

Timelines for Your Family History

By Allin Kingsbury

A timeline is like a ruler to measure chronology. It can be made to scale to show the amount of time that separates events or the events can be merely listed in sequence to show the order of occurrence of events. The family historian will find the timeline to be a useful tool which will simplify, clarify and help solve research problems; order events so they can be presented in a narrative when writing a family history or a biography of an ancestor, or it can be an exhibit in a family history to show the chronology of events which influenced the life of an ancestor.

Creating a Timeline

Timelines are interesting and provide perspective when looking at the events of history. To be useful in a family history, the timeline must relate to an individual or family. To document the relationship to an individual, one should start with the events related to the individual or family. The events would include the genealogy events such as a birth marriage and death, but should also include dates of moves, employment, education, offices held in organizations, travels, and dates for any other significant events in which family members participated.

Analyzing the Events

A timeline can help make sense of research data. Some records

The family historian will find the timeline to be a useful tool which will simplify, clarify and help solve research problems . . .

pinpoint where an ancestor lived at a specific time. These include census records, tax records, court records, local newspaper accounts, and vital records that list the place of residence. Land records can also be useful for getting the dates for when a residence was bought and sold. These dates will tell where the ancestor lived and when he or she moved to a new location. If there are times when the ancestor left no record, this may indicate that the ancestor was living in another place and a portion of the ancestor's life history is missing. My grandfather went to work on the Panama Canal. If this were not so well known among our family, we could have missed the birth of my aunt which occurred in the Canal Zone. The stay in Panama was long enough that my grandfather's brothers who also went to Panama to work on the canal did not return to their former residences. The changes caused by the years in Panama led to some of the family relocating to Texas where they had never lived before and others returning to be near family in Connecticut rather than to Iowa where they had lived before going to Panama.

In modern times, the railroad and automobile have made it

easy to relocate when circumstances changed. The dust bowl, the great depression, and opportunity of employment in new industries often pushed families to move great distances to start a new life. A timeline can help a researcher to see blank periods in the lives of family members that need to be explained to have a complete history of their lives. During these periods, records that indicate that an individual was not living where he or she would be expected to be found are important. For example, an adult son that does not appear with his family in a census, may indicate that he had gone to the city to find work or that he was in college somewhere or that he was serving in the military. Until additional research uncovers the facts, you may be missing some important details about the life of the individual.

Relating Historical Events

Some family events are influenced by historical events. A local disaster may cause a family to sell out and move to a new location. The American Civil War affected almost every family in the United States. Most of the young men were eager to enlist as the Civil War began. The seeming disappearance of a son may be because he was killed in the war. For others,

there may be service records, pension files and other records which provide many details about the individual.

By adding the dates of important national and local historical events to the timeline, their relationship to an ancestor can often be found. The opening of a railroad or other important migration route like the Erie Canal can help explain the Westward migration of a family. Local disasters such as a bank failure, tornado or flood may have had direct impact on an ancestor.

Finding Important Historical Events

Historical events for your time line can be found in county and town history books that cover the area and time period of your ancestor's life. If old local newspapers are available, they provide an excellent source of local events, social gatherings and activities, and attitudes of the local citizens. National events were often important locally, especially wars, epidemics, financial crashes, changes in the law, and natural disasters.

Consider Social History

The introduction of radio, television, the automobile, the telephone, electricity and all of the other technology that we take for granted did have a significant impact on people at the time they were introduced. Social changes may not produce docu-

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Timelines

(Continued from page 57) are subdivided in many subtopics. For example, the chapter on technology includes chronologies for photography, electricity, railroads, printing, development of ships, and more. Many of these technological innovations changed the life style of our ancestors and defined much of the social history during the age of invention as it unfolded during the nineteenth century.

mented events when you write family history, but they are part of the setting. My mother told of the story of the first airplane that she saw when she was a young girl. The local paper reported that the Postal Service would begin transporting the mail by air once a week and the plane carrying the mail would fly directly over the farm where she lived. She had never seen an airplane at the time. She and her brothers waited all day to see their first airplane, but the flight never appeared. It was the following week when the first mail flight occurred and the children saw their first airplane in the sky. My mother was fascinated by airplanes, and at about age twenty, she went to the fair where a barnstorming pilot was offering airplane rides to anyone who had the money and courage to ride in the rickety plane. My mother found enough money in her purse and got in the plane and viewed the Iowa countryside from the air for the first time.

Social history is very useful when writing family history. In addition to technology innovation, social history can include political changes, organized movements for labor, abolition of slavery, temperance, women's rights, and civil rights. These movements were important topics of conversation at the time. There were few who did not have an opinion on these matters and did not take one side or the other.

Our social history also included the songs people sang, the books they read, the clothing fashions they wore, and the social events that they attended. American culture included quilting bees, barn dances, church suppers, camp meetings, vaudeville theatres, the traveling circus, county and state fairs. Describing these events in a family history may not be telling about your ancestors, but they are part of the setting of nineteenth century America. Describing them as a setting for the lives of your ancestors will bring the reader back in time and help them to feel what life was like at that time.

Finding Social History Events

Social history is a popular topic among historians and many books are being written. Typically they will focus on an area and a time period. A search of the larger libraries may turn up material that will be helpful for your timeline

One book that I have found fascinating as a source of social history is called, *Private Life in the Fifteenth Century*, by Roger Virgoe. It is based on letters written by members of the Paston family who lived from 1378 to 1504 in the county of Norfolk in England. The book begins with a timeline relating to the family and a calendar of religious feast days. The letters provide an intimate look at the values and attitudes of a family who had land and education at a time following the plague of black death which had significantly reduced the population of England a century earlier.

Another book that should be consulted for American social and political history is *The New Your Library Book of Chronologies* by Bruce Wetterau. The book has chronologies of events organized by almost every subject. The major chapters include Explorers and Exploration; Nations and Empires; Politics and Law; U.S. Business, Commerce and Economics; Basic Technology; Art; Religion, Philosophy and Education; Architecture and Engineering; Science; Necessities to Notoriety; War and Military History; Accidents and Disasters; Media and Entertainment; and Sports. In other words, the book itself is a 621 page timeline. The fourteen major chapters

Timeline Software

Several programs are available to create and format timelines. The best known timeline program is Genlines, a companion program for Family Tree Maker and PAF. Genlines also can create a timeline from a GEDCOM file. The timeline is created by combining events in the genealogy database and using events from historical timeline data. The program combines the events into a single timeline with a choice of several chart formats which can be printed or copied and pasted into a family history or other document.

More information about Genlines can be found at the Progeny Web site at: www.progenysoftware.com/genlines.html Other timeline software is also available. Chronos 2000: Windows in Time is a timeline database found at: <http://cascolytravel.com/history.asp>

Genealogy Timeline is a program for creating genealogy timelines and is found at: http://pwl.netcom.com/~genealogy/genealogy_timeline.htm

Timelines on the Internet

The Internet has many sites with timelines which may be useful for the family historian. Many of these sites contain general historical events while sites have timelines specific to a locality or to a subject. General historic timeline sites include:

- History of the World Timeline 1800-1999 (from the History Channel): www.historychannel.com/perl/world_timeline.pl?year=1800
- HyperHistory: www.hyperhistory.com/online_n2/History_n2/a.html
- Illinois Family History Research: Timeline for Genealogy (1492 to 2002): <http://hometown.aol.com/livingstoncounty/myhomepage/tv.html>
- Links in Time: <http://athensohio.net/reference/time/>
- OurTimeLines.com (genealogy timelines): www.ourtimelines.com/
- Time Line of History (from the Learning Center): <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~haas/learningcenter/timeline.html>
- Timelines of History: <http://timelines.ws/>

Timeline Portal

- Timelines – AlternaTime: <http://timelines.ws/>

Timelines for Specific Subjects and Times

- Huguenot & Protestant Reformed Chronology: www.pierrechastain.com/timeline.htm
- Oregon Trail Timeline: www.oregontrailcenter.org/t_ot_time.shtml
- Timeline of the Great Depression: www.huppi.com/kangaroo/Timeline.htm
- The History of Health (In Chronological Order): www.relife.com/history_1.html
- Holocaust Timeline: www.historyplace.com/worldwar2/holocaust/timeline.html
- Timeline of Photography: www.eastman.org/5_timeline/5_index.html
- Asian American History Timeline: www.cetel.org/timeline.html
- Some Notable Weather Events (United Kingdom): <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/booty.weather/climate/wxeven.ts.htm>
- Timelines (HM Customs & Excise in the United Kingdom): www.hmce.gov.uk/about/ourhistory/timelines.htm

Area Specific Timelines

- California History Online: www.californiahistory.net/
- Chicago Timeline: www.chipublib.org/004chicago/chihist.html
- Chronological Indexes (New Jersey): <http://oldmillhillsociety.org/research/chronoindex.htm>
- Historical Timeline for Scottish Genealogy: www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows/5209/timesct.htm
- Kansas Military Timeline: www.kshs.org/genealogists/military/timeline.htm

- Louisiana Timeline: <http://enlou.com/time/timelineindex.htm>
- Portland Timeline: www.ci.portland.or.us/auditor/history/index.html
- Records in the Netherlands: www.dutchgenealogy.com/docs/Flowchart_Dutchrecords.pdf
- San Diego History Timeline: www.sandiegohistory.org/timeline/timeline.htm
- Skye's Scottish History Timeline: <http://hometown.aol.com/skyelander/timeline.html>
- South African Orientated Time Line: <http://whitlock.castlewebs.net/whitend/tl.htm>
- TIMELINE (European timeline): <http://english-server.hss.cmu.edu/history/eurocentric-timeline.txt>
- Timeline of Missouri History: www.sos.state.mo.us/archives/history/timeline/timeline1.asp
- A Timeline of San Francisco History: <http://www.zpub.com/sf/history/sfh2.html>
- Useful Dates in British History: www.johnowensmith.co.uk/histdate/
- US State History Timelines: www.e-referencedesk.com/resources/state-history-timeline/
- Wisconsin Timeline ~ WIGenWeb: www.rootsweb.com/~wigenweb/timeline.html

Summary

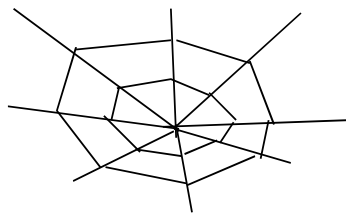
A timeline is only as good as the selection of events. If important events are not included, the reader will miss important changes during the lives of the ancestors. If one is to err, it is better to include a few irrelevant events than to omit some important ones. The more work that is invested in compiling a thorough list of events, the greater the success will come of the effort.

Spider Webs: United Kingdom Photos by RAF, Encyclopedia of Arkansas, WeRelate

United Kingdom Photos by RAF

The Royal Air Force created an extensive library of aerial photographs taken during the 1930s and early 1940s. The photographs taken near military installations were censored. However, the growing interest in local history and genealogy has led to the release of many of the photographs. If ancestors lived in a neighborhood destroyed by German bombing or victim of the bulldozer for real estate development, these photos may give a clear picture what it was like where and when these people lived. Often the changes to a neighborhood during and after the war are quite dramatic.

The photos may be searched by town, village, postcode or map grid coordinates.



Users can view the images free and they can purchase more detailed photos. A detailed map of the area is helpful while viewing the images to see the area covered in the photo. To visit the site, go to: www.ukaerialphotos.com

Encyclopedia of Arkansas

The *Encyclopedia of Arkansas* is not an encyclopedia of genealogy, but it has a

wealth of information about localities, local history, prominent individuals, events, legends, and folk lore. New entries, photographs, maps, videos, and audio files, are being added as they become available. There are many pictures and maps. The *Encyclopedia of Arkansas* is free and can be visited at: www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net

WeRelate

WeRelate is a free Web search engine for genealogy sponsored by the Foundation for On-Line Genealogy, Inc. The Foundation for On-Line Genealogy, Inc., is a 501c3 non-profit Utah corporation, completely independent from any commercial, genealogy or religious organization. The site has indexed 58,000 Web

sites with 1,300,000 genealogy sources, 430,000 place names with descriptions, 115,000 names of ancestors, the entire Family History Library catalog, and more. Thousands of new entries are added each week. The search engine is superior to general purpose search engines like Google. It has the knowledge of the hierarchy of city, county, and state built into search process and relates all of this information during the search. It also performs well in separating places, names and key words from each other when finding a match.

Another feature of the site is an encyclopedia of ancestors. Users can contribute a biographical sketch of each ancestor, and others can add to the information. Scanned images of documents related to the ancestor can be added. Source citations can also be added to substantiate the information supplied.

Another nice feature is the e-mail notification. You can be no-

tified if there are any changes made to pages that you are monitoring.

WeRelate is free of charge. The non-profit corporate backers depend on private donations to finance the site. The site is online but is in a beta site status. There may be changes and bugs. To visit the site, go to: www.VeRelate.org

Genealogy Quote

Don't take up a man's time talking about the smartness of your children; he wants to tell you about the smartness of his children.

Edgar Watson Howe
1853-1933
English Novelist

Software of Interest: MacFamilyTree, Opera Mini 2.0

MacFamilyTree

MacFamilyTree Version 4 is a general purpose genealogy program for OS X and has the features available on the better Windows genealogy programs. Macintosh owners have a limited number of choices for genealogy programs that run on the Macintosh computer. The program includes graphics, printing, and publishing on CD-ROM or on the Internet. GEDCOM files can be exported or Imported from other programs. Simultaneous editing of several trees can be done as well as merging multiple family tree files. Pictures from iPhoto can be imported, using the drag-and-drop feature.

MacFamilyTree has three major parts: Editing, Browsing and Publishing.

Editing is used to add new individuals and families, add children to a family, and define the relationship of the parents. The Drawer, containing the list of all persons in the current tree, can be used to add or remove persons. By opening the Information window, the user can edit the general information about events and photos for the selected person.

At the bottom of the Drawer, the usual Mac OS X search field can be used to find the person to work on. Here, the user can place persons in the Family card using Drag-and-Drop, such as husband, wife, or child. Creating a family with people of the same sex is also possible.

With MacFamilyTree, it is easy to add photos, videos, and sound recordings to the data. The program is compatible with any

QuickTime Webcam and DV-camera, such as iSight or Fire-i. You can also attach photos to an individual or an event from iPhoto or from the hard disk. Video and audio files can be integrated from existing recordings or from any connected or internal microphones.

The Browse Mode supports several charts for viewing the data: the Family Chart, the Heritage Chart, the Descendant Chart, and the Genogram. Each view is configurable. The user can choose to display the data with or without photos. The scale of the view can be controlled so the user can zoom in on a part of the chart to see the details. The user can also display a timeline, age statistics of individuals or sorted lists of all individuals in the database.

The Publishing section of the program may be the best part of the program. The user can write a CD with the complete tree including photos to send to others in the family. The tree can be exported as an HTML file for a Web site. The user can configure the display format and select photos to be posted on the Internet. MacFamilyTree creates small thumbnails of the photos which can be used to browse pictures posted on the Internet. With a .mac account, the tree can be uploaded automatically from MacFamilyTree 4 to the Internet hard disk. No special Web site skills are needed to maintain the Web site.

MacFamilyTree requires OS X version 10.3.9 or later. It is available in English, German, Norwegian, Italian, and other languages. A fully functional demo version can be downloaded from the Internet. The

catch is that it will not save data.

MacFamilyTree is only available as a download (10 megabytes). The cost is \$49.00 (\$20.00 for an upgrade from a previous version). For more information or to download the program, go to: www.OnlyMac.de/html/stammbaum4en.html

Opera Mini 2.0

Opera Mini 2.0 is a Java-based mobile Web browser. It is a free program that can be used with cell phones and handheld PDAs (personal digital assistants) that have the capability to surf the Web. Most Web browsers for these devices are agonizingly slow and display the Web site much differently than would be seen on desktop computer.

The Opera Web browser is much faster and will display the Web site as it appears on a desktop. Opera claims their browser will work on almost any cell phone made during the past five years. The user must have Internet access. The program will operate on Palm, Windows Mobile, and Portable PC handheld PDAs.

Display on the small screen of the handheld devices will present problems with some Web sites because there is not enough room on the screen. However, Opera Mini 2.0 is much better than Pocket Internet Explorer, both in speed and display.

To download the free browser, go to: <http://mini.opera.com>

People Who Make a Difference: Brewster Kahle's Mission

Brewster Kahle is a modest man, but he has a self-appointed mission in life. He wants the whole planet to have access to all human knowledge. Brewster Kahle is fighting to make that happen, one byte at a time.

Ten years ago, Brewster Kahle founded Internet Archive, a nonprofit corporation located in the San Francisco Presidio with the goal of preserving the information of the Internet for posterity. Brewster Kahle was not satisfied with that goal. He decided to preserve existing collections of books, television programs, movies and music in the archive's massive digital repository. He compares his plan to the legendary lost library of the ancient world, the "Library of Alexandria, v.2." Kahle says, "If we are able to build that library again with the vision of the Greeks but the technology of the modern era, that's something to be proud of."

The 45-year-old Kahle, is extremely articulate yet humble. His graying, curly hair; his bushy eyebrows, and his spectacles sometimes give him the look of a quizzical owl. His friends describe him as a geek, but he is no ordinary geek. His hobbies include sailing with his wife and two young sons to spending time at a theater camp in Vermont. His favorite book is "The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin," and recently he started listening to a musical group called The Ditty Bops, described as something between The Andrews Sisters and The Roches.

Brewster Kahle loves his role as Internet archivist. The staggering volume of material to digitize, including centuries of historic media, along the huge volume of new material appearing by the minute does not discourage him. Commercial interests, with their desire for profits, threaten free universal access do get Mr. Kahle up on his soap box. He repeatedly takes up the cause to fight for freely accessible information.

This has led to the Open Content Alliance, a joint effort by the Internet Archive, Yahoo and Microsoft to digitize library collections such as those of the University of California system and The University of Toronto. Unlike a similar project from Google, which allows users to read the digitized content only through Google's Web site, the OCA material can be searched through any service and everyone will be encouraged to download books. The OCA is digitizing only books in the public domain, whereas Google is digitizing copyright-protected titles, but will offer only small snippets of such texts to those searching its database. Google's approach has riled many authors and publishers, and groups representing them have sued Google.

"I'm not against people making money. In fact, it's absolutely

essential," says Kahle. He is certain that there's plenty of money to be made from services related to the distribution of free information. Kahle is not opposed to corporate profit. In 1995, he made millions when AOL bought his first company, WAIS, one of the first Internet search systems. Much of his windfall went to fund the Internet Archive, which now has an annual budget of about \$5 million.

"If we lose (the library of human knowledge) to a corporate interest, I would have screwed up. Having it go to corporate hands is my worst nightmare," says Brewster Kahle. He will continue the fight as long as he is alive.

In addition to Kahle's role as librarian and archivist at the Internet Archive, Kahle serves on the board of the Electronic Frontier Foundation and on the national digital strategy advisory board at The Library of Congress. He's also a plaintiff in *Kahle v. Gonzales* (formerly *Kahle v. Ashcroft*), a federal lawsuit challenging recent copyright term extensions. Kahle lost in the lower court and has appealed.

Rick Prelinger, a writer and filmmaker donated a collection of historical films to the Internet Archive. He remembers how easily Kahle recruited him to the cause when they first talked by phone in 1999. Kahle said he had just been thinking that he wanted films for the Internet Archive. He asked Prelinger if he would like to put his films online and make them free to watch. They had only known each other for 5 seconds. "To meet Brewster and work with him was a life changing experience," says Prelinger.

Despite the obstacles, Kahle is an optimistic man. The technology and momentum are there to accomplish his dream: Internet technology to digitize and distribute content; ideals of universal education; and political will. "With those, I believe we can build a great library of humankind's thoughts and dreams," says Brewster Kahle.

Quoteable Quote

So far as is known, no widow ever eloped.

Edgar Watson Howe

1853-1933

English Novelist

Recently Published: Los Angeles County Naturalization Index

The Southern California Genealogical Society has published a three-volume series: *The Naturalization Index of the Superior Court for Los Angeles County, California 1852-1915*. This index includes every naturalization transaction (Declaration of Intent, Final Papers, denials, etc.) that occurred in Los Angeles County Superior court. It has more than 40,000 entries, about 27,000 unique names and more than 350 countries or combinations of

countries or origin.

The Naturalization Index of the Superior Court for Los Angeles County, California 1852-1915 can be ordered on the SCGS Web site at a cost of \$75 for the three volume set, or \$30 for a single volume. To order, go to the shopping cart at: www.scgsgenealogy.com/catalog

Look-up Volunteers on the Internet

By Lesly Klippel

Genealogists are generally kind, courteous and generous (like Boy Scouts) and usually willing and often eager to share their findings with interested relatives. Evidence of this attitude is found by the multitude of data uploaded to sites like Ancestry World Tree and FamilySearch. Researchers are also generous in looking up data for other researchers and through e-mail and the look-up volunteer networks on the Internet, their services are readily available and a boon to researchers who do not have access to the sources they need.

I have had wonderful success in using look-up volunteers and greatly appreciate their help and generosity in sharing information. I have acquired marriage information that was not available to me in any other way. Other times, their services have saved me the cost of ordering a film from the Family History Library.

www.RAOGK.org

Random Acts of Genealogy Kindness is the largest network of look-up volunteers. Be sure to click on the Frequently Asked Questions on your first visit to the site. It explains the rules and possible costs such as reimbursements for postage, film, copies and other incidentals. Also, due to the high cost of gasoline, volunteers are now allowed to charge \$.50 per mile as travel expense. These volunteers will actually go to repositories that contain the needed records such as historical societies and court houses and do the research for you. As with any look-up volunteer service, it is important to be specific in your request and not ask for too much on each request. The rules plainly explain how to get the most benefit from this useful service.

www.usgenweb.com

On this site, you can choose a county that you are interested in for research. On many of these county sites, there is a look-up volunteer link on which to click. The list of volunteers will usually give the name of the particular record he or she will search and an e-mail address. Often the volunteer does not even live in the particular county, but has data in their possession that they will search for you.

A typical list of resources might include county histories, birth, marriage and death records, records from funeral homes and lodges, high school year books and city or county directories.

Again, a name and e-mail address will be provided and I have always had quick and positive responses to my requests on these county web sites.

Historical and Genealogical Societies

The USGenWeb county site will usually give the name and address of the local historical or genealogical society. Often there is a telephone number included and sometimes even an e-mail address. Contact the society with your specific request and often, a volunteer will look up the information and answer you by e-mail. I know several people who have received a lot of free information from these wonderful societies. A donation to a particularly helpful society will go a long way in getting more help in the future and will help to support these struggling organizations.

Ethnic Societies

The name and address of ethnic societies can often be obtained from The Genealogist's Book of Addresses, the county web sites at USGenWeb.com, using Google to search the Internet or by contacting the historical society in the area. Using Google to search for Mennonite Society Canada brought up the web site of the Mennonite Historical Society of Canada which has parish registers and other vital information that their volunteers are willing to share free of charge by e-mail.

When using a volunteer look-up service, please observe the following "rules for success."

- Give enough information for the volunteer to understand what you are looking for.
- Ask for specific information depending on what sources the volunteer has access to.
- If more than one volunteer lists the source you want, only ask one of them to help so they don't run into each other looking for the same information for the same person.
- Thank the volunteer for their services.

Finally, if you have access to genealogical information in the way of a book, electronic database or other type of data that you are willing to share, sign up as a volunteer on one of the above web sites. It's easy, fun and gives a wonderful service to the genealogical community.

Of Interest to Genealogists: Ancestry.com Finishes U.S. Census Indexes, How Much Do Genealogists Spend?, DNA Proves Connection to Marie Antoinette

Ancestry.com Finishes U.S. Census Indexes

Ancestry.com announced the completion of their project to scan and index all the public U.S. Census records and make them available on their Web site. They have now indexed the complete U.S. Census records from 1790 to 1930 and have both the indexes and images of the original records available online. The index includes every name listed in the census, which for census returns from 1850 through 1930 included ever family member and every individual living with the family such as boarders, hired hands, and live-in servants. Counting the hours from all working on the project, the effort required 6.6 million hours of work to finish.

The project added 540 million names and 600 terabytes (six hundred thousand billion bytes) of data to the company's genealogical database. The 13 million original census images were scanned and transcribed from 15,000 rolls of microfilm.

The data in the huge Ancestry.com genealogy database resides on 3,000 computer servers at the data center. Most of our readers can go to a nearby family history center or public library and type in a name and have the results of a census search in a few seconds. It was not very long ago that you had to sit at a microfilm reader and search the census line by line until the person was found. It is an amazing accomplishment.

Ancestry.com is part of a network of Web sites owned by MyFamily.com Inc. It charges annual fees of \$155.40 for U.S. records and \$347.40 for world records. Monthly fees start at \$29.95.

For more information, go to: www.ancestry.com

How Much Do Genealogists Spend?

Most genealogists are older individuals, often retired, and a bit behind the times with the latest technology toys. That is how some people see it. However, each year, millions of dollars are spent to visit the ancestral homeland by families who have learned about their ancestors and want to see where they came from.

VisitScotland found that international visitors tracing their Scottish roots make 250,000 trips per year, and this is now adding £153 million to the Scottish economy. A Recent study in Scotland found the ancestral tourists are expected to increase their spending to £300 million (\$565 million U.S.) per year sometime in the next five years. The biggest plus point of ancestral tourism is that it

takes overseas tourists to virtually every single part of Scotland. The parish clerks and officials at the archives and libraries are already seeing the business potential and have raised their rates for looking up data.

DNA Proves Connection to Marie Antoinette

Marie Antoinette, the French queen who died beheaded by the guillotine, left a lock of her hair that had been clipped when she was a child. The mitochondrial DNA, which is only passed from mother to child, was extracted from the hair and the analysis was published in a genetics journal. A genealogist in Hawaii later discovered a genetic match when he entered the string of numbers of his own genetic code into a search engine.

Tom Bopp discovered that his DNA matches that of Marie Antoinette. The common ancestor is unknown as of now. However, by following his maternal line back, he should come to a maternal ancestor of Marie Antoinette. The question is how far back he must go to find the connection.

Ask the Doc — “I Give No Answers Before Their Time!”

By Dr. Cornelius J. PAF

Second Family

Q I have recently run a Check/Repair report on my PAF 5.2 file containing 1533 individuals and it says I have 7 errors, even after repair. I have corrected the notes for the relevant individuals, but I continue to have the same errors. How do I find and correct the errors? Or do I need to? I have hunted through the PAF User's Guide and the online help and cannot find any relevant items.

- Here are samples of the sections of the Check/Repair report that identify errors:
 - Checking General Names: 1032 records. Bad name tree.
 - Checking Citations: 3668 records.
 - Citation 3167 comments 895 note previous pointer should be 0 but is 641.
 - Citation 3167 comments note pointer 895 pointing to wrong owner (243).
 - Citation 3167 comments note pointer 895 pointing to wrong owner type (73).
- Checking Individuals: 1533 records. Individual 503 Notes note pointer 614 pointing to wrong owner (504). Thank you for your assistance.

A The types of errors that appear in the error report are not able to be fixed by you. They are internal problems with the structure of the database. If you ran the Check/Repair program and it did not indicate that the errors were repaired, then the problems remain. It would have told you to restore from a good back up.

The fact that your "name tree" is broken is a serious prob-



lem. It appears to have a break at the 1032nd name and you say there are 1533 individuals in your file. If you do not have a good backup that passes the check/repair, the best chance you have to recover your file is to create a full GEDCOM and then reload it into a new empty database. If the GEDCOM routine can follow the internal structure well enough to extract all your data, then you will be able to recover it all. If however, your database is so badly corrupted, you may have to reenter some of the info by hand.

Do not reload the GEDCOM file into your existing database. Save it as a source for checking what your new database contains.

Followup: Just wanted to let you know that your advice last week was excellent about the errors reported on my file, especially the "bad tree" error. I exported and reimported a GEDCOM and *all* the errors were fixed!

Diacritic Marks

Q I received a GEDCOM file from a friend in Switzerland who helps me with my German family history research. When I load the GEDCOM file into my PAF database, all of the special characters, such as ä, ü, ö, á, etc., are lost. As an example, the word *Lützelflüh*, becomes *Ltzelflh*. How can I retrieve the lost characters?

A PAF is designed to accept two universal character sets that provide for the diacritic marks in many languages, including German. The GEDCOM file must have been created using one of the two established character sets, namely Unicode or UTF-8. The only way to retrieve the lost diacritic marks is to ask your friend in Switzerland to resend the GEDCOM file and specify one of the two character sets.

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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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