

DNA Tests Solve Relationship Dispute

Mary Lou Harline

My introduction to genealogy was watching my Grandmother Jones copy something in a thick book onto long sheets with many blank spaces. This was the 1930s and I was 10 years old. She pointed out the name of her father, Charles Eugene Fletcher, in the book, and explained to me that she was compiling all his family on Family Group Sheets (8 1/2 x 14) in her Book of Remembrance.

Her source was the book, *Robert Fletcher and His Descendants*, which had been printed in 1881. There were many descendants of Robert but no information about his ancestors. Robert was thought to have been in Massachusetts in 1630 and probably came with the Winthrop Fleet, and settled in Concord by 1635. It was assumed that he came from England. Yorkshire appeared to be the best guess within England. There were many Fletcher families in England but no clues to Robert's ancestry. More recent research had indicated that Robert did not arrive in Massachusetts until sometime after 1635, but none of the new records tell of his origins. The question of origin appeared to be a brick wall that would not fall down. There are few records that qualify as authentic sources about people born before 1600.

It is now apparent that DNA can be of help in identifying the relationship of possible ancestors by checking the DNA of their descendants.

Problems with Fletcher Line

There were two problems about the relationship of my early Massachusetts Fletchers. The first was about Robert Fletcher of Concord, Massachusetts, and William Fletcher who lived in Saco, Maine in the same time period. Was there a relationship? Some researchers said "Yes," and others said "No."

The second problem was Robert Fletcher of Concord's origin. Several Fletcher researchers in England had uncovered some 19th century pedigrees showing Robert as a descendant of Henry Fletcher of Cockermonth in Cumbria.. Because this would add several generations of ancestors, some Fletcher descendants were eager to add these people to their personal pedigrees.

Help from a Periodical

In 1988 in Arkansas, Marilyn Bridge Brown started the Fletcher Family Research Bulletin. It has continued to be published four times a year. Most of the subscribers have a Fletcher surname in their an-

cestry and want to find more information about their family. Many individuals subscribe to her Bulletin, sharing pictures and stories about their Fletcher ancestors from many parts of the United States and from the other side of the Atlantic Ocean

When I first heard of using DNA for finding ancestors I couldn't understand how it would be helpful to me. I was not concerned with which of the seven females I was descended from. I have many early New England ancestors that are repeated in old and newly printed books and on Internet databases with a wide variety of information and very few sources. How could DNA help me sort out my ancestors?

What Did DNA Do?

It is now apparent that DNA can be of help in identifying the relationship of possible ancestors by checking the DNA of their descendants. Ms. Brown suggested that the subscribers to her bulletin start a DNA study done through the male line and the Y chromo-

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Finding a New Best Friend – in a Flash

By Janet Brigham Rands

Somewhere on your PC or your Mac is a little port that can open the door to amazing convenience. Among the array of slots on computers made during the last decade is a plug-in slot called a USB port. This rectangular slot can host a variety of things, from a mouse to a printer to a digital camera. It also can host a useful gadget called a flash drive.

A flash drive goes by various names – it's sometimes called a thumb drive or a portable drive. Your PC is likely to call it a "USB Mass Storage Device." You might come to call it your new best friend.

Flash drives are smaller than a five-stick pack of gum, are inexpensive, and can pack as much memory as your entire computer would've had about 10 years ago. Rather than functioning like a floppy or a CD, they actually are an additional drive, which can hold files and even run programs. Because they use flash memory (hence the name), whatever files you transfer to them are saved at that instant, as is the case on a computer hard drive.

The beauty of this gadget is multifold: You can plug it into a USB port, and it will be recognized almost immediately as a drive. You then can use it to move large files from one com-

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DNA Tests Solve Relationship Dispute

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some. The participants would submit a DNA sample and a pedigree chart with information on the connection to a Fletcher family. If enough markers in the DNA test matched, the descendants would know that they were in the same family.

The first problem about Robert's family was answered when the DNA of several descendants of Robert did not match (12 markers) the DNA of the descendants of William of Saco. That is better evidence of no relationship than all of the old books and periodicals.

The second problem was clarified when the DNA of a known descendant of Henry of Cockermouth matched (25 markers) that of a descendant of William of Saco, but did not match the DNA of any of those who claimed to be descendants of Robert of Concord. Those Fletcher researchers need to continue looking for Robert's place of origin, probably still in the United Kingdom.

A note in the June 2005 issue of the Fletcher Family Research Bulletin asks for those who have any Fletcher males in the UK to e-mail the editor at: genealogy@fletcher.net

There are now at least 18 different groups of Fletchers that have been identified. In one group, two men shared the same 12-marker match of DNA but their pedigree charts didn't show a common ancestor. They are working together to extend their research to find the common ancestor.

The Web site for the Fletcher Family Research Bulletin is: www.genealogy.fletcher.net It contains the list of identified genetic Fletcher lines that might be of interest to anyone with a Fletcher ancestor anywhere.

Although we still don't know Robert Fletcher's origin, we do know that the line through William of Saco will not help us. There is no more need of discussion about the relationship of William Fletcher of Saco to Robert Fletcher of Concord. We can use our time and searches on other lines.

DNA tests do help.

Finding a New Best Friend

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puter to another, to back up large files, and to conveniently carry digital files with you.

Why would this be of use to family history enthusiasts? Consider these scenarios in the life of a genealogist:

- You take your laptop computer to a library, where you enter new information into your laptop. You then copy files from the laptop to the flash drive to back up your database, your scanned images, and other files. Then, no matter what happens to your laptop, you have the information safely stored.
- You don't have a laptop?. With the permission of the librarian, you plug your USB drive into the library's computer and download files onto your flash drive. You could do this with files saved from fee-based Websites that you can't access from home. This is especially useful if these files are too large for floppy disks, or if the library computer doesn't have a CD burner. (Also, burning a CD every time you go to a library can quickly become expensive.)
- You take your database on a flash drive when you visit family members who have computers. You can run PAF and some other family database programs directly off the flash drive, which eliminates the need to install PAF or another program on the relatives' computer. This helps preserve family unity, since some relatives welcome your installing software about as much as they'd welcome your pet python. Using your flash drive, you can update the database on the spot and save the changes to the flash drive. (The users group will publish instructions for how to load PAF onto a flash drive. It was demonstrated at the June 2005 monthly meeting.)
- You encourage family members to bring family photos to a family reunion, where you scan the photos and save the images to your flash drive. If your relatives bring their own flash drives, you can send them home with digital copies of their photos, which they then can share with others.

In most cases, a flash drive will be read automatically by a computer with a fairly current operating system, namely Windows

2000/ME/XP or Mac OS 9.x. It isn't necessary to install a driver or restart the computer in these operating systems. If your computer does not recognize the flash drive immediately, you may need to re-boot your computer with the drive plugged in. Users of Windows 98 may need to install a driver to use a flash drive. Our website

(www.svcompetergenealogy.org/usb.html) will list information about downloading Windows 98 drivers for the USB drives the group now sells (see "Want to buy a flash drive?" on the next page).

In a frivolous moment, we attached a flash drive to every available USB port on an XP desktop computer, just to see what would happen, and we learned that the computer had no interest in reading more than two flash drives at a time. In more serious moments, we've used the flash drive to move files back and forth between a PC and a Mac, and had no difficulty. We've used them in libraries, on vacations, on business trips, in valleys, on mountaintops, at a national park, in the kitchen, and at major league baseball games. Our flash drives have traveled across the country and across the polar icecap. They work as well in Finland, England, and the Czech Republic, and they work in Mountain View, California.

One caveat about flash drives is that you shouldn't remove one from your PC without a bit of ceremony. A PC will tell you to access the "Safely Remove Hardware" icon on the quick launch toolbar (the bottom right taskbar of your computer, close to the default location of the clock). You might have to click on the toolbar's left-arrow to make the icon visible, and you might have to run your mouse pointer across the icons to figure out which one to use. The icon shows a little gray rectangular box with a fat green left-arrow above it. Click on the icon to bring up the option to remove the flash drive.

Some people (not to mention my husband by name) brag that they never use the "Safely Remove Hardware" icon, instead just yanking the drive out. Although bravado in the face of authoritarianism may be invigorating, we don't recommend yanking flash drives out of PCs without following the proper steps.

Computer users who get used to having a flash drive soon won't go anywhere without one. We don't necessarily rec-

ommend attaching them to a key chain, since keys sometimes lead difficult lives. We do recommend keeping them handy in an inner pocket of a purse, or tucked into a billfold (unless you tend sit on your billfold, as some men do, not to mention my husband by name). They're a natural for stuffing into a computer bag, a briefcase, a camera case, a diaper bag, a waist pack, or a tiny handbag.

I haul mine in a small fuchsia silk sack that once held a miniature bottle of perfume. My husband keeps his in a little slot in his briefcase. My cat won't tell us where he keeps his, but he won't tell us where he puts his lost collars, either. Be sure to tell us where you keep yours!

Want to Buy a Flash Drive?



You can buy a logo-embossed flash drive for \$19.90 from the Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy website, www.SVComputerGenealogy.org, or you can purchase one at meetings. The group is selling them at cost plus tax, to provide members with an inexpensive, reliable, and portable solution for backing up a family history database and transferring information between computers.

The 128 MB drives feature USB 2.0, which is faster than earlier USB 1.0, and is backward-compatible with computers that have 1.0. They have an LED indicator that lights when the drive is in use, and they requiring no external power other than being plugged into the USB drive of a computer.

Made in the USA by USModular (a company with 24/7 telephone support), they come with a 90-day warrantee from the users group. They are shock resistant to more than 1,000G and have a data retention life of at least 10 years. For Macintosh OS 9.x and higher, and Windows ME/2000/XP, no driver is required. Our website lists information about downloading drivers for Windows 98 computers (www.svpafug.org/usb.html).

Book Review:

Trace Your Roots with DNA Using Genetic Tests to Explore Your Family Tree

By Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak and
Ann Turner

Published by Rodale, Inc. 2004

Reviewed by Richard Rands



Megan and Ann, two accomplished genealogists, combined their shared compulsion to solve complex genealogical questions by turning to the emerging science of molecular genetics. They more than solved their questions. They ended up coining a new term—*genetealogy*. And they have shared their fascinating newly found methodology in this outstanding book designed especially for genealogists and family history buffs.

To help the novice, the first part of the book explains the fundamentals of how DNA testing can be applied to solving questions about your family tree. An understanding of genetics is not prerequisite, because they have written the section using the terminology of genealogists—pedigrees, descendency charts, collateral lines, and family trees. They distill the all the complexity of the science of genetics down to the bare essentials and help you understand the concept of genetic markers. It's all about comparing the markers that are reported in the DNA tests.

The second section delves into the various testing options that are available on the commercial market and how they can be used to reveal hitherto unknown details about your family tree. From tracing your male or female lineage, your geographical origins, or how close people in your family tree are related, the tests currently available are likely to turn up surprising answers to difficult questions, prove or disprove family traditions, or raise new questions

that will take you in new directions. The book highlights some classic examples of startling revelations turned up by DNA testing, such as the case of a young man who discovered that his life-long belief that he was African American was not true. Megan and Ann have rendered a difficult topic easier to follow by creating some useful charts that list how each type of DNA test can be used to answer typical questions.

Section 3 is a “how-to” section. After reading the first two sections, you might be champing at the bit to start your own DNA testing project. This section is the instruction manual for how to do it, including how to get started, how to identify and find testing prospects, how to entice reluctant family members to join in, and how to interpret the results. Since DNA testing is not inexpensive, you are given a series of funding ideas to help your project succeed. An appendix lists a dozen companies that offer a variety of DNA tests, plus a list of Internet sites that will provide even more information.

The final section poses the question “What’s Next.” Essentially, they conclude that more markers and a better understanding of mutation rates will be the most likely advances in genetealogy. Meg and Ann point out that this is “territory that we could have only dreamt of even several months ago,” and whatever the future brings will advance our genealogy research beyond all expectations. Although the final paragraph in the book states that “no one gets DNA tested for the sake of getting tested,” it seems to me that DNA testing should be a standard process precisely for the sake of being tested. Having your DNA tested is analogous to writing your personal journal. Everyone has DNA markers, just as everyone has a life story. But unless it is written down and shared, this genealogically rich information will be inaccessible to generations to come.

Trace Your Roots with DNA Using Genetic Tests to Explore Your Family Tree is a 272-page paperback book which has a list price of \$14.95. Amazon.com is discounting the price on the Internet.

User Group Stalwart Leaves a Lasting Legacy



Alice Niven Malquist has been part of the users group leadership from the very beginning. She died of cancer at her home in Menlo Park, CA, on June 11, 2005, at age 73. Her service to the Silicon Valley group will be sorely missed, as we have grown to depend on her quiet devotion to the group, her unswerving dedication to genealogy, and her fascinating stories from her own family history. A memorial service was held in her honor on June 30, 2005, at the Menlo Park chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS). Alice's family and friends recounted stories of Alice's humor, sensibility, and straightforward faith.

Alice was born in Mexico, where she and her siblings were raised in Mexico City but spent much of their family vacations and holidays on the family cattle ranch at Micos, near Tampico, on the Eastern coast of Mexico. Her exposure to the diversity of culture and the outdoors spawned a love for learning that led to her attend Stanford University, with plans to follow a pre-med course of study. During her first year at Stanford, a family friend introduced her to a young insurance salesman, Grant Malquist, and they were married about a year later.

Alice soon joined the LDS Church, which for her began a long career of teaching youth in the church. Her fluent Spanish and intriguing life in Mexico made her a huge hit among her students. When the LDS Church instituted local Family History Centers, Alice was asked to help implement the operation at the Menlo Park church, beginning a new phase in her life that she took on with

gusto. Alice was assigned to be the first director of the Menlo Park Stake Family History Center. Her contributions to the center continued to the end of her life. It is widely recognized that Alice's leadership set the pattern that has led to the impressive reputation of the Menlo Park center.

Her enthusiasm for genealogy and her organizational skills made her an asset in the startup of the Silicon Valley PAF Users Group. She served on the executive board continuously as the group's historian, and as a research advisor from the group's inception. One of her more significant contributions was to serve on the committees that wrote and published the widely used *Family History Documentation Guidelines*. Her quiet resolve added a significant measure of user friendliness to an otherwise technical reference manual.

Those who have served with Alice over the years will always remember her delightful family stories that brightened our meetings. At the memorial service for Alice, a nephew recalled that the family always thought of Alice as "Aunt Alice," and looked forward to hearing her many stories. To memorialize this aspect of Alice's contribution, the users group will establish a website called Aunt Alice's Story Circle, www.auntalice.net, where contributors can post brief stories from their family history. We hope this will become a favorite place to read stories that will inspire everyone to pass along their family history in much the same way Alice did. We anticipate that the site will be functional by August.

Quotable Quote

Blessed are they who have nothing to say, and who cannot be persuaded to say it.

James Russell Lowell

1819-1891

American Poet

Chinese Genealogies at Shanghai, China Library

Shanghai Library began collecting and preserving family history books in the early 1930s. Before the Communist Government began rule in 1949, 400 family genealogy books were in the library collection. During the 1950s, there was social pressure to abandon all the heritage of China from before 1949 and the books were considered worthless. The documents and archives were sent to paper mills and to be turned into paper pulp.

Gu Tinglong recently received a grant from the government to salvage these books. He visited almost every paper mill in China and bought many genealogies for the Shanghai Library. More than 5,800 family tree books were saved. The Shanghai Library is the first library to set up a genealogy room for the public in China. Shanghai Library is now a center for collecting Chinese genealogies and for related studies. The Shanghai Library now has more than 15,000 original family tree books. Including the digital and microfilmed archives, the entire collection contains genealogies of 283 family names. Some sources claim that the collection is the largest collection of Chinese genealogies in the world.

The Chinese family tree books are unique compared to family genealogy books in other countries. They are priceless as studies of Chinese history and folklore because they have abundant information about the family members. They tell about the economic activities, educational traditions, places of residence and accomplishments of family members who lived long ago.

The official Chinese history tells only of events in the lives of the emperors and other high-ranking officials and gives little information about what was happening in the country. There is a wealth of important historical information in these family tree books and the books are drawing much interest from Chinese scholars.

Since the genealogy room was opened in 1996, there have been many visitors, both from China and abroad. The staff has tried to be helpful and answer questions and provide suggestions for further research. There is no charge to use the genealogy room.

Stranger Than Fiction: Great-Grandmother Begets Twins, Taxes to Fund a Genealogy Center?

Great-Grandmother Begets Twins

Most genealogy programs would find a potential error if you list twins born to a 57-year-old great-grandmother. Christian Kaczur Hart and Diana Rose Angelina actually became the parents of the twins on April 20 at UAB Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama. The twins, who were four weeks premature, were conceived through in vitro fertilization. They did not want their youngest child, Jimmy, age 6, to grow up as an only child. The couple has two other children, who are grown up and married, plus six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. They have decided not to have more children after the twins.

Taxes to Fund a Genealogy Center?

Nevada has a problem that no other state has. This year there is a large budget surplus and the lobbyists are working overtime to suggest ways to spend the money. One proposal before the legislature is a \$250,000 grant to create a Basque Genealogy Center at University of Nevada, Reno. A Basque Studies Library already exists at the University, but it does not have a large collection of genealogy material to help the Basque inhabitants of Nevada to trace their families.

The Basques come from the northern section of Spain including the Pyrenees

Mountains which separate Spain and France. Many of them have scattered around the world and a large number live in Nevada where their ancestors came to raise sheep. Other Basque communities in Idaho and the central valley of California could benefit from the library.

There are many opponents of the library proposal. If it is approved, they feel that other ethnic groups from Albanians to Zulus would expect to have their own genealogy libraries funded by taxpayer dollars. However, it seems a matter of principle among politicians that the money must be spent while it is available.

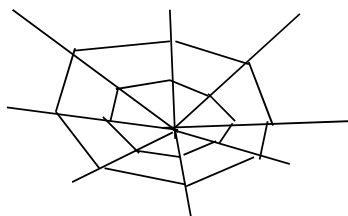
Spider Webs: One-Step Search Portal, 1861 UK Census

One-Step Search Portal

Stephen Morse offers a way to search online databases with search features much better than used by major Web sites like Ancestry.com, RootsWeb, and Ellis Island. Instead of using the Soundex code which was invented long before computers, the search looks for names that sound like the name that you enter. Soundex searched return a huge amount of false hits. Many names from Continental Europe had to be changed because the English alphabet is different than the one used for the native language. When diacritical marks were dropped, vowels and sometimes consonants had to be changed to make the name sound the same in English.

One-Step Search Portal has no databases to search. The site has search engines to search other databases and provide a much better search than is available on these sites. A few of the sites that can be searched include:

- Baltimore immigrations
- Boston immigrations
- Brooklyn, NY 1925 Census
- Castle Garden and earlier ship arrivals
- Ellis Island



- Find almost anyone's birthday
- Galveston immigrations
- Illinois Death Records (pre-1916)
- New York City Birth, Marriage and Death records
- New York Incarceration records
- New York Naturalization Records
- Philadelphia immigrations
- San Francisco immigrations
- Social Security Death Records
- U.S. Census searches by name
- U.S. Telephone Book Listings

For a few of the sites, you must be a paid subscriber, but most of the sites that can be searched are free. You must supply your user name and password.

Improved search capability goes well

beyond finding names with a similar sound. For example, on One-Step Portal you can search the Social Security Death Index using a range of years, age, or a foreign last residence. These features are not available on RootsWeb and other online sources of the Social Security Death Index. The search engine can also handle partial names. To try Stephen Morse's One-Step Search Portal, go to:

www.stevemorse.org

1861 UK Census

1837online.com is making the entire 1861 census for England and Wales available online. The 1861 census contains information about all the people occupying each English and Welsh household, vessels and institutions as of 7 April 1861. The data is fully searchable and includes information about occupation and disability. The first data available on the site included London, Middlesex, Kent and Surrey. In a few months, the entire census is expected to be online with more than twenty million records. Visitors can view the original 1861 census documents as originally written, and they can also look at the transcribed data which is much easier to decipher and search. In addition to the census records, 1837online also has births, marriages and deaths in England & Wales from 1837 to date; WW1, WW2 and overseas birth, marriage and death indexes for a fee. Go to: www.1837online.com

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

By Dr. Cornelius D. PAF

Which Individuals Use a Source?

QHow can I find out which individuals use a specific source? I want to add some information to the notes of each record.

AIf you wanted to add something to the source it would be easy. When you change the Source citation, it automatically is changed for all records that are using it.

Finding the records linked to a Source citation can be done in either of two methods:

First Method:

- Click on the Printer icon or press Ctrl-P, click on “Lists,” then on “Citations” referencing a source. Click on “Preview.”
- Highlight the source in the list, and click on “Select.”
- Then you can click on Print for a printed list, or print to a file.

Second Method:

- You can use Advanced Focus/Filter.
- Click on “Advanced Focus/Filter” in the “Search” menu.
- In the “Field Filter” box, click on “Define.”
- From Possible Fields, highlight “Sources” and click on “>” in the middle bar.
- In the “Select Source” field, highlight the Source Title, click on “OK.”
- Click on “OK” at bottom of pane.
- You now have your list that you can use in “Custom Print.”

See the next question about creating a Custom Print.

The first method is obviously the quickest, but the second might help you if you are not sure of the source title. You have several options for finding the source in the “Possible Fields” list.

Creating a Custom Report

QI frequently want a template for printing a list with name, birth or christening data, marriage data, and death data. Printing the alphabetic list doesn’t have all that I want. How can I create a template with these columns that I can use again with different data.

ACreate a custom report which you can name, store, and re-use. The report and the data in the report are stored sepa-



ately so that once a custom list is created it can be used with any file created from Advanced Focus/Filter. The process is similar to the one used to define your field filter in Advanced Focus/Filter.

From the “Reports and Charts” screen, click on “Custom.”

Enter a title for your template. Use no more than 22 characters.

Click on “Fields” Click on each field you want and click on “>” in the middle bar

Click on “Sort Order” to determine how you want the data to be sorted..

(Click on the little question mark in the upper right corner of the “Sort Order” dialog box and drag it to the “Sort List” title. Click again and you will be in the “Help” text for “Sort Order.”)

Click on “Save.” If you have selected some records, you can click on “Preview” to see what you have.

Using the Married Name Field

QI have many women without maiden names. I would like to show their husband’s name in the “Individual View” screen so I can more easily pick the “Mary” that I want. How can I do that?

AYou can add columns to the “Individual View” screen but none of the available titles for the columns include the name of a spouse or information about the marriage date and place. You must pick from the available titles, so you cannot add a column for the name of a spouse, You can add a “Married Name” column. You can enter the married name in the “Other” section of the “Edit Individual” screen. Although this was probably created to be just the surname, you can enter the whole name of the spouse. The name can be entered as “surname, given names.” This would be the same sequence of names as in the “Individual” view.

If there is more than one spouse, you can enter all the names separated by a semicolon. PAF will send a message that punctuation marks not are usually used in a name. You can ignore the message.

It can be helpful to enter a “Married Name” for the husband. Since given names are sometimes repeated regularly in a family, listing the name of the spouse may help you distinguish quickly between your grandfather and an uncle in the “Individual View” screen.

Another reason for having the married name of a woman in an easy-to-find field is that death certificates are issued using the married name of the woman. When searching the Social Security Death Index and looking for obituaries you need to know the married name of a woman.

News For Genealogists: **Family History Archive, Thief Sentenced for National Archives Thefts, 73 Percent of Americans Interested in Family History**

Family History Archive

Brigham Young University's Harold B. Lee Library and other organizations are creating Family History Archive. It is a repository for family histories. They have collected more than 100,000 family histories which are being digitized. They will then be available online at no charge. For more information, go to: www.familyhistoryarchive.byu.edu

Thief Sentenced for National Archives Thefts

Howard Harner regularly joined genealogists, historians and others at the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C. He spent hundreds of hours there beginning in 1996 until he was arrested in 2002. Mr. Harner was stealing letters from military officers and government officials dealing with the Civil War and the westward expansion of the United States. Among the documents stolen by Harner were letters from Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee and Generals Lewis Armistead and George Pickett. He would conceal the documents inside his clothing when heads were turned. National Archives officials believe that more than 100 historic papers were stolen.

Harner offered the documents for sale on eBay. A Civil War researcher from Pennsylvania noticed a document advertised that he had viewed at the National Archives. He notified government officials and eBay soon dropped the document from its site. The FBI was able to link Harner to the eBay auction of the document and later he was linked to the theft of many other documents. Harner, a 68-year-old from Staunton, Virginia, entered a guilty plea at the U.S. District Court in Washington. He is believed to have received more than \$47,000 from the sale of the stolen documents.

On March 7, 2005, Howard Harner was sentenced to two years in prison, two years probation, and a \$10,000 fine. So far, 42 of the documents stolen by Mr. Harner were recovered. The National Archives Inspector General and General Counsel will continue their search for the remaining 61 missing documents. Considering the value of the documents and expenses of the government in developing and prosecuting their case against Mr. Harner, some feel that the sentence was very lenient. A \$10,000 fine does not come close to the value of the documents that are still missing.

73 Percent of Americans Interested in Family History

MyFamily.com commissioned a recent study by Market Strategies, Inc. (MSI). The results, released by MyFamily.com, show that 73 percent of Americans are interested in discovering their family history. This is a 13 percent increase from a similar Maritz poll taken in 2000 when 60 percent of Americans wanted to discover their family history. The study also found that 65 percent said their interest resulted from hearing stories from relatives. Thirty-five percent had their interest piqued by attending a family reunion or family get-together. Twenty-nine percent became interested when talking to a friend, colleague or family member doing family history research. And 25 percent of respondents became interested in family history after searching for their surname on the Internet.

Of the 73 percent interested in discovering their family roots, 66 percent said they've discussed their family history with other family members. More than 35 percent have used the Internet to learn about their family history and 29 percent have created a family tree for themselves. Fifteen percent of respondents have traveled to an ancestral hometown or country and 11 percent have written a personal or family history.

Hardware of Interest: DocuPen

DocuPen is a document scanner that easily fits in a pocket or a purse. It is small enough that almost all libraries and archives will allow it to be taken into the library. Not all libraries or archives will allow a patron to bring a laptop computer, and fewer yet will allow a patron to bring a scanner. With Docupen, you can scan pages up to 8.5 by 11 with either text or pictures.

The DocuPen is 8 inches long by a half an inch wide, and weighs two ounces. To use it, you hold the page so that it is flat, place the Docupen across the top of the page, and move it down the page at a steady rate. It takes 4 seconds to scan an 8.5 by 11 inch page at 100 dpi and 8 seconds at 200 dpi resolution. There is some distortion if the DocuPen is not held parallel to the edge of the picture as it scans. The two megabyte flash memory holds about one hundred pages at the lowest resolution (100 dpi) and fewer at high resolution (200 dpi). The stored scans can later be loaded into a hard disk in a Windows computer and can then be processed like any other scanned image. The images are black and white (no color available). The device connects to a USB port. ScanSoft PaperPort for Windows software is included with the DocuPen portable

scanner package. A Mac interface is in development and will be available soon.

Alan Mann Seminar

Our September 10th meeting will be a seminar by Alan Mann, a popular speaker from the Salt Lake Family History Library. He is an accredited genealogist specializing in research in England, the Channel Islands and Australia. He was treasurer of the International Society of British Genealogy and Family History. He is also good with computers and was supervisor of the Automated Resource Center at the Family History Library for five years. He gave a seminar here about 5 years ago, and which was well received. On September 10th, he will present topics different from his previous seminar.



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

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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