ROOTS AND BRANCHES

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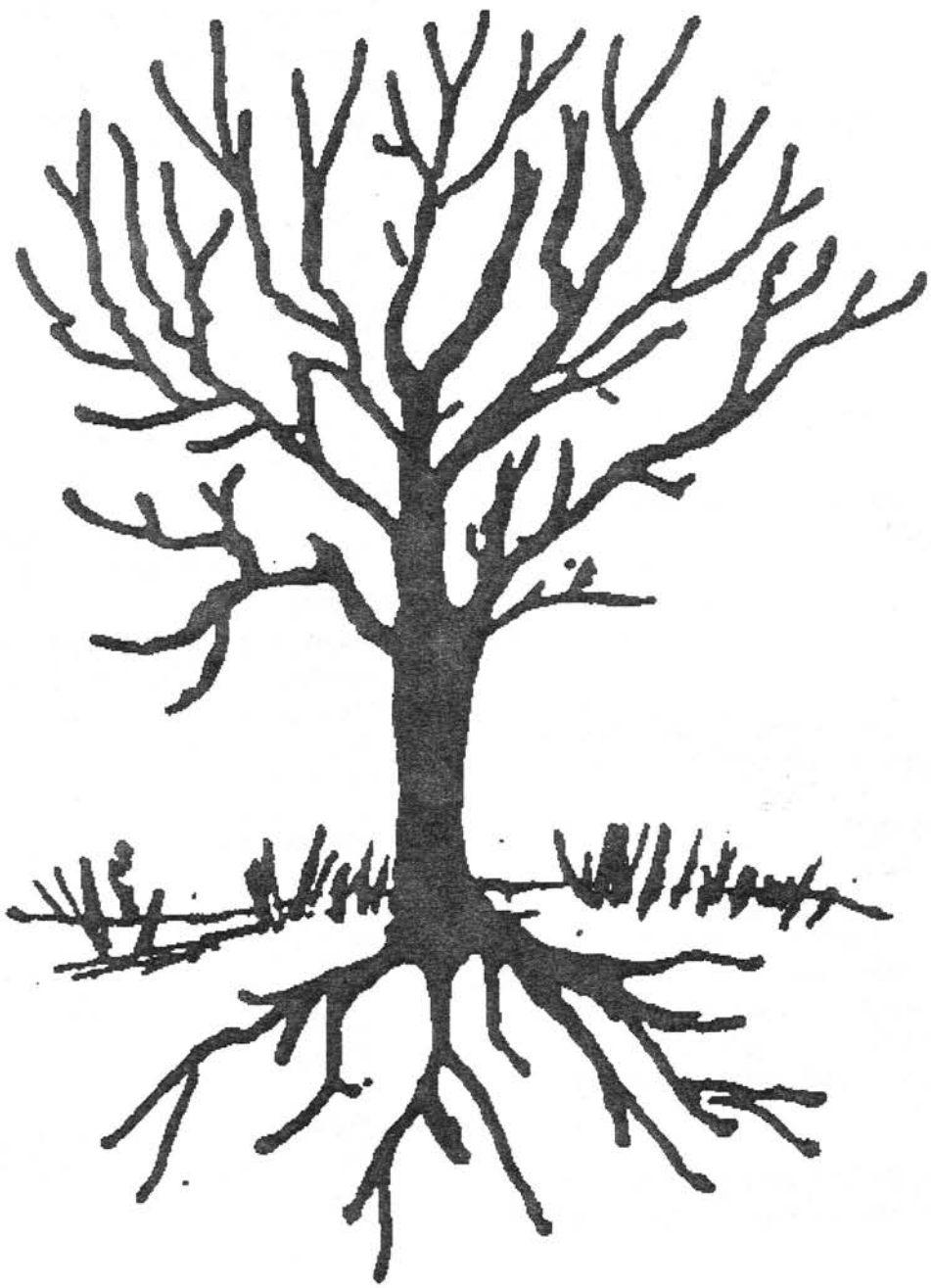
Quarterly Publication of the Roots & Branches Genealogical Society



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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.

WRITING OPPORTUNITIES

If you have an interest in creative, non-fiction writing, consider submitting your manuscripts or ideas to Ancestry Magazine. The editors at Ancestry are always interested in publishing works written by the magazine's loyal readership. Columns accepted from freelance writers include:

Feature articles (1200-1500 words) with topics generally determined by the editorial staff.

Bare Bones (600-800 words), which allows for nostalgic, humorous, or sentimental essays.

Case Study (1200-1500 words), which focuses on the life of an ancestor and the researcher's methods of overcoming the formidable brick wall.

The editor considers all submissions and usually responds within six weeks. Upon acceptance of an article, Ancestry sends the author a standard contract of agreement. An honorarium will be paid to the author upon publication. Ancestry Magazine purchases the copyright as work for hire.

Inquiries, submissions, and requests for writer's guidelines should be directed to:

Jennifer Utley, Managing Editor
360 West 4800 North
Provo, UT 84604
Fax: (801) 705-7120
E-mail: ameditor@ancestry.com

Genealogical Computing Quarterly Journal **(GC) encourages submissions that deal with computers as they relate to genealogy. Address articles to the Editor, Genealogical Computing, 360 West 4800 North, Provo, UT 84604**
Managing Editor: Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens
E-mail: gceditor@ancestry.com
Web site:
http://www.ancestry.com/learn/publications/gencomp.htm

Family Chronicle Magazine editors can be contacted via e-mail or regular mail:

P.O. Box 1111
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-1111
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Phone: 416-491-3699
Fax: 416-491-3996
E-mail: publisher@familychronicle.com
Website: http://www.familychronicle.com/
Source: Jerry Hale

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A PLEA FROM OUR BOOKS

Ouch!
Please don't turn down
Page corners!
Yikes!
Please don't mark
Upon my pages.

My father thanks you
My mother thanks you
And so do
All my ancestors
And
YOUR Descendants!

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BOOKS & CD's IN DELAND GENEALOGY ROOM

- ***Old Town by the Sea: A pictorial history of New Smyrna Beach*** **by Bo Poertner.**

- ***Handbook for Genealogical Research in Central Florida*** **by June Byrne.**

- **The following CD's are from the Latter Day Saints Church:**

–Pedigree Resource File, Volume 1, sets 1-25 - These CD's contain lineage-linked pedigrees that have been submitted to the Family History Department of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

–North American Vital Records Index - This file contains information on more than 4.6 million christenings, births and marriages that occurred in the United States and Canada from 1700 to 1888.

–1880 U.S. Census, complete record - The complete transcription of the original 1880 census. Includes the enumeration of individuals within households and institutions. This allows you to view those who were neighbors of your ancestors. Approximately 50 million names are contained on the CD's.

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DERRY OR LONDONDERRY

By Thomas P. McKinna

The name Derry is derived from the Irish word for Oak forests in ancient times. In fact, the oak forests were so thick "that a man could walk across the country on top of the trees."

When the plantation of Ulster started in the early 1600's, the county was called Coleraine. The London trade guilds had, somewhat reluctantly, financed the plantation scheme and so the lands in the county were given to those guilds: the drapers, vintners, fishmongers, etc., and the county was renamed Londonderry.

About fifteen years ago I asked an Irish woman why the city and the county were called Derry or Londonderry by various people. She told me that there was a political statement in the name used. If you wanted continued union with England you said "Londonderry" but those who wanted the entire island governed by the republic said "Derry." My impression is that in recent years a compromise had evolved so that the city is called "Londonderry" and the county "Derry" by most of the residents.

The popular song "Danny Boy" is the tune of the old "A Londonderry Air." All factions seen to agree on the use of the name. After all, we could hardly call it "A DERRY AIR."
Source: Family Trails

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WHERE TO LOOK

If you are looking for information about:

Age: Look in census records, vital records or outside the U.S. look in civil registration records, cemeteries, military records, obituaries.

Birthplace: Look in Vital records or civil registration records, census, church records, newspapers, obituaries, or military records. City or parish of foreign birth: Church records,

(Where to Look continued from page 2)

genealogy, biography, obituaries, naturalization and citizenship.

Death: Vital records, cemeteries, probate records, church records, obituaries, newspapers, military records, court records, land and property records.

Maiden name: Vital records or civil registration records, church records, newspapers, bible records, military records, cemeteries, probate records, obituaries.

Occupation: Census records, directories, probate records, emigration and immigration records, newspapers, court records, obituaries.

Parents, children, and other family members: Vital records or civil registration records, census, probate records, obituaries, newspapers, emigration and immigration, land and property.

Record-finding aids: Archives and libraries, societies, genealogy.

Religion: Church records, history, biography, civil registration, cemeteries, obituaries.
Source: Latter Day Saints Church

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DIGITAL CAMERA GENEALOGY TIPS

By Halvor Moorshead

A digital camera can be a great substitute for a photocopier when books are in poor condition or at a library or other record depositories. They often do not allow photocopying of their books or allow you to borrow certain books. Also many old ledgers that contain useful records are thick and part of the copy bends into the binding. Most libraries and other record depositories do not seem to have a policy on digital cameras – they have always allowed photographs to be taken. They may hesitate sometimes, but if you tell them you will not use the flash, they usually give permission.

With a digital camera you can review the picture taken immediately–there is no need for a backup shot and you can see if the image is good.

A digital camera with a resolution of 1.3 megapixels is quite good enough to photograph a page in a book and be able to read even the smallest type.
Source: Family Chronicle Magazine

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- U.S. Census Maps Online

County lines are often a problem for genealogists researching American ancestry. Census records – one of the most valuable sources of genealogy information – are organized by counties. The problem is that county lines have changed frequently over time. More than one genealogist, including myself, has expended hours looking for records, only to discover that they were looking in the wrong county!

Several books have been published to show the movement of county boundaries. However, these books are sometimes hard to locate. Purchasing your own copy isn't cost-effective when all you want to do is look up one county. Luckily, today's Web technology and the hard work of Brian Nichols and others have provided a solution for most of the northeastern and southeastern states.

Nichols is the webmaster for both segenealogy.com (SouthEast Genealogy) and for negenealogy.com (NorthEast Genealogy). These sites have a wealth of genealogy information, but the maps are the most noticeable assets. The sites show maps of every few years in each state's history, including all the census maps through 1930.

The maps apparently were created with AniMap and serve as a showcase for that product.

If you have ancestors from the southeastern U.S., look at http://www.segenealogy.com. I think you will be impressed. Likewise, those researching northeastern U.S. ancestry will

(U.S. Census Maps Online continued from page 3)

want to look at http://www.negenealogy.com.

Source: Dick Eastman, RootsForm.com

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HERITAGE QUEST ONLINE REMOTE ACCESS AVAILABLE TO NYG&B MEMBERS

The following is an announcement from the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society: New York Genealogical & Biographical Society members are now able to access the entire Heritage Quest Online database from their home computers, thanks to our latest agreement with ProQuest.

Included in the Heritage Quest Online Genealogy and Local History collection are over 25,000 genealogies, family and local histories, city directories, and compiled vital records.

The U.S. Census collection contains every census from 1790 to 1930 with the exception of 1900, which is expected to be available shortly. Records for 1790 – 1810, 1870, 1890, and 1910 are presently fully indexed and searchable.

Additional databases due to be added to the collection include ProQuest's Newspaper Obituaries; Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files; and Freedman's Bank Records, among others.

A detailed look at this collection can be found at http://www.nygbs.org.

Source: Dick Eastman, RootsForm.com

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AHNENTAFEL CHARTS

AHNENTAFEL IS GERMAN for ancestor (ahnen) table (tafel). Preparing an ahnentafel chart is a very efficient way of organizing your pedigree chart in order to make it quickly understandable by others.

On a standard pedigree chart, each person is assigned a number. These numbers are worth remembering since, if you follow the traditional numbering system, just by looking at a number you can know the relationship of any person on the chart to yourself. You are always 1, your father 2, your mother 3, paternal grandfather 4, paternal grandmother 5, maternal grandfather 6, maternal grandmother 7, patrilineal great grandfather 8, and so on in consecutive fashion.

Using this system, one quickly notices some patterns. First, each new generation has double the number of ancestors of the previous generation. Thus you have four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, 16 great-great-grandparents and so on. By the 10th generation, you will have completed research on more than 1,000 ancestors; many will be unknown and others will be duplicates because of cousin intermarriage (it is estimated that before 1800 about 40 percent of marriages were between first, second or third cousins). Every father on your chart will have an even number and every mother will have an odd number that is her husband's plus one.

Traditional pedigree charts usually print four generations to a page so that 16 generations usually take around four pages to display. The beauty of an Ahnentafel is that these same 16 generations would fit on one page, depending on the type size chosen, and the same numbering system used in a standard pedigree chart again allows you to quickly discern your kinship with anyone on the Ahnentafel.

Your Ahnentafel

The Ahnentafel takes the numbering system described above and uses it to create a continuous list of ancestors instead of a chart. The format would be as follows:

1. your name
2. your father
3. your mother
4. your father's father
5. your father's mother
6. your mother's father
7. your mother's mother
8. your father's father's father
9. your father's father's mother
10. your father's mother's father

(Ahnentafel Charts Continued from page 4)

11. your father's mother's mother
12. your mother's father's father
13. your mother's father's mother
14. your mother's mother's father
15. your mother's mother's mother
16-31. your great-great-grandparents
32-63. your great-great-great grandparents.

An Ahnentafel is particularly useful when you are corresponding with another genealogist in your family because indicating unknown ancestors with a blank space or line will allow them to see immediately where your genealogical research ends and, from the names and dates given, where you might have common ancestry.

Preparing an Ahnentafel

Most of the popular genealogy software programs have the ability to print out an Ahnentafel. The most popular format for presenting genealogy data is the pedigree chart, but the simple beauty of an Ahnentafel will no doubt appeal to many genealogists wanting a quick, simple view of their ancestry. Increasingly, software programs are offering hourglass charts, bow-tie charts and other picturesque and creative arrangements more notable for their novelty than for any intrinsic value. Set against these, the simple format of an Ahnentafel and its superior way of organizing information in a numerically ascending lineal format that allows you to immediately identify your relationship to anyone on the chart is difficult to beat. Most software programs identify each person entered with a number or can be configured to do so.

Knowing the numbers allows the researcher to use math to properly identify any individual in relation to themselves simply by knowing that even numbers are males and odd numbers are females, except for the first person who is always 1 whether male or female. Individual 33 is the wife of 32, or to put it in English your great-great-great grandparents, or to put it in Ahnentafel language your father's father's father's father's father and your father's father's father's father's mother. Half 32 and get 16 who is your great-great grandfather. Add one and get 17 who is your great-great-grandmother; half 16 to 8 and you have your great-grandfather, and add one to get 9 who is your great-grandmother.

It may help to have a doubling chart on hand when you get into the 15th and higher generations. A common shorthand trick is to refer to one's 15th-great-grandfather as "G15", but this could be misleading since you have over 16,000 grandfathers in the 15th generation, so let's simply refer to him by his unique Ahnentafel number of 32768. It would require a thick binder to present this many fifteenth generation ancestors in conventional pedigree charts.

While you may add other information to your ancestral Ahnentafel listings other than number and name, in the interest of maintaining simplicity any added data should not take a listing beyond one line of data.
Source: Dick Eastman, RootsForm.com

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The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration is now on-line with searchable archival records—
http://www.archives.gov/aad/

*** Online access to a selection of nearly 50 million historic electronic records created by more than 20 federal agencies on a wide range of topics;**
*** the ability to search for records with the specific information that you seek;**
*** important contextual information to help you understand the records better, including code lists, explanatory notes from NARA archivists, and for some series or files in AAD, related documents.**
Source: Neil Armstrong

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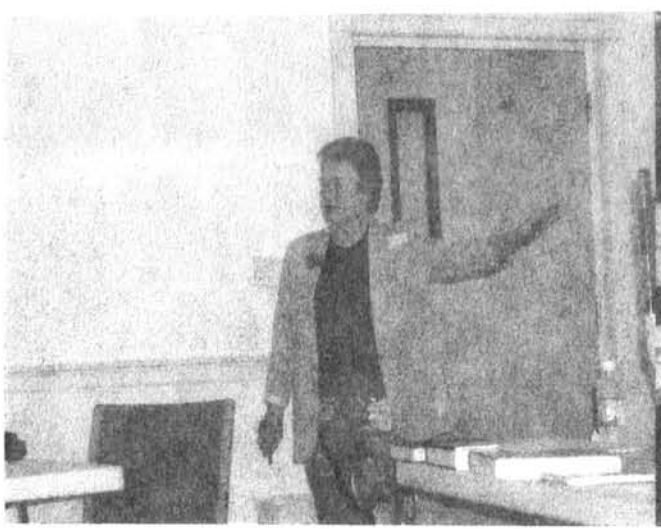
Our April 3 meeting was on the Civil War. Jerry Hale told us about the following site where one can order pictures of civil war ancestors:
http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi/



Ann Bergelt, Speaker at Seminar on 3-29-03

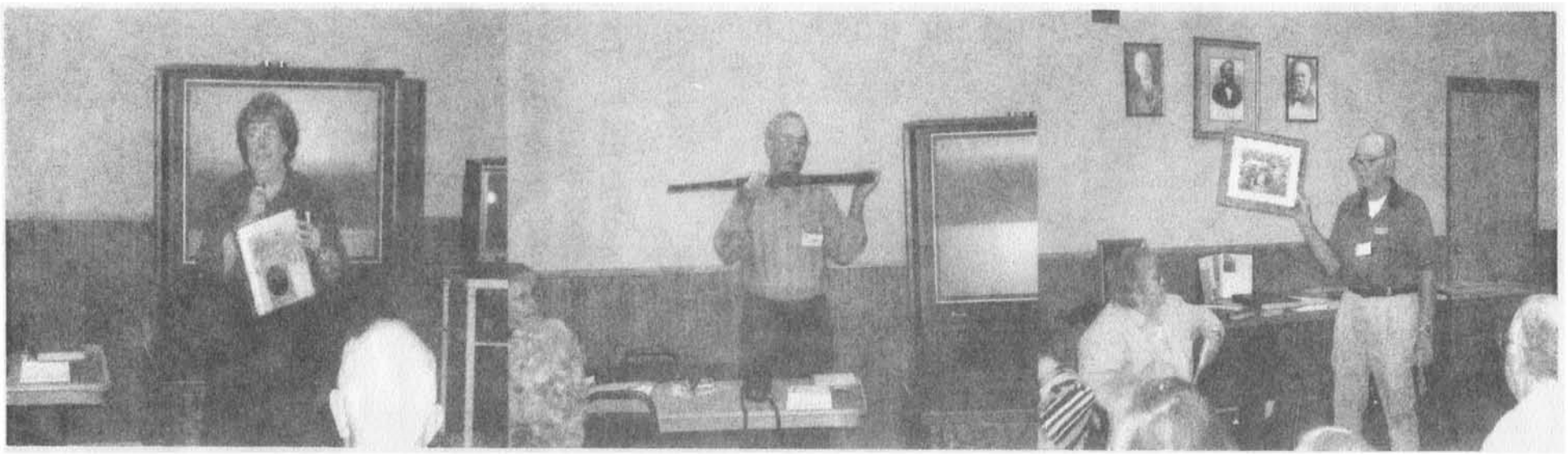
Mary Ann Cring & Bob Weaver at Seminar

Roots & Branches Members at Seminar

Pat Ritter with Document at Civil War night 4-03-03

Charles Baker with Rifle at Civil War night

Tom Calvin with Photo at Civil War night



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