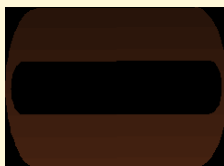




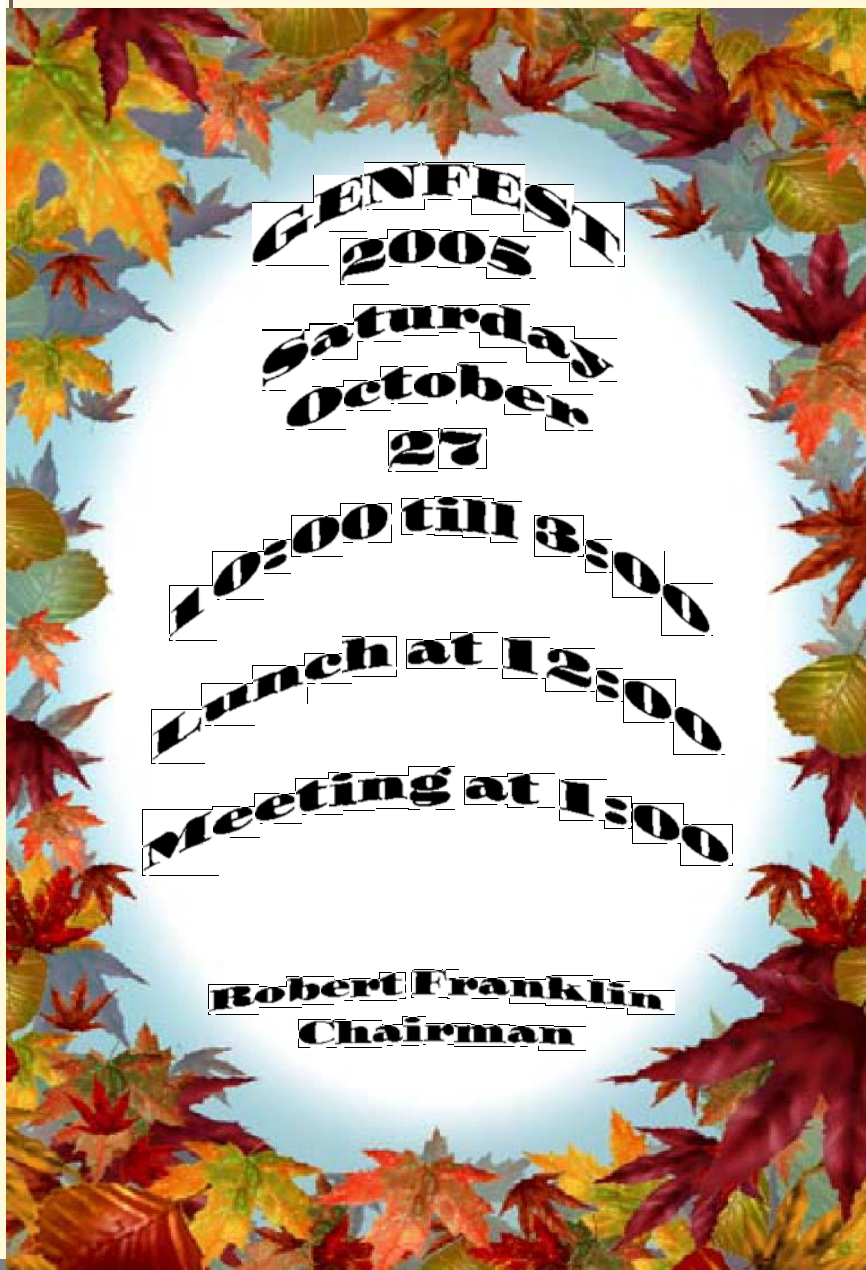
# Connections

The E-letter of GENCOM (The Computer Genealogy Group) Shreveport, LA

**October 2005**



**GENEALOGY FOR THE INFORMATION AGE**



**GENFEST  
2005**

**Saturday  
October  
27**

**10:00 till 3:00**

**Lunch at 12:00**

**Meeting at 1:00**

**Robert Franklin  
Chairman**

# October

# Family History Month

Our Annual GENFEST coincides with National Family History Month.

We take this opportunity to inform the community of our organization, and all that we offer anyone who is interested in learning more about Genealogical Research.

Do invite your friends to spend the day with us on Oct. 22 and we will show them just how much enjoyment and satisfaction Computer Aided Genealogy can add to their lives!

from: [Senator Orrin G. Hatch, UTAH](#)  
To: United States Senate  
July 10, 2001

Dear Colleague:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to ask you to cosponsor my resolution that will dedicate the Month of October of each year as "Family History Month."

Within the last month some 14,167,329 people researched their family history and 24 million people have used the Web and email to locate or hunt for family or friends with whom they had lost touch. Researching ancestry is a very important component to self identity. It can lead to long-sought-after family reunions or life saving. At present, there are some 2,500 genealogical societies in the United States that represent approximately a million people who belong to these groups. One such group, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, represents around 560 genealogical societies and ultimately at least a half million individuals. There is no doubt that the study of family history is growing in popularity and is an important tool in researching ethnic identity and genetic health concerns.

I urge you to join me in supporting the millions of American men and women who have researched their family history by co-sponsoring the *Family History Resolution*. For more information on this resolution or to add your name as a co-sponsor, please contact Chris Campbell in my office at (202) 224-4412.

Orrin G. Hatch

Sincerely,  


United States Senator

# Insurance Policy for Your Ancestors!



## *Robert Franklin*

We have all spent countless hours researching our ancestors, and all can be lost in just a matter of seconds. Do you have a backup plan?

Everyone should have a backup procedure to protect your data in case of fire, theft or any other catastrophic event. The most common cause of data loss is hard drive failure. If you have never had this misfortune, consider yourself lucky. There are several different ways to implement a good backup plan.

It is not necessary to backup your whole hard drive, just backup the files that you have created. Keeping your files in one folder on your hard drive will make backing up files a lot easier. For example, use one folder that is named genealogy; now create additional folders under that folder. You could have a folder for surnames named surnames, one for letters and e-mails named letters and e-mail, etc. It doesn't really matter what you name the folders; the point is to have all you genealogy files under one main folder. Be sure to keep a current copy of your Family Tree Maker backup under this folder.

In order to determine what type of storage media you will need, check to see how large your files are. If you only have a few small files to backup a floppy disk will be sufficient. For larger files, such as photos, and Family Tree Maker databases, you could use a USB thumb drive or ZIP disk. If you have a lot of large files, such as photos a writable CD or DVD will be the media of choice for backing up.

Create at least two backup copies of your files. Keep one set of backup disks in your computer room for easy retrieval and keep a second set somewhere else, such as a safe deposit box. The next time you do a regular backup, use a new set of disks. Keep your old backup disks and add new disks as you backup. Floppy disks, zip disks, and writeable CD's and DVD's are inexpensive compared to the time and effort needed to recover or recreate lost files. Be sure to date your disks for easy identification of the most current backup. If you are using diskettes or ZIP disks, you can re-use the set of disks from an older backup for your next backup, and then continue this process each time you backup. If you choose to recycle your disks, make sure that you are not overwriting your most recent backup. Overwrite a backup that is at least one month old. Also, disks and CD's could be damaged, or misplaced. It is better to have more than one copy of your information on hand. Keep in mind, that disk errors are not always obvious at the time that you are making your backups. Always test your disks before storing them to make sure that the files you backed up are readable. Never discard or overwrite your previous backup media until you are positive that your newest backup copies are readable.

Create new backups routinely. Backup all of your files once every month, quarterly, semi-annually or whatever period you feel are adequate to meet your needs. You could archive older files that you seldom access and store them in a safe place, such as your safe deposit box. This will reduce the amount of files that you need to backup at other times. You will only be making backup copies of your newest files, which would be quicker and easier.

The above method of backup is simply duplicating or copying your files to backup media. With this method files remain in original format; all files are copied "as is" with no modifications made. On the other hand, most backup programs copy all of your data into a backup set. A backup set is like an expandable "bucket" that holds all of your data. Every time you run a backup data is added to the backup set "bucket". The backup program keeps track of all of the data placed into the backup set in a separate index called a "catalog file". You will not be able to read the contents of the backup set in Windows. You will need the backup program used to create the backup set to see the contents of your backups and restore your files. While this is great for a business or office environment, this is overkill for the average genealogist. I would suggest simply copying your files to the backup media or using a backup program that has a "duplicate" option.

Just as we respect and care for our ancestors, so we must respect and care for our backups, for one day they may achieve great glory.

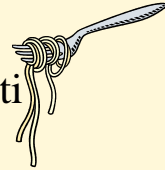


# GENFEST 2005

And

## Dinner on the Grounds!

At 12:00 we will break for lunch  
I will make our special GENCOM Italian Spaghetti  
from the recipe we discovered last year.



Members can bring  
The salad of their choice  
A Dessert  
Fruit  
Garlic bread



Whatever you think would make a complementary dish to spaghetti  
You can coordinate plans with Carolyn Franklin if you wish.  
[carolf@sport.rr.com](mailto:carolf@sport.rr.com)

We are setting up the room in family style  
so we can visit as we enjoy our meal!



### New to GENFEST 2005

Software demonstrations will include

My Record Keeper: Patte Bettis Have every important record in one place  
.The recent disaster has made everyone most aware of the importance of such a plan  
: Don Davis; The adjunct to Family Tree Maker 6

**Pass-along Table... Software, office supplies, books, anything you would like to  
Pass-along to someone else...bring it with you.  
Donations will go to GENCOM treasury**



Some exciting and new websites that have answers to many of our problems! I checked it with several common languages...but found that it doesn't seem to know Hawaiian!

### **Polyglot 3000**

You can't look up a mysterious foreign phrase in a dictionary if you don't know what language it's in. Polyglot 3000 identifies over 400 languages, setting you on the path to understanding. Paste some text--even a short phrase--into Polyglot 3000, and the program will tell you its probable language. It even makes suggestions for other possibilities.

Version: 1.5

Price: Free Download Polyglot 3000 now at:

[http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file\\_description/0,fid,25779,tk,hsx,00.asp](http://www.pcworld.com/downloads/file_description/0,fid,25779,tk,hsx,00.asp)

### **SOME SITES WORTH SEEING.**

BRITISH ISLES. British IslesGenWeb Project

<http://www.britishislesgenweb.org/>

CANADA. CanadaGenWeb Project (English and Francais). <http://www.rootsweb.com/~canwgv/>

GERMANY. GermanyGenWeb Project. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wggerman/>

SCOTCH-IRISH/ULSTER SCOTS RESEARCH. Who are these people? Learn more about them and how to research ancestors in this group. <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~merle/>

This list is for the discussion of the Genealogy and History of GERMANS in Nebraska & Iowa. This includes immigrants from all parts of Germany, Pomerania, Saxony, etc. Discussion of migration patterns, immigration, heraldry, historical sketches, settlements, census data, wills, family Bibles, vital records, web sites, etc. is encouraged. I also will allow seasonal (holiday) messages in relation to favorite GERMAN recipes that were handed down from generation to generation. The discussion of the GERMAN culture in Nebraska & Iowa is also encouraged. to join GERMANS-NE-IA-L, send mail to [GERMANS-NE-IA-L-request@rootsweb.com](mailto:GERMANS-NE-IA-L-request@rootsweb.com) with the single word subscribe in the message subject and body

*Bernie Conradi sends us this:*

### **IMMIGRATION RECORDS FROM CASTLE GARDEN 1855-1890**

Before Ellis Island, there was Castle Garden. The Castle was our first immigration center, from 1855 to 1890. But immigration records there go back to 1820. If you had ancestors who came over in that period, they may well have been processed at Castle Garden. Most of those immigration records have been digitized and placed online. Just enter the name. Check it out at: <http://www.castlegarden.org>

### **Godfrey Library Scholars Note**

I hope that everyone who has the time to devote to research is learning to use the many facilities that are offered. Admittedly one has to learn some rules and perhaps be patient at times, but there is so much information there, it is well worth doing a bit of delving to find.

One of our members called and said she had spent three hours at the library (with the help of the librarian,) looking for a book written as a Civil War diary. It mentioned her ancestor and she was most eager to find it. She thought because of my Civil War Round Table connections I might have a suggestion. I certainly did, without a moments hesitation. **WORLD CAT!** It is available through Godfrey...with every book in the world's libraries! You fill in the blanks and it will give you information on publisher, author, and all the libraries that have copies.

**PMB**

## Find your Immigrant Ancestor (tips for finding your ancestor's German hometown)

Before taking your research back to Germany you must find the name of the specific place (city, town or village) where your immigrant ancestor lived. Here are some suggestions for finding a German place of origin for your ancestor.

### Using Passenger Arrival Records

"Last residence" (name of town) for each passenger is given on passenger arrival records generally starting about 1893. All New York passenger arrival records starting with June 1897 and later should have this information for each passenger. Earlier passenger records sometimes list the town of residence for the passengers, but most do not.

Finding Passenger Lists from 1820 to the 1940s lists the available indexes and where to find them

Finding Passenger Lists before 1820 discusses the Filby books, Pennsylvania German Pioneers and many other sources

**Germans to America** can help if your German ancestor arrived between 1850 and 1897. Also see the new **Germans to America Series II: the 184**

**Ellis Island Online** Database covers New York arrivals 1892-1924

### The Hamburg Passenger Departure Lists 1850-1934

If your ancestor's ship departed from the German port of Hamburg then you can order the departure list for that ship from any FHC. These records give the last residence for each passenger. Please note that most of the Bremen departure records were destroyed. Information about the few surviving Bremen lists (after 1920 only) can be found here in the "general & misc" section.

### Other Sources

American church records sometimes give the place of origin of immigrant families (the FHL has many of these on microfilm - check their catalog)

Sometimes church records for German churches in America will list the place of birth of the parents in the baptismal records of their children

If you don't know which church your ancestor attended look for churches near the address of where he or she lived - you can find addresses in census records and city directories

Death Certificates usually give place of birth (sometimes just the country, but sometimes the town is given)

Online Finding Aid: Online Searchable Death Indexes for the USA

Obituaries - search the local newspapers) where your ancestor died a day or more after the date of death

For some suggestions see: Online Obituaries Indexes & Finding Aids

Obituaries in American German language newspapers - check at a library in the area your ancestor lived

Grave markers - occasionally you will find a person's birthplace on his or her gravestone

Naturalization Records (especially if Naturalized after 1906)

The 1920 Census gives year of Naturalization

Recommended Book: Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States by Christina Schaefer

County Histories and Biographies

Michigan County Histories 1866-1926 searchable online

Family tradition - ask your relatives

World War I Draft Registration Cards (for men born from Sept 11, 1872 to Sept 12, 1900) Nearly 11 million (men born about June 1886 to June 1897) of the 24 million total draft cards asked for location of birth (town, state, nation).

Determining a Place of Origin in Germany from the FHL is a helpful resource

International Genealogical Index (IGI)

German Emigration Lists (lists of people who applied to leave Germany)

Locating a German Place Once you know the name of a place you should try to locate it on a map and determine which German state it is in.

This website's Finding Places Webpage has links to helpful information about German towns and villages, including an online Gazetteer. Michelin makes detailed travel maps of various German regions

Civil Records

Other Records such as emigration lists

## Trying to determine the Port of Entry of your Ancestor?

*(We are working on German passenger lists..... Most of the German people who came to TX and OK area in the early 1900s came to Galveston.)*

### : Galveston Passenger Lists

Addressing the question of what other ports besides Galveston and Ellis Island an Immigrant could have entered, there were many. Boston, Baltimore, New Orleans, and many others were major ports for immigrants.

One must distinguish the Port of Entry where the ship and its passengers cleared Immigration/ Customs from the Port of Disembarkation where the immigrant family disembarked from the ship which brought them over. One line of my ancestors came from Prussia, on a ship which stopped at Havana, Cuba en route to Galveston. The ship then continued on, landing at New Orleans, which was my family's official Port of Entry because New Orleans was the first port in the United States at which the ship docked. In New Orleans, the passengers were submitted for entry to the Immigration Authorities and were allowed to "enter" the United States. The family then remained on the same ship as the ship continued on to Galveston, where my family disembarked. Family Lore is that the family arrived in Galveston, but the official records showed that they "entered" at New Orleans. Therefore, the government records in Galveston show nothing on them. The government records in New Orleans show their entrance into the US. As far as Government records go, just like on an airplane today, the city where the plane lands and you clear immigration/customs is your point of entry, even though you or your plane continues on to another city before you get off of that plane. Once the plane/ship had cleared immigration/customs, the plane/ship/you are on is there-after just another domestic flight/passage, and no records of who was on that particular plane/ship after the point of entry would be expected to ex-

## The President's Message

Patte Bettis



I confess, I am a software junkie! While others are buying magazines or renting videos or movies for amusement... I buy software programs. Admittedly there is some chaff, but occasionally I find some real jewels. My usual choices are graphics programs that make interesting graphic and text combinations for headlines and such. Collage Maker, and Smaller Image ( which reduces pictures to a decent size for e-mailing) and Web Snippets are a few favorites. But, I do get serious from time to time and delve in to the utilities and business programs. Two months ago I ran across a program that I consider so valuable that it would hurt my conscience not to share it with you!

I had found it before the horrible tragedy befell our country....but after that it seemed even more imperative that everyone should know how they can easily...make a record of every important fact that they would need to have access to, in case of emergency. The grim reminders of the refugees who can not establish identity or prove assets attest to the vital need for such a plan.

**My Record Keeper** directs you to record every asset with name and address of bank and personal assistant if you have one.. Every other source of immediate income... then on to every possession as you record the place the titles are stored. Medical information, and family information and final wishes. It is very much like what your financial planner would prepare for you...but with a lot more personal data...and I assure you , it will remind you of a lot of things you had not thought of.

If we have written our memoirs and gotten this record up to date we should have peace of mind!

( This is your Den Mother speaking). I want to demonstrate it after the meeting at GENFEST. My conscience wont allow me not to!

We are so fortunate to have Robert Franklin as our technical advisor. When he sent the wonderful article on backing up our data, I admitted that I had tried unsuccessfully to back up using two different programs. I asked if he would show us how to do it at GENFEST. The system he is going to show, does not require a back up programs. He says it is simple and can be used not only for a Genealogy but any thing we want to save. **Isn't it great to have so many talented people working together to help each other!** Patte

# GENFEST 2005 SCHEDULE

10:00

Opening  
Coffee  
Clatch



10:30 Glenda Conradi  
presentation

*Digital Photography Tips*

11:00

Don Davis  
presentation  
*Family Tree Maker  
2006*

11:30: Patte Bettis  
showing

*“My Record Keeper”*

12:00

DINNER  
ON THE GROUNDS

Artistic Margaret Mc Gilvray, has agreed to set up a display table with poster size Family Trees with picture backgrounds. Also Genealogy Scrapbooks and charts. She will show two books “Crafting your Heritage Album” and Celebrating the Family” She will also show some of her more interesting scrap-booking tools! *Should be most inspirational!*

1:00

Business meeting



1:30 Thais Tooke

Presenting #1 of  
“Germans to America” Series  
*The Germans who Came  
to Louisiana  
And the part they played  
in developing  
New Orleans*

2:00

Robert Franklin  
Presentation  
*“Backing Up  
Your Genealogical Files”*

2:30 Members favorites com-  
puter programs will be presented.

## November 20 Meeting

### GERMANS To America Series

Continues  
with

Don Davis

*“The Germans Who Came  
to Pennsylvania”*

Don Zesch

*“The Germans  
Who Came to Texas”*

### *“Germans to Louisiana”*

**Thais Tooke** presents:

**1:30 Genfest Day**

Thais has some fascinating pictures and stories about these German families who played such an important role in the development of New Orleans.

Her ancestors arrived in 1853 in the midst of the Yellow Fever Epidemic. Her father's side from Baden, her mothers people from Bavaria. She and her siblings are the first of the family to leave New Orleans.

As Grandpa Huff said when he told Grandma she could go by herself to visit her sister in Mississippi, *“There is no reason to leave New Orleans, everything anyone could ever want is right here.”*

*You will enjoy this affectionate  
Look back— at old New Orleans*

### GENCOM OFFICERS

2005-2006

President: Patricia Minton Bettis

Vice President: Margaret Clark

Treasurer: Charles Byrd

CD Librarian: Don Davis

Computer Advisor: Bob Franklin

Membership Chairmen:

Margaret and Will MC Gilvray

Social Chairmen: Julious Windham

Dorothy Rosson



Our fiscal year began in July

GENCOM dues remain at  
\$15.00  
for family.

If you cannot attend the meeting you may  
send your check to our treasurer:

Charles Byrd  
2525 Brown Circle  
Bossier City, LA. 71111

