# FamilySearch Global Initiatives

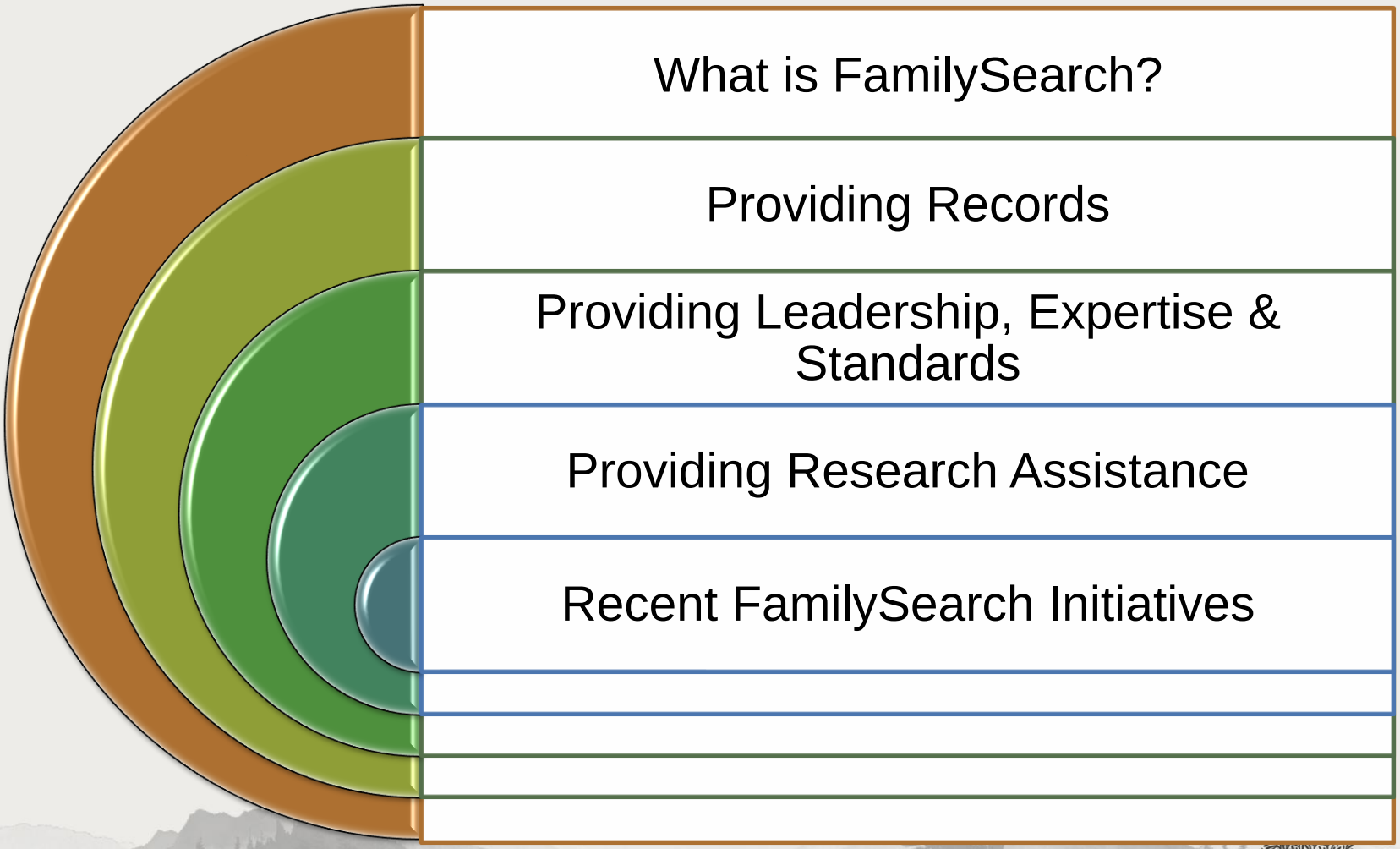
## National Archives, April 2012

Carol Petranek

Co-director, Washington DC FHC

FAMILYSEARCH

# Roadmap




FAMILYSEARCH

# What is FamilySearch?

Largest genealogical organization in the world

Non-profit – volunteer driven

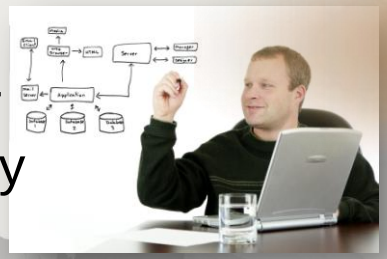
Sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Free online access
FamilySearch.org

# What is FamilySearch?

History

Archival &
Library Science



Computer
technology

Nearly 1000
people staff
operations
worldwide

Area Studies and
Languages

Micrographics &
Digital imaging

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# What is the Purpose of FamilySearch?

Help people connect with their ancestors

# Why Do We Do This?

- The family is an essential part of our core values.
- Connecting with our ancestors provides perspective, understanding and strength.

# Global Pioneer for Over 100 Years

Actively gathering, preserving, and sharing genealogical records

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G.S.U.

Microfilm

Genealogical Library/FamilySearch Centers

1894 - 1917

1922

1938

1963

1985

Indexing Initiative

Granite Mountain Record Vault

FAMILYSEARCH

15 Billion Hits

1 Million Users

1064 Record Collections

3 Billion Names

1998

1999

2004

2007

2012

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WHERE GENERATIONS MEET

FAMILYSEARCH
INDEXING

FAMILYSEARCH

# Providing Records

FAMILYSEARCH

# So How Do You Do This?

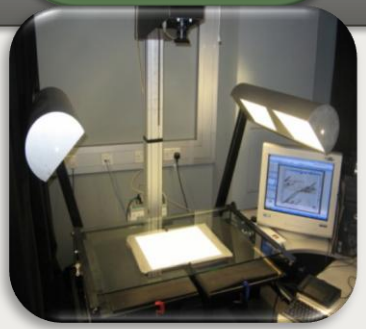
# Online Access to the World's Records

Records Negotiation

Digital Conversion

Online Indexing

Image Capture



Preservation

Online Access

FAMILYSEARCH

# Negotiate Access

FAMILYSEARCH

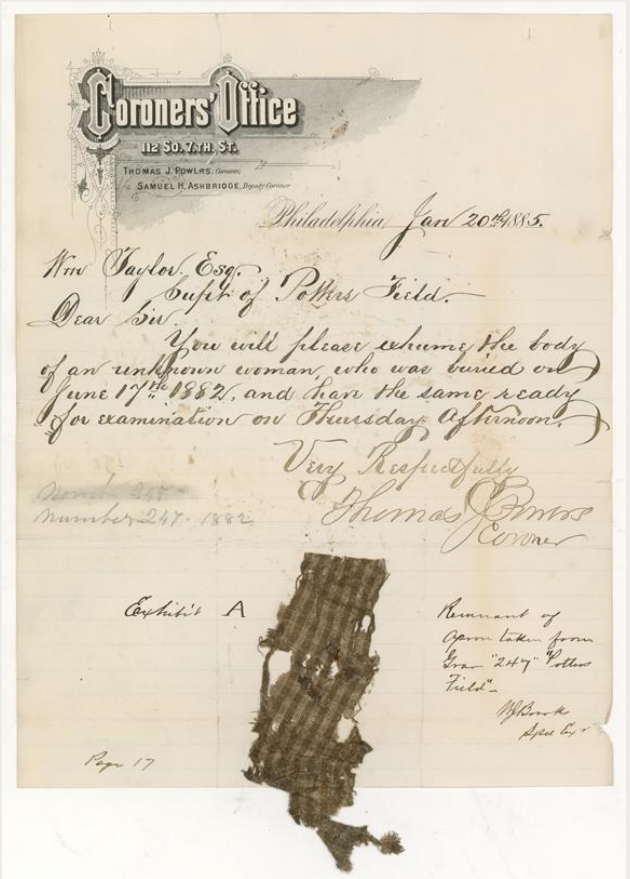
# Initiatives with NARA

**CWCC – Civil War Conservation Corps**

June 1994
Citizen Archivists
1.28 million files
100,000 file – March 2012
50 year project!
Partners: Fold3, FS, NARA

Coroner's Office letter and evidence

Pension file of Esther Springfield, Case File #38414.


Coroners' Office
12 So. 7th St.
THOMAS J. POWERS, Coroner.
SAMUEL H. ASHBRIDGE, Deputy Coroner.

Philadelphia Jan 20th 1885.

Wm Taylor, Esq.
Supt of Potters Field.

Dear Sir
You will please exhume the body of an unknown woman, who was buried on June 17th 1882, and have the same ready for examination on Thursday Afternoon.

Very Respectfully
Thomas J. Powers
Coroner

Number 247. 1882

Exhibit A

Remnant of Apron taken from Body "247" Potters Field.

Page 17

# Image Capture

**Past:**
Filmed in over
100 Countries

**Present:**
200 filming
projects
in over 40
countries

FAMILYSEARCH

# Image Capture

Each year FamilySearch creates:

- Over 40 million digital images
- 20 thousand rolls of microfilm

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# Image Capture

## 2011

100,000 images
captured weekly

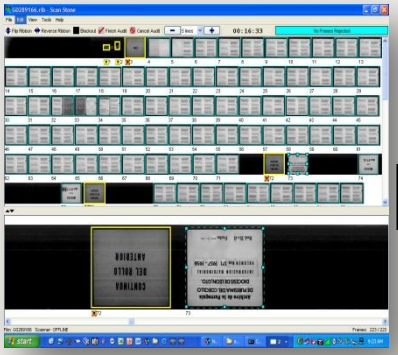
**Totaling:**
308 million images
364 million records

FAMILYSEARCH

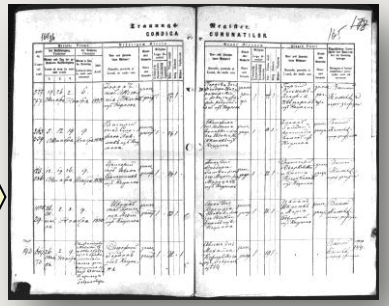
# Digital Conversion

Scan

Convert to Digital



Check for Quality



“Cut” into Images

Post Online

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# Preservation

**Granite Mountain Records Vault**
**Where the Images are Stored**

Over 2.4 million rolls of microfilm

Over 1 million microfiche

Over 3.5 billion images of family history records

Increasing by over 40,000 rolls per year

# Preservation

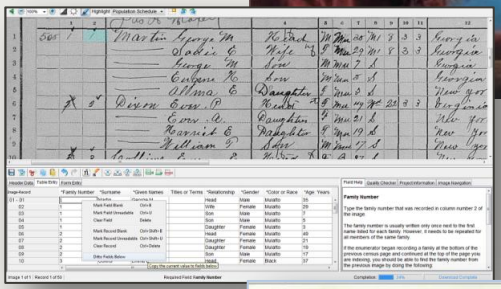
Preservation Video

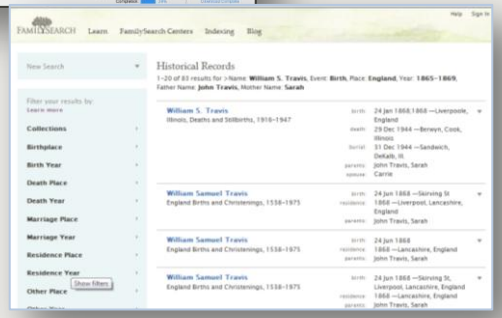
Records in a vault don’t do anybody any good

I need records easily accessible online

# Indexing

Volunteers type information from digitized historical records






This information is put on free searchable online indexes

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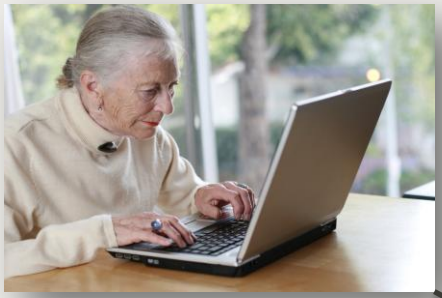
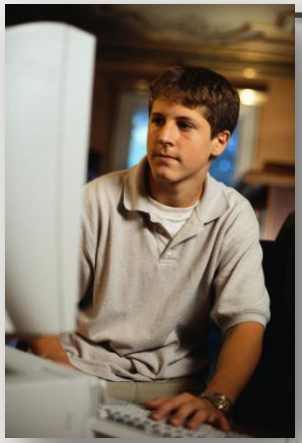
# Indexing





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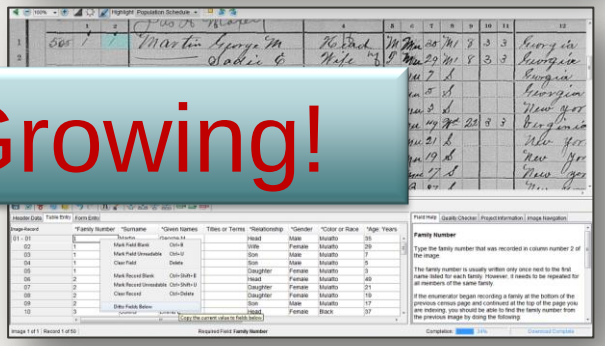
# Indexing Facts

Number of active volunteers– Over 125,000

Number of current projects – Over 125

Number of names indexed per year – Over 300 million

Number of languages available – Seven



And Growing!

# Why Index?

- Provide meaningful service
- Give back and pay it forward
- It's fast and it's easy
- No special skills are required
- Can be done from home, or any computer,

# Indexing apps for tablets and smartphones!

Mobile App

FAMILYSEARCH

Archives™

FAMILYSEARCH

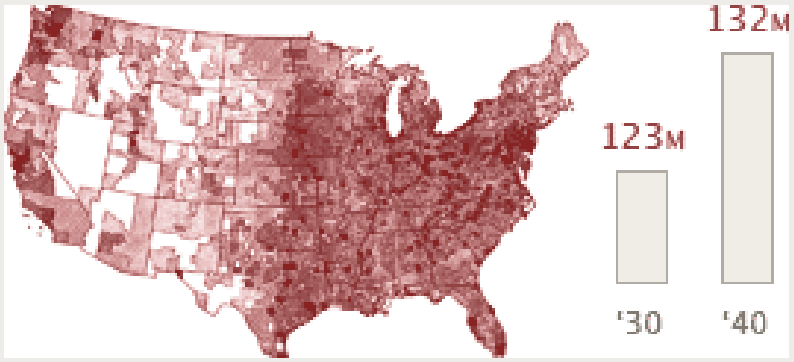
findmypast™
search with the exper

# 1940 U.S. Census Project

- The 1940 U.S. Federal Census Community Project is a historic national service project to preserve and share the records of the "Greatest Generation" online.
- A community of volunteers will immediately start indexing the 1940 census records upon their release in April 2012
- Index – online & always free and open access.
- Individuals & societies

# The Greatest Generation

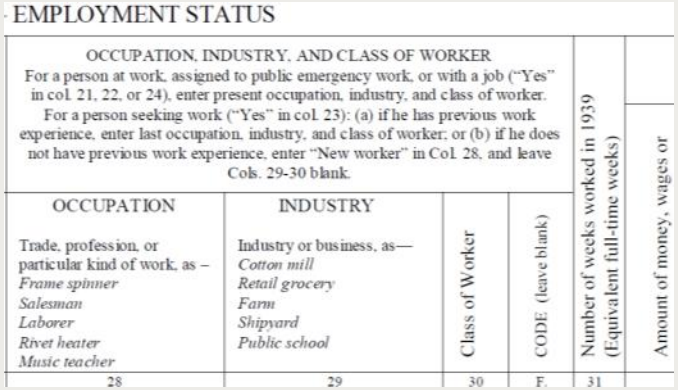
- The 1940 U.S. Federal Census is the largest, most comprehensive, and most recent record set documenting the 132 million people in the U.S. at that time.
- Tens of millions of people living in the US in 1940 are still living today.
- Many individuals in the 1940 census survived the Great Depression, fought in WWII, and sacrificed in the name of freedom.




**132 million people were living in the 48 Continental United States in 1940.**

# Rich & Unique Info

- Standard questions:
  - Name, age, gender, race, education, and place of birth.
- New questions:
  - Who in the household responded to the census?
  - Did the person work for the CCC, WPA, or NYA?
  - What was the person's income for the 12 months ending December 31, 1939?
- Other information:
  - Where people lived 5 years before
  - Highest educational grade achieved
  - Detailed income and occupation

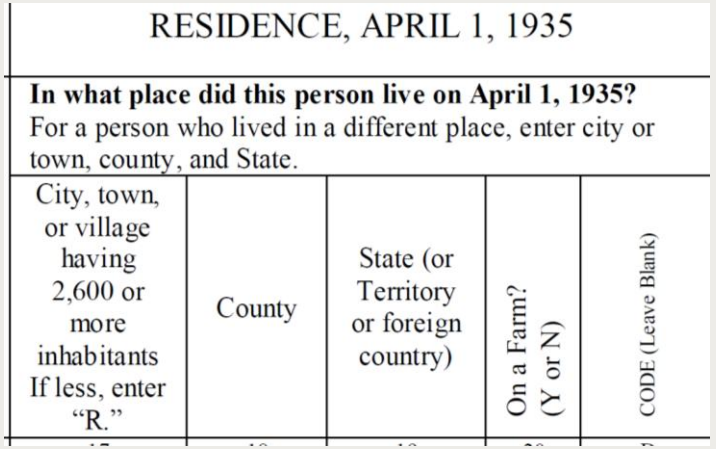


EMPLOYMENT STATUS

OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY, AND CLASS OF WORKER

For a person at work, assigned to public emergency work, or with a job ("Yes" in col. 21, 22, or 24), enter present occupation, industry, and class of worker. For a person seeking work ("Yes" in col. 23): (a) if he has previous work experience, enter last occupation, industry, and class of worker; or (b) if he does not have previous work experience, enter "New worker" in Col. 28, and leave Cols. 29-30 blank.

| OCCUPATION | INDUSTRY | Class of Worker | CODE (leave blank) | Number of weeks worked in 1939 (Equivalent full-time weeks) | Amount of money, wages or |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trade, profession, or particular kind of work, as – *Frame spinner* *Salesman* *Laborer* *Rivet heater* *Music teacher* | Industry or business, as— *Cotton mill* *Retail grocery* *Farm* *Shipyard* *Public school* | | | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | F. | 31 | |



RESIDENCE, APRIL 1, 1935

**In what place did this person live on April 1, 1935?**
For a person who lived in a different place, enter city or town, county, and State.

| City, town, or village having 2,600 or more inhabitants If less, enter "R." | County | State (or Territory or foreign country) | On a Farm? (Y or N) | CODE (Leave Blank) |
|---|---|---|---|---|

National Archives and Records Administration

1940 U.S. Census COMMUNITY PROJECT

# WE WANT YOU!

## HELP CREATE A 1940 US CENSUS INDEX

E-mail *

First and Last Name

Favorite States to Index

Type in your state here.

Submit

Like 170 +1 Thomas MacEntee Tweet 0

ON APRIL 2, 2012, NARA will provide access to the images of the 1940 United States Federal Census for the first time. Unlike previous census years, images of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census will be made available as free digital images.

> "Unlike previous census years, images of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census will be made available as free digital images."

Upon its release, the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project, a joint initiative between Archives.com, FamilySearch, findmypast.com, and other leading genealogy organizations, will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and immediately start indexing these records to make them searchable online with free and open access.

Video | Latest Posts | Latest Tweets | Facebook

# Start indexing today

- Go to [the1940census.com](the1940census.com)
- Download the indexing software.
- Launch the indexing software.
- Register with a FamilySearch Account.

Working together, we'll make history!

# Online Access

As soon as images become available, FamilySearch puts them online at FamilySearch.org.

Most of the images are indexed, some are not but you can still usually find the records you want.

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# Online Access

# Online Access

District of Columbia Records so far…
5 Collections

1,475,357 Records
All Indexed

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# Online Access

Virginia Records
12 Collections

7,317,746 Records
956,071 Image Only

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# Online Access

# Providing Leadership, Expertise, & Standards

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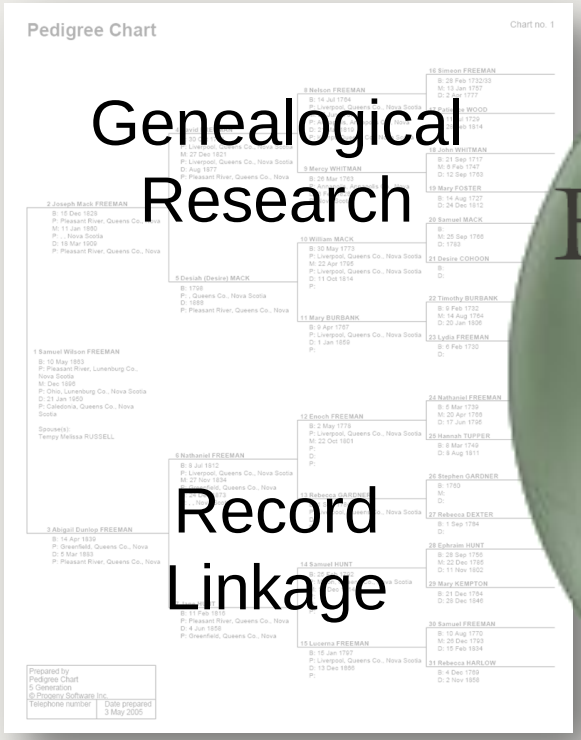
# Providing Leadership, Expertise, and Standards




Genealogical Research

Record Linkage

FAMILYSEARCH

Leadership

Imaging

Preservation Technologies

Crowdsources

# Providing Leadership, Expertise, and Standards

Technical Expertise

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Expertise

Training Seminars

Participation in International Standards Associations

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# Providing Leadership, Expertise, and Standards

Develop and share standards for digital images

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Standards

Developed GEDCOM

A Uniform Format for Exchanging Computerized Genealogical Data

# Providing Research Assistance

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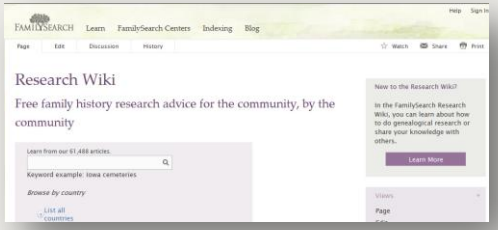
# Providing Research Assistance

Family History Library Catalog

FamilySearch/ Family History Centers

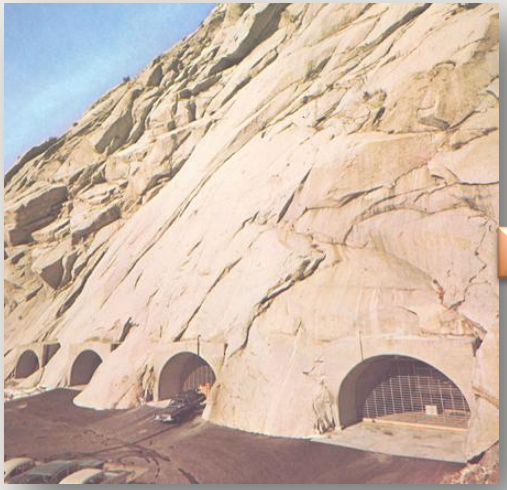



FamilySearch Wiki

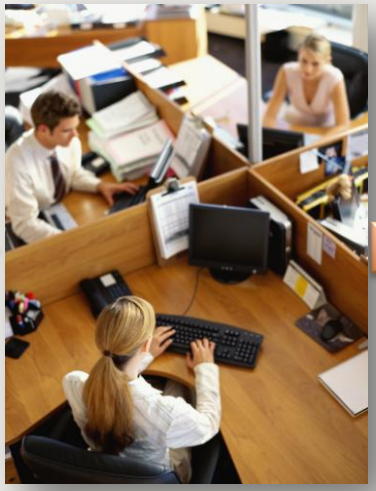
Global Service Organization

Forums

# Family History Library Catalog



Over 3.5 billion images of family history records



Cataloged

Made available in the Family History Library Catalog on FamilySearch

# Family History Library Catalog

Find the records you want

Order the microfilm online

View the records at a family history center

# FamilySearch Center (Family History Center)

The world's largest genealogy library located in Salt Lake City, Utah

Access to a collection of over 2.5 million microfilms from over 100 countries.

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# FamilySearch Center (Family History Center)

Free public access to records from the Family History Library

Nearly 4700 centers worldwide (14 in DC Metro area)

Free personal help with your family history

Free classes, conferences

Washington DC FHC
Kensington, MD

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# FamilySearch Center

Free access to Premium Subscription Websites

## Welcome to the Family History Center Portal

### Genealogical Resources

**Premium Family History Websites (Center Access Only)**
Free patron access to premium subscription websites.

**FamilySearch**
Discover your family history.

**FamilySearch Indexing**
Contribute to indexing digital records.

**FamilySearch Microfilm Ordering**
International online film order to your local center.
(Check site for availability.)

### Classes & Workshops

**Online Research Courses**
Learn the basic methods and key resources to start your family history.

**Tech Tips**
Technology tips for genealogists and family historians.

### One-on-One Assistance

**FamilySearch Research Wiki**
Free family history research advice for the community, by the community.

**FamilySearch Forums**
Helpful family history research and FamilySearch product information provided by experienced FamilySearch patrons.

**FamilySearch Help Center**
FamilySearch Knowledge Center.

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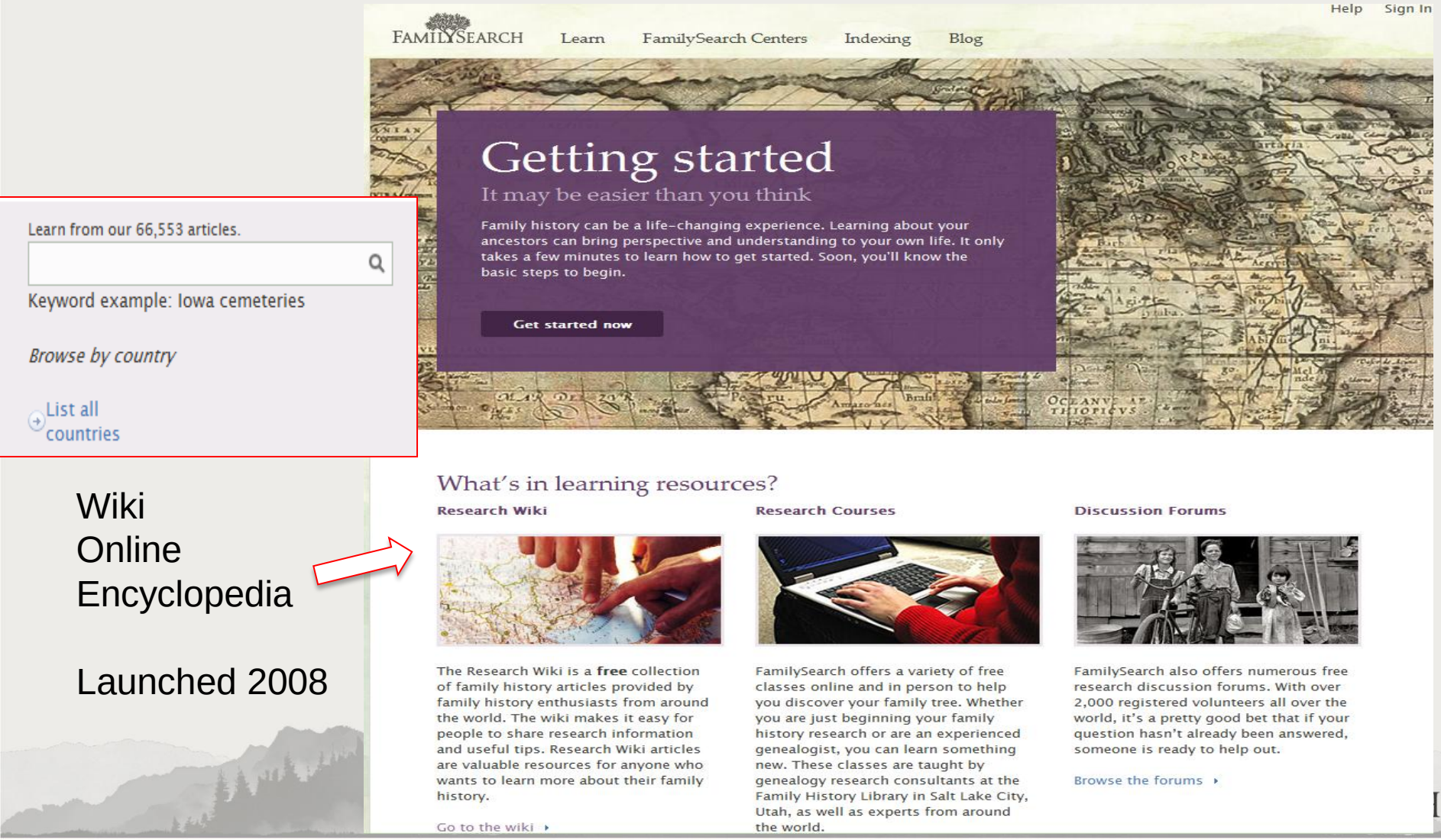
# FamilySearch Portal

## Premium Websites

Please choose from one of the following websites:

- 19th Century British Library Newspaper Digital Archive
- Access Newspaper Archive
- Alexander Street Press – The American Civil War:
  Research Database | Letters and Diaries | Images, Photographs, Posters, and Ephemera
- Ancestry.com
- ArkivDigital Online – Install from here: XP or Win7/Vista (one-time only). Launch from the 'ArkivDigital Online' Start Menu or Desktop icon.
- Find My Past
- Fold3.com (Previously known as Footnote.com)
- The Genealogist
- Genline FamilyFinder is no longer available. Please use ArkivDigital instead.
- Godfrey Memorial Library
- Heritage Quest Online
- Historic Map Works Library Edition
- Paper Trail
- World Vital Records

# FamilySearch.org: Learn



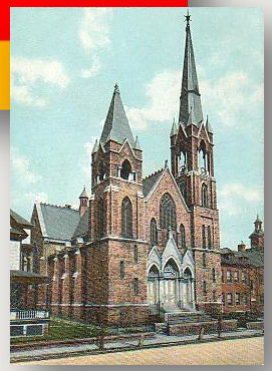

Wiki
Online
Encyclopedia

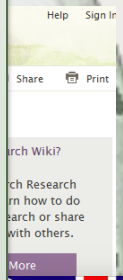
Launched 2008

# FamilySearch Wiki

FAMILYSEARCH

# FamilySearch Wiki





Find out what historical records are available in localities around the world

Learn how to access those records

Learn research strategies

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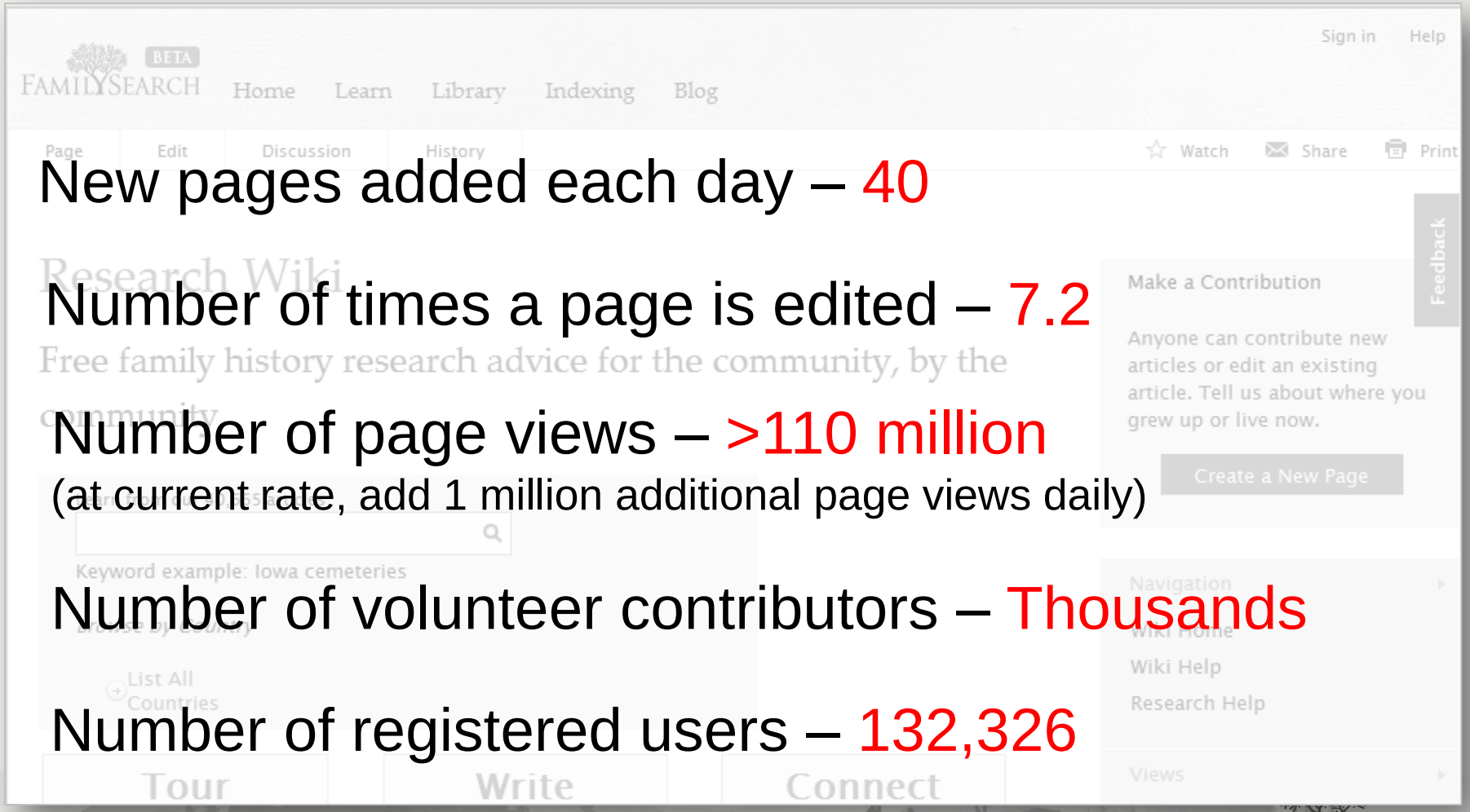
# FamilySearch Wiki Facts




New pages added each day – 40

Number of times a page is edited – 7.2

Number of page views – >110 million
(at current rate, add 1 million additional page views daily)

Number of volunteer contributors – Thousands

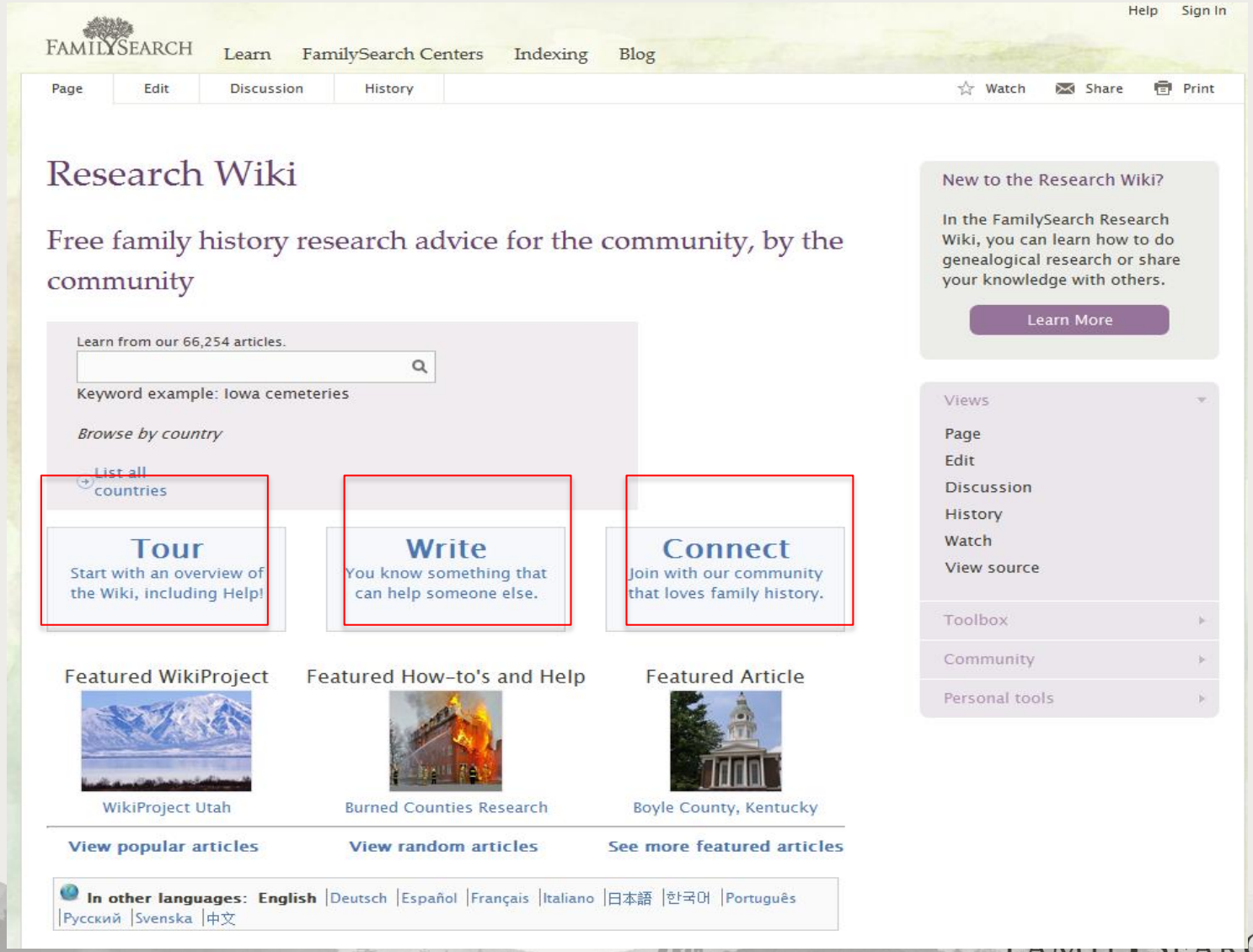
Number of registered users – 132,326

# Wiki

Learn to research

Share what you know

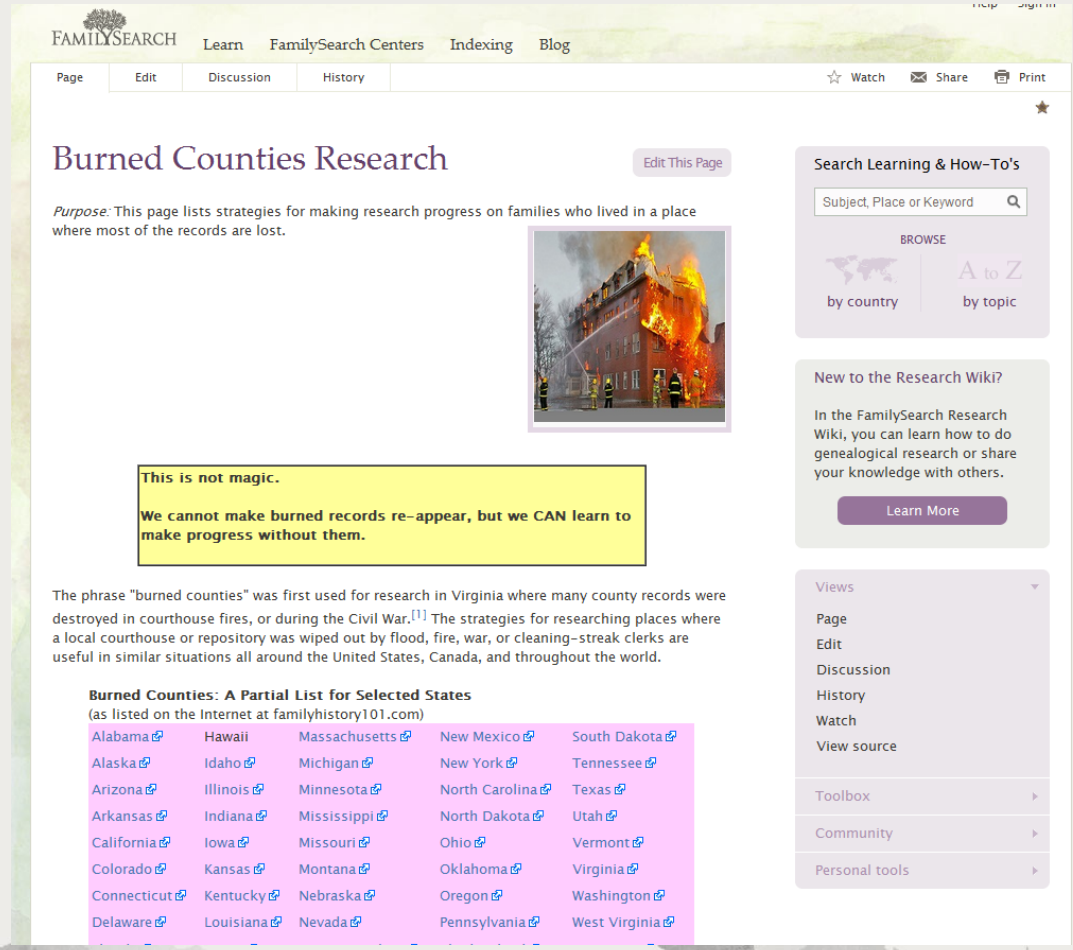
Collaborate with others



# Wiki Sample

**Specific Areas of Help**

This section gives strategies and other resources to find information that can substitute for destroyed courthouse records



# Wiki Country Page: Ireland

Contributions by researchers

Up-to-date info

Pages grow as info is added

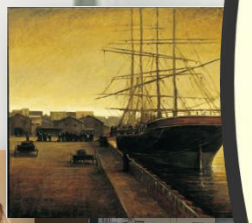
Anyone with FS account can add/edit

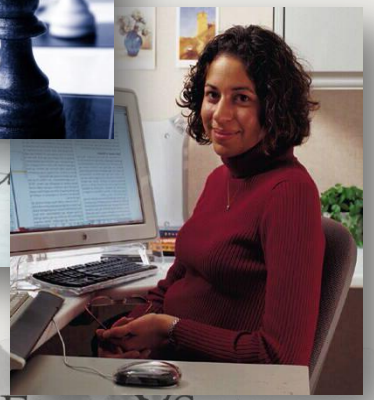
All changes reviewed

# Wiki: Forums

2,000 registered volunteers worldwide
Collaborate
Get assistance

# Forums





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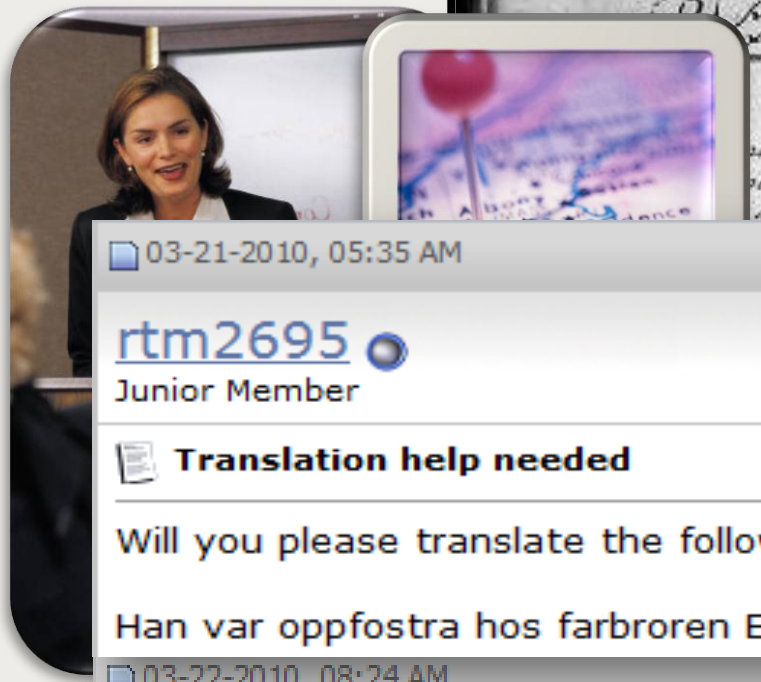


03-21-2010, 05:35 AM

rtm2695
Junior Member

**Translation help needed**

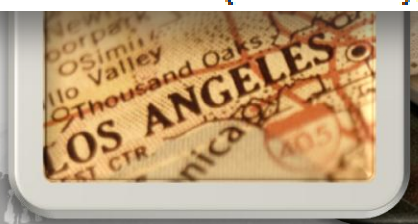
Will you please translate the following. Thank you.

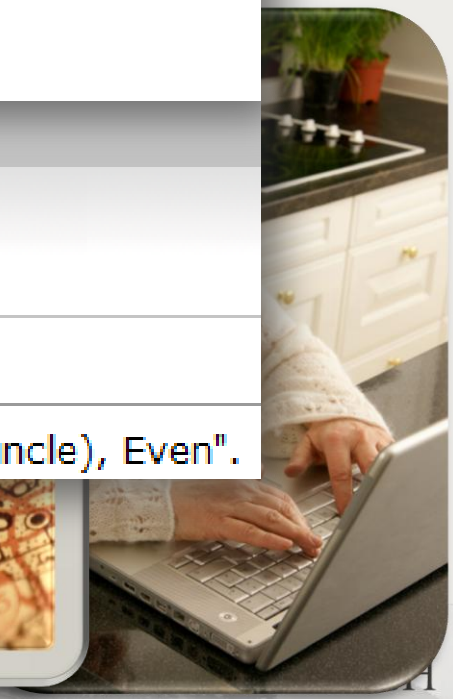
Han var oppfostra hos farbroren Even.

03-22-2010, 08:24 AM

Wilma Larson
Member

It means "He was brought up or reared with his father's brother (his uncle), Even".



# Wiki: Forums

FamilySearch Forums

This Forum | Search

## Social Groups

Register | FAQ | Community | Today's Posts

### Categories

Search Groups | Go

Ancestor Family History Centers Indexing Organizations Research Wiki **Surnames**
Uncategorized Wards or Stakes

View All Categories

**Begin or Join a Group:**
**Surname**
**Locality**
**Subject**

### Random Group

**Daniel J Larsen and Gladys Tuft Family** in category Ancestor

Members of the family whose ancestors include Daniel Jones Larsen and Gladys Tuft, both from Monroe, Sevier, Utah.

Members: **1** Discussions: **0** Messages: **0**

### New Groups

Abraham uppe

Tagbilaran Philippines District

Holmes

Pierce-Skinner Family Forum

Robbins Family Society

WOODLEY

Prosser

Cajica-Caxica-Caxiga,Caxigal

Christian Putke

Example of help given

# Wiki: Forums

**Search:** Posts From Last Day

Showing results 1 to 25 of 40 — Page 1 of 2: **1** 2 > — Go to Page... Go

| Thread / Thread Starter | Last Post | Replies | Views | Forum |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1871 Census – some general notes and observations<br>dms246 | 17.03.2012 16:44<br>by ckwahlquist | 4 | 48 | United Kingdom and Ireland Projects |
| Request for help or direction on Surname Kelley<br>Picard75 | 17.03.2012 14:01<br>by Picard75 | 4 | 34 | Ireland and Northern Ireland |
| Italian POW WW2 held in England<br>Georgieuk | 17.03.2012 13:56<br>by Georgieuk | 0 | 11 | England |
| Indexing HUNGARIAN projects (1 2 3 ... Last Page)<br>balazo | 17.03.2012 13:53<br>by gaborr | 64 | 1,374 | Europe Projects |
| Italian POW WW2 held in England<br>Georgieuk | 17.03.2012 13:52<br>by Georgieuk | 0 | 9 | Western Europe |
| Feedback for arbitrators<br>DavidPaulDavenport | 17.03.2012 12:55<br>by JRoberts45 | 1 | 28 | General Indexing Discussions |
| 1871 census location error<br>Sparkledot | 17.03.2012 12:18<br>by Sparkledot | 2 | 36 | United Kingdom and Ireland Projects |
| Translating from Swedish Birth records<br>vwsheldon | 17.03.2012 12:11<br>by vwsheldon | 0 | 13 | Consultants |
| Trying to connect with Solari Family<br>Picard75 | 17.03.2012 12:05<br>by Picard75 | 0 | 9 | Western Europe |
| Requesting some help or direction<br>Picard75 | 17.03.2012 11:58<br>by Picard75 | 0 | 11 | Western Europe |
| Acadia: Looking to connect with Landry Family<br>Picard75 | 17.03.2012 11:43<br>by Picard75 | 0 | 7 | Canada |

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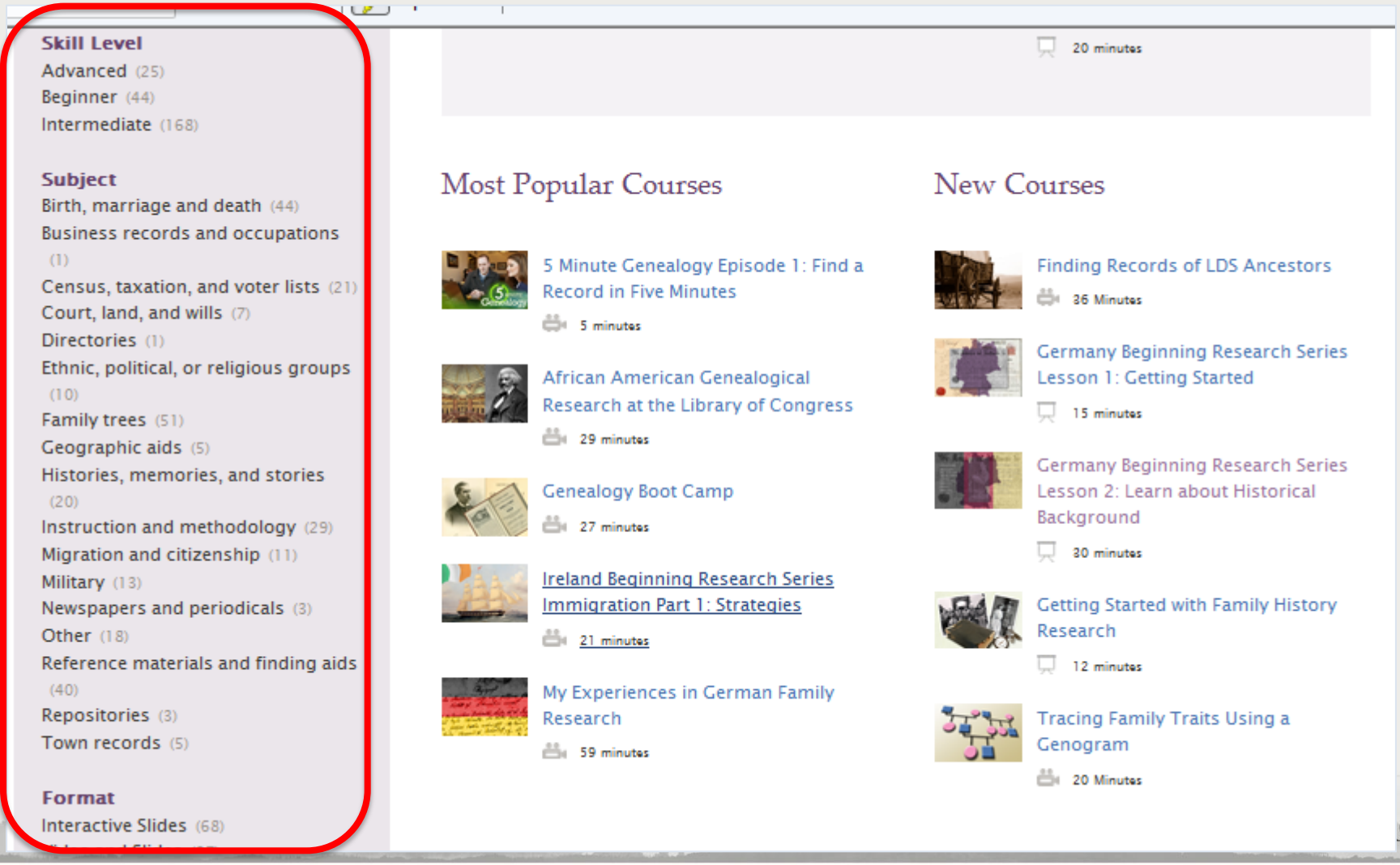
# Online Research Courses

# Online Research Courses



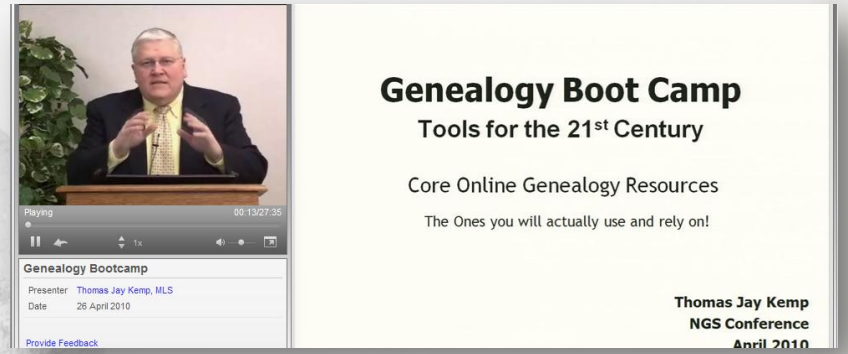
# Online Research Courses

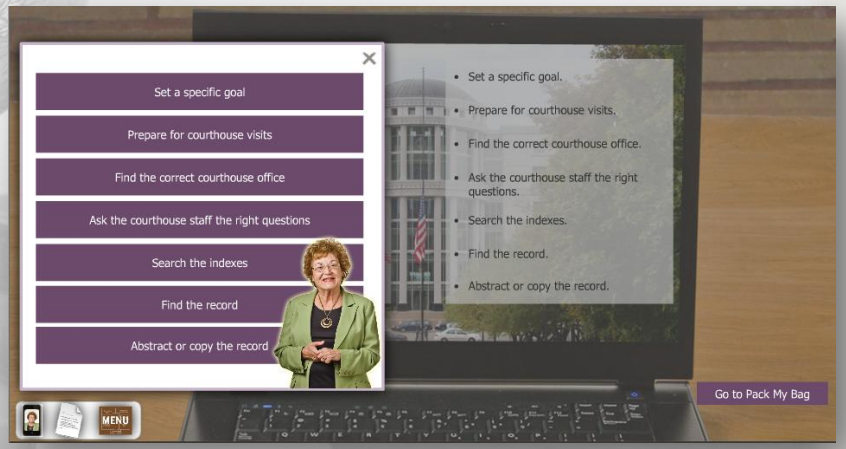
Over 400 courses
FS YouTube videos
Handouts/Podcasts

Beginning & experienced levels

Taught by experts worldwide

Language assistance
Word guides
Research Guides
- States
- Countries
- Topics



# Global Service Organization

Free global service organization with over 70,000 volunteers.

They provide needed local and online support for the genealogical community.

24/7 live assistance.

# Global Service Organization

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# Recent FamilySearch Initiatives

FAMILYSEARCH

# Recent FamilySearch Initiatives

1940 Census

Civil War Project

Italian Records and Research

RootsTech Conference

# 1940 Census

April 2, 2012 digital Images of the 1940 Census will be available for indexing.

FamilySearch and others will coordinate efforts to immediately start indexing these records.

They will then be searchable online with free and open access.

FAMILYSEARCH

# Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War

New Civil War Resources at FamilySearch.org/CivilWar:

- Stories and histories of local regiments
- Profiles of famous Civil War figures
- Millions of free Civil War era records

# Civil War Project

# Italian Records and Research

FamilySearch will be working with the Italian government to acquire the rights to access and index more than 250 million additional records.

One billion names.

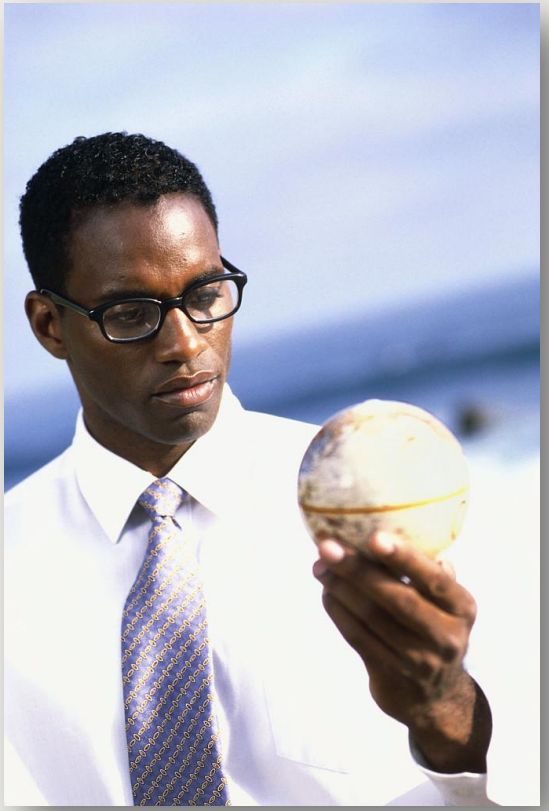
# Roots Tech Conference

# Get Involved and Give Back

FamilySearch provides free access to:

- Nearly three billion names
- Billions of images
- Local family history centers
- Global service organization
- And much more

**What can I do to give back?**



FAMILYSEARCH

# Get Involved and Give Back

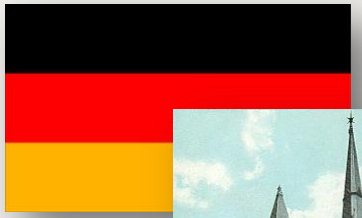
Index!

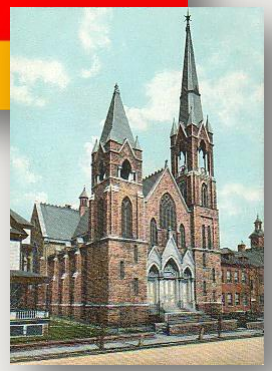
FAMILYSEARCH

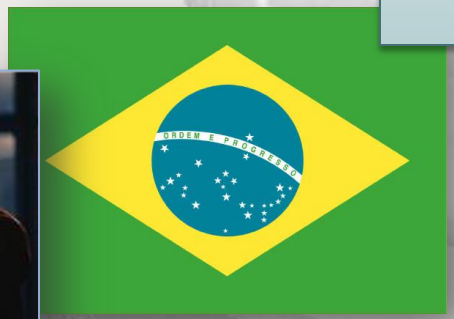
# Get Involved and Give Back

## Contribute to the Wiki

Share your knowledge, expertise and time with the world.







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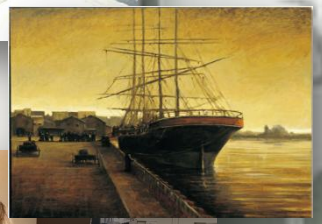
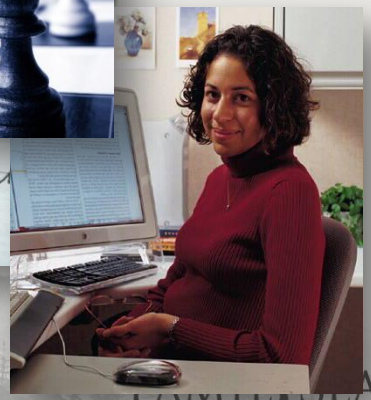
# Get Involved and Give Back

Participate in Forums





*"Collaboration, cooperation are the 21st century keys to success.*

*Organizations must collaborate and cooperate.*

*Records preservation and access is at the core of 21st century genealogy."*

*Curt Witcher*
*Historical Genealogy Department Manager,*
*Allen County Public Library*

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**Global initiatives:**
Connecting people to their ancestors

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