

GENEALOGY

Note: A good place to get genealogy information:

The LDS (Mormon) center in Salt Lake. try (800) 346-6044 (old #, probably still good. If not, call local LDS (Latter Day Saints) Family History Center)

Re: Family Tree Maker, a genealogy program:

We have Family Tree Maker and I've found it fairly easy for entering info. Haven't been particularly impressed with the way it prints out but in fairness to the program, I haven't had the time to really get into it.

Malcolm has previously had PAF from the Mormon Church and did not care for it all. It's too geared for the Mormon Church. Back at that time, about the only thing I did on the computer was to play with MacPaint and write a few letters.

The Mac version of Family Tree Maker by Broderbund is not near as good as the Windows version. The Windows version allows you to import pictures. Some people like the idea of having the extra cds with family names. I have not looked too closely at the cds, but I think that most of the names are people who had been on Soc.Sec. and have passed away. It gives their last known address and date of death. You can also get information on families from the Broderbund web site. (sort of, but no one from our family)

I think the one that Jim likes best is Reunion. I think they are up version 5 now. I found an ad for them in the MacHome Journal, in back of the magazine, small one column by two or three inches. The names of the company is >Leister Productions, >www.leisterpro.com<, can be ordered from MacConnection 1-800-334-4444, Email: info@LeisterPro.com AOL: LeisterPro. The ad shows: sound & video, web publishing, drag & drop editing, newcharts, unlimited people,events,and sources.

The PAF program is geared more to the type of records that the Mormon Church keeps. Using it I had a lot of blank fields, or used some of the fields for something I deemed important. On a scale of one to ten, this would be about a 1.5. I have not checked for some time, but they may have a new version out. I just found the program disks. Personal Ancestral File 2.1/Macintosh on two 800K disk copy date of 1986, 1988. I would think they would have had one or two updates since I got mine.

POWERFUL SEARCH ENGINES FOR GENEALOGY AND SEARCH ON THE INTERNET

My understanding is there are over 800 available search engines for surfing the Internet. Recently I was provided a list of search engines for use in doing genealogy work as well as other specialized searches. I found some of these to be excellent. During recent days I have made some significant genealogy finds using one or more of these search engines.

BACKGROUND INFO

NEC Research reports that the number of pages now on the web has reached a staggering 320 million pages. That number does not include pages that are controlled by password entries. Any given search engine cannot and does not index all 320 million pages, therefore, when searching for your ancestors make sure that you use ALL of the search engines that I have mentioned. The following is the percentage of pages that the most popular search engines carry.

Infoseek - 41%

HotBot - 34%

Alta Vista and Yahoo - 28%

Lycos - 3%

Northern Light - 20% (This engine was not mentioned, check it out!!!)

<http://www.northerlight.com>

Excite - 14%

Notice that the percentages total to over 100%.....the reason? The search engines have overlapping pages or many of the same pages are found on several of the search engines. So, use them all.

Here is a mega search engine that just might help you find those personal genealogical pages: It's called Ahoy! - <http://ahoy.cs.washington.edu:6060/>

Here are some sites that carry multiple search engines. All this really does is save you from having to go to each search engine site individually.

W3 Search Engines - <http://cuiwww.unige.ch/meta-index.html>

All-In-One-Search Page - <http://www.albany.net/allinone/all1www.html>

WWW Search Engines - <http://www.amdahl.com/internet/meta-index.html>

Search Engines - <http://www-hpcc.astro.washington.edu/scied/web/search.html>

WWW Search Engines - This site has some really unusual engines -

http://ugweb.cs.ualberta.ca/~mentor02/search/search_engines.html

<http://ugweb.cs.ualberta.ca/~mentor02/search/search-all.html#2>

Searching - <http://www.adingoatemybaby.com/srcheng.html>

MegaSearch - <http://www.csrnet.org/csrnet/megasrch.html>

Maurine Mega Search - <http://www.csrnet.org/csrnet/megasrch.html>

Gene and Suzanne's Search Page - They have taken the trouble to tell you what each search engine listed does and its specialty.

<http://www.bright.net/~genensuz/search.html>

Front Page (A site of search engines based on categories)

<http://www.thefrontpage.com/search/search.html>

W3 Search Engines - <http://cuiwww.unige.ch/meta-index.html>
All-In-One-Search Page - <http://www.albany.net/allinone/all1www.html>
WWW Search Engines - <http://www.amdahl.com/internet/meta-index.html>
Search Engines - <http://www-hpcc.astro.washington.edu/scied/web/search.html>
WWW Search Engines - This site has some really unusual engines -
http://ugweb.cs.ualberta.ca/~mentor02/search/search_engines.html
<http://ugweb.cs.ualberta.ca/~mentor02/search/search-all.html#2>
Searching - <http://www.adingoatemybaby.com/srcheng.html>
MegaSearch - <http://www.csrnet.org/csrnet/megasrch.html>
Maurine Mega Search - <http://www.csrnet.org/csrnet/megasrch.html>
each search engine listed does and its specialty.
<http://www.bright.net/~genensuz/search.html>

Front Page (A site of search engines based on categories)
<http://www.thefrontpage.com/search/search.html>

More –

Ancestry.com

Hi, Thought I'd send you the info to make the census records large enough to read from Ancestry.com. 1st. type in Ancestry.com, then go to search and Imaging, that will bring up the census. You may have to join ancestry.com, sometimes it's free. They like you to download MrSid, and it will show up on the desktop as LizzardTech. and also download the newest version of IE.5.5 Web Browser. Then you are all set. After you get to images, click on the already have Mr, Sid and the census will show up. Go to the top left corner of the census and you will see a small + sign, click on it and click again on the image. that will enlarge the census. To minimize the census, to the same thing only click on the - sign. in the left hand corner. There is a zoom button, left hand corner, box with dotted line, this will let you drag and create a box. Full size view screen, click bottom left of image. This might help, if anyone asks you about it. Info. from Ancestry.com. Lois

LOCATING ANCESTORS ONLINE

The Internet provides easy access to records, lists, and indexes. The kind of information that used to be hidden away on microfilm in library basements is now at your fingertips. These are the kinds of things you're looking for:

- Death, birth, immigration, and marriage records
- Military indexes
- Census reports
- Court transcripts and reports
- Local records and family registries
- Old telephone directories

The quality and quantity of information available on the Internet is improving every day. There are over 100,000 genealogy sites out there, not to mention newsgroups, genealogy search engines, databases, indexes, and digital libraries. Here is a sampling of the kind of information that's available to you, including some of the most widely respected sites.

- The Family History Library (www.familysearch.org) is the largest collection of family history in the world, with over two million rolls of microfilmed records. They've also established online access to their major computer database—FamilySearch. The online version includes the International Genealogical Index, an Ancestral File, a Family History Library Catalog, and many genealogy-related websites from around the world.
- Ellis Island Records Site (www.ellislandrecords.com) An amazing (and free!) resource, this site allows you to search for Ellis Island immigration records. You can even view online family scrapbooks.
- Genealogy (www.genealogy.com) is a great place to start your research. They have plenty of links, loads of research tools, plus a wonderful learning center jam-packed with useful how-to information.
- Lineages Website (www.lineages.com/default.asp) This is a major genealogical reference library and resource center, built and maintained by professional genealogists. It provides free access to record databases and lots of other resources. Check out their “Genealogy for Beginners” guide, complete with forms and checklists.
- The U.S. Army Military History Institute (<http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi/>) collects, organizes, preserves, and makes available over nine million source materials on American military history to the defense community, researchers, and scholars.