try to correct it every time "cleanup" is run. Using obsolete county names also can confuse others because they will have difficulty finding the place on modern maps. If you do want to record the "old" county name, you can add the place to the database with the old county or you can add a note to explain that in the year of the event, the county was different than it is now.

Available at Family History Centers

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has taken a good look at U. S. Cities Galore and has recommended the program for use in their Family History Centers. More than 150 of the centers have the program available for patrons to use. If you plan to use the program at the nearest FHC, you should call to see if they have the program and reserve time on the computer.

System Requirements

To run U.S. Cities Galore, you will

need the following:
 Windows 95/98/Me/NT/2000/XP
 Operating System
 120 MHz or faster CPU
 At least 32 MB RAM
 29 MB Hard Disk

U.S. Cities Galore sells for \$29.95 if you download the program or \$39.90 if you have the program mailed to you on a CD-ROM. The latter may be worth the extra money because the download is more than 16 Megabytes. The program can be ordered from the Frustration Solutions Web site at:
<https://www.uscitiesgalore.com> •

Documenting

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ancestor's name was listed at the bottom of a group that represented the first graduating class of the university. I'll probably never know for sure which of the dozen or so individuals is my relative.

One of the best methods for getting the disparate items in your family history organized is to be creative about making paper copies of everything that can be easily filed. Photocopies of documents, certificates, clippings, and sections of books are easily made. You can scan or take photographs of objects that do not lend themselves to being photocopied. The beautiful, delicate, handmade lace shawl that was owned by my great-great-grandmother when she emigrated to the United States in the early 1800s is mounted on my parents' wall. As an important family heirloom among the women in the family, it will probably be passed down to my oldest sister. My only chance of documenting it in the family history will be a series of photographs that show it and the stunning, intricate needlework.

Next you will need to assign some sort of identification that will be used to reference the items in your database. We often have a natural urge to concoct a system for numbering them, and some will swear by their imaginative method. Unless you spend a lot of time developing your numbering system, and providing that you don't have a lot of new items being added to your collection, it is fairly certain that your numbering system will break down. The typical numbering system has a tendency to contain some sort of

significance in the numbers, such as assigning the first character of the numbering system to be the first letter of the surname. But what happens if the item contains more than one person with different surnames? No matter how hard you try to develop a sophisticated system, it will present problems sooner or later.

The most effective way is to assign numbers in a sequential fashion, without any attempt to devise an order. As you add new items, assign them the next sequential number. Then enter the number into a computerized database and let it provide the means for cataloguing the items. Using the list printing feature in your database software, you can create sorted lists of your items no matter how the numbers have been assigned.

The second part of the problem is how to enter the details of these sources into your database as source documentation. Using PAF 5 as an example, the first detail is how to create a source title or titles for your collection. If you were to have a source entry for every item in your collection, the source list would be enormous and would grow each time you added another item. The recommended solution for this question is to create a single source entry for the whole collection, and have at least one citation for each item within the collection. I recommend the source title for your entry to be something like:

Family Records: Richardson, Harry J. and Eliza

The remainder of the source entry might be:

Author: Richardson, Harry J. and Eliza

Publication Information:

Collection of miscellaneous published and unpublished records

Call Number: (can be left blank)

Repository: Richardson, Harry J. and Eliza

4567 Ridgecrest Court
 Monrovia, CA 90567
 313-546-5678

Actual Text: (can be left blank)

Comments: Photos and photocopies of all items are filed in fire proof file cabinets labeled Richardson Family History Documentation.

In my database I have several dozen source list entries for Family Records representing the collections of all of my living relatives who have the documents I have seen that represent the details of my family history. The biggest advantage of this type of source list entry is that it provides you with a single entry that will allow you to link all the personal documents in your collection. The alternative is to create an entry for every document which will clutter up your list.

The final step in this process is to complete the citations for each document. Let's assume that you have a birth certificate in your files that has been assigned the identification number 0834. The citation entry would consist of the following entries:

Film/Volume/Page Number: Document Number 0834

Date record was made: 23 July 1945

Comments: Photocopy of original birth certificate. Original is kept in a safety deposit box number CB3589, City Bank, 547 New Montgomery Street, Chico, CA 94105

Text: [Date of Birth] 21 July 1945
 [Child's name] Gregorian, James
 [Place of birth] Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Image: [a scanned image of the birth certificate]

If the birth certificate is a certified copy of the original certificate, then the date the record was made should be the date the copy was made, not the date the original was created. The comments field should be used to note any pertinent information about the document, its condition, and where it came from. The Text field should contain as a minimum, the specific fields from the document that relate to the event it is linked to as a source, which in the above example of a birth is the name, birth date, and place. If possible, a scanned digital image should be linked to the image screen.

Other certificates, photos, clippings, and copies will be easily cited for their respective events using a variation on the above theme. For example, if the item is a photocopy of a page from a family Bible that is used to document a marriage entry, the entry might be as follows:

Film/Volume/Page Number: Document Number 0049

Date record was made: Undated entry
 Comments: Photocopy of page 467 from Banghurst Family Bible. This Bible was passed down to Charles Banghurst through the descendents of Michael Banghurst who it is assumed to have made the genealogical entries. The Bible is a 1906 edition of the King James Version with a well-kept brown leather binding. The front cover is embossed with the letters MB. The front flyleaf page contains the following: "Dear Michael, May this book guide you throughout all your days. Mother, 14 November 1912"
 Text: [Date of Marriage] 10 July 1917 [Name of Groom] Banghurst, Michael Jr. [Name of Bride] Thurston, Marjorie [Place of Marriage] First Presbyterian Church, Boston, Massachusetts
 Image: [a scanned image of the page from the bible]

There comments should have enough detail to uniquely identify the item in question in case there are similar copies of the source. Since this particular citation will be used as a source for every event listed, you will want to use the Memorized Citation feature to copy it into every individual and marriage record to which it pertains. •

News of the Weird

Need a Title?

You can get a coat of arms by sending in a fee to a less-than-reputable organization which sells you a coat of arms attributed to the surname. A Coat of arms was assigned to a person, not to a surname

You can obtain a real title over the Internet that may even come with a legitimate coat of arms. After years spent years looking for a noble ancestor, this may be the answer to your prayers. The Nobility Title Consulting Service has a Web site that advertises legitimate titles for individuals who possess a certain grade of professional, social and ethic distinction and want a substantial increase their current status with a legitimate noble, diplomatic or academic title of the highest attainable standard.

The Web site is actually owned by GVS Consult Inc., a U.S.-based company owned by Baron Ger von Staetten. They offer their discreet services in procuring

a title of some kind for you. They do not sell titles, but provide consulting services to help you obtain a title. The site has information on obtaining knighthood, German nobility titles (which has no legal status since 1919), Lord of the Manor (an English title that may be legally bought and sold), a Scottish feudal barony, appointment as an honorary consul, or an honorary doctorate degree from a choice of universities. If you want something better than an honorary degree, a full Doctor of Philosophy or Doctor of Economics degree is available from an unnamed U.S. church. A thesis of 30 pages must be written to obtain one of these doctorate degrees.

The Web site does not mention costs, but, if you become an Independent Registered GVS Representative, GVS Consult will pay a 25% commission for any business that you refer to them. •

Ask Dr. PAF



*"I Give No
 Answers Before Their Time!"*

by Dr. Cornelius D. PAF

Searching the AF and the PRF

Q. Several years ago I found information about a family member in the Ancestral File. I have the Ancestral File Number (AFN) and hoped to use it to find more information about the family in FamilySearch.org. I couldn't find a place where I could enter the AFN. What should I do?

A. The AFN is only useful when you are searching the Ancestral File. If you are searching "All Resources" the AFN is not useful. You can enter the AFN in the search screen for the Ancestral File in the "File" box in the lower left corner of the screen. You can't enter any data in the other search areas when you enter the AFN. Remember that the Ancestral File has not been updated from the version that is on the CDs on the FamilySearch program in the computers at the Family History Centers. Also, remember that the Ancestral File only gives you clues for information

about your ancestors. Corrections and additions to the Ancestral File are not being accepted at the Family History Department in Salt Lake City. Your alternate location for finding clues or uploading your data, is the Pedigree Resource File (PRF). The PRF allows the submitter to included sources and notes. The databases are not merged, so your data is not changed from what you submitted. The name and address of the submitter is included as well as the date the submission was received. The Index is online at FamilySearch.org but the complete data is available on CDs that can be purchased online from FamilySearch.org. There are 60 CDs available now, sold in groups of 5, except the earlier CDs can be purchased in bigger lots.

The PRF should be a better source of information than the Ancestral File, but unhappily some of the submitters use the Ancestral File as the source of the data submitted to the PRF. The submitters have not always checked for possible record problems, and sometimes include obviously duplicate names for a spouse. At least it is possible to contact the submitter to determine if they have made any corrections to the data.

Q. Can I enter dates as early as B.C.?

A. Yes, Type the date that you want and enter BC after the date.

Q. I tried entering a range of dates. An ancestor was in the military and I wanted to enter the years as 1812-1820. How is it done?

A. Type the range of dates as, "From 1812 to 1820," but without the quotes.

Q. PAF is supposed to allow alternate dates such as feast dates. Why does it display an error message when I enter a feast date?

A. The error is used as a reminder and a check on whether you really wanted to enter that date. For instance, you might have entered a birth place in the birth date field. The error message gives you a quick response so that you might correct it immediately. PAF doesn't know what you have entered; it just flags an error when it appears that text is being entered into a field for a date. If what you entered into the date area is what you really want, you just click on the error message and get on with your work. •

Recently Published

Genealogical Research in Ohio

Kip Sperry has a new book, *Genealogical Research in Ohio, Second Edition*. He is a Certified Genealogist, Certified Genealogical Instructor, Accredited Genealogist, Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, Fellow of the National Genealogical Society, and Fellow of the Utah Genealogical Association. He serves as contributing editor to The American Genealogist and National Genealogical Society Quarterly, and other family history publications. He is an associate professor of family history at Brigham Young University, where he teaches American family history.

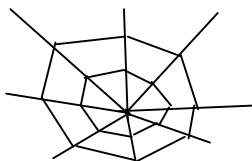
Ohio was a stopping place for many pioneers from the Eastern United States who moved west as the territory added to the country was opened for settlement. Genealogists have been at work along time compiling and indexing records for Ohio. There are many sources available for research. This book lists thousands of sources. The holdings of the major Ohio archives and libraries which are useful in family history research are described. There are 123 pages of bibliography of Ohio books and periodicals. Mr. Sperry describes sources which include statewide indexes and personal name finding aids, biographies, local histories, vital and church records, probate and court records, census and military records, land records, newspapers, naturalization records, gravestones, and genealogical collections. He tells about the Ohio Surname Index, which contains 450,000 names found in Ohio county histories. The book contains addresses of repositories for Ohio historical and genealogical records and oral histories, both in and out of the state. Also included are addresses of chapters of the Ohio Genealogical Society which are scattered over the United States and a list of Family History Centers in Ohio. The collection of old Ohio maps are helpful because of their historical significance.

Genealogical Research in Ohio is not a publication that you would read from cover to cover. It is not a "how to" publication. It is a reference book which can help you find sources when you need information. If your ancestors lived in Ohio and need research, you probably will want this book on your

shelf. If you have the first edition of this book, you will find many added genealogical and historical sources and a greatly expanded bibliography in the second edition. Also added are many Internet sources and CD-ROMs which contain Ohio records..

Genealogical Research in Ohio, Second Edition, by Kip Sperry sells for \$39.50 plus tax and shipping. You can order it from Genealogical Publishing Company at their Web site at: http://www.genealogical.com/item_detail.asp?ID=5512 •

Spider Webs



New Google Features

Google, a popular search engine, has performed well for family historians. Google has a free toolbar which now includes an option to automatically block pop-up ads that appear when you visit certain Web sites. This feature is enough to make a person accept Google as his or her personal search engine.

Another feature on the toolbar can fill out forms that request a customer's name and address and other information. This should be handy for Internet shoppers.

Also new are Weblogs (blogs), Internet journals that can hold screens from your browser to use later when you are offline. To add a screen to the Weblog, you click on a button in the toolbar. This feature is a great help in minimizing the time a phone line is tied up while using the Internet when the home phone line is used for both incoming calls and for Internet access.

Earlier features are retained on the new toolbar. You can do a Google search at any time without going to the Google home page. The new toolbar is a beta test version and may not be bug-free. One problem with the toolbar is that it must be used with Microsoft's Internet Explorer for Windows. To download the free Google Toolbar 2.0 beta software, go to:

<http://toolbar.google.com/index-beta.php>

Railroad History

The railroads played a key role in the development of the United States. A Web site dedicated to the history of the railroads and the men and women who built them will be of interest to family historians with a railroad in their family history. The site is operated by the Railroad Genealogical Society, which has been working to find and preserve all existing records about those who worked on the railroads and their families. Go to: <http://www.rrgs.org>

Help with US Places

RootsWeb has several Web pages to help you with places. If you know the town in the United States, but not the county, go to <http://resources.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/townco.cgi> and type the name of the town and state and you will get the county. If you go to <http://resources.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/county.cgi> and enter only the county, you will get a list of states containing that county. At <http://helpdesk.rootsweb.com/codes/codes1.html> you can get help deciphering county or regional abbreviations.

Stars and Stripes for WW1 Now Online

General John J. Pershing ordered the United States Army to publish The Stars and Stripes for the American soldiers serving in Europe during World War 1. It was published from February 8, 1918, to June 13, 1919. At the peak of US involvement in the War, circulation reached 526,000. Scanned copies of the paper are now online at: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sgphtml/sashtml/sashome.html> The paper was heavily censored and bad news is likely to have been left on the cutting room floor. The paper does tell a lot about what it was like for the US soldiers on the front lines in Europe and would be helpful in writing the history of a relative who served there. •

Genealogical Quote

Many a family tree needs trimming.

Frank McKinney Hubbard 1868-1936
American Newspaper Humorist

RootsMagic: A New Genealogy Program

By Mary Lou Harline

Roots Magic is a genealogy database program that can help you organize your data, pictures, and source information, or you can use it to print some records and lists that aren't available in the PAF program. This new program is written by Bruce Buzbee, the developer of Family Origins. It has many exciting features and options. This review can describe only a few of them.

There are many paths to accomplish your task. Look at each screen carefully. Use the "Help" button found on most screens to explain the features. Move the cursor slowly along the icons to remind yourself what it does. Read each drop-down menu from the "Menu" bar to discover what features are available. Become aware of shortcuts to the screen you want to use to enter or edit data.

When you first open the program you are asked whether you want to use the Record Number (assigned by the computer like the RIN) or the Reference Number (generated by the user). Then you will see the "Main" screen, with a choice of "Family" view, "Pedigree" view, or "Descendants" view.

The Main Screen

The "Main" screen "Menu" bar includes the following commands (only unique commands mentioned):

- File
- Edit
- Swap husband and wife (to change position of husband and wife if they had been entered with the wrong sex.)
- To-Do (brings up To-Do list for the highlighted individual or family)
- Lists: To-Do List, Address List, Correspondence Log, Fact Type List
- Add an unlinked individual or a spouse, child, or parents
- View Immediate Family (displays parents, siblings and children of highlighted person)
- Search Family List, Bookmarks (to return quickly to individual or family)

The Tool Bar contains icons to do the following: New File, Open a File, Add+ (Spouse, Parents, Children, or Unlinked Individual), Edit Person, Edit Family,

Reports, Publish, Search, Notes, Sources, Photos, To-Do, Address, Options (for program and for a database), and Exit.

Navigating through the program is made easy with the three different views of the data. The three tabs on the main screen are Pedigree, Family, and Descendants. In the large area above the tabs is the Information Area and to the left of this area is a four line Status Area.

The Information Area (just below the Tool Bar) displays a picture of the highlighted person when one is available, then shows the name with its Record Number (like the RIN) or Reference Number (created by user), a birth or christening date and place, a marriage date and place and age at the time of the event, a death or burial date and place and age at the time of the event.

The four line Status Area will show on the top line icons to lead to notes, sources, multimedia items, address, and To-Do items, when the data is available.

The second line displays the number of spouses for the individual, and clicking here will bring up the list of spouses and children of each spouse and a button to select a new highlighted person on the list.

The third line shows how many sets of parents for the individual. This is useful in the case of an adopted child when you keep records of both the adoptive parents and the biological parents. It can also be helpful if you have downloaded from the *Ancestral File* or *Pedigree Resource File* where it is common to find several different sets of parents with variants of the name, or with "unknown" as a name. Clicking on that line will let you see the parents and the children of each set of parents.

The fourth line is for those who have chosen to use LDS data. It displays the usual "BPES" codes to show which temple ordinances that have been completed or have been submitted. Clicking on that line will bring up a screen with the details of each ordinance, including the data, temple,

status and a box to click if the baptism was done during the person's lifetime.

The "Family" view shows the parents on the left side of the screen, with their parents showing to the right of each of the parents. That means that all four grandparents are shown on this family screen, and the next generation can be reached from any of the four. The box for the parents includes the birth, marriage, and death data for the parent in the upper box, and the birth and death for the spouse.

The children are listed with their sex, birth date and death date. When the child's name is highlighted, the data in the Information Area and the Status Area is available for that child. Clicking on the arrow to the left of the name will move the child to the parents area.

To enter data, you choose an event type from the extensive list of facts. You create your own set of data for each new record. I asked the developer if I could choose a set of events that could be used for most of my records. The answer was that when an fact is entered, RootsMagic assumes that the event occurred. For example, choosing a death fact assumes that the person is dead even if you haven't entered a date.

Many features found in other software are included: GEDCOM import and export, selecting records by relationship or by events and places, printing reports and charts, citing sources, entering notes. There is frequently something unique among these features.

Examples of New Features

The following features are unique to the RootsMagic program:

- Families Treated as a Unit: A family picture can be printed at the head of a Family Group Record. A family picture scrapbook can be assembled and printed. A Family list is available.
- Notes: You can use bold type or italics, or underlines in Notes.
- Place List: The Place List is opened as a file and can be edited. A dialog box allows you to enter a note about the place, a place history, or photo of the place. You can make a change to

the place name. When printing the list, you have the choice of printing the entire list with all the events that took place there, or printing the entire list with no events included. You can also choose a single place and print all the events that occurred there.

- **Multimedia:** Besides photos of individuals and family groups, you can have photos of places, and scans of source documents. These can be seen in scrapbooks, or in reports and lists.
- **Check for duplicates:** RootsMagic will automatically check for a duplicate when you enter a name.
- **Sort Date:** A non-printing date that can be used to sort the record in the proper order. For instance, you don't have to enter an "about" birthdate to put the person in the proper time frame.
- **Facts:** You can have more than one fact for an event. If you have two birthdates and aren't sure which is the correct one, you can enter both. You can specify one to be more accurate than the other. You can also create a note for the facts explaining your conclusions.
- **Count Unlinked Trees:** This list will display groups that aren't linked to the main "tree." The starting person's name will be given and the number of "branches" in that tree.
- **Printing:** Depending on what chart, or report you are printing you can print it to a PDF, RTF, or TXT file.
- **Calendars:** It can print a calendar for one year or one month, with selected names for birthdays and/or anniversaries if desired.
- **Books:** Narrative Reports is the name for printing Ahnentafel and Modified Register books. They allow you print a family history of ancestors or descendants in several formats. Each starts with a selected person.
- **Ancestors:** Only direct ancestors are included.
- **Ancestors and Children:** Same as Ancestors except that children of each generation are added.
- **Descendants - Modified Register:** Descendants and their children are included. The book is broken into chapters by generation.
- **Descendants - indented with outline numbering:** Descendants and children are grouped by family. Some non-genealogists find this easier to follow than the Modified Register format.
- **Descendants - indented with Henry numbering of each family member.**

- **Descendants - indented with D'Aboville numbering:** Numbering similar to Henry but a period is added between generations.
- **Publish:** This allows you to create a book with chapters made up of different charts, reports, and narrative histories that you choose.
- **Sources:** You can enter a Personal File Number on a source document and record it on the source citation. You can have two repositories for a source: for instance, the state vital records department and the repository for a copy of the document. The source information can be entered in three formats: footnote; footnote (subsequent); bibliographic. The Source-Wizard will do this for you.

These are not all the features available in *RootsMagic*. I have not mentioned the easy merge functions or how it works well with the *TempleReady* program for LDS users. You will discover more as you look in the "Help" screens, and check out all the options available. There is a free demo program available from the Web site. A printed guide book is available, *Getting the Most of RootsMagic*, written by Bruce Buzbee. You can order that along with the program from the Web site: www.RootsMagic.com. The cost is \$29.95 for the program alone, \$39.95 for the program and the book, or \$14.95 for the book alone (plus shipping/handling).

RootsMagic may be able to help you do some of the functions and reports that you have not been able to find in PAF 5. RootsMagic can handle PAF 5 GEDCOM files. It can be a good supplement to PAF 5, or you may find you want to use it by itself. •

Genealogy in the News

Florida Library Plan Defeated

Governor Jeb Bush, brother to the President, proposed a plan to save the state of Florida some money by transferring the material in the Florida State Library to a privately-owned institution and to a state university. Many thought this plan was a violation of state law. Opponents breathed a sigh of relief as Governor Bush dropped the plan from the state budget. A well organized group of genealogists led by Pam Cooper, president of the Florida

State Genealogy Society, expressed their opposition to the plan along with many other concerned citizens. It is difficult to place a monetary value on our history, but it is reassuring to know there are many who appreciate its value.

Hormel Objects

As many probably expected, Hormel Foods Corp. Is not pleased with the use of the term, "Spam" being used for junk e-mail. Hormel is attempting to protect its trademark rights by filing complaints against Spam Arrest LLC, a Seattle technology company that provides spam-blocking software. Hormel introduced Spam in 1937 and the product remains on the shelves of many grocers today. In the complaint filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Hormel argues that their "substantial goodwill and good reputation" in connection with its trademarked lunch meat and related products would be damaged by Spam Arrest use of their product name. The company also claims that Spam Arrest's name so closely resembles that of its lunch meat product that the public might become confused, or might think that Hormel endorses Spam Arrest's products. Hormel seems to have a good argument. •

Classes ~

September 13, 2003

PAF 4 & 5 Classes

- Beginning to Use a Computer
- Using PAF to Do Sources, Citations & Notes

Macintosh Class

- PAF Extras on a Mac

General Classes

- Evaluating Data to Prevent "Junk Genealogy"
- Land and Tax Records part 2
- Photo Editing Using Layers
- Questions & Answers

Quotable Quote

It seems so easy to be good-natured, I wonder why anybody takes the trouble to be anything else.

Douglas Jerrold 1803-1857
English playwright

News of the Weird

Continued from page 60

A Grave Matter

It is usually good news for genealogists when cemetery records become available online. This was not the case when records for a cemetery in Fielding, New Zealand became available on a Web site. The problem started when the 100-year old handwritten records were transcribed and entered into the computer. Many mistakes were made. At least this was the case when members of the local historical society began using the records. They found names and dates that were obviously wrong, people in the wrong graves, and omissions in the data. Members of the members of the Fielding and District Historical Society said it is embarrassing when relatives find records showing that an ancestor is buried with another man's wife. They cataloged a list of errors so long that according to them, "it verged on being a serious embarrassment." The Web site was shut down for repairs and the Manawatu District Council Council community services manager said the errors were caused by the age of the cemetery records and the poor handwriting of early recorders. "The physical bodies are still in the right places," she told the reporters. "It's only the Web site entries we have to tidy up." Perhaps they should have hired a genealogists to do the job. •

Software of Interest

Family History CD

Family History CD is a Windows program that writes text, audio, graphics, and full-motion videos on a CD-ROM disk for distribution to family members. It is easy enough to operate so the computer novice can feel comfortable operating the program. To help you get started, Family History CD includes a sample project that can be done as a tutorial.

Work is done mostly from the main file organizing screen, where you can add and delete pictures, documents of various sorts, and full-motion video with audio. The program organizes files into folders which can be named and

organized to hold that data that you want to be on the CD-ROM. Files can be moved from one place to another using click-and-drag features from the Windows operating system. Files can be of any type, such as pictures, text, video clips, charts from Excel, timelines from Genlines and video files. You will need the programs that create these files. Family History CD will create the CD-ROM without need of other software.

The "front page" is the screen that appears when the CD-ROM is inserted in the drive. It can include text and graphics as well as buttons which link to various folders on the disk.

When you have a lot of pictures, they can be linked as a slide show. The "Face Label" feature can be used to identify each person in each of the pictures.

Family History CD sells for \$49.95. You can download a free 15-day free trial version of the program (39 megabytes) that does everything except write disks. You can also download the complete users manual for the program (5.2 megabytes) at no cost. For downloads, more information, or to order the program, go to: <http://www.familyhistorycd.com> •

Spiderwebs

Continued from page 61

New England Genealogy Newsletter

The Pine Cone and Tassel is a bi-monthly genealogy newsletter about Maine and New England. Featured are query columns, surname interests, conference information, places to do research, and articles of interest. There is a \$24 per year subscription fee. Visit the site at: <http://www.pineconeandtassel.com>

Handbook of Texas

The Handbook of Texas Online is an encyclopedia of Texas history, geography, and culture sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association and the General Libraries at University of Texas at

Austin. You can search the handbook using keywords or phrases. The online version is a full text version of a six-volume printed edition plus approximately 400 articles not included in the printed edition. See the handbook at: <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/> •

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.

Fife Family History Fair

The Fife Family History Fair will be on Aug. 30 at Kirkcaldy, Fife, Scotland. It will be a day packed with lectures, workshops, exhibition, and stalls. janet.klak@fife.gov.uk

FGS Conference

The Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference is one of the major genealogy conferences and attracts many good speakers and vendors. It will be held at Seaworld in Orlando, Florida, on September 3 through 6. To see the program or to register on-line, go to: <http://www.fgs.org/2003conf/FGS-2003.htm>

Professional Genealogists Meet

The Association of Professional Genealogists will meet in Orlando, Florida this fall at the Association of Professional Genealogists Sixth Annual Professional Management Conference (PMC) on Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2003. Genealogists and those in related professions will have in a full day of lectures. The PMC will be held in conjunction with the FGS and Florida State Genealogical Society Conference there from Sept. 3-6. Anyone may

attend the PMC with payment of FGS and PMC registration fees to FGS. www.apgen.org or www.fgs.org

Find Your Family in New York

A two-day Conference for New York Researchers sponsored by The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society and the Western New York Genealogical Society will be held on September 25-27 in Buffalo, NY. For details, see: <http://www.nygbs.org/ed/programs.html>

Canada Conference

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa will hold its 9th annual conference on September 26-28 in Ottawa. There are twenty-one presentations which include Fawn Stratford-Devai, noted author and lecturer on Ontario genealogical and historical topics and Chad Gaffield, Professor of History, University of Ottawa. For details, go to: <http://www.bifhsgo.ca>

Workshop for Writers

The San Mateo County Genealogical Society will hold a workshop for writers and would-be writers by Steven Friedman, an author and teacher, on September 27 at San Mateo, CA. <http://www.smcgs.org>

Fall Foliage Tour

The California Genealogical Society will hold a New England/Canada fall foliage cruise with genealogical lectures by George F. Sanborn Jr. The 10-day cruise sails October 1 on a round trip from Boston with stops in Maine, Nova Scotia, Quebec and New Brunswick. library@calgensoc.org

Polish Genealogical Society Conference

The Polish Genealogy Society annual conference will be held from October 3 to 5 at Rosemont, Illinois. <http://www.pgsa.org>

New York City Fair

The Archivists Round Table will hold the free annual Family History Fair on October 12 in New York City. For details, go to: <http://www.nycarchivists.org/fhf.html>

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, tatting, ancestral stories, and a royal genealogies database. For more information, go to: stocktonfh@yahoo.com

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/catcn/ca_conf

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:

<http://www.sog.org.uk/events/conference2003.html>

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: <http://www.smcgs.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/~manerac

GENTECH2004

With the NGS/GENTECH merger now completed, the planned GENTECH2004 conference to be held in Phoenix in January became a financial concern. Conferences this year have not been well-attended. 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/

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.
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~cascgs/mills.htm>

3 R's of Family History

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.

<http://www.ogsseminar.org> •



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PAFinder is the official publication of the Silicon Valley PAF Users Group, a nonprofit organization. Published monthly, *PAFinder* is distributed at the door to all members attending the meeting, and mailed to others after the meeting. Members may elect to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

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.

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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.

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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)	\$15
Personal Ancestral File 5.2 and 4 Windows, PAF3, and 2,31 DOS (CD)*	\$6
Personal Ancestral File Companion 5.0 Windows (CD)	\$13.50
Personal Ancestral File 4.04 and 5.2 downloaded from www.FamilySearch.org	free

* Also includes lessons and user guide

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 + postage (see www.svpafug.org for volume price)