



NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 11, 2018

TERMINOLOGY & STUFF

PERSI Genealogy Research

By

Bruce Butterfield

BYU for Genealogy Research for Webinars on YouTube

By

Lynn Thrasher

Next Meeting is May 9, 2018

Klemmer's Banquet Center

10401 West Oklahoma Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53227

Social Media and Genealogy Research

Summarized by Bruce Butterfield

Cheryl Heck, a cousin to Bob, opened the evening programs with her talk "Social Media and Genealogy Research". Probably a great many of us have shied at the thought of getting involved with social media entities after the recent - and some past - worrisome revelations about security troubles. Cheryl originally had the same reservations, but discovered that, with some judicious attention to the controls that are available, we can largely eliminate much of the danger. She has become a definite fan of the wealth of possible genealogical info to be found on the internet.

Cheryl's definition of social media includes such subscription-type sites as blogs and newsfeeds. A blog is essentially an internet diary to which people can subscribe. A blog may be as vague as a person's opinions on a wide variety of subjects or as narrowly focused as a single branch of a family group in a particular part of the world. Newsfeeds generally tend to behave like on-line newspapers that may send general information about a wide variety of subjects or geographical areas or may cater to specific areas of interest, from personal preferences to technical or industrial subjects.

Twitter, according to Cheryl, is a loosely controlled assortment of dedicated websites that allows people to find and interact with others with similar interests. Users search for contacts using "hashtags" that focus on particular words or phrases. Cheryl displayed an example of the hashtag #genealogy that generated enough hits to keep one busy for a year or two. Hashtags aren't just for Twitter anymore; they are used all over, including in several genealogy programs.

Cheryl had a number of slides illustrating the use of YouTube, a free video resource on which users can upload videos of their own to show the world or see how-to videos on literally thousands of subjects, including plenty with genealogical connections. She also suggested that we type a location into YouTube where an ancestor came from, enter a time period and "get set

to be amazed"! Some short clips Cheryl displayed showed streetcars in Milwaukee in the 1940's, the Milwaukee blizzard of 1947 and a short history of Fall River, MA in postcards. Neat stuff!

But Cheryl's big interest is Facebook. At first skeptical, she is now a devoted fan of the site. She says we can: share old photos and documents, find lost friends, family, neighbors, distant cousins; find and join a family group, or start one of your own if one doesn't already exist. She noted that as of late 2017, Facebook had 2.2 BILLION members. It's a fair bet that at least one of them shares your last name.

Cheryl had much info about signing up for Facebook and adjusting your personal notification settings that you will find on the site if you enroll. Her point is that you really have a lot of control over who can see and who can have access to your entries.

If you decide to join Facebook, you will probably want to look for a family group. Membership in family groups is free. Some groups are public and some are restricted to invited members. A group can be set up so all members can add photos, documents and research notes. This is a great way to share research into your family history (Cheryl's words). On Facebook, Cheryl looked for a Heck family group, but there wasn't one. There is now; Cheryl and Bob started it. If you are a Facebook member, you can visit to see it.

Cheryl shared this link with us:
<https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2017/11/genealogy-on-facebook-list-nov-20171.pdf> Hope I got it right, but be sure to get Cheryl's handout from our site to be sure. Cheryl says there are 337 pages of genealogical gold there.

Computer Scam Environment Today

Summarized by Bruce Butterfield

Sam Colon took over after the break with a fresh look at the computer scam environment these days.

The big news is about two security problems-fairly recently discovered- that have been inside essentially every processor chip since day one. The fact that they've been there forever gives you an idea of how esoteric they are. Apple and Microsoft are working on updates to adjust for the glitches. There has apparently never been found any attempt to take advantage of either of the snafus. If anybody contacts you via computer or phone about these nuisances, drop off or hang up; it's a total fake call. And don't worry about it. Just be sure your system is set up to get automatic updates from the manufacturer.

It's tax time. That means it is also tax scam time. Here is something to remember: if you actually made a mistake in your tax form submission, the IRS will send you an official letter through the U.S. Postal Service. Got that? US Mail. US Mail. NO PHONE CALLS! NO E-MAILS! No demands. No threats. Delete emails. Hang up the phone. Don't even think twice: just drop out.

"Hello, this Microsoft tech support". NO IT ISN'T! Of the billions of computers and tablets out there, do you really believe that somebody at Microsoft actually knows when something goes wrong with yours?

If you suddenly get a pop-up screen with some kind of dire warning about failure or any kind of threat, here is what to do:

1. Shut down your browser.
2. Shut down the computer itself.
3. Unplug the power cord and wait at least 1 minute.
4. Plug back in and start the computer.
5. Run a complete system scan with your AV/anti-malware program (which, of course, you always keep regularly updated).

Chances are that everything will be just fine. A threat that shutting down will lock up your computer is baloney!

Be sure that you have disallowed any remote access to your system in your settings.

Never follow any directions the fakers may put on your display; just throw out the whole mess and start over.

Sam included in his handout a link to a Microsoft page that will tell you more about tech-support scams. Rather than copying it here, get Sam's handout at our website and copy it directly.

Sam also included in his handout links to three local computer service companies. There are addresses and phone numbers as well. Sam has had dealings with all three companies and trusts them. If you do have a computer problem, these companies are a good choice to try if you don't already have a preference.

Upcoming Programs

May 9, 2018

Preparation for Madison Trip (Jane Orne)
Things You Can Find using Family Search
(Bob Heck)

June 13, 2018

Stack of Research (Louise Stack)
Show & Tell (John Canapa, Sam Colon,
Bob Heck & Others)

June 19, 2018

BUS TRIP TO MADISON

July 11, 2018

US GenWeb for Research (Bob Tatalovich)
Books Research on the Internet (Bob Heck)

August 8, 2018

Create Your Own Family Newsletter (Bob Heck)
My Heritage (Sam Colon)

September 12, 2018

Metes and Bounds Using Google Mapping
(Cathy Dailey)
Land Record Research (Bob Heck)

October 10, 2018

Computer Deaths (Bruce Butterfield)
Colonial Wars & Colonial Records
(Winnie Mading)

November 14, 2018

GENUKI (Bob Tatalovich)
Irish Church Records On-line (Bob Heck)

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

About This Newsletter

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Members interested in submitting articles may e-mail them to bheck@voyager.net. The MPAFUG Publisher will determine if an article will be used in this newsletter. Articles will be used as space permits.

NO COPYRIGHTED ARTICLES may be submitted without express permission of the author and publisher. Articles should be submitted by the 1st Wednesday to be considered for inclusion in that same month. Credit will be given for your article.

Meeting Bits and Bytes

Our March, 2018 General Meeting began on time at 7 PM at Klemmer's Banquet Center in Milwaukee. Bob Heck led off by greeting a very nice size audience that included 4 new members or guests. After all these years, it is encouraging to see new folks joining us-quite often as a result of contacts with present members who remain enthusiastic about our group.

Tonight was the debut performance of our new, very high tech, sound mixer package that we connect into the house PA system. Combined with professional quality microphones, the unit drew many rave reviews at the end of the meeting.

There was a lot to cover in our two program segments, so Bob went straight to his monthly quiz. The first two questions referred to Bob's talk last month on the house numbering system used in a great part of Europe in the last couple of centuries. Bob asked who ruled over half of Europe from 1740-1780 (Empress Maria Theresia of Austria), and when did she create the House Numbering Act (1770).

Presenter Cathy Dailey was delayed in Michigan and had to power drive to get here in time to give her talk "Map It" on using Google maps to track our ancestors as they moved from there to here and across the country over the years. Bob asked for Cathy's average speed over the 403 miles she drove from Detroit. The answer was 67.2 mph. Bob also asked for Cathy's feelings about maps (she loves them!).

In a question left over from last month, Bill Heck had suggested a character- substitution trick to create pretty strong passwords without making them too difficult to remember ourselves. As a simple example he displayed Br3w3r5. What did it actually mean? Brewers. Try working with a few of your own and see how much easier they can be.

The last question asked "What happens on-screen when a member logs in to our website"? Answer: the left side of the screen changes from blue to red, the member is greeted by name and his/her dues status is displayed (no more confusion about whether you need to get a check out real quick to save your membership.

Help with PAF

Call us if you need assistance in using PAF, or if you have question about MPAFUG
We're here to help!

| NAME | PHONE | E-MAIL Address |
|-------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Bruce Butterfield | 414-462-6097 | Babtrfld-mke@wi.rr.com |
| Sam Colon | 414-327-2133 | genrschr@gmail.com |
| Bob Heck | 414-421-7143 | bheck@voyager.net |
| Bob Tatalovich | 414-897-8280 | bobt3725@gmail.com |
| Jane Orne | 262-938-9371 | orne@Rworld.net |
| Guy Porth | 414-510-0563 | guyporth9@yahoo.com |
| Earl Capps | 414-327-4327 | elcapps@yahoo.com |

MPAFUG Key Information

The Steering Committee

Steering committee meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month except December. The meetings start at 7:00 pm at the Family History Center on West Grange Avenue. The Steering Committee is an informal group of members who get together to plan the general agendas for future meetings. All MPAFUG members are welcome to attend and participate in the meetings.

Our Web Page: <http://mpafug.org>

We invite you to visit our web page and even print a copy of this and the previous month's newsletter. We also have a surname section where you can see who is working on your family line. Members of MPAFUG have access to a members-only web page which contains past newsletters and handouts from our meetings.

Resources Available:

In addition to our monthly meetings and website, we offer 3 CD's that are available to members for purchase. CD's are \$5 each if picked up at a meeting, or an additional \$2.50 for shipping/handling. Contact Lynn Thrasher - MPAFUG Treasurer, PO Box 14222, West Allis, WI 53214-0222.

- ◆ MPAFUG Newsletters – December 1991 thru December 2013
- ◆ MPAFUG Handouts – 1999 thru 2013
- ◆ MPAFUG Utilities CD – contains 16 useful programs including PAF, Picasa, GenViewer, Open Office, Adobe Reader, PDA to Palm OS, FastStone, IRFAN Viewer/Plugins, FamilySearcher and more

Membership Information

Membership in MPAFUG is open to anyone interested in learning more about computer genealogy. Membership is \$12 per calendar year for an individual or family. Dues are \$6 for the balance of a year if you join after June 30th. To join, send a check made payable to "MPAFUG" to: Lynn Thrasher – MPAFUG Treasurer, PO Box 14222, West Allis, WI 53214-0222.

Questions about MPAFUG?

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