



ROOTDIGGER

3rd Quarter: July — September 2009

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How To Share Your Genealogy Files

By Kimberly Powell

Ask the intended recipient what type of computer they have, what genealogy software program they use, and what version of the software they are running.

If they are using the same software as you are, and their version is the same or later than yours, then send them your file in the same format it is stored on your computer (i.e. Family Tree Maker files have the extension .ftw).

If they are using different software or an earlier version of your software program, then check your software manual to see what file formats you can save in.

You can also usually access the available file formats by selecting "Save As" or "Export" from your software's file menu (this varies by program).

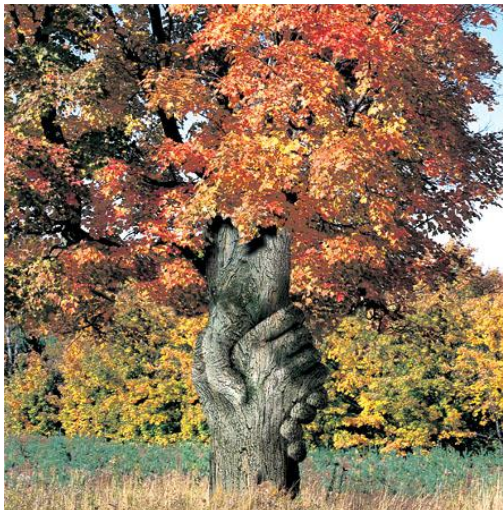
If your recipient uses an earlier version of your software, and your program allows you to save in that version's format, then this is an easy option for you.

Keep in mind that newer versions of a software program may contain extra information fields which are not available to an earlier version. Thus, when you save in the older format, some of the information may not be added to the new file.

If they use a different brand of genealogy software then your best choice is to create output in the GEDCOM (*.ged) standard format, which allows one brand of genealogy software to successfully share information with another brand.

After exporting your genealogy information into GEDCOM format, make sure to check the exported file to see if includes the information that you think it does. You can run a test by importing the GEDCOM into an "empty" database.

Please keep in mind the privacy of living people. Use GEDCOM Cleaning Software to privatize the information on living individuals from the file you cre-



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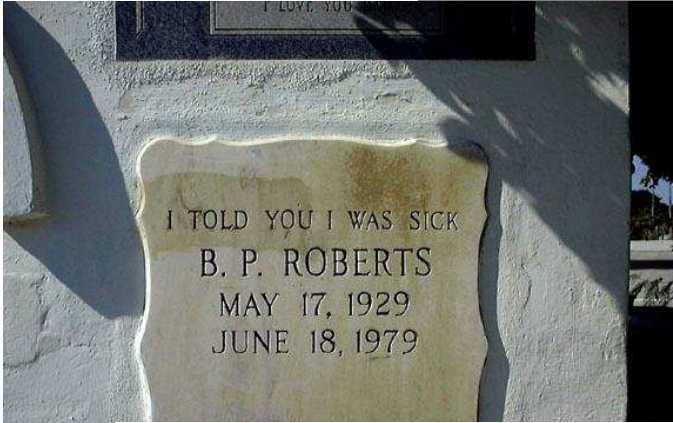
Special points of interest:

- See some unusual grave-stones
- Just how many ancestors do we really have!
- Google and Genealogy
- Your Coat of Arms?

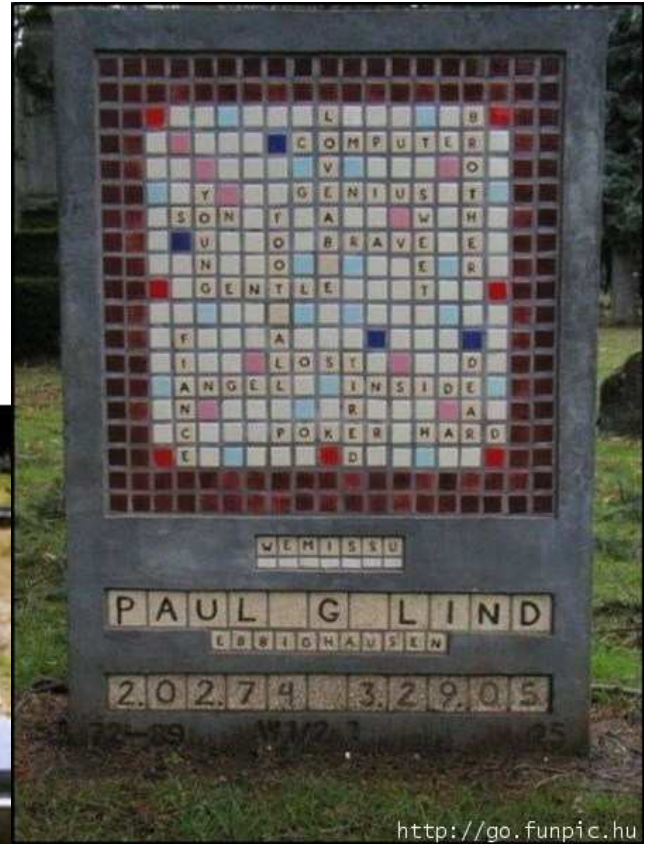
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A Collage of *From Arnold Davis*



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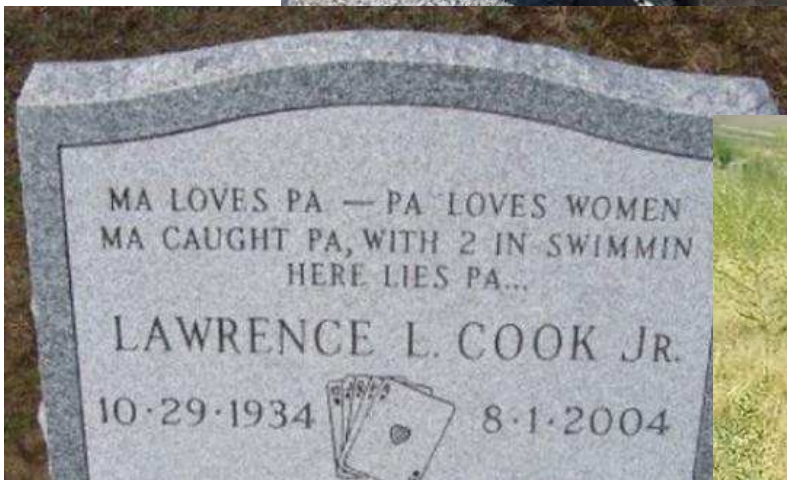


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Gravestones





HOW MANY ANCESTORS DO WE HAVE???

© Lorine McGinnis Schulze
<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml>



GENEALOGICAL TREE OF THE QUEEN AND HER DESCENDANTS

Queen Victoria's family tree

While the idea of the Diamond Theory of Ancestors is not new, I've taken notes from different sources, compiled my own data, and written up what I hope is an interesting and understandable explanation.

If we double the number of ancestors in each generation, 2 parents, 4 grandparents, and so on, we can see that by the time we are back 10 generations, we have the potential for 1024 ancestors. But is this true? If we were to go back to the time of Charlemagne, we would find we had the potential for 281 trillion (YES!) ancestors all living at that one moment in history. This is statistically impossible! So where did our ancestors go?

It is estimated that 80% of the marriages in history were between second cousins. Why? Because the population base was smaller, people lived in small communities and migrated within those same small communities. The theory in genealogical research is that our family trees are actually shaped like a diamond, not a pyramid as shown below. Tracing back a few generations gives a wider shape. Keep going and you find the shape narrowing, eventually, the theory holds, converging to only a few ancestors.

This may sound mind-boggling but I've seen the truth of it. I am back a total of 14 generations which takes me to the last half of the 1500s. I've found that in two cases so far, I am descended from more than one child of one specific couple. Need an example? Pieter Uziele and his wife Cornelia Damen were my 8th great grandparents. I descend from two of their children: Sophia Uziele and her sister Maria Uziele. Remember, they are my 7th great-grandmothers and are in my 10th generation. I also descend from two children of Jochem Lambertse Van Valkenburg and his wife Eva Hendrickse Vrooman, who were my 8th great-grandparents. Their son Isaac and his sister Jannetie are my 7th great-grandparents and are in my 10th generation. So we see the gene pool narrowing in my 11th generation!

How? In the pyramid theory of doubling ancestors each generation, these **four** 7th great-grandparents would give me **eight** distinct individuals as ancestors for my 8th great-grandparents - but they don't. Because they are sets of siblings, I have only **four** new distinct individuals as ancestors for my 8th great-grandparents - half the number I should have if the doubling theory held true. Assuming I have double sets of siblings at least three times on that 10th generation, I've lost six individuals from my 11th generation. That carries

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It is estimated that 80% of the marriages in history were between second cousins



Charlie Picket gravestone and his family tree?

HOW MANY ANCESTORS DO WE HAVE????

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over to my 12th generation, but doubles the number I lose for a total of 12 ancestors. If I had three more double sets of siblings in my 11th generation, I've lost another six individuals in my 12th - for a total of 18 fewer individuals. Keep doing this for a few more generations and you'll see the shape your ancestral tree is taking.

Luckily for the human race, this tendency to marry cousins reversed itself in more recent years, due to larger population bases and easier access to possible mates. Otherwise, our search for the missing link might prove to be just that !

One very interesting probability model created by a demographer for genealogists, is that a child born in 1947 in England tracing back to 1492 would have 60,000 ancestors. Going back further to 1215, this child would find that 80% of the entire population of England at that time would be on his/her family tree! So anyone living in present-day England who traces his/her lineage back through English history would theoretically be related. This is why genealogists find so many people searching for the same families in the 1600s and earlier, and why we find so many "cousins" out there in our search. I've found hundreds of cousins in the last year while searching via the Internet.

Genealogy is fascinating, and becomes even more so when we make those human contacts in present-day times with folks as far away as Norway who are descended from the same immigrant ancestor of 1624. I've become almost blasé about new cousins - I expect to find them, and I do!

Pyramid Theory of Doubling Ancestors

SELF
 2 PARENTS
 4 GRANDPARENTS
 8 GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 16 GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 32 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 64 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 128 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 256 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 512 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 1024 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS

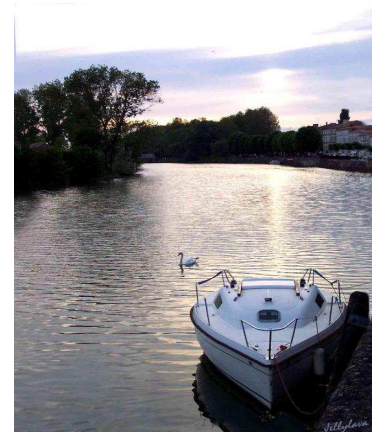
In this theory the number of ancestors double each generation. I can't represent the rest of the generations on this page, so following is the number of

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Dig out all those old family records

80% of the entire population of England at that time would be on his/her family tree!

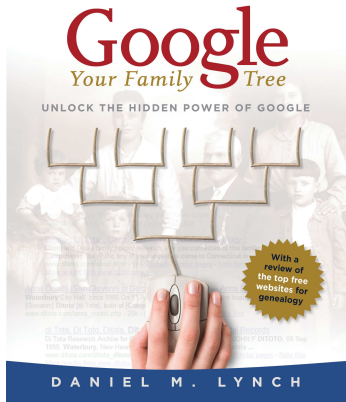


Tranquility



A review of “Google Your Family Tree”

By Joel Swanson



I recently received an excellent book, “Google Your Family Tree, Unlock the Hidden Power of Google” by Daniel M. Lynch. I never realized the search capabilities that have been incorporated into the searching parameters of the program as they apply to Genealogy. I will highlight a few that I have found to be most useful.

1. Google is case insensitive --- except for the Boolean commands AND and OR
2. Automatic AND – swanson genealogy minnesota gives the same results as swanson AND genealogy AND Minnesota.
3. Command: “ “ results in a direct match of the included string of characters.
4. Command: * within quotations. Results in accepting any character or consecutive string of characters. “joel * swanson” will find joel r swanson and joel richard swanson but not joel swanson.
5. Command: ** within quotations. Results in accepting any two characters or consecutive string of characters. “joel ** swanson” will find joel r h swanson and joel richard henry swanson but not joel swanson.
6. Command: | or OR. Example: john OR swan AND swanson AND kenyon | goodhue will find John or Swan Swanson in Kenyon or Goodhue.
7. Command: - The word not is *not* recognized by Google, but the negative function can be inserted directly before a word without a space. Example: ferris -wheel –amusement –bueller –university.
8. Command: + Not to be confused with AND. Preceding a word it has the same effect as placing the single word in quotations. Example: “joel swanson” +brother
9. Command: ~ (tilde) Used to find similar words or synonyms. Example: swanson ~genealogy or “joel swanson” ~genealogy or “joel swanson” ~birth.
10. Command: .. (numrange) Example: “john swanson” born 1830..1880 will find birthdates between and including the two dates.
11. The following advanced commands are also available. related: site: cache: intext: intitle: / allintitle: inurl: / allinurl: filetype: phonebook: and finally calculator functions and conversions.
12. Look at the top of the page of your results to access the various links available i.e.; images, videos, maps, news, shopping, gmail, and **more**. More contains several additional links the most important ones to genealogists are **Books, Groups, Blogs and Photos**.
13. Using the language tools, news archive, alerts, maps, earth, notebook and the google toolbar are all included in the book. I highly recommend the book for genealogists who are looking for a different way to possibly breakdown a brick wall.

*swanson genealogy
minnesota
gives the same results as
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Google homepage.

HOW MANY ANCESTORS DO WE HAVE????

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theoretical ancestors in each generation, starting at Generation 12 where the figure above leaves off.

- Gen. 12: 2048
- Gen. 13: 4096
- Gen. 14: 8192
- Gen. 15: 16384
- Gen. 16: 32768

Diamond Theory of Ancestors

In this theory the pyramid begins to narrow beyond the 10th generation. I can't represent this with numbers as they would be unknown, so I am representing the basic shape with x representing the number of individuals in each generation. I will, however make some assumptions about the number of parents and grandparents back to the 10th generation.

SELF
 2 PARENTS
 4 GRANDPARENTS
 8 GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 16 GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 32 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 64 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 128 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
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 512 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 1024 GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 x G-G-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 x G-G-G-G-G-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 x G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-GREAT-GREAT-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS
 x-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-G-GREAT-GRANDPARENTS

This article was researched by Lorine McGinnis Schulze of The Olive Tree Genealogy at <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml> Permission to copy is granted as long as the article remains AS IS. No changes may be made to the article and all identifying information and website link must remain intact. This Permission to Copy notice must remain with the article

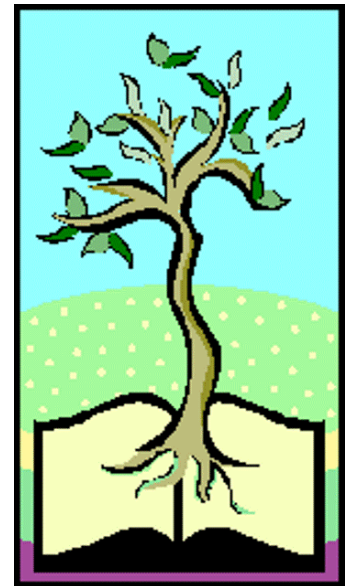
How To Share Your Genealogy Files

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ated before sending it.

Copy the file you have created onto a disk or attach it to an email, and send it on its way!



Does your tree deserve a book to grow from? Time to publish?

In this theory the pyramid begins to narrow beyond the 10th generation



David Herrington tombstone North Chemung cemetery.



**Marion County
Genealogical Society**

Mission Statement

The Marion County Genealogical Society is dedicated to creating and promoting an interest in genealogy, focusing on research in Marion County, Florida and in supporting members in their research.

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**The Rootdigger
MCGS
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Passing the coat of arms down from family to family

There are organizations like the College of Arms that anyone may apply to. Provided you are "worthy persons" and have no criminal record, you will be rarely refused. However, they charge fees for their services.

Many coats of arms have belonged to the same family, being handed down from father to son for generations, Royalty were the first to have heraldic coats of arms.

There is some controversy in the genealogy world about authenticity of coat of arms because in olden times they were presented to individuals, and as mentioned before, passed down through the generations. So it is important to find historically correct coat of arms.

No matter what the official verdict is, one thing is clear - It is very exciting for all family members to see the coat of arms or family crest for their family name.

In these modern times, coat of arms are still used as a means of identification many companies, clubs, organizations and town and County Councils.

Also, there are reputable companies who will search your last name and find the coat of arms for your surname and offer a wide variety of outstanding products with your family coat of arms on them.



Lippincott Coat of Arms