



2009

Connections

The Newsletter of GENCOM, The Computer Genealogy Group of N. Louisiana Editor: Patricia Minton Bettis



May 17 Meeting
(Date changed because of Memorial Day)

2:00 Sunday Afternoon
Hamilton Library



Open Forum



Lets Help Each Other
Over
“The Proverbial *Brick Wall*”

Determine just what is your most
puzzling genealogical challenge —
Present the problem to the house
Let us try to solve it!

&

Discovery Day continues
for those who missed last month’s
opportunity to share favorite software,

Discovery Day



Bob Franklin gave a most interesting account of his experiences with his Garmin GPS..



Joy Stephenson told us about the American Memory Collection at the Library of Congress. According to the description—it is over 100 collections of rare and unique items important to America's heritage. . several URLs that will access it directly or indirectly through the LOC.

<http://www.loc.gov>, <http://memory.loc.gov>
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>
<http://www.loc.gov/americanmemorynd>
World Digital Library www.wdl.org/



Bernie Conradi described these two free software programs.

SmartDefrag This program speeds up my PC by defragmenting those slow files in the background automatically. You have the option of Defrag only or

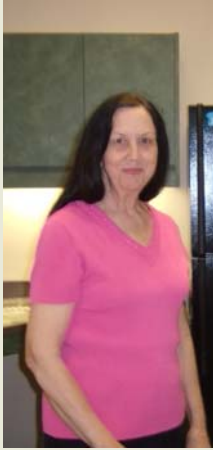
Fast Defrag and optimize. The second takes longer but is thorough. www.iobit.com

AM-Deadlink It is a program that checks your browsers bookmarks to see if they are alive and well or dead. It also checks for dead links. You can use it to remove dead links, links with errors, and



Harry Lazarus told us about his trip to Washington last week with the WWII Veterans. —showed us his picture with his Guardian, Bob Dole.. He also mentioned his ancestress who was one of The Kings Daughters. (story on another page)

Discovery Day Continues



Glenda Conradi

The presentation I gave was on my cell phone, an Alltel HTC Smart Phone. I explained some of the uses for the phone...primarily how we can use it to access the Internet with our laptop computers. It also allows me to check my email on the phone



Jeanice Vaughn

AT&T Laptop Connect Device

It connects the internet to any computer and can be taken anywhere within AT&T's wireless network. The cost is \$100.00 for the device and \$60.00 each month. Plus there is a first time hook up fee. It is able to download files from the internet but has a limit usage of 5000KB each month. I have found the device as a very useful since we can't get DSL at our area but AT&T services don't give all the details on the cost of the device when hooking it up. Plan on it costing more the first month than what you



Carolyn Franklin used Shape Collage to display pictures of her granddaughter,

The idea for Discovery Day started one week in February... when I happened to run across three items on the Internet that I considered real treasures! Each of them I thought worth sharing. As I contemplated my finds, I thought that many of us surf and explore....and we must all find things that are equally fascinating.....So, let's have a Discovery Day every now and then and pool our finds.!

- Here they are! My Choices...a Website, a new hardware accessory, and a new software program.

- 1 Internet Archives...*(Almost every library archives— downloadable, no charges)*
- 2 Canon Lide100 Scanner (59.00) A small, easy to carry scanner ..excellent~
- 3 Shape Collage Place your pictures in the shape of your choice! Heart, circle or draw your own form.—or fill letters, (A free download)

Shortly after we started making plans for this program I attended a meeting of FOG (Friends of Genealogy) and was most impressed with the program presented by Brenda Randall, their president. They had assembled all the documents and forms necessary for ICE (In case of Emergency!) A well designed packet was presented to the participants. Everything we need to be aware of in the event that we become unexpectedly ill or incapacitated. This reminded me of a program that I discovered a few years ago, which I felt would be the perfect adjunct to their project. *Personal Record Keeper 5— by Nolo Press Org.- A leading publisher. It offers a complete record resource for all your affairs. So, I demonstrated the program at the April meeting...using Open Office “ Presenter “ (like Power Point), A free Office Suite comparable to Microsoft Office (.download) Another great find!*

Several members were out of town in April, so we are inviting them to bring their Discoveries to the May Meeting.....and continue the fun!

Scribd as a Publishing Tool



By Dick Eastman

If you create genealogy information, you probably want to share that information with your close and even with distant relatives. There are many methods available for sharing documents. You can publish the text itself on your website, assuming that you own such a site, or you can provide a download link for the document. You could email a copy to those you know might be interested. You can even embed a PDF file or Powerpoint presentation in a web page. But those publishing methods won't carry your words very far beyond your existing audience. Perhaps the easiest and simplest method to publish to both your existing audience and to future, unknown audiences is to use a free service called Scribd.

Scribd is a place where you publish, discover and discuss original writings and documents. More than 50 million people each month are finding or sharing documents of all sorts. Scribd accepts documents about most any topic; genealogy is but one of the thousands of topics you can find on the site. (Users are asked to not upload pornography or any materials written by others.) To read any document on Scribd, all you need is a web browser. Scribd documents are available free of charge.

With Scribd's iPaper document reader, anyone can easily upload and immediately share their original works. There are two levels of access for Scribd documents: "public" and "private." When you mark a document private, it is immediately hidden from search index, search engine bots, and all document listings. Private documents are accessible through a secret URL that you can either keep to yourself, or share with others.

iPaper transforms PDF, Word, PowerPoint and many other file formats into formats that can be displayed in a web browser. Your work offered as "public" becomes visible to all. Because every word of your document is indexed for search engine optimization, your screenplay, novel or even sheet music and recipes also can be discovered by the world. Google and other search engines typically find all new documents on Scribd within hours, making your document(s) easily found by anyone in the world, unless you marked them as "private."

Again, Scribd is not limited to genealogy. In fact, a quick search of Scribd shows that hundreds of different topics are already well covered on the service. If you have your genealogy information available in a text file or word document of some sort, you can add your document to Scribd. Formats accepted include:

- Adobe PDF (.pdf)
- Adobe PostScript (.ps)
- Microsoft Word (.doc/ .docx)
- Microsoft PowerPoint (.ppt/.pps/.pptx)
- Microsoft Excel (.xls/.xlsx)
- OpenOffice Text Document (.odt, .sxw)
- OpenOffice Presentation Document (.odp, .sxi)
- OpenOffice Spreadsheet (.ods, .sxc)
- All OpenDocument formats
- Plain text (.txt)

Users also can download the documents you create unless you specify the option to prohibit downloads. If you do that, users can read your documents on the computer screen but cannot download the information. Users can always copy-and-paste information from your documents or print the documents, however.

Should you want to make changes to a document you have already contributed to Scribd, you can make the changes to the document locally on your own computer and then upload the changed document as a new revision. The new revision will replace the old copy while retaining the document's parameters, comments, and stats. You can revert to a previous version at any time.

Scribd includes many more options for controlling access and for making documents available in a variety of formats. At the uploader's option, a user community can be built around each document. Readers can offer comments and suggestions. Again, all this is at the uploader's option: he or she controls the creation of comments.

Scribd isn't for everyone. However, with more than 50,000 documents uploaded daily in 90 different languages, and 50 million readers each month, it is very useful for situations where you want to easily make information available to others free of charge. Scribd provides a creative and useful new platform for readers, authors, publishers and anyone else seeking to express themselves, share ideas and exchange information.


For more information, or to experiment with the service yourself, go to <http://www.scribd.com>.

To see an example of a Scribd document, you can read this article on Scribd at <http://www.scribd.com/doc/11549841/Scribd-as-a-Publishing-Tool>.

Posted by Dick Eastman on January 31, 2009 | [Permalink](#) [ShareThis](#)

[Digg This](#) | [Save to del.icio.us](#)

Comments

 You can follow this conversation by subscribing to the [comment feed](#) for this post.

Hello Richard

Scribd looks a very good solution to the need to publish and share documents and file notes. I have already uploaded some files.

What I haven't mastered as yet is the ability to:

- * create different folders within the same user group (e.g. on different branches/generations of the same family)
- * create different user groups on the same User ID (e.g. (i) a "Public Group" and a "Private Group" where I can distinguish between open access and restricted access information, for the same family; or (ii) groups for completely different family studies).



The Filles du Roi

The filles du roi, or King's Daughters, were some 770 women who arrived in the colony of New France (Canada) between 1663 and 1673, under the financial sponsorship of King Louis XIV of France. Most were single French women and many were orphans. Their transportation to Canada and settlement in the colony were paid for by the King. Some were given a royal gift of a dowry of 50 livres for their marriage to one of the many unmarried male colonists in Canada. These gifts are reflected in some of the marriage contracts entered into by the filles du roi at the time of their first marriages.

The filles du roi were part of King Louis XIV's program to promote the settlement of his colony in Canada. Some 737 of these women married and the resultant population explosion gave rise to the success of the colony. Most of the millions of people of French Canadian descent today, both in Quebec and the rest of Canada and the USA (and beyond!), are descendants of one or more of these courageous women of the 17th century.

Checking the holdings of the Family History Library from your home computer— Accessing them from The FHC on Carroll St. Shreveport !

. Go to familysearch.org. At the top of the home page there is a blue bar that starts with "home"--the 6th item across is "library." Touch your cursor there, then move down to "Library Catalog" and click.

You can search the catalog in eight ways:

place, surname, keyword, title, film/fiche number, author, subject, or call number.

Many people start with a surname search; my favorite is the place Search. Just follow the directions. For example, if I search for Columbia County, Arkansas, it lists _types_ of records available;

Click and it lists those records. This will also bring up the land and will records.

For land and will records, check both the COUNTY and also the STATE.

When you print out call numbers -- don't try to "save paper" by Putting them all on one page.

Print out all the info on the book or Film, AND at the top, note WHO and WHAT you want to look for. Write Your results on the same page, even if it's "not found." This is an efficient way to use your valuable library time.

Most of the library's films and microfiche can be borrowed through any of the 4,500+ Family History Centers worldwide. In the U.S.

The fee to order a film to the FHC is \$5.50. Fiche are 15 cents each.

Films and Fiche can be viewed only at the FHC. Books cannot be borrowed unless They have been filmed or fished.

SEARCH ENGINES

[About.com](#)

[AOL.com](#)

[Alta Vista](#)

[Ask](#)

[DogPile](#)

[Excite](#)

[Google](#)

[The Green Search \(Canada's Environmental Search Engine\)](#)

[HotBot](#)

[Looksmart](#)

[Lycos](#)

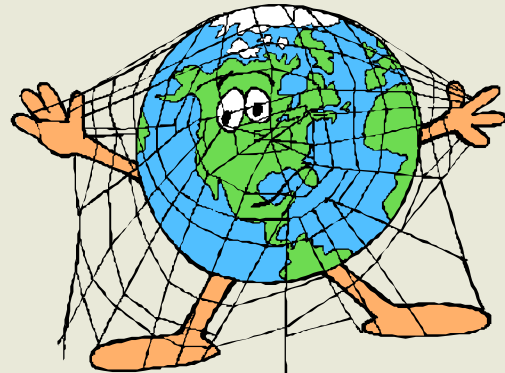
[MetaCrawler](#)

[Webcrawler](#)

[Yahoo](#)

[Yahoolig](#)

CAUGHT IN THE WEB?



World Wide Web

Don Zesch sends us this story regarding the benefit of surfing to older brains!

<http://www.webmd.com/brain/news/20081014/surfing-the-web-stimulates-older-brains>

10 secret Google search tricks – smooth operators

Author: Thomas MacEntee

Many users rely upon [Google](#) for their Internet searches but few know about the important [operators](#) that can really turbo-charge your results. Use them during your next search for family history information or when looking for surnamed and you'll be surprised at what you find!

1. **cache:** include with other keywords in the query and those words are highlighted within the site's content as cached by Google. Example: **cache:www.nara.gov archives** will show the cached content for [The National Archives](#) with the word *help* highlighted
2. **link:** produces results showing links to the specified site. Example: **link:www.ancestry.com** displays sites that have links pointing to [Ancestry](#)
3. **related:** displays sites that are "similar" to a specified site. Example: **related:www.footnote.com** lists sites that are similar to [Footnote](#)
4. **info:** produces information about a site. Example: **info:www.geni.com** will show web page information about [Geni](#)
5. **define:** provides a definition of the words entered after it. Example: **define:ahnentafel** produces definitions for the word from several sources. Note: type an entire phrase and definitions will include all the words in the exact order entered
6. **site:** results are restricted to those sites in the given domain. Example: **Germany site:www.cyndislist.com** locates sites about Germany within [Cyndi's List](#). **Germany site:com** will find pages about Germany within all sites ending in .com
7. **intitle:** restrict results to sites containing a specified keyword in the title plus other keywords anywhere in the site. Example: **intitle:African-American ancestry** will display sites that mention the word *African-American* in the title and mention the word *ancestry* anywhere in the site
8. **allintitle:** only see results with all of the query words in the title. Example: **allintitle:Dutch ancestry** will return only documents that have both *Dutch* and *ancestry* in the title
9. **inurl:** results are restricted to those containing a specified keyword in the url. Example: **inurl:ahnentafel Smith** will return sites that mention the word *ahnentafel* in the url and mention the word *Smith* anywhere in the rest of the site
10. **allinurl:** used with keywords and locate sites with all of the words in the url. Example: **allinurl:Jewish genealogy** will return only documents that have both *Jewish* and *genealogy* in the url

*We extend our sympathy to
Roy Henderson in the loss of his wife*

Dorothy Henderson

[http://www.legacy.com/shreveporttimes/
Obituaries.asp?](http://www.legacy.com/shreveporttimes/Obituaries.asp?)

[Page=Lifestory&PersonId=126801648](http://www.legacy.com/shreveporttimes/Obituaries.asp?Page=Lifestory&PersonId=126801648).

Tony Davis

We were all shocked and saddened by the untimely death of the son of Jimmie and Don Davis Anthony (Tony) Davis Tony was only 45, but the overflow crowd at his memorial service attested to the affection of the many people whose lives he had touched. Our love and prayers are with Jimmie and Don and Renee.





Carolyn's Corner
Carolyn's Corner

Carolyn Franklin

Recently I posted a request to some GENCOM members that I have e-mail addresses for. My request was could they please share some FREE genealogy websites that they have found helpful. A friend of mine that is just starting her family research needs some help. Below you will find the links from the replies I received.

Jerry Jones

Sent me this information

<http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>

<http://www.raogk.org/listing.htm>

<http://searches.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch/Default.asp?>

<http://usgenweb.org/>

The Heritage Quest Online (outside library) can be used to view census records free of charge. There are several other free sites on this page also.

<http://www.shreve-lib.org/genealogy.htm>

Leroy Terry shared these.

This is an old stand by and has a lot of good information on immigration, ships arriving at Ellis, and a lot of other things. I found my wife's father's ship that he came from Sicily on when he was six. Even had a picture of it. Also his passenger record.

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

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

<http://www.academic-genealogy.com/>

Most of my searches have to do with Harrison Co. Tex. and Lawrence Co. Ala., so unless she has ancestors that were there, most of my sites will do her no good. Hope these two will help. If I come up with more, I'll let you know.

Favorites of Don Davis

Let me know what state she is searching and I can send more Census records – www.censusfinder.com

Roots web census – userdb.rootsweb.com/census/index

If she has a library card she can dial in to Shreve memorial Library and search the census

Find a grave – www.findagrave.com

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System – www.itd.nps.gov/cwss

Cyndi's List – <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

She also can go to the library and use Ancestry.com free.

Betty Walden another friend not in the club shared these

www.familytreedna.com

www.dna.ancestry.com

www.genforum.com

www.familyhistory.com

And from my dear husband Bob, The best place to start is Cindy's List. It has links to many free genealogy sites. <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

Don Zesch sent these.

Social Security Death Index

<http://ssdi.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/ssdi.cgi>

Find a Grave

<http://www.findagrave.com/>

Birth, marriage, death, census, church Records

<http://www.familysearch.org/eng/default.asp>

Patte recommends this. Just tell her to go to Google and key in *free genealogy* Websites/PMB

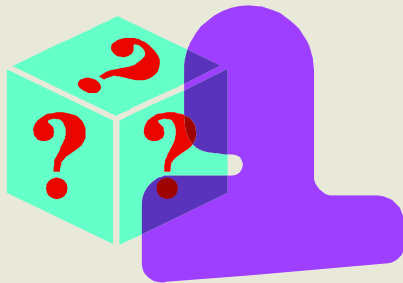
Perhaps some of these links will be helpful to you also. As I am writing this, all the links are working.

Sure hope they will be when you try to use them. Will be back in June with more information I have learned on my computer.

Carolyn



Announcement at May Meeting!



April Guests

Mike and Carol Fant
Carole White



GENCOM

Officers

2008-2009

President: Robert Franklin

Vice President: Roy Henderson

Treasurer: Charles Byrd

Membership Chairmen

Margaret Mc Gilvray

Jean Whitaker

C.D. Librarian and

FTM Consultant : Don Davis

Social Chairmen:

Julious Windham, Dorothy Rosson,

Thelma Windham

Technical Consultant:

Bernie Conradi

GENFEST Coordinator:

Carolyn Franklin

Historian: Jeanice Vaughn

Facilities Chairman: Hallie Bellotte

"Connections" Editor: Patricia Bettis

pmbettis@comcast.net

"Connections" Columnist:

Carolyn Franklin

Dues are still just \$15.00

Checks may be sent to Treasurer

Charles Byrd 2529 Brown Circle

Bossier City, LA. 71111