

Chat log 31 July 2018
An Overview of Important Historical Record Collections by Tal Erlichman

Audience Question:

Q: My sister-in-law e-mailed this morning asking for help with one of her ancestors. I'm still trying to track him down, but I've found death certificates for 2 others on MyHeritage.

A: Congrats!

Audience Question:

Q: I'll be in Oslo in november too, Geoff

A: Great!!

Audience Question:

Q: Maybe you could clarify to the person who asked about the MyHeritage webinars that while Legacy Family Tree is a genealogy database/software, MyHeritage is a site where he/she can search for records about her ancestors, and that MyHeritage does have things about it that are free to everyone. In my experience, I learn just as much from webinars I think aren't going to be very pertinent to me as I do from all the others. She/he should just watch anyway and see what it's about! After all, the webinar is free!

A: Thanks!

Audience Question:

Q: Didn't Tal do another web regarding MyHeritage?

A: This is his first webinar, at least with us here.

Audience Question:

Q: I thought there was another web about MyHeritage....hmmmmm

A: About twice a month there is a MyHeritage-specific webinar. These are in addition to our regular webinars. See <https://familytreewebinars.com/myheritagewebinars>

Audience Question:

Q: Can one synch changes such as the merge he just described made in myheritage backwards into Legacy Family Tree?

A: That's coming in our next version of the Legacy software.

Audience Question:

Q: My Heritage has opened up a treasure trove of my European ancestry in both DNA AND tree matches which weren't found through the Ancestry. I was so pleased, and excited and have been slowly following up.

A: So good to hear, congrats!

Audience Question:

Q: how does a person follow backwards the records of relatives behind 1850-in the midwest? It is very difficult to especially find especially with a woman?

A: Karen Clifford taught this in "Pre-1850 U.S. Research Methodologies" at https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=56. She also has a book at <http://www.graonline.com/cgi-bin/gra/getdescr?-1+0+-1+English+header3+bk4002+trailer> on the topic.

Audience Question:

Q: Jeanne Bloom's BCG webinar from earlier this month might also be of use because she focuses on women in that webinar: https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=737

A: Very good, thanks!

Audience Question:

Q: Found my aunt's (by marriage) photos for Sophomore to Senior years.

A: Cool! I found some really interesting pictures of my mother.

Audience Question:

Q: I like that change because we only have so many clicks in our fingers, right, Geoff?

A: Yep, we only have a limited number of clicks in our clicking finger. Any shortcuts are welcome.

Audience Question:

Q: comment: 2 other great benefits of Legacy webinars beyond the topic: a chance for a door prize and the chance of after webinar parties, or do you still do those? Plus you might learn something in the chat box!

A: Agree. The after parties will likely resume soon (when the kids are back in school and the "office" here is much quieter...)

Audience Question:

Q: I can't wait to check out the yearbook collection!

A: I just found an embarrassing photo of my father's sister.

Audience Question:

Q: My dad always said he was city swimming champion of Chicago. But the yearbook says he came in second by one second/

A: Ha! :)

Audience Question:

Q: What does OCR mean?

A: Optical Character Recognition. Webinar at https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=420 explains it well.

Audience Question:

Q: I have learned so much about the lives of ancestors because of the excellent OCR of the Toledo, OH Toledo Blade. The obits have been so detailed and often cover not just Lucas County but NW OH and southern MI counties.

A: So glad to hear!

Audience Question:

Q: Newspapers can also reveal how socially connected an ancestor was, for example, church societies they were involved in, company awards, birthday reachouts, guest at a social event. I found examples of each of these examples for some of my relatives. They give details of who they were as people not just statistics. So cool!

A: Newspapers are so great. We shouldn't overlook them in our research, eh?

Audience Question:

Q: I think newspapers were probably the first external source (outside of talking to relatives) that I delved into, primarily for obituaries because they were easiest to find, but no, we should never overlook them.

A: Me too. I remember finding my first obituary. What a fun experience that was.

Audience Question:

Q: newspapers are definitely beneficial to us and our generation, but the next few generations are going to have a challenge of their own; I work for a small town newspaper and have noticed over the past couple of decade that fewer and fewer people are publishing death notices.

A: Good point. We just did a webinar last week about this:

https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=857

Audience Question:

Q: Didn't find Roscoe in two other major newspaper resources.

A: Wow, really? Kudos then to MyHeritage's newspaper collection.

Audience Question:

Q: comment: I found in another newspaper archive, a governor offering a reward for my ancestor. He killed his brother in law. It made it to other state papers and a German newspaper.

A: Yikes!

Audience Question:

Q: If you know the cemetery or funeral home..whether you got it from a newspaper or not...write to them. I did and got info than I thought I would...like the payment plan for the lots!

A: That's great! I, too, have found amazing info from contacting the funeral home. And yes, we have a relatively new webinar about that too: https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=794

Audience Question:

Q: I got an amazing amount of info directly from cemeteries/funeral homes. I think they get bored...and my request was something new to do.

A: :)

Audience Question:

Q: Don't get your hopes up. Results from funeral homes vary greatly. Sometimes they will phone you back days later, saying they continued to look and found them misfiled to won't give out any info, don't speak English or only keep records for 7 years. Good luck.

A: Just like genealogy - never know what we'll find, which is why we all love this, right?

Audience Question:

Q: That's why it never hurts to ask.

A: yep

Audience Question:

Q: woo hoo! I have Lubeck in my family tree!

A: :)

Audience Question:

Q: So glad for that search in both Denmark and Germany as my ancestors were from Eckernforde which

was in Denmark when they were there and is now in Germany.

A: ...and my emigrant Danish ancestors stated they were from Germany on their passenger lists...

Geoff Rasmussen (to All - Entire Audience): 3:08 PM: Mike's webinar on Nordic records:

https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=772

Audience Question:

Q: some of my searches showed Drouin...and I thought it was a city, and did not belong on my tree...drat...I will have to go back!

A: :)

Audience Question:

Q: Doing a favor from another genealogist who lives outside of my area I found out that one of our funeral home/cemetery business keeps great records. And not only that, they have one full time staff person who does nothing but help out people who are searching for the gravesites and information on the deceased. They spoiled me for other businesses that don't help at all.

A: Wow

Audience Question:

Q: Usually when I see Drouin, I think Quebec and French-Canadian records; didn't know they were doing obits, too.

A: agree

Audience Question:

Q: Great news about the NYC records.

A: yes, very exciting

Geoff Rasmussen (to All - Entire Audience): 3:18 PM: <http://blog.myheritage.com>

Geoff Rasmussen (to All - Entire Audience): 3:21 PM: tal.erlichman@myheritage.com

Geoff Rasmussen (to All - Entire Audience): 3:24 PM: MyHeritage Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/myheritageusersgroup/>