

South Davis Family History Newsletter

South Davis Family History Center

3350 South 100 East
Bountiful, Utah 84010
(801) 299-4239

Hours of Operation

Weekdays: Mon. thru Fri. 9 AM to 4 PM
Evenings: Tues. thru Thurs. 7 PM to 9 PM
Saturdays: 10 AM to 1 PM

Summer 2004

From the Pen of the Director

My Trumbull ancestors came to America from England in the 1630s—just after the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock. They came for religious and political freedom. Their descendants fought in the Revolutionary War. I have felt such gratitude for all of them. Learning about their lives and performing temple ordinances for them has given me a connection to them and has brought enormous blessings into my life.

I have felt the Spirit of Elijah that is working today. Even in his day President Joseph F. Smith observed that this “spirit seems to be moving upon the hearts of honorable men of the earth who are spending their time and means in collecting and compiling genealogical records.”

Genealogy is fast becoming a national obsession. It is one of the top subjects on the Internet. The Church’s FamilySearch website has had over 14 billion hits since it was first launched on May 14, 1999. Currently the site receives over 11 million hits per day. The Family History Library in Salt Lake City receives an estimated 2,000 visitors each day. Over half of these

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patrons are not LDS. In the Library, you can find information and histories submitted by patrons who feel compelled to do genealogy but do not know why.

A few years ago I watched a man from Ireland as he was interviewed on a local news station. He had come to Salt Lake City to live for three years so that he could do research at the Library. He said, “I don’t know why, but I feel compelled to do this. It is important to my ancestors to be found. They help me.”

As members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, we know why it is so important to them. The saving ordinances of baptism, endowment, and sealings to spouse and parents are needed for every soul in heaven or on earth to progress in the kingdom of our Father. This is His work.

Joseph Smith taught, "The keys are to be delivered, the spirit of Elijah is to come, the Gospel to be established, the Saints of God gathered, Zion built up, and the Saints to come up as saviors on Mount Zion. But how are they to become saviors on Mount Zion? By building their temples, erecting their baptismal fonts, and going forth and receiving all the ordinances, baptisms, confirmations, washings, anointings, ordinations and sealing powers upon their heads, in behalf of their progenitors who are dead, and redeem them that they may come forth in the first resurrection and be exalted to thrones of glory with them; and herein is the chain that binds the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the children to the fathers, which fulfills the mission of Elijah." (HC 6:184.)

As Elder Richard G. Scott testified, "The spirit of Elijah is touching the hearts of many of Father's children throughout the world, causing the work for the dead to accelerate at an unprecedented pace. But what about you? Have you prayed about your own ancestor's work? Set aside those things that don't really matter in your life. Decide to do something that will have eternal consequences."

I pray that you will be blessed in your efforts as you proceed in this great work.

-Donna Smith

Bountiful Has New Museum to Showcase Its Rich Pioneer Heritage

The Bountiful Historical Commission is soliciting donations of pioneer histories, artifacts, memorabilia and other items of historical interest for its new museum. Currently there are a large number of photos on file and about a hundred pioneer histories. Donations can be delivered to the museum by appointment or dropped off at the Bountiful Cemetery office between 10 and 2, Monday thru Friday.

If you have something you'd like to share but are not ready to part with it, let the

museum staff make a digitized copy. That way the museum will have a copy, and you will know it has been preserved even if something happens to the original.

Located in the Smith-Hyatt Office Building (west of the Bountiful Police Station/Court Building), the museum is currently open by appointment only. Watch for regular hours as its staff of volunteers grows.

-Annette Nelson

What's New at the Center

This summer new and larger computer monitors are in service at the South Davis Family History Center, thanks to generous gifts by an anonymous donor.

Hone your research skills or learn more about pioneer or colonial ancestors by reading some of our new magazines!

President Bill and Sister Sidney Price, recently called to serve in Washington, D.C., have donated copies of Heritage-Quest, UGA Genealogical Journal, Ancestry, NGS Quarterly, NGS News-magazine, Connecticut Nutmegger, The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, and New England Ancestors.

The Center does not loan its materials out, but you are welcome to read them here or make copies of your favorite articles.

Heartfelt thanks to all the individuals and companies whose generous gifts add so much to our Center!

Try It Here Before You Buy It

If you're thinking of buying or downloading new family history products, why not try them at the Center first? We have new software like Legacy, GenSmart, Animap, and PAF Insight installed on our computers, as well as Church programs like PAF, PAF Pal, and PAF Companion. Come for a visit and let our friendly staff help you decide whether to buy—or to just use ours.

Did You Know?

Pedigree Resource File now contains over 81 million names! This lineage-linked database has records submitted to the Church's website, www.FamilySearch.org, by individuals all over the world.

You can view the File's Master Index online. The Index:

- Helps you search for records based on names, relationships, events, time periods, and places.
- Displays individual records of people listed in the database. Individual records can be printed.
- Does not provide detailed information about sources, notes, or LDS temple ordinances.
- Gives reference numbers you can use to find the complete record on a compact disc.
- May link you to a submitter's personal website, where the record may be posted.
- Standardizes names so that spelling variations are displayed together.
- Standardizes high level places to allow searching by country.

With reference numbers from the Master Index, you can purchase the corresponding CD-ROMs, or you can come to the Center and look at them free. The complete set is being downloaded on our computers. The CD Version:

- Gives more detailed views of the records, including family groups and pedigrees.
- Provides any notes and sources that were submitted with the records.
- Lets you print a variety of charts and reports.
- Lets you copy information to your personal database by exporting GEDCOM files.

The Theory of Relativity

"We're all related if you go back far enough"

Favorite Family History Quotes

"Oh, I wish many times that the veil was lifted off the face of the Latter-day Saints. I wish we could see and know the things of God as they do who are laboring for the salvation of the human family who are in the Spirit World, for if this were so, this whole people, with very few, if any, exceptions, would lose all interest in the riches of the world, and instead thereof, their whole desires and labors would be directed to redeem their dead."

-Pres. Wilford Woodruff
Submitted by Karla Beecher

"When you help a member trying to do family history, don't see that single person. See hundreds and perhaps thousands of their ancestors who will be praying to be found and liberated. And think of the faithful missionaries who have waited with them. As you do, you will feel not only the urgency of your service, but confident that prayers, some from this side of the veil and more on the other, will be answered."

-Elder Henry B. Eyring
Submitted by Jan Bruckman

New PAF Software

Personal Ancestral File 5.2 and Personal Companion 5.1.5 have been sold separately, for \$6 and \$13.50 respectively. Now both sets are sold in a package of 2 CDs for \$8.25. PAF 5.2 is unchanged, but PAF Companion 5.1.5 is an upgrade which allows you to:

- Print quality pedigree, ancestor, descendant, hourglass, fan, and bowtie charts.
- Create family group records, kinship, descendant, and narrative reports.
- Tile pages to form large wall charts.
- Preview your charts and save them in PDF format.
- Find individuals in the Pedigree Resource File Master Index who may match those in your PAF file.
- Run PAF 5.2 without exiting PAF Companion

Welcome to New Staff Members

Our newest staff members at the Center are **Ann Richardson** of the Woods Cross Stake and **Dennis Taylor** of the North Canyon Stake. We're so glad to have you join us!

Internet Research Tips: Google's New Genealogy Search Site

Have you ever tried to find your ancestor using a simple surname or place search? At times this works well, but perhaps you find nothing. Or you may get thousands of unhelpful results.

There are several reasons this might occur. Take my husband's name, for example: "Chuck Brown." Our surname is very common. Combine it with his given name and you still find hundreds of Chuck Browns out there—including a singer and a Peanuts character. Not only are his names totally generic, they have many other meanings. "Chuck" isn't just "a nickname for Charles." It can be a verb—meaning "to throw" or "to throw up"—or it can be a noun—meaning "a cut of beef" or "a furry woodland creature." "Brown" can be the color, or it can be a verb—"to sauté or to darken." It acquires even more meanings when used in phrases like "brown-out" or "brown-bag." So if you type a name like his in a typical search engine, you'll get recipes, nature guides, cartoons, music critics, who-knows-what...

Google has a new website that minimizes these problems by automatically generating more advanced genealogical searches. Go to www.genealogy-search-help.com. At the home screen, simply enter whatever basic information is known about your ancestor: his first and last names, parents, spouse, birthplace, and place of death. Click the **Submit** button, and a screen of suggested searches will be set up for you. Click **Set up the Selected Search**. Scroll down and click **Try This Search**. If you get promising results, look at them, but be sure to return and try the next search.

The program generates several dozen searches. Try all the searches at first—maybe one of them will "do it up brown" for your ancestor.

Babel Fish Translations

Online dictionaries are now available for many languages. My favorite is Babel Fish at <http://world.altavista.com>. To use it, just type the word or phrase you want to translate (in the white box), click the down arrow to select languages, then click **Translate**.

You can use Babel Fish to learn the meaning of many foreign words or phrases that you encounter in family history research. (But remember that archaic words or expressions may not be translated correctly.)

You can also use it when sending research requests to individuals, churches or government offices in foreign countries. Just type your letter in English, copy and paste all or part of it into the translation box, and have it translated. Now copy and paste the translation back into your word processor.

Babel will translate English into Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian or Spanish.

Many people in the world do speak or read English, but it's good manners and so much more effective when we try to communicate in their language!

How good is the translation? Not perfect, but well done. (It helps if you avoid using slang and idiomatic expressions.) Recently I tried the copy and paste routine on an email to my daughter and Italian son-in-law. Here's their reply:

It was nice to get your message in Italian. Carlo sends his compliments. It was written so well that he wondered if you had help (though from whom?) Whenever you want to write in Italian, your son-in-law says to feel free...

Should I tell them the secret?

Republican Calendar Converter

During the French Republic, a new calendar was adopted in France and countries under French rule:

- The calendar started when the Republic was proclaimed on 22 Sep 1792.
- The seven-day week was replaced by a ten-day cycle called a *décade*.
- Day names were changed to *primidi* (one-day), *duodi* (two-day), *tridi*, etc.
- Months were made up of three *décades*, so five supplementary days (*Jours supplémentaires*) had to be added at the end of the year, with a sixth “*Jour de la Révolution*” on leap years.
- New names for the months were invented by poet Philippe Fabre. He took as his inspiration the seasons and events associated with them.

This calendar may have seemed modern, beautiful, and intellectual at the time, but it's a pain-in-the-neck for today's genealogist trying to figure out the birth date of an ancestor born on “22 Fructidor, An XIII.”

To calculate the date, you can download the French Republican Calendar Research Outline from Research Helps at www.FamilySearch.org and follow step-by-step instructions with four accompanying charts. Or you can use the handy online converter at www.napoleon.org. Point your cursor at **Essential Napoleon** in the upper left corner of the home screen, then select **The Republican Calendar**. Scroll to the bottom of the new screen, enter the date you wish to convert, then click **Gregorian**.

Voilà! “9 September 1805.”

—Suzanne Brown

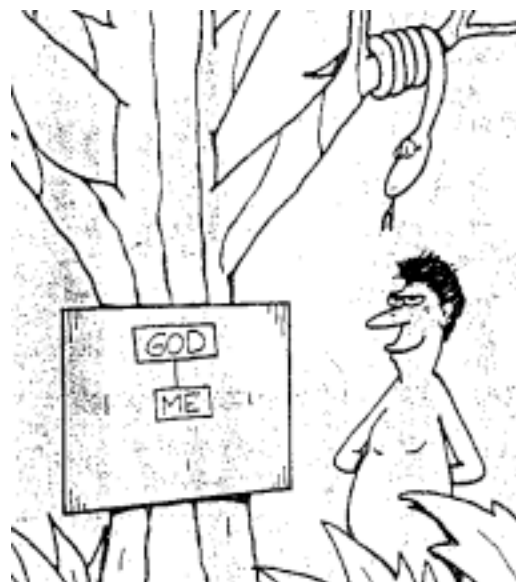
*Genealogy
begins as an interest,
becomes a hobby,
continues as an avocation,
takes over as an obsession,
and in its last stages
is an incurable disease!*

—Author Unknown

Quotable Quotes

“It's never been so easy to do family history work, since the days of Adam.”

—Richard Smurthwaite



Adam's Pedigree Chart

(Or was it that easy?)

Little Miracles: Great-Grandpa's Naturalization Records

I was positive that Great-Grandpa had not lived long enough after immigrating to apply for citizenship, but I stopped at the town courthouse where he was buried anyway. I asked the woman at the counter about 1870 naturalization records. She pulled out a little index box, and there was his name. She found his file, and inside were not only his final certificate of citizenship, but also his personal copy of the Declaration of Intention. He must have left it behind at his swearing-in as a citizen. Since he had died just twelve days after becoming a citizen, he had never returned to pick it up—and there it sat for 120 years. “This belonged to him,” the clerk said, handing it to me. “We have our own copy. Why don't you keep it?”

As we examined the file together, she gave a little gasp. "Good heavens, that's my great-grandfather's signature." Her ancestor had been the character witness for my ancestor when he applied for citizenship, so they had obviously been friends.

The "kicker" to all this is that the certificate included Great-Grandpa's date of immigration and port of entry, which I had not known before.

- by *Beth Uyehara* (adapted),
In Search of Our Ancestors, pp. 3-5

A Firm Principle and a Promise

"Some very interesting things will start to happen once you show some interest in your own family history work. It is a firm principle. There are many, many testimonies about it. It will happen to you."

-*President Boyd K. Packer*
August 2003 *Ensign*, p. 17

Please share some of the "Little Miracles" you have experienced while doing family history work. Email your contributions to Jan Bruckman, Editor, at jbruck27@worldnet.att.net.

Editor's Corner

I was interested in the article by President Boyd K. Packer in the August 2003 *Ensign*. He admitted that the Packers have not finished their family history. (Who has?!?) But the important point was: They started working on it.

Finding that the only way to fulfill the commandment was to get up an hour or two earlier every day, that's what they did to accomplish their goal. Elder Packer wrote:

"The thing that was most impressive, however, was the fact that we began to have experiences that told us somehow that we were being guided, that there were those beyond the veil who were interested in what we were doing... It was as though the Lord was waiting for us to begin. The Lord will not tamper with our agency."

We must make the first move, and then He blesses and directs us.

To start writing your own family history, President Packer suggests that you place a medium or large box in a place where it will not go unnoticed. Then, during the weeks that follow, put every record of your life into this box—birth certificate, blessing record, awards, graduation certificates, ordination records, pictures, dance cards, marriage license, etc. But don't try to do it all in one day!

After you have collected everything for the box, clear a spot on a table or floor and divide the contents into three periods of time: child, youth, and adult. Start with the "child" period and put every record in chronological order, from your birth up to your twelfth year. Place these items in a separate box.

Do the same with the records and pictures of your youth, from age 12 to 18 or the age you were married. Place them in chronological order in another box or envelope. Continue with your adult life, and place these records in a third box or envelope.

You now have three boxes or envelopes containing records of your entire life up to the present time—enough material to write your life story. Simply take each record out and write what you know about it or what it tells you. It really won't take long to write an account of your life.

However you choose to proceed, the important point is: Get Started!

-*Jan Bruckman*

Staff Training Classes

Over the past few months we've welcomed many new staff members, and this summer the classes at the Center are designed just for them. Here's the schedule:

PAF Insight Rin Numbers

Friday 11 Jun 2004 at 4 PM
Saturday 12 Jun 2004 at 9 AM

PAF Insight IGI

Tuesday 15 Jun 2004 at 6 PM
Thursday 17 Jun 2004 at 6 PM

PRF & Mormon Immigration

Friday 18 Jun 2004 at 4 PM
Saturday 19 Jun 2004 at 9 AM

Census & PERSI

Tuesday 22 Jun 2004 at 6 PM
Thursday 24 Jun 2004 at 6 PM

Rootsweb & Ancestry

Friday 25 Jun 2004 at 4 PM
Saturday 26 Jun 2004 at 9 AM

PAF 5.2 Configuring

Tuesday 29 Jun 2004 at 6 PM
Thursday 1 Jul 2004 at 6 PM

PAF Custom Reports

Tuesday 6 Jul 2004 at 6 PM
Thursday 8 Jul 2004 at 6 PM

Scanning

Friday 9 Jul 2004 at 4 PM
Saturday 10 Jul 2004 at 9 AM

Documenting

Tuesday 13 Jul 2004 at 6 PM
Thursday 15 Jul 2004 at 6 PM

GEDCOMs

Friday 16 Jul 2004 at 4 PM
Saturday 17 Jul 2004 at 9 AM

Place Advisor

Tuesday 20 Jul 2004 at 6 PM
Thursday 22 Jul 2004 at 6 PM

Sons of the American Revolution

Tuesday 27 Jul 2004 at 6 PM
Thursday 29 Jul 2004 at 6 PM

Internet

Friday 30 Jul 2004 at 4 PM
Saturday 31 Jul 2004 at 9 AM

Patron Classes Will Resume in September.

Classes at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City

Saturday, 12 June	Room	Time
PAF 5.2: Lesson 6 - Advanced Focus/Filter	134/136	10:00 AM

* China Research Series: Searching the FHL's Chinese Collection (in Chinese)	134/136	2:00 PM
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Monday, 14 June	Room	Time
TempleReady for Windows: Submitting Names	JSMB W	1:30 PM

Tuesday, 15 June	Room	Time
PAF 5.2: Lesson 5 - Sharing Files GEDCOM	134/136	10:00 AM
Using Internet IGI	E JSMB	1:30 PM

Wednesday, 16 June	Room	Time
Philadelphia Naturalization Records, 1789-1880	134/136	10:00 AM
Using the FamilySearch Website	E JSMB	1:30 PM
PAF 5.2: Lesson 6 - Focus/Filter	134/136	7:00 PM

Thursday, 17 June	Room	Time
PAF 5.2: Lesson 6 - Focus/Filter	134/136	10:00 AM
Tracing Ancestors in Norway	134/136	3:00 PM
Beginning Scottish Research	134/136	4:30 PM

Saturday, 19 June	Room	Time
* Scotland Research Series - Census and Civil Registration Records	134/136	9:00 AM
PAF 5.2: Lesson 7 - Match/Merge and File Cleanup	JSMB W	10:30 AM
* Scotland Research Series - Church of Scotland Records	134/136	10:45 AM
* Scotland Research Series - Nonconformist Church Records	134/136	1:00 PM
* Scotland Research Series - Probate & Land Records	134/136	2:15 PM

Tuesday, 22 June	Room	Time
PAF 5.2: Lesson 7 - Match/Merge and File Cleanup	134/136	10:00 AM

Wednesday, 23 June	Room	Time
Naturalization Records in the Midwestern U. S.	134/136	10:00 AM

Thursday, 24 June	Room	Time
PAF 5.2: Lesson 8 - Multimedia	134/136	3:00 PM
U.S. Naturalization Records	134/136	4:30 PM

Saturday, 26 June	Room	Time
* Basic Research Series: Getting Started	134/136	9:00 AM
* Basic Research Series: Finding What Others Have Done	134/136	10:15 AM
* Basic Research Series: Organizing Records	134/136	11:30 AM
* Basic Research Series: Using Original Records	134/136	1:30 PM
* Basic Research Series: Introduction to Temple Submission	134/136	2:45 PM

Monday, 28 June	Room	Time
Using Internet IGI	JSMB W	10:30 AM

Tuesday, 29 June	Room	Time
Using FamilySearch Website	JSMB W	10:30 AM
PAF 5.2: Lesson 9 – Additional Features	134/136	3:00 PM

Wednesday, 30 June	Room	Time
Printing & Internet Tricks on FHL Computers	134/136	10:00 AM
TempleReady for Windows: Submitting Names	JSMB W	1:30 PM
PAF 5.2: Lesson 7 - Match/Merge & File Cleanup	134/136	7:00 PM

* Research Series - Seating for these Saturday classes is limited. Call 240-4950 to pre-register.

To see the class schedule for July and August, go to www.familysearch.org. Click **Identify opportunities for education to improve your research skills** in the lower left corner of the screen, then click **Family History Library Classes**.

* * *

Family history research provides the emotional bridge between the generations. Temple ordinances provide the priesthood bridge. Temple ordinances are the priesthood ratification of the connection that we have already established in our hearts. Mother Teresa said that “loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty.”... The promise of family history and temple work is eternal connection, born of both love and priesthood ordinances.

*-Elder Dennis B. Neuenschwander
August 1999 Ensign, p. 83*