



Genealogy by Computer Society
Quarterly Newsletter
Serving Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan
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From the Editor's Desk

Greetings GCS Members and Happy Summer!

I hope you are enjoying the summer despite several days of extreme heat. In a few weeks, I'll be sending out letters to my extended family to meet at the Hungarian Festival for our third family reunion. I'll meet some at the Calvin Church for lunch and some at Tony Packo's for dinner. Every year a few more people show up and family news of the past year is exchanged. Will this be the year I get to see my great-grandfather's trunk, the trunk he traveled with from Hungary to the United States? I will tell you in the October newsletter. If you are also having a family reunion and would like to share how you used the computer to get your family members together, send me your experience so that I can share it with our members.

On July 4, I was listening to National Public Radio (91.3 locally) to a program about what it means to be a citizen of the United States of America. A recording of actual accounts of immigrants who came through Ellis Island from 1910-1940 were read by six or more actors. It was a wonderful set of excerpts demonstrating why these immigrants decided to come to the United States, how they were able to get here, and their experiences upon arrival. The recording is called "Ellis Island: The Dream of America." The stories made me weep because I could imagine my own great-grandparents and grandparents experiencing some of what these immigrants went through to get here. I hope you get a chance to hear this Noxos disk recording.

For the past few months my sister and I have been moving my mother out of her house into the new addition of my sister's house. We discovered some family bibles, which had several funeral cards in them with valuable dates included. Another lucky find: Elizabeth Schmidlin, daughter of my first-grade teacher and a fellow Hungarian who works at the Calvin Church baked goods booth at the Hungarian Festival. She read the April newsletter and the rest is history!

My apologies to Barb Waisanen who has been a member of GCS for years!

Well wishes go to George Hofmann. GCS misses you!

In addition to Marjorie Waterfield, Dana VanWormer is contributing a column to the newsletter about her trip to Salt Lake City. Thanks to all of you for your contributions and suggestions. Special thanks to Ev Charette, Joe Patay, Jim Seaton, and Pat Anascewicz. Have a wonderful summer!

Linda Jackson, Editor



Area Genealogical Meetings

No July or August meetings for these groups:

The Lucas County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, the Fulton County Chapter, the Toledo Area Genealogical Society, the Wood County Chapter, the Genealogical Society of Monroe County, Michigan.

However, Genealogy by Computer Society will have its usual monthly meetings, and these meeting topics will be announced and sent to your email address.

OGS: Numerous events are listed at www.ogs.org/

Sign up for free monthly e-zine for the OGS news, events, etc.

2008 OGS Annual Conference "Navigating the Past: Charting a Course for Your family Tree" April 17-19, 2008, Sheraton Hotel/Conference Center, Cincinnati

More information at <http://www.ogs.org/2008conf.php>

NGS: Numerous events are listed at www.ngsgenealogy.org/

30th NGS Conference in the States and Family History Fair

Family Reunions Listing

Genealogical Sites Online by Marjorie Waterfield

R. B. HAYES OBITUARY SITE

<http://index.rbhayes.org/hayes/index/>

This obituary site from the Hayes Presidential Library is constantly updated. At this time, it has over 1,200,000 obituary, death, and marriage notices indexed online from newspapers. The index spans 1810 to the present time. It originally covered the Fremont, Port Clinton, and Sandusky area, but now has included records from many areas of northwest Ohio, including Lima and Cleveland.

This index search is free. Once you bring up this site, it is very user friendly.

A *simple search* or an *advanced search* engine is available.

Enter a family surname and the result will come up as a chart. See example below.

This is one page of results on the Waterfield name.

Search Results

The search criteria you selected yields **28** record(s).



You are viewing record **1** through **28**.
Click on **details** to view individual record.

	Last Name	First Name	Middle	Prefix/Suffix	Spouse Last Name	Spouse First Name	Age at Death	Place of Death	Year of Death	Month of Death	Day of Death
details »	WATERFIELD			CHILD			INFANT	SANDUSKY	1897		
details »	WATERFIELD			INFANT				PORT CLINTON	1899	3	15
details »	WATERFIELD	MRS						SANDUSKY			
details »	WATERFIELD	ALBERT					45	HUDSON	1913	3	9
details »	WATERFIELD	ARTHUR	P				4 MONTHS	SANDUSKY	1908	3	1
details »	WATERFIELD	BETSY									
details »	WATERFIELD	BETSY					79	SANDUSKY	1897	1	20
details »	WATERFIELD	CHARLES					48	SANDUSKY	1892	10	23
details »	WATERFIELD	CHESTER	C				30	SANDUSKY	1908	11	2
details »	WATERFIELD	CHRISTINA	M			JOHN	64	SANDUSKY	1913	3	22
details »	WATERFIELD	EMELINE	R				2	SANDUSKY	1902	6	1
details »	WATERFIELD	FRANK						CLEVELAND	1898	7	7
details »	WATERFIELD	FREDERICK	J				27	SANDUSKY	1902	9	23
details »	WATERFIELD	GEORGE			LUTTENWORTH	BETSY	67	SANDUSKY	1883	11	14
details »	WATERFIELD	HARRY						CLEVELAND	1908	11	6

If you find a name of interest, click on the right side of the screen for “details”.

DETAILS will include:

Name, date of death, place of death, spouse (if spouse is female, the maiden name is often given). The place of burial will also be given if it appeared in the obituary. Although it is an obituary site, there are now many marriage notices from newspapers in this index. The name of newspaper is then listed with the date, page number, and column where the event is to be found.

Following the choices at the bottom of the page, you can open an account and have a copy of the records sent to you. The cost is very minimal and the results are sent within a few days. You can also “Add a Post-Em” which means you can add data to this index on the person found.

If you have not used this site for a while, go back to it as it has greatly expanded and continues to add items often.

Dana's Trip to Salt Lake City



Preparing for Your Salt Lake City Trip: *The On-line Catalog*

In preparing for a research trip, your top priority is organization. If you select a focus and formulate a plan for the hunt before leaving home, you will optimize your precious research time once you are in the Family History Library in Salt Lake.

How do I do that, you ask. First select a target person. For me it was Aaron Van Wormer, senior. Look over what you do know about the person: vital statistics, locales, family group. For example, I know Aaron's death date from his will which was filed in Albany County, New York. Now decide what you want to find out. Where are the holes in your information? I have already found his marriage to Susana Wagner and the children listed as beneficiaries in his will. I want to find his parents. I want to nail down his birth facts.



Next, collect the data you have on the relatives of this person. Many times we hit a brick wall, but we can attempt an end run by shifting our focus to a sibling or cousin. Although I have been in hot pursuit of Aaron for three years, I have not succeeded in finding meaty information on him and am out of leads. However, I have additional children of his. On my next visit I will shift my attention to Michael, Peter, Cornelius, John, Isaac, and Abram since records recorded in males' names are more frequent. If that fails, then I will pursue his daughters: Mary, Eliza and Catherine.

Now that you have a plan, you are ready to attack the electronic card catalog – a godsend to genealogists. You can sit in your robe in front of the computer in the wee hours of the night and browse through the collection. The address is <http://www.familysearch.org/>. (*image #1*) Click on the "Library" tab at the top of the home page. (*image #2*) Then click on "Family History Library Catalog" in the menu bar below the tabs. (*image #3*)

I prefer the "Place Search". It is most likely to yield concrete primary evidence in the form of microfilm of original documents or registers. (*image #4*) The Place Search Page presents you with two dialog boxes: "Place" and "Part of", for example, *Place: Guilderland; Part of: Albany County*. You will be shown a list of the places requested. (*image #5*) Click on the place you want, then you will be presented with a longer list of biographies, cemeteries, church history, church records, genealogies, town histories, etc. (*image #6*) Follow one of the topics and print that listing of resources because it will serve as the index to your research binder. (*image #7*) I suggest that you thoroughly explore one topic, such as church records or a specific town, during a visit, rather than skipping around various topics.

You continue your exploration of this list of results by clicking on the links displayed. When you come across something that looks interesting (*image #8*), click on the link for a printable version. If it is an unfruitful link, note that on your "index". Do this for each tasty morsel you come across, then organize them into a binder. These sheets are what you will work from once you arrive at the library. They will serve to direct you quickly to resources, provide a ready-made research log, and a place to take notes. The handy thing about this system is that when you return to the library again, whether it is the next day or years from now, you have "footprints" of everywhere you have explored so that you will not waste time looking up the same resources year after year.

You may want to organize your binder by media: one section for microfilm, another for books, another for microfiche, etc. I prefer to color code the media with various highlighters (yellow = microfilm, blue = books, pink = microfiche, etc.) and organize by topic (biographies, cemeteries, church history, church records, genealogies, town histories, etc.).

Once you have your binder filled and organized, you are ready to hit the road! The time you spend in the library will be efficient and effective.



Editor's Note: My apologies for not publishing the images Dana has listed above. You will find these images as you open up the Web site and follow Dana's directions.

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Joe Patay's Update:

Joe Patay receives a monthly mailing of the Rootsweb Review, which is the e-zine that is put out by OGS. The latest issue has so much information I can't even summarize it here. But take a look at the OGS Web site at www.ogs.org and you can receive this free monthly e-zine for yourself. Of particular interest to me was the issue of the 1911 Census for England and Wales that will become available in 2009.

NARA: There is a proposal to increase the cost of making copies of Civil War Pension Files from \$37 to \$125. Here are the step-by-step instructions for submitting your comments about this proposal:

1. Go to www.regulations.gov
2. Under "Search for," select "Documents Open for Public Comment."
3. Under "Agency," select "National Archives and Records Administration*."
4. Under "Document Type," select "All Document Types."
5. In the "Keyword or ID" field, type "NARA-07=0001=0001."
6. Select "Exact Phrase."
7. Click the "Submit" button.

You can read the proposed rule by clicking the PDF icon in the "Views" column. You can add your comments by clicking the yellow balloon icon in the "Comments" column.

Also, you can e-mail comments to your government representative at:

<http://www.house.gov/writerep/>.

To view the 7 March 2007 Review announcement about the proposed NARA fee increase, visit: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/review/2007/0307.txt>

Liz Stookesberry Myers of "Tree Search" in Southern California says, "PLEASE, PLEASE WRITE TO THEM TODAY!!!!!!!"

Ev Charette's Trip to London and Ireland

31st Anniversary Celebrated in London, England and Cork County, Ireland

Jane and I traveled to London to be with our son, Jon, and daughter, Julie Tipple, and their spouses for our May 22 anniversary. We never thought in our wildest dreams that both of our "children" would live in the same city, much less in London! After touring London for five days, we flew to County Cork, Ireland where we stayed three days at a bed 'n' breakfast castle. With rental cars we viewed the scenic countryside, toured historic sights, visited quaint Oceanside villages and savored food and drink in Irish pubs. Since our purpose was to visit Jon and Julie and just get a feel for Irish hospitality, I did not search Jane's ancestors, the Connors and O'Learys, in Galway and Dublin. That may come another time. But after ten days we returned home on May 30, 2007 with many treasured memories and pictures.

Atop an ancient fort in Castletownshend are left to right: My niece, Dana Connors; daughter, Julie Tipple; daughter-in-law, Dana Charette; Ev and Jane Charette; my son-in-law, Matt, snapped the picture.





Pictured by a Castletownshend sign are: Jane and Ev Charette.



Ev and Jane Charette at Mizen Point, the most southwestern point on Ireland.

Pat Anaszewicz Has a Computer Joke

Jesus and Satan were having an on-going argument about who was better on the computer. They had been going at it for days, and frankly God was of hearing all the bickering. Finally fed up, God said, "THAT'S IT! I have had enough. I am going to set up a test that will run for two hours, and from those results, I will judge who does the better job." So Satan and Jesus sat down at the keyboards and typed away. They moused. They faxed. They e-mailed. They e-mailed with attachments. They downloaded. They did spreadsheets! They wrote reports. They created labels and cards. They created charts and graphs. They did some genealogy reports. They did every job known to man. Jesus worked with heavenly efficiency and Satan was faster than hell. Then, ten minutes before their time was up, lightning suddenly flashed across the sky, thunder rolled, rain poured,



and, of course, the power went off. Satan stared at his blank screen and screamed every curse word known in the underworld. Jesus just sighed. Finally the electricity came back on, and each of them restarted their computers. Satan started searching frantically, screaming: "It's gone! It's all GONE! I lost everything when the power went out!" Meanwhile, Jesus quietly started printing out all of his files from the past two hours of work. Satan observed this and became irate. "Wait!" he screamed. "That's not fair! He cheated! How come he has all his work and I don't have any?" God just shrugged and said, "JESUS SAVES."

Ruth Beckman Recommends Clooz Software

Ruth bought the Clooz software and manual after our meeting and she really likes it. Half of her genealogy is currently stored in file cabinets and the other half in binders. She says that it is a different concept to organize by document rather than by family, but she thinks it will work for her. She has already downloaded the software, is reading the manual, and has begun to implement the program a little at a time as Elizabeth Kelly Kerstens suggested. Ruth said, "I truly enjoyed her presentation. I have always been curious about Clooz and was glad to finally learn about it."

Ruth also recommends the book Voices in Your Blood by G.G. Vandagriff. In her book, Vandagriff clearly outlines all the steps in creating a family history from interviewing parents to using the latest computer software without feeling lost. "It is enjoyable to read."

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About the Genealogy by Computer Society**Meetings**

The Genealogy by Computer Society (GCS) meets on the second Saturday of each month. The meeting place is the Toledo Lucas County Public Library at the Downtown Main Branch, 325 Michigan Street, Toledo, Ohio. Meetings are held in the Sky Bank Room located on the 1st floor.

The meetings begin at 1:00 p.m. with a brief business session and introductions, followed by a program with a member, guest speaker, or panel presenting a topic relating to the use of computers for genealogical research.

After a short break for refreshments and social discussions, the group divides into Special Interest Groups (SIG) to exchange information about genealogy software programs and equipment.

Membership

Membership is open to anyone interested in the use of the computer as a tool for genealogical record keeping and research. Annual dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per family, which includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter sent online by an email address given by the subscriber.

Anyone wishing to join the GCS should fill out the Membership Application and send a check payable to GCS to: Don Hengen, 4831 Port Drive, Maumee, Ohio 43537.



Visit GCS on the web at: www.gcstoledo.org