

Publishing Your Family History Using the Computer

by **Mary Lou Harline**

Does the word “publish” bring up a mental picture of a book, preferably printed on heavy glossy paper and bound in leather with embossed gold lettering? In these days of computer printouts, we can share our data without the big cost of a hardcover book or even a paperback one. We can also create a book that can match the demands of our mental picture. We have many publication options: charts, lists, calendars, scrapbooks, or books of ancestral lines or books of descendants. The medium for publication can be paper, e-mail, Website, CD-ROM or DVD.

Ancestors Book

The PAF program can print different charts, reports, and lists that you could make into a book, or fill a loose-leaf binder. PAF will print the data for two types of “books”: Ancestors of an individual, and Descendants of an individual or man and wife. The data is presented in a standardized narrative form and an index is formed. This article will investigate the formats of the two “books” that are included in the print screen “Reports and Charts.”

First, click on the printer icon, or Print Reports from the File menu. Click on the tab for Books and choose Ahnentafel (Ancestry) or Modified Register (Descendancy).

PAF will print the data for two types of “books”: Ancestors of an individual, and Descendants of an individual or man and wife.

PAF uses the Ahnentafel format for reporting the data of the ancestors of a selected person. Ahnentafel is a German word that literally means “ancestor table” or “pedigree chart.” It is essentially a pedigree chart in paragraph format. You will recognize the numbering system. The first generation (the selected person) is number 1. The second generation then includes two parents: father is #2, mother is #3. The third generation has four grandparents: father’s father is #4, father’s mother is #5, mother’s father is #6, mother’s mother is #7. Notice that for each next generation, the father’s number is twice the child’s number, and the mother’s number is one more than the father’s. The names continue to double each generation, if you have data. If you don’t have data for someone in the next generation, the number is not shown. There is a limit of 32 generations using PAF, otherwise the numbers get too big.

Dates and places of events follow the name for each individual. Remember that only the direct line people are included using the PAF program. Some other programs (PAF Companion is one) will also include basic information

about siblings of the direct line ancestors.

Once the numbering system is understood, this format may be easier for someone not familiar with family history to follow than a group of pedigree charts.

Options for Printing Books

Look over the options for the “Ancestry Book” feature of PAF. Notice that for “Source Citations” you have the choice of including only the source title, or you can include comments and/or actual text. You also choose either the sources at the end of the chapter (end of each generation) or the sources in an appendix at the end of the book. For notes you can choose to have all the notes, or just those marked with an exclamation point (!). If you want to include confidential notes and events, you must click on that box in the next column of the print screen. You can choose to have the notes embedded in the text for an individual or with the other notes at the end of the book.

If you forget what some of the options will do, remember to drag the little “?” (next to

the “x” in the upper corner of the Reports and Charts pane) to the option that you want defined.

The “Repeating” Box gives you three choices when the same individuals appear more than once in the family:

- Eliminate: not repeat their name,
- Abbreviated Reference: Repeat name with minimum data
- Full Repeat: Give full data for individual

The Other Options

The choices include:

- Maximum generations to print: limits printout to the generations specified
- Create an Index: very helpful if you have many individuals
- Parent Links: marks links for adoptions, guardians, challenged, disproved, or sealings, but not biological parents
- Each generation on a new page: end page at end of a generation:
- Include photos: includes the default picture linked to the PAF program if available
- Multiple parents Indicators: A plus sign (+) after the name indicates that other parents exist, such as in adoptions.

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- Include “other” Events: these are events that have been added for individuals and families
- Include LDS data: this data will be grayed out if you choose not to use LDS data.

Far Right Column

The choices for the commands far right column include:

- Print: choose range of pages to print and the number of copies
- Preferences (on the “Print” screen): select placeholders instead of photos or hide shading in the report
- Choose Printer ((on the “Print” screen): selects the printer
- Close: exits Reports and Charts
- Preview: displays the document before printing where you can zoom in, look at one or two pages at a time, print, or return to the reports screen
- Page Setup: select portrait or landscape orientation, paper size and margin size
- Titles: choose to include the name of selected individual and type text to precede the name on the title (Prefix) or to appear after the name (Suffix)
- Fonts: choose fonts from any on your computer, change font size or style (If the fonts you choose don’t work, click on “Set to Defaults.”)
- Photos (Available if photos are included): choose size and placement of the photo in relation to text or choose whether to reserve place for missing photos
- Preferences: choose whether to include LDS data in reports, capitalize surnames, shade reports, or choose color of shading
- Print Preview (Choose to use photo placeholders; hide shading in preview)
- Help: help screens for report, with option for more help.
- Print to file: save as a Rich Text Format (.rtf) file which can be read by most word processors

If you do a print to file, the computer will open your default word processor with the new .rtf file. You can exit the word processor and use another if or

edit the file at a later time. When you return to PAF and use Reports and Charts, you must uncheck the “Print to File” box before you can use a printer.

Descendants Book

What Is the Register Format? It is a description of all descendants from a common ancestor listed in numerical order by generations. The numbering system, created by the New England Historic Genealogical Society as the style for articles in their periodical, *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, allows the reader to browse through the descendants and find the sections for children by their numbers. All the sections about descendants of the starting individual are in the order of their number.

The history starts with the earliest ancestor who is assigned the Arabic numeral 1. This person is almost always a male. His known birth, marriage, and death events are included with dates and places. His wife is not given a number but available information about her is included. The children are listed, using Roman numerals in lower case, in chronological order. The numbers start with “i” and continue using ii, iii, iv, for as many numbers as needed for that family. When a child is married and has children (more descendants), he or she is given an Arabic number, starting with numeral 2. Details about the child are not given in the section with the parents because he or she will be included as a parent with a spouse and children among those in the next generation. These sections follow in numerical order using the numeral assigned when the person was listed as a child. The next family will continue the Arabic numerals but each new family starts over with each child having the Roman numeral beginning with “i.”

Information about children who did not carry on the line, or for whom no more information is available, will be described in the section with the parents. These children will not be given an Arabic numeral.

PAF uses the Modified Register Format, in which each and every child is given an Arabic numeral. To make sure the reader doesn’t hunt in vain for a continuing section for a child who never married, only the children that have descendants have a plus sign (+) before their name to indicate that a later section continues with their lineage .

Repeated Format Boring?

A computer generated narrative is repetitive and can become as boring as reading a telephone book. You can avoid this problem by including interesting events in the “Notes” section for each ancestor. You can also use the “Print to file” feature and later, add photos, histories, or narrate the adventures you had in finding the information about the person in the book.

What can you add in the notes section in PAF to “liven up” the narrative? You can tell what was happening during the life of your ancestor. Was there a war, or an epidemic of flu, small pox, ...? an economic depression? a natural disaster? Was your ancestor involved in any local or national events?

Include some of the history of the places they lived, especially if the place has changed or grown significantly larger or smaller, or disappeared. Notes for the first generation could tell part of the story, with each generation showing the progress or decline.

Relate how you found the data. Did you have to break a “stone wall” in your research? The process of getting the data could be more interesting than the life of the person.

Preparing your data

There are some things that you should do to make your data ready for publication, but don’t wait until your data is “perfect.” There will always be new information about some of your family members that may make you change what you currently have written. You may discover that some of your data is not correct. Include what you have. Make comments if you are not sure of some of the data. Others may disagree with you on some facts, but one purpose to print a book is to allow others to see what you have and to give you corrections or more information. They may even thank you for what you have compiled..

To make the most of what you have:

1. Print a list: “Possible Problems.” This will help you avoid embarrassment when someone points out that John Jensen was buried before he died. You may find ancestors who were born before their par-

ents were married, or a mother died before the child was born, or husband and wife who were born more than 20 years apart. If some of these are typing errors, correct them. If the information is correct, but unusual, explain this in the notes. If you are not sure whether the burial date or the death date is correct, try to find an original document to make it right, or explain in your notes where you got the dates.

2. Print a list of places: Check the list for a place name with more than one way of writing the name. Be consistent in how you enter the place names. Is the name spelled the same wherever it is used? Don't use abbreviations or Postal codes.

Be sure the places existed at one time. Find the place on a map or in a gazetteer or geographical dictionary, or a Post Office Zip Code book, or at Websites like Rootsweb.com or programs like Place Finder.

If you received your information from other relatives by mouth or by written journal, and the place is not clear, include an explanation in your notes.

If you enter the place name as it was when your ancestor lived there, you should be consistent. You should explain how the name or boundary changes came about. A history of a town could add to the enjoyment of reading the history of the family.

3. Include Photos. PAF will print the default picture of an individual in the narrative texts. You have some choice of the size of

the picture. Click on Photos after you click on "include Photos" If you don't have a scanner but you want to include some pictures (and have enough copies of the pictures to paste in the books you are creating at this time) you can click on "save space for photos."

If you want to add more than the default picture, you can add more pictures after you print to file, and use your word processor to edit the document. You could even print a picture scrapbook from PAF to add it to the book.

4. Include an Index. PAF will automatically include an index if you print directly from the Ancestral or Descendants book. To accommodate the possible increased size of your book from adding pictures or text, your word processor must generate the index to have correct page numbers. Word Perfect has this function listed under "Tools" then "Reference."

Completing the Book

The book doesn't have to end with either program. You can include family group records with pictures of each family. You can also include Scrapbook pictures of individuals, and individual summaries.

Another Means of Distribution

All the files described above can be put on a CD-ROM. The program "FamilyHistoryCD" can help you organize the files. You can find a description and place an order at: www.ohanasoftware.com

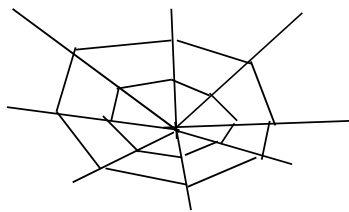
Spider Webs: Free Genealogy Courses from BYU

Free Genealogy Courses from BYU

Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, has some free family history and genealogy online courses. The classes are of interest to both beginners and experienced researchers who want to update skills in a particular subject. Online classes have the advantages of allowing the student to set his or her learning pace and study schedule. The student can also view a wealth of online resources and discuss the course topics with other enrolled students.

Most of the courses cover specific topics with about four lessons. Topics include:

- Family History/Genealogy - Introductory
- Finding Your Ancestors
- Providing Temple Ordinances for Your Ancestors
- Introduction to Family History Research
- Helping Children Love Your Family History
- Family History/Genealogy - Record Type



- Family Records
- Vital Records
- Military Records
- Family History/Genealogy - Regional and Ethnic
- France: Immigrant Origins
- France: Vital Records
- France: Reading French Handwriting
- France: Genealogical Organizations and Periodicals
- France: The Internet and French Genealogy
- French Research: Paris
- French Research: Alsace-Lorraine
- Germany: Immigrant Origins
- Germany: U.S. Sources and Surname Changes
- Germany: Jurisdictions, Gazetteers,

- and Maps
- Germany: Reading German Handwriting
- Germany: Calendars and Feast Days
- Germany: Vital Records
- Huguenot Research
- Scandinavia: Jurisdictions, Gazetteers, and Maps
- Scandinavia: Reading Gothic Script
- Scandinavia: Church Records and Feast Days
- Scandinavia: Census Records
- Scandinavia: Probate and Other Records

The courses are free for your personal studies and not intended for credit. The university also offers online genealogy courses for college credit and certification in family history. For details on the free online classes, go to: <http://home.byu.edu> Then click on "courses online" on the left side of the Web page, and then on "free Web courses." For information on the college credit genealogy courses, click on "courses online," then on "university courses," and finally on "history."

Verifying Earlier Research

By Lesly Klippel

With the proliferation of genealogy data on the Internet, we are able to access other people's research in ways not possible a few years ago. Databases can be submitted to various Web sites such as: www.familysearch.org www.ancestry.com and www.rootsweb.com. In addition, many researchers have created their own Web sites to display their accumulated data. This can provide a windfall for researchers who sometimes find a great deal of information on their family names. Very often, a Web site will display what amounts to one or more person's lifetime efforts in researching their family history.

Since all of this vast amount of data must be considered as a secondary source, our task is to verify the information before we add it to our master database. There is a vast amount of misinformation and incorrect lineage displayed on the Internet, so how can we tell what is truth and what is fiction? Do we have to do the research all over again to know if it is valid? Must we consider the lineages displayed to only be guides for us and not the finished work?

This article does not purport to be the end-all solution to the verification problem but to only suggest some ways that you can double-check another's research to satisfy for yourself that it is accurate. I will list the sources of information that are common and suggest some ways that you can tell whether the data is accurate.

Book or Periodical

If the author has listed sources, it is an easy matter to locate books and microfilm to check if the data has been extracted correctly. Interlibrary loan is great for obtaining books and you can rent a microfilm from the Family History Library (FHL) through your local Family History Center (FHC). If the author has listed censuses as a source, you can easily double-check his extraction by looking at the census records yourself at: www.ancestry.com

If the author has not listed sources, perhaps you can contact him/her, and politely ask for the source of the data. If the author cannot be reached, careful analysis of the data may suggest the source. If complete birth and death dates are recorded, the source is probably birth certificates, death certificates, a family Bible or tombstone records. If you know the location of the event, you can track down the source yourself. If birth dates are estimated, the source is probably census records. In any event, if the family lived after 1850, check the census records to see if they verify the data. You can also spot-check a pedigree by looking at probate and land records in the locality. Look to see if the family is listed in a biography or county history reproduced at: www.usgenweb.com. Many county sites are publishing the old, out-of-print county histories that often give lots of family history. County sites are also publishing cemetery, marriage, and vital records as well as probate and land indexes. Check these sources to see if they agree with your newly acquired database.

Ancestral File and Pedigree Resource File

Much of the information in the Ancestral File (AF) is accurate, but there are many problems caused by trying to combine pedi-

grees. When there is an asterisk by a person's name, he/she has more than one set of parents listed. This is an indication that the person is actually two different persons. The problems caused by combining pedigrees have led the LDS Church to halt submissions to the AF and to create the Pedigree Resource File where individual submissions are kept separate and intact. Another problem with the AF is that the program did not display notes and sources so you have to try to figure out possible sources of the data. Since much of the information in the AF is valid, it can still be a good source of data. It is available at: www.familysearch.org. When looking up the submitter list for a name, you will see that each submitter has a unique AF number such as AF93k6g9. The two digits after the letters "AF" indicate the year of submission. In the example, the submission was made in 1993. Since much of the data was submitted at least 15 to 20 years ago, many submitters are no longer at the indicated addresses. If you are lucky, www.switchboard.com or www.yahoo.com/peoplefinder will supply a current address. You can check Pedigree Resource File (PRF) to see if the data was submitted there. Those addresses are quite current since it is a relatively new program. The index to PRF is found at www.familysearch.org but you must locate the listed CD either by purchasing it or viewing it at an FHC. PRF may have notes and sources if the submitter included them in the submission GEDCOM. Again, I always advise checking census records and spot-checking probate and land records to see if they support the data.

Submitted Databases on Commercial Genealogy Sites

If the submitter to AF cannot be reached, the same or similar data may have been submitted to www.ancestry.com www.genealogy.com or www.rootsweb.com the three most popular database repositories. The submitter's e-mail address and the date the information was posted is listed. If you can't contact one submitter, try another. Very often you will find exactly the same database submitted again and again and it will require sleuthing to track down the original source.

The same warnings apply to this data. If no sources or notes are attached, check the census records, probate and land records for verification of the data. Depending on the locality, there may be other records available to you in the verification process. For instance, in New England, vital records started very early and have been published, often on CDs available at FHCs and other genealogy libraries. If you are working in the Colonial period, much has been published about those early families. If the source is a published book, use Google to search the Internet, putting the title in quotes, to see if others have comments about the validity of the material. At some database sites, Post-ems can be added correcting and adding to the posted data. If you find an error in posted data, correct it in a Post-em. I find the submitter always answers my Post-ems and we start a dialogue aimed at ferreting out the truth.

Final Advice

Always download a GEDCOM into a new file so that you can analyze it and verify its accuracy before adding it to your master database. Failing to follow this advice can cause disasters of major

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proportions that will take many, many hours to clean up. With any new data, ask yourself if it is consistent and logical, knowing what you do about the family. Is the family consistent within itself with the children being born during the mother's childbearing years? Does the data make sense? Is the data from a primary source or was the source created many years after the event? Could there be an ulterior motive in providing the particular piece of information?

These are all questions a good family history detective keeps in mind when analyzing family histories. The current explosion of genealogy data on the Internet makes this a very fun age for exploration and discovery. It also makes possible the dissemination of a lot of junk genealogy. Hone your detective skills so that your database will represent the truth about your family and have fun finding your family on the Internet.

Stranger Than Fiction: Woman Gives Birth to Triplet Granddaughters, Offline Research Out of Favor

Woman Gives Birth to Triplet Granddaughters

The latest genealogy programs have the features to enter the data correctly, but this event is one for the record books. Tina Cade, age 55-year, became a surrogate mother so that her eldest daughter, Camille Hammond, could become a mother. Her daughter suffers from endometriosis, a condition that affects the lining of the uterus and makes it difficult to become pregnant. Tina gave birth to triplets at Bon Secours St Mary's Hospital in Richmond, Virginia. The two boys and one girl arrived a month and a half early by Caesarean section. The surrogate mother experienced "mild complications," which, accord-

ing to a hospital spokesperson, is not uncommon. All seem to be doing well. You may want to complete the exercise of entering this family into your genealogy program to qualify as an expert in data entry.

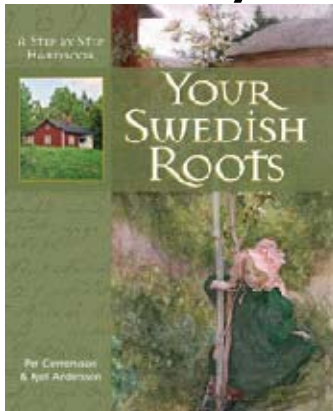
Offline Research Out of Favor

A recent study of college students revealed a fact that their professors have suspected for some time. The students are not going to the library to do research for their papers, projects and studies. Just as the slide rule, multiplication tables, and long division have been made obsolete by the pocket calculator, the Internet has replaced books as a source of information for college students. Even though the Internet may not have all the answers

found at the college library, students seem to avoid the trip to the library, though occasionally using it as a last resort after everything else has failed.

There may be a lesson here for genealogists. They tend to see the Internet as the source for genealogy information. They risk missing many books, manuscripts and primary government and church records that are available only by visits to the repositories where they reside or to a local family history center to view a microfilm of the record. The Internet is a wonderful thing, but it will be a long time before it contains all you need for a good job of genealogical research. As for me, I will look on the Internet first.

Recently Published: *Your Swedish Roots: A Step by Step Handbook*



Your Swedish Roots; A Step By Step Handbook by Per Clemensson and Kjell Andersson is a how-to book with a step-by-step approach for those doing research on Swedish ancestry. The authors have many years of experience doing Swedish genealogy research. Per Clemensson was a senior archivist at the Regional Archive in Gothenberg and is a popular lecturer and writer about Swedish genealogy. Kjell Andersson is a journalist and

history major from the University of Stockholm. These authors have worked together earlier to publish *Släktforska steg för steg*, the leading Swedish genealogical handbook in the Swedish market, and *Emigrantforska steg för steg*, a book on Swedish emigration to the United States.

Your Swedish Roots; A Step By Step Handbook, is written in English for those doing Swedish research in both the United States and Sweden. The book addresses three major problems that those with Swedish ancestry in the United States encounter when starting their research:

- They have not learned the Swedish language.

- They find the patronymic naming patterns difficult.
- They are unable to decipher the Swedish handwriting.

Sweden has not seen wars fought on their soil for more than 200 years and have had few catastrophic events which have destroyed records. The records are very complete and easy to find. Commonly used church records are available on the Internet. The authors explain how to find and use these records as well as many others, including archives, passenger lists, and cemetery monument inscriptions. They also explain how the emigration process worked and possible transportation routes. The book also includes a 6-page index, a list of provinces in Sweden, and a dictionary of important Swedish words.

For those who have cousins or other relatives in Sweden, the book has some help in finding relatives, preparing for a trip to Sweden and how to meet family members there. Since many families keep records in the family Bible or in manuscript form, a trip can be very productive.

Your Swedish Roots; A Step By Step Handbook by Per Clemensson and Kjell Andersson is published by Ancestry.com and Genline AB. It comes as a 222-page hardcover book \$24.95. It can be purchased at most bookstores (ISBN 1-59331-276-8), or it can be ordered online at:
<http://shops.ancestry.com/product.asp?productid=4075&shopid=0>
 or www.genlineshop.com/c226616p16472013.2.html

Ask Dr. PAF — “I Give No Answers Before Their Time!”

By Dr. Cornelius D. PAF

Finding PAF files

QI have several PAF data files but I have a hard time looking at all of them. I have just installed PAF. There is one file that comes up every time that I open PAF. I don't see the main menu that lets me search for PAF files. How can I quickly see my other files?

A There are several ways to open any one file. But first, a hint about closing the PAF file.

There are two buttons with an “x” in the upper right corner of the screen. The top one (in the blue bar) will close the PAF program and any files that are open at the time. The lower one (in the gray bar) will close only the file that you are looking at. If you close the whole program (top “x”) with a file still displayed, that file will be displayed the next time you open the program. If you had more than one file open at the time, the others will remain closed.

There are several procedures to open a PAF data file. If a file is displayed when you start the PAF program, you can open another one by clicking on the “open folder” icon in the task bar, or click on the “File” menu, and click on “Open.” Then search for the file that you want.

The search will be easy if you have told PAF where to find your PAF data files. You do this from the “Tools” menu and clicking Preferences. Click on the “Folders” tab and enter the full name of the folder for your PAF databases. It could be C:\My documents\PAF5data. Now, when you click on open from the PAF file you will immediately see the contents of the folder for your databases.

You can have more than one file open at a time. Use “Ctrl-Tab” to switch to another data file. This will rotate through all the open files. You can also use the “Window” button in the “Menu” bar to change from one file to the other. From this menu you can also show two at the same time — usually “tile vertically” works best. You can show more than two but they will probably be hard to read.

If you have had another file open previously, this file name will be displayed at the bottom of the “File” menu. Click on the name you want to open. It will only show the current file name and the previous three files you opened. Be wary about the Exit. Click on that and you will be out of the PAF program completely.

List of one Surname

QHow can I get a list of all individuals in my database with the same surname?

APAF 5 now has printing options so you can create lists for parts of a database. Click on “Lists” in the “Reports and Charts” screen. Click on “Individuals sorted alphabetically.” Click on “Options.” Enter the surname you want in the box for



Starting Name and for Ending Name. The list will include the RIN, the name of the individual, birth or christening date, death or burial date, MRIN, name of spouse, parent or child (S, P, or C will be before the name).

If you want to limit the list of surnames to just your ancestral and/or descendency line, you will have to use advanced search in the “Focus/Filter” feature. Select ancestors in the relationship filter and define the surname for the “Field Filter” feature. You will have to create a Custom Report to print the list.

Some merging made easier

QI have many different ancestral lines from different parts of the world. When I want to work on one family, I usually create a GEDCOM file of the ancestor I am either planning new research for, or I want to check the status of the data. I print the duplicate list, and check for individuals not linked to others, and especially the possible problems lists. When I am through, or at least ready to create a GEDCOM file to put the changed data back in my original file, I cringe at the thought of all the merging. How can I manage this problem?

AFor PAF 5 merging for that purpose is not a problem. When you enter data in a PAF 5 data file, a Unique Record Serial Number (URSN) will be generated for each individual that you add to your data file. This stays with that individual but you won't see it on the PAF screens. It is visible in a print out of the GEDCOM file. It is made of many characters and is quite long. You can't delete it. When you merge the GEDCOM file back into your original file you can choose to have the merge made by use of the Unique Record Serial Number option. The merge program will search for matches in the imported data and the original file. The two versions will be displayed on the screen for you to see the changes and decide what you want to keep.

This merging method also works when you send a GEDCOM file to another researcher or person with family data you are missing. If they import your data into a new PAF file to make changes, and then create a new GEDCOM file to send you, the URSN will not be changed.

Another idea: The PAF Insight program has a match/merge feature that is considered easier to use than the PAF feature. Get information for the program at: www.ohanasoftware.com

Quotable Quote

Those who marry to escape something usually find something else.

George Ade 1866-1944

American author

Software of Interest: Ged2Csv

Ged2Csv

Ged2Csv is a utility program that will convert a GEDCOM file into a Csv file. Csv is an abbreviation for "comma separated values," a format that can be read by spreadsheet and database programs like Excel and Access if you are a Microsoft user. The data is organized into rows and columns, with each row representing an individual and each column containing a specific data field. By putting your data on a spreadsheet or into a database, you can generate reports that cannot be generated with any of the genealogy programs. For example, you could produce a list of individuals who are born in England and died in Massachusetts sorted by year of birth with a spreadsheet program.

After opening Ged2Csv, you select a GEDCOM file. The file is converted into separate Csv files which contain data about individuals, families, relations, facts, notes, sources, citations, and children. The first field of each file contains reference numbers which can be used to link the data when you import it into Excel or a database program. The reference numbers make it easy to link all the data once the files are entered into a relational database. The report features of the database programs offer more flexibility than spreadsheets and can produce almost any report or list that one would choose to create.

Some of the features of Ged2Csv include:

- Fast (converts 10,000 individuals in less than 2 seconds)
- Upload directly to the MySQL program via FTP and PHP script (useful for a genealogy Web site)
- Configurable quote and delimiter characters
- Configurable output file and table names
- Configurable paragraph separator
- Option to remove double-quotes from notes and sources
- Option to word-wrap note lines
- Converts Master Sources and Source Citations
- Converts most custom facts and events
- Automatic updates from the Internet
- Runs on Microsoft Windows 95/98/ME/NT/2000/XP

Ged2Csv comes in a free version that supports the export of delimited files, but does not support the export of Microsoft Access files, nor uploads to MySQL. It can be downloaded as a zipped file of 1.7 megabytes. The full-featured version of Ged2Csv is available as shareware. A fully functional trial version can be downloaded and used for up to 30 days. Then you must pay \$25.00 for a license and registration key. The full-featured version can be downloaded, but it is 14 megabytes, which is a big download if you do not have high-speed Internet access. For more information, or to download the program, go to www.infused-solutions.com/software/ged2csv

News For Genealogists: **India Genealogy Project, Michigan Birth Certificates Fees Increase**

India Genealogy Project

The people of India have shown little interest in genealogy. This is a sharp contrast to the people in the United States where genealogy is a very popular hobby. A new project targeting Indians living abroad and a new Internet database may spark an interest in genealogy among the Indians. Ashook Ramsaran, secretary general of New York-based Global Organization of People of Indian Origin, announced the plan for a global Indian database at an annual meeting of Indians living abroad. He described a database that they plan to have that will aid anyone of Indian descent to trace their family roots. The project organizers plan to seek permission from the United States and Britain to gain immigration information about their forefathers. There are about 25 million people of Indian origin who have moved abroad since the early 19th century. Many of them went to work on plantations in former British colonies such as Mauritius and Trinidad. Many went to the United States and Britain to get a college education.

Already, there is a lot of interest in this project. Saloni Deerpalsingh, director of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute in Mauritius, claims that 75,000 Indians have asked for help in tracking their ancestors. Chandra Shekhar Tiwary, who does research with the New Delhi-based genealogy group, Indi Root Foundation, has lo-

cated the ancestral homes of ten families from the United States, Britain, and Canada who initially migrated to places such as Surinam, Fiji, Trinidad, and Guyana. Land, revenue records, birth and death certificates of people's ancestors provide help in tracing families. If there are no written records available, they must rely on the memory of older people in the village. Some genealogy is recorded in songs of villagers that may mention seven generations of one family.

Michigan Birth Certificates Fees Increase

Pressure from federally mandated expenditures, higher budgets and lagging tax revenue has forced many states to look for ways to increase revenue. Michigan is one of the states that feel that an increase in birth certificate fees will help increase revenue. This is bad news for genealogists. These are the new fees:

- copies, from 18 dollars to 29 dollars (up 61%)
- an accelerated search for a vital record, 10 dollars (up 100%)
- a new birth certificate following an adoption, 40 dollars (up 54%)

The state expects to get another \$1,500,000 from the increased fees.

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SV-CGG meets monthly, except December, on the second Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. 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 US\$15 per year (US\$20 for Canada and US\$25 for other international). Members are offered classes at meetings, mentor help, *Silicon Valley PastFinder* (a monthly newsletter published each month there is a meeting).

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Articles contributed by readers are welcome. 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, and edit articles. Articles are not returned.

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)	US\$6
Personal Ancestral File 3.01M MS-DOS (diskette)	US\$15
Personal Ancestral File 4.04	US\$6
Personal Ancestral File 5.2.18 and 4 (Windows), PAF 3, and 2.31 (DOS) CD	
Includes lessons and user guide	US\$6
Personal Ancestral File Companion 5.1.3 Windows (CD)	US\$8.25
Personal Ancestral File 3.01 upgrade, 4.04.18 and 5.2.18	
PAF Companion 5.13 upgrade downloaded at www.FamilySearch.org	free

The following can be ordered from www.svcomputergenealogy.org or the group address (see above):

Newsletter back issues if available, per issue	US\$1 (order by mail or purchase at meetings)
Videos of classes; syllabus copies	See Web site for titles, prices
<i>Family History Documentation Guidelines</i>	US\$12.50 per book, includes postage; bulk discounts
Stuck-on Sources Post-It note pads	Available at meetings and on Web site

CLASSES FOR 12 MARCH 2005

Software Classes

Getting Started with PAF
Using the Family Tree Maker Program
Using PAF on the Macintosh
Using PAF Insight

PAF Charts & Reports

General Classes

Organizing Pictures with Foto Express
Watch the Web site for changes in classes.



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