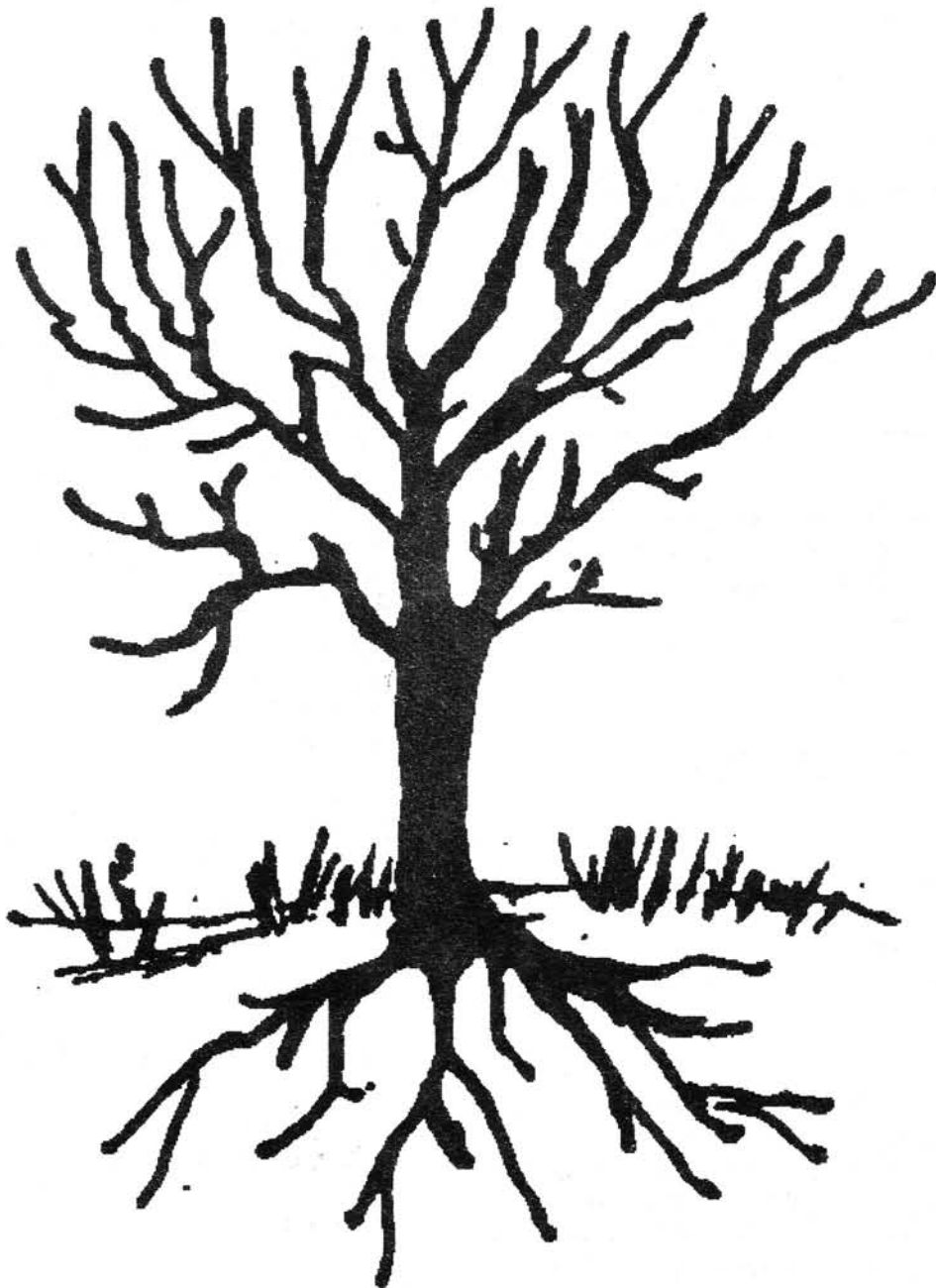

ROOTS AND BRANCHES

Volume 7, Issue 8

Winter, 2002

Quarterly Publication of the Roots & Branches Genealogical Society



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Carol Izzo, Newsletter Editor, appreciates any genealogy-related information for the Newsletter. The information can be provided to her by e-mail (jizzo@totcon.com), at meetings, or at the DeLand Library Genealogy Room with her name on it. Please put your name on the article so you get credit.

Meeting Schedules

The Roots and Branches Society meets at the DeLand Library at 6:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, September through June.

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REMINDER!

Do not forget to renew your annual memberships! Memberships run from January to December.

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DEMYSTIFYING THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Even if you aren't visiting the National Archives, but have found a copy of their microfilm collection at a local library or historical society, the experience can be terrifying.

These microfilmed rolls of archives contain census records, passenger lists, military records and much, much more. Finding information about your relatives, as you can imagine, is a tricky prospect since these archives contain millions upon millions of entries. In case you are wondering, you don't have to buy the rolls you can just view them during your visit!

What am I going to find in these records?

There is a lot of interesting information you can discover in these records. From the census records you can find out names, ages, and places of birth of each member of the family (wife, son, daughter) living in the household, as well as other individuals who may also have been living there but had a different surname.

You can also find out what year they immigrated to this country. If that happens to be between 1891 and 1957, you can then find out the name of the ship and from that ship's passenger list each passenger's name, age, sex, occupation, last permanent residence, and the name of the country in which each intended to reside.

So how do you get started?

First you will need to determine the soundex representation of your family surname, so that you can find the appropriate census roll from the soundex index. Soundex is a coded last name (surname) index based on the way a name sounds rather than the way it is spelled. Surnames that sound the same, but are spelled differently, like SMITH and SMYTH, have the same code and are filed together. The Soundex coding system was developed so that you can find a surname even though it may have been recorded under various spellings.

The Soundex Coding System

Every code consists of a letter and three numbers, such as S-650. The letter is always the first letter of the surname, whether it is a vowel or a consonant. Disregard the remaining vowels and W, Y, and H, and assign numbers to the next three consonants of the surname according to the Soundex coding guide found below. If there are not three consonants following the initial letter, use zeros to fill out the three-digit code. For example, Lee would be coded as L-000.

Letters and Coded Equivalents

1. b, p, f, v
2. c, s, k, g, j, q, x, z
3. d, t
4. l
5. m, n
6. r

(Demystifying the National Archives cont'd from page 1)

If the surname has a prefix, such as van, Von, De, Di, or Le, code it both with and without the prefix because it might be listed under either code. The surname vanDevanter, for example, could be V-531 or D-153. Mc and Mac are not considered prefixes.

A surname may have different letters that are side by side and have the same number on the Soundex coding guide; for example, PF in Pfister (1 is the number for both P and F); CKS in Jackson (2 is the number for C, K, and S). These letters should be treated as one letter. Thus in the name Pfister, F should be crossed out; in the name Jackson, K and S should be crossed out.

I've got my Soundex, now what?

Find the roll which contains your soundex code in it and start searching. Most of the time there will be more than one soundex code on a single roll, and quite often a single soundex code will span multiple rolls. The soundex code will appear on the left hand corner of each page. For example, if your family soundex is B-650, find the rolls that has soundex B632-B653, and you can just flip past B-632 to B-649. 14. B-632 Thomas E.-B-650 David 15. B-650 David-B-650 Wesley 16. B-650 Wesley-B-653 Rufus

Once you find the pages with the B-650 soundex, start looking for lines which have the first name of the head of household (most likely the male ancestor). If the head of household name is John, you would flip passed A-I and go right to the J first names. Once you locate your family member, you will see a set of numbers in the right hand corner of the page. VOL _____ ED _____ SHEET _____ LINE _____

Write down the ED (enumeration district), SHEET (page #) and LINE information. Now go to the census books located at the table. If you need Passaic Co. ED100, look to see which reel ED100 is on for Passaic Co.

When you get that reel, flip through it until you come to ED100 then start looking for the SHEET you wrote down. The 1910 census is slightly different as you will see three sets of numbers (e.g. 593 480 120) on the page. The ED is the middle set of numbers (i.e. 480) and you will have to look through the entire ED480 reel since it doesn't tell you the SHEET.

What about the Ship information?

The census data will tell you what year they arrived in this country. Go to the ship passenger arrival records for that year. It is alphabetically arranged, so find the soundex you were looking for again. 71 B-650 Mr.-B-650 Gladys E. 72 B-650 Gorden-B-650 Pierina 73 B-650 Pila-B-652 Cora Lee

If you already know the name of the ship, the year (or date) that they arrived, you can look through alphabetical indexes (by port of entry) of passenger manifests grouped by shipping line and arranged chronologically by date of arrival. 30 Italian; Prince Jan. 16, 1907 31 Italian; Prince May 8, 1907 32 Italian; Prince Aug. 2, 1907

Once you know the ship, ask for a blank NATF 81 form so you can request copies of the actual immigration papers completed when your relatives arrived at the port. That will tell you the specific city they came from, and possibly the names of their parents.

As for your Italian relatives... We have all have heard the unflattering nickname "WOP", at one time or another, but you probably never knew it simply stood for "WithOut Papers". So you might have problems locating their immigration information, because they didn't have any!

Source: A. Mitchell and I. D'Addezio - Genealogy Today

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Measuring Your Family Health History Genograms

We as genealogists and family historians have always known the importance of preserving the past for the future. Our ancestors passed on a rich heritage of food, music, solid values and their genes! Familial links are being recognized daily between cancers, diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease. It makes it even more critical that we incorporate a detailed genogram, or family health history, into our research.

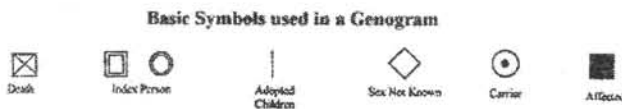
A genogram, once left in the hands of geneticists can now be produced on your own computer. They map out relationships and traits that may otherwise be missed on a pedigree chart. A health history report can be generated with your favorite genealogy program. Either way, issues in interpretation and privacy arise. Interpretation of all information from compiled genograms or health

(Measuring Your Family Health History cont'd from page 2)

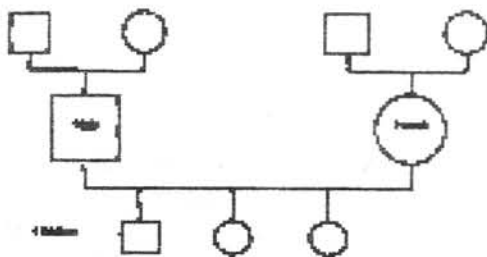
reports should only be made by a licensed physician. Any recommendations regarding life style changes in diet, exercise or treatment must be done with your physician's knowledge and approval. Family health histories are tools for your doctor to use.

Privacy of all medical information is essential. Medical information in genealogy programs can invade privacy, even if the ancestors are long deceased, especially if published on the internet. Remember, your ancestors' medical data is yours and your descendants also.

A well documented genogram should include 3-4 generations of health data. A series of standard symbols are used:



Squares denote males, circles females. The illustration below shows a basic family format of a father, mother and offspring. You can tell at a glance they had 1 son and 2 daughters. From here you would begin to build your families history.



Information that should always be included are date, age and cause of death. Health problems such as heart disease, miscarriages, and high blood pressure of living members. Siblings in each generation are listed from the oldest on the left to youngest on the right. Many make more than one genogram. Remember the privacy issues. We must tread lightly when it comes to entering habits like drug abuse, alcoholism and abusive relationships and who is entitled to see the information you compile.

Not only are these used for strict medical problems. They can become a pleasant experience to map out other traits you and yours have inherited. For instance, eye color, artistic qualities, temperament and musical ability. Once done you can see at a glance how heredity plays such a great role in our lives. We can then see the great gifts our ancestor passed down to us!

Source: by: Laura Heidekrueger - Genealogy Today

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Changing Immigrant Names

"We know from experience that records of entry of many aliens into the United States contain assumed or incorrect names and other errors." From INS Operations Instruction 500.1 I, Legality of entry where record contains erroneous name or other errors, December 24, 1952.

Among the reasons for the "incorrect" names were the immigrant's using:

- A fictitious name.
- The name of another person.
- The true name is a misspelled form.
- The surname of the stepfather instead of the natural father.
- The surname of a putative father in the case of an illegitimate child.
- A nickname.
- The name used because of foreign custom, such as the given name of the father (with or without prefix or suffix) for the surname, the name of the farm, or some other name formulated by foreign custom.
- The maiden name instead of the married name.

The maiden name of the mother instead of the father's surname.

For more information see:

<http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/aboutins/history/articles/NAMES.htm>

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Adoption Puzzle – Learning To Search

Searching is not an easy process and getting the pieces to come together takes time and patience. It is an emotional journey that will have its highs and lows. The process of the search and the result of the search can be a healing and rewarding experience.

(Adoption Puzzle – Learning to Search cont'd from page 3)

There are many things to do once you have decided that you want to find the pieces of your Adoption Puzzle. Here are a few tips on how to get started on your journey:

1. **Contact the Agency or the State that handled your adoption. Ask for your non-identifying information. This is information about your adoption or biological child. This will not give you a name but, it will give you some information that will help determine if you have found the right person at the end of your search. It also may give you some clues to help you get on your way to a reunion! There is a fee involved with this and pricing depends on the State or Agency.**
2. **Register with ISSR the Largest Adoption Registry and Register with the State's Registry in the State where you were born or the child was born. (Information for contacting these is provided in the Adoption Registries section – see source at end of this article.)**
3. **Talk to your Adoptive Parents and find out any information they may remember if this is possible in your situation.**
4. **Join some Internet Mailing Lists that deal with the part of the Adoption Triad Group you belong to. There are many people in the adoption community willing to help you anyway they can! (Information on Mailing lists can be found in the Adoption Mailing Lists section – see source at end of this article.)**
5. **Be aware of businesses that ask for large sums of money to perform searches. Most searches can be done without spending too much money. You can do the work yourself and only have to pay the fees necessary to gain information from the State, Hospitals and other Government places.**

There are many willing to help with the searching and looking up records for you for minimal amounts of money. Joining Mailing Lists will help you get in contact with those willing to help.

If you choose to pay someone to do the search for you the author recommended going with someone who has been through the search process for

themselves. That means an Adoption Triad Member or someone recommended by a Triad Member. You are more likely to find an honest searcher that has a vested interest in helping others as they know what it is like to be where you are today. You can find Search Support by State located in the Adoption Support section – see source at the end of this article.

Listed below are some other Sites that also give information on how to perform a search. The actual Internet sites will be found by going to the Source at the end of this article:

[AdoptioNetwork](#)

[Adoptee Birthparent Search](#)

[Adoptees Miracle Search Network](#)

[Adoption Cross Roads Search Help](#)

[Adoptees Search Center](#)

[Adoptee Search Sources](#)

[Adoptee Searcher's Handbook](#)

[Guide on using the Internet to track down your birthparents](#)

[Shea's Search Series](#)

[Search Method proposed by Jeff Hartung](#)

[T.I.E.S. \(Terminal Illness Emergency Search\)](#)

[The ABC's Of Searching](#)

[Tina's Adoption Reform and Search Pages](#)

[Volunteer Search Network](#)

[Wingy's Adoption Search Page](#)

Source:<http://genealogytoday.com/adoption/puzzle/search.htm>

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A big thanks to Kay Jenkins for all the good work she has done to the vertical files in the Genealogy Room at the DeLand Library.

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Professional Genealogists

There is an Internet address where one can find a professional genealogist who is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. This site will tell you whether these genealogists are accepting new clients, and how to contact them.

The address is:
<http://www.apgen.org/directory>.

Some Central Florida names include:

- Harvey E. Morse, Daytona
- Ann Mohr Osisek, Maitland
- Marta Metcalf, Orlando
- Melissa Mace, Celebration
- Cliff von Langen, Palm Coast

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Bits and Pieces

This comprehensive website offers information and great links to more pages about women who served in the military:

<http://www.userpages.aug.com/capbarb/index.html>
 Source: Everton's Family History, March/April 2002

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Whether looking for a long lost high school buddy or details about granny, the MaidenName.net could help. This website maintains a database for women whose names have changed. Information includes names and very basic information about individuals. Men are included despite the emphasis on women. The address is:

<http://www.maidenname.net/index.htm>
 Source: Everton's Family History, March/April 2002

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The Internal Revenue Assessment Lists 1862-1874 are available on microfilm at the National Archives or through the LDS Family History Centers. The lists usually provide the names of persons or businesses liable for taxes, their addresses, the taxable period, pertinent remarks on the assessment, the occupation taxes and notation of payment.

Source: Florida Lines, June 2002

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Familysearch.org now has a searchable U.S. 1880 census, 1881 British & Canadian census.

Deciphering Old Handwriting

For information on reading old handwriting (paleography) the following web sites may help:

Deciphering Old Handwriting:
<http://www.amberskyline.com/treasuremaps/oldhand.html>

Old German Handwriting: <http://home.t-online.de/home/hans-peter.voss/04eng.htm>

Old Handwriting
 Styles:<http://www.genealogia.fi/faq/faq031e.htm>
 Source: Ann Bergelt 2002

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Programs for 2003

Roots & Branches - January - Mary Fears - Black Soldiers in the Civil War.

Roots & Branches - February - Charles Tinley - Using Original Records.

Roots & Branches - March - Leslie Wilson - Miscellaneous Sources in Genealogy.

Roots & Branches - Mini Seminar with Ann Bergelt in DeLand - March 29 -Registration \$15.00 per person - 3 topics. Contact B. Outlaw for more info.

Roots & Branches - April - Mary Ann Cring - Civil War. We will be honoring Civil War Veterans. Bring in any items or pension papers or military papers of your ancestors. You can write a story to put underneath your item.

Roots & Branches - May - Bob Weaver & Carol Izzo - The Internet.

Florida State Genealogical Society 2003 Conference - 3-6 September 2003 at Renaissance Orlando Resort at Seaworld, Orlando, Fl.

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On the next page is a form where you can obtain Military Service Records. However, it cannot be used to obtain records relating to military service in WWI, WWII or subsequent service. For more information visit the NARA Web site at: www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html.