

## Livestock Brands as a Genealogical Source

This topic promises to be a very interesting program next Saturday. Gene Sidwell, the program sponsor will make the presentation. He will also discuss:

### Construction of a Useful Data Base

If those two subjects are not enough to get you to join us, we have another hot subject presented by Jane Splawn.



On April 1st, the 1930 census will be released. It has been rumored that some of our members will be included.

Jane' subject is:

### An Introduction to The 1930 Census

### Our Favorite Epitaph

A gravestone in a Boston Cemetery had the following inscription:

Behold and see as you pass by  
As you are now, it once was I  
As I am now, so you must be  
Therefore prepare to follow me

Below this inscription, someone scrawled the following

To follow you, I am not content  
Until I know which way you went.

**New Video's and  
World Family Tree  
CD's added to the  
library.  
Check them out  
Saturday**

Webmaster's note: You can find links to many of these sites at our links page:

**<http://gencomputer.org/links.html>**

## INTERNET WEB SITES

Remember that these are only a few for starters:

1. [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) - LDS massive site with hundreds of millions of names, ' locations, subjects, web links, source guide, etc. to search for free. This is a marvel. Be sure to check all the areas on the left hand column of the screen and not just the, surname search.
2. [www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com) - The yellow pages of genealogy- categorized by subject, area, e~c. If you need to find it, this is the place. Don't let it overwhelm you. This grand work is your encyclopedia of where to go for all kinds of information.
3. [www.rootsweb.com](http://www.rootsweb.com) - Here's one of the oldest and largest sites with more than 700,000 entries- also with newsletters, online courses and lots of links. Very much worth your time.
4. [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) - This has about 2000 databases and 500 million names to research. Lots of other databases are available. It costs \$59.95 a year \*\*\*but it's worth it!!!
5. [www.dearmyrtle.com](http://www.dearmyrtle.com) - A daily column is here with helps on every area in genealogy lots of step-by-step helps and answers to the questions we all have while researching.
6. [www.genweb.com](http://www.genweb.com) - This is a free project done by volunteers with a goal to have family history web sites in every state and county. Lots of great county web sites.
7. [wwwzv.genforum.genealogy.com](http://wwwzv.genforum.genealogy.com) - Millions of messages are archived here with thousa-4 of surnames. -
8. [www.census-online.com](http://www.census-online.com) - The US census that are put online can be found here. More and more are appearing thanks to lots of great volunteer work. There are also other census online from all around the world These are not only federal census, but also Union and Confederate Unit Rolls, Rent Rolls, Mortality Schedules, Lists of Titheables, Heads of Families, Heads of Households, Tax lists, Pension Lists, Veteran's Schedules, Property Tax, Delinquent and Dependents Schedules, Personal Property Tax List, Lists, Revolutionary War Pensioners, Muster Rolls, Settler lists, etc. (see for example- Virginia
9. [www.kindredconnections.com](http://www.kindredconnections.com) - This is another one that you have to subscribe to, but it has a 43-million name base with selected birth, marriage, and death records. You can go on a trial basis to see if it is for you. I have found a lot here.

Here are some other interesting sites that are more specific, but may give you an idea of what kinds of areas are available:

[http://www.rootsweb.com/~chalkey/volume\\_1/or01\\_12.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~chalkey/volume_1/or01_12.htm) - a site that will bring volumes of Chronicles of settlements in Virginia- such as the Scotch-Irish (see samples)

[Http://members.tripod.com/~rosters](http://members.tripod.com/~rosters) - This is only one example of thousands of message boards for certain areas. This areas are as diverse as can be for international groups. This particular one is for early NC-TN-SC records, military, and marriages. There are 30%, million plus records with a host of links. See example-

[www.familyhistory.com](http://www.familyhistory.com) - This is called a web community for free genealogy of over 100,000 family history message boards devoted to surnames and other genealogy related topics. The message board are divided into three categories- SURNAME, STATE and COUNTY and GENEALOGY RESEARCH.

And **"Ancestry World Tree"** is also there which purports to be the largest free database of lineage-linked genealogies online. This has pedigree charts, downloadable files and original submitters. See example.



[www.gendex.com](http://www.gendex.com) - hosts a lists of searchable surnames- over 15 million- free-easy to use:

[Http://home.att-net/~arnielang/shipguide.html](http://home.att-net/~arnielang/shipguide.html) - Guide to Immigration Records and Ship's Passenger Lists- table of contents. It not only gives the lists, but also tips on how to use it, how to find more material and tips and other links. From the beginner to the advanced, this is great! See also <http://istg.rootsweb.com> - see sample [www.execpc.com/~haroldr/shiplist.htm](http://www.execpc.com/~haroldr/shiplist.htm) -just another sample of links to Ship Passenger list.

[www.lva.lib.va.us](http://www.lva.lib.va.us) WOW! What a site not just for Virginia records. Just the Digital Collections Home Page itself is worth looking into. Original records are here, also Land Office Patents and Grants are here, and thousands of other things. There are so many State libraries that are online now but this is one of the best. See example.

[wsvzv.ancestralfindings.com](http://wsvzv.ancestralfindings.com) -A great source for finding linkups for all kinds of subjects from how to start to how to find German links, Jewish links, military records, resources, **free lookups**, etc.

[www.genealogy.com](http://www.genealogy.com) - This is a directory of 76,000 + websites in lots of areas. Lots of things to learn from this site. Maintained by April and Matt Helm- Matt is one of the real starters in this area. Have you ever heard of the Genealogy Toolbox?

[Www.familytreemaker.com](http://www.familytreemaker.com) - This says it is the largest and most complete genealogy resource on the web. It has lots, and you can finds a lot. The only downfall is that if you want all of the information on your ancestor, you often have to buy an expensive CD in hopes of finding all the information. See sample. It also had helps, how to articles, research services, message boards, links, etc.

<http://home.att-net/~wee-monster> - a source for German Genealogy information and resources German Roots. Just another example of where to go for a particular area of research. There are other links that are associated such as passenger lists 1820-1940s, research outline for German genealogy, etc. see sample [www.enol.com/~infobase/gen/parish](http://www.enol.com/~infobase/gen/parish) -another example of a database that has parish records, this time for Middlesex, England from 1563 to 1895. Again, this is not just indicative of this area, but there are records like there from all over the world coming from the area directly and from libraries nearby, from universities and from private organizations and persons.

<http://feeths.org> - This is the Federation of East European Family History Societies. This site is out of Salt Lake but is operated by those from the East European area. It has search engines for names, ethnic, religious and national indexes, links for the areas for more information on where to go or how to start in this area.

[www.spacestar.net/users/hapander/burgen2.htm1](http://www.spacestar.net/users/hapander/burgen2.htm1) - Another site to show that there are international sites for regions not particularly called by a country's name. This is for the Burgenland Province of the Austrian- Hungarian provinces previous to 1919.

<http://raogk.rootsweb.com> - What a marvelous site this is. The RAOGK stands for Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness. This is internationally and in the US. This wonderful group of volunteers will do free lookups and other research for you.

[www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows/5387/state.html](http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows/5387/state.html) - Southern States Genealogy Place and their links on vital records, libraries, Civil War regiments, gen. & hist. Soc., etc.

[www.linkline.com/personal.xynox](http://www.linkline.com/personal.xynox) -America's first families. Gives database of over 18,000 *pntriPC* Other links are provided. Also listed are fraudulent lineages. Good site

## How old is Grandpa?

One evening a grandson was talking to his grandfather about current events. The grandson asked his grandfather what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age and just things in general.

The granddad replied, "Well, let me think a minute, I was born, before television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill.

There was no radar, credit cards, laser beams or ball-point pens. Man had not invented pantyhose, air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers, and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air and man hadn't yet walked on the moon.

Your grandmother and I got married first-and then lived together. Every family had a father and a mother.

Until I was 25, I called every man older than I, 'Sir'-and after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, 'Sir.'

We were before computer-dating, dual careers, day-care centers, and group therapy. The Ten Commandments, good judgment, and common sense governed our lives. We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions.

Serving your country was a privilege; living in this country was a bigger privilege

We thought fast food was what people ate during Lent. Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins.

Draft dodgers were people who closed their front doors when the evening breeze started. Time-sharing meant time the family spent together in the evenings

and weekends, not purchasing condominiums.

We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings. We listened to the Big Bands, Jack Benny, and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey.

If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan' on it, it was junk.

The term 'making out' referred to how you did on your school exam.

Pizza Hut, McDonald's, and instant coffee were unheard of. We had 5 & 10-cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents. Ice cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel. And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail 1 letter and 2 post-cards .

You could buy a new Chevy Coupe for \$600 but who could afford one? Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In my day, 'grass' was mowed, 'coke' was a cold drink, 'pot' was something your mother cooked in, and 'rock music' was your grandmother's lullaby. 'Aids' were helpers in the Principal's office, 'chip' meant a piece of wood, 'hardware' was found in a hardware store, and 'software' wasn't even a word.

And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby. No wonder people call us "old and confused" and say there is a generation gap.

Can you believe that grandpa was only 58 years old?

# Have you volunteered?

Karen Opp first told us about it. It is one of the best things that could have happened to genealogy. What I am talking about is The Random Acts of Kindness. It is genealogy sharing at its best. Genealogist in other areas where you have ancestors buried plus local records will photograph or copy information. You only pay for out-of-pocket expenses.

You are expected to reciprocate by doing the same thing for someone else whose ancestors lived in your area.

The following is a newsletter I just received.  
Don

Some of you who volunteered before January 20, 2002 may not have received the first message sent to this list. This was due to some e-mail address formatting errors we found after the message was sent. Our apologies. If you would like a copy of the first message please let me know.

Again, I want to thank all of you for volunteering for this project. As of this writing we have 4,854 volunteers. We are perhaps one of largest totally volunteer project on the Internet -- keep up the good work.

## WHAT IS A SNAFU?

A snafu is where you slowly move a very popular site over the course of several months. It is where all links at the old location go to the new location. Next step is to have redirects up to automatically go to the new site and in 30 days or less your old service provider removes the ability for visitors to go to the site with a message called "FORBIDDEN." This is what happened to Random Acts.

I advised all the volunteers who received the last global message of the new URL, and to please change all links they may have on their own websites or signature lines. Am very happy to see most have complied. Please double check to see if you have changed the URL for Random Acts to <http://www.raogk.org/>

If any of you are on mailing lists and happen to see the old URL given out, I would appreciate it if you could send a message correcting it. Thanks a bunch.

## PROFESSIONALS USING VOLUNTEERS

We have been notified that there are some professional research people (not necessarily genealogists) who are using RAOGK volunteers to get information and then in turn charging their clients for their work. Presently I only know of one state so far that this is taking place, Georgia.

It seems like a site called "Search International, LLC" may or may not be sending their "searchers" to RAOGK to get information. However, an alert librarian in Cobb County, GA, alerted a volunteer of this situation:

"[The volunteer] talked to the librarian at the Georgia Room (Local Hist./Genealogy) at the downtown Central/Marietta branch of the Cobb County Public Library. She had retained a letter to the Georgia Room from an Ann E. Fuller of Search International, LLC, requesting that they do some extensive genealogical research for her. This letter was dated Nov. 26, 2001. The librarian wrote back saying this was beyond their scope of the amount and kind of research they can do. Then at about the same time the librarian recalled seeing a volunteer researcher come in to do the exact same lookups based on an exactly-worded "request" through RAOGK from someone named Sarah or Susanne (as they recalled, no documentation) at the same email address. So putting these two events together, the librarian surmised that the people behind these two requests were trying to use RAOGK and free library requests to fulfill their commercial research needs, which they then would charge their customers for."

So if you receive a request from someone with an email address with the isp of @searchint.com, please just forward to your state coordinator. We'll handle it from there.

## COMMON COURTESY

This site is based on people helping people, and also a little "Good Book" philosophy -- "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

# Random Acts of Kindness

The amount of e-mail we have received since the last message was sent out regarding this has been reduced, not eliminated but reduced. Let's keep up the good work. Thanks.

## NOT GETTING PAID FOR SERVICES

Many of you have written to me regarding not getting paid after completing and passing along what was requested of you. There is no way we can force folks to pay your expenses. I have suggested to those who have written to me to try PayPal. PayPal (<http://www.paypal.com>) is an online payment facility. You can send and/or receive payment from anyone with an e-mail address. Yes they charge you a fee to use their services, but the fee is minimal. If you decide to go this route, ask for 1/2 of your cost. I say this because it works both ways, a requester may think "I'm going to send money and get nothing back." At least you will have 1/2 of your fees if you don't get anything else. MOST people when they encounter a site like RAOGK are truly honest people, but there *\*are\** some bad apples.

## A HINT OF THINGS TO COME

Moving Random Acts onto a new server has its plus side. Besides having our own domain name and not being called "RootsWeb's Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness" any longer, we are now capable of and will be enhancing the site for ease of navigation and updating of the site.

The number of volunteers we have now were beyond any expectations we could have imagined when this site first went online. Keeping up with all the comings and goings and changes has become a real challenge (but a welcome one). Even though we have set up security measures to prevent e-mail harvesting from RAOGK, we have taken another step to prevent this all together.

Available soon will be a search engine. For instance, if you need research done in Tennessee, you would select Tennessee from a drop down menu then enter the county you need, and hit enter. What will appear next is all the researchers in that particular county. The international sites, including Canada, searching will come at a later date.

THAT IS ALL FOLKS

Until next month.

RAOGK Staff

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URL's on RAOGK you should have bookmarked:  
Volunteer's FAQ page: <http://www.raogk.org/info.htm>

Section Coordinators list: <http://www.raogk.org/vol.htm>

Changing of information (change your "act of kindness"; e-mail address change or needing to be removed):  
<http://www.raogk.org/change.html>