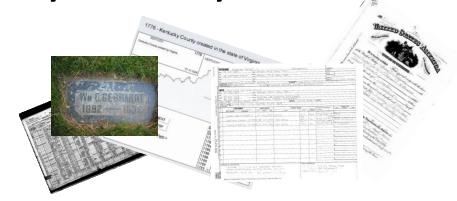
## Family History

Where Do I Start?

#### Three PARTS to Family History work:

Research



ORGANIZE



Link together





### Talk to Family Members

 Start with oldest family members first.

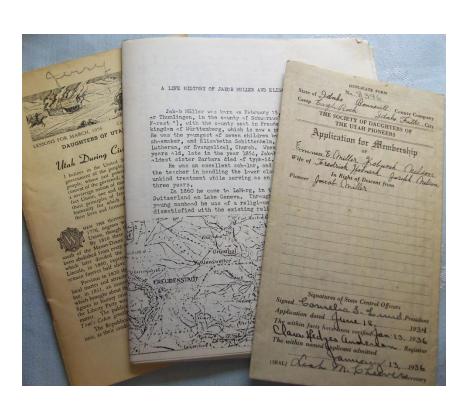
- Don't wait too long –
   sometimes their minds go
   before their bodies.
- Ask them to save family history information for you.

 When they tell stories at family get-togethers, GO HOME AND WRITE THE STORIES DOWN!



### Ask Family Members for:

 Copies of printed histories & other documents



 Obituaries, marriage & birth announcements, funeral programs



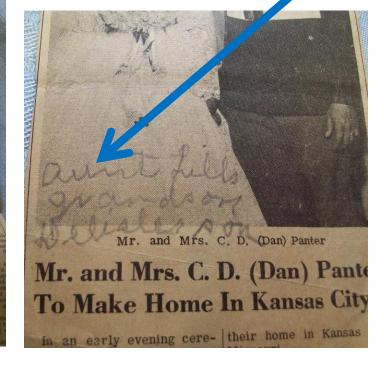


Gather or Create Oral Histories or Family Films:

#### Newspaper articles:

 Good – A copy of the article  Better – Includes newspaper header with location and date and/or relationship info





#### Photographs:

 Original or print copies are nice, but digital are also great

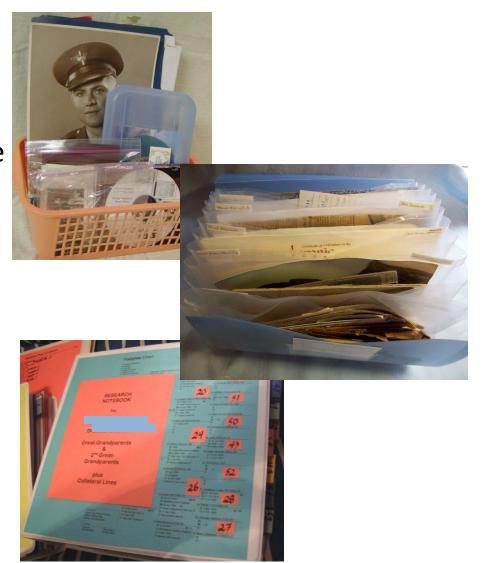


 Be sure someone writes down the names, dates and locations



## **ORGANIZE**

- Shoebox method:
  - Gather everything together into a box to be organized later
- File method:
  - Store paper records by type in file folders
- Notebook method:
  - Put all paper documents in binders or photo albums



### Gather everything into one place:

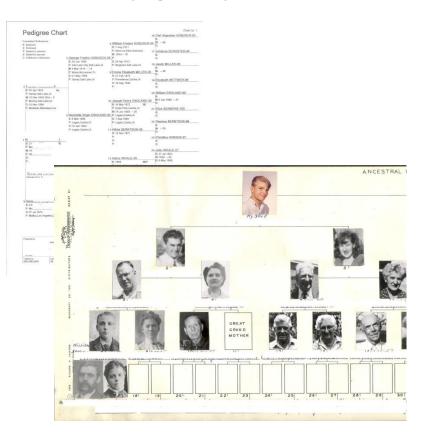


Acid-free containers preferred!

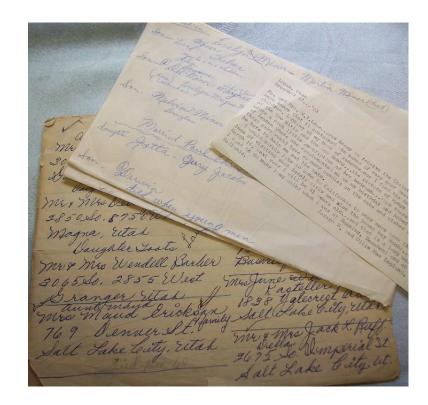
- Family documents
- Mementos
- Photographs
- Newspaper clippings
- Family Group Sheets
- Awards, medals, etc.
- Written histories
- History books & maps
- School & work records
- Notes

#### What to Collect?

 Pedigree charts and family group sheets:

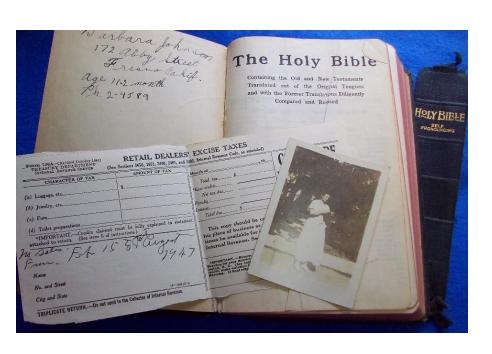


Notes, letters, personal papers



#### What to collect?

 Family Bibles – Be sure to check inside: Vital statistic certificates –
 Birth, Marriage & Death:





#### Mementos or keepsakes:

 Label them so you know which ancestor originally owned them – try to get the story behind how they came to the family and <u>WRITE IT DOWN</u>.

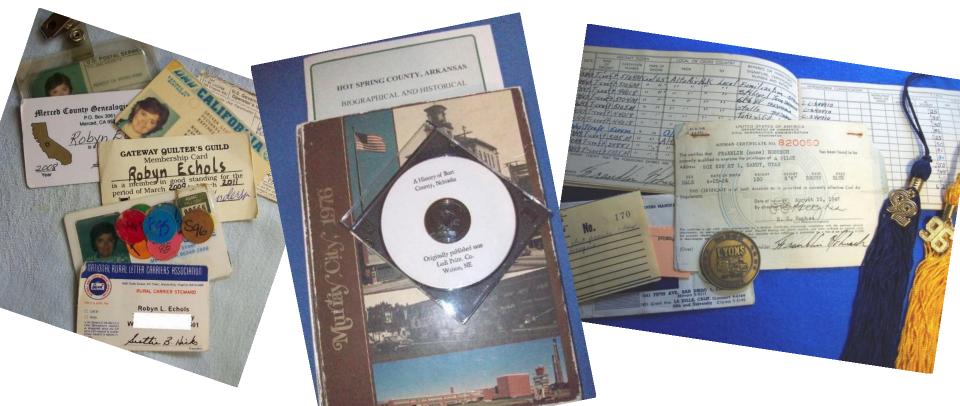




#### Miscellaneous papers & objects:

Old identification cards,
 awards & certificates:

Receipts, coins, books, licenses, tax forms, including those that give LOCALITY information:



# Jewelry, awards and trophies that tell a story:





#### Military papers, pins & patches:

Try to get as much information as you can about the individual. You can research the other details later:

DD-214



# Preserve your photographs and family records

Or, what you can do on Sundays or for Family Home Evenings

 Put all your documents into acid-free folders or page sleeves and store them in a binder or an accordion-fold portfolio:



## Store important documents protected from acid, heat, dampness, light and fire:

Worst choices:
cardboard, acidic
folders, particle
board drawers,
scattered around
loose & exposed to
dust, sunlight or
being accidentally
thrown out.



#### Better choices:

Protected in plastic inside a labeled box

In acid-free box, even if exposed to light or some acidic substances



#### Even better choices:

Dark, non-acidic box or metal file drawers for old photos and documents

A fire-resistant safe for ultimate fire protection for important documents and electronic media







Plastic sheet protectors, portfolio pockets and dividers for documents stored in a plastic binder or file system



# Scan family photos, documents and written family histories:

- Save them to CDs, flash drives & your computer
- Update storage methods as technology develops
- Share them with other family members (If something happens to your computer or your house burns down, you can ask for copies back from your family.)



#### Other photo considerations:

 When making digital copies, add names and dates along edge  Always scan the info for photographer





#### Scan photos front and back:



I Belitield, Liermany 10, March 1915.

Il Keil , Liermany 11, March 1945.

Il Guterslow, Liermany 14, March 1945.

Il Munister , Liermany 17, March 1945.

Viewberg , Liermany 18, March 1945.

Il Fissen Awpord, Liermany 21, March 1945.

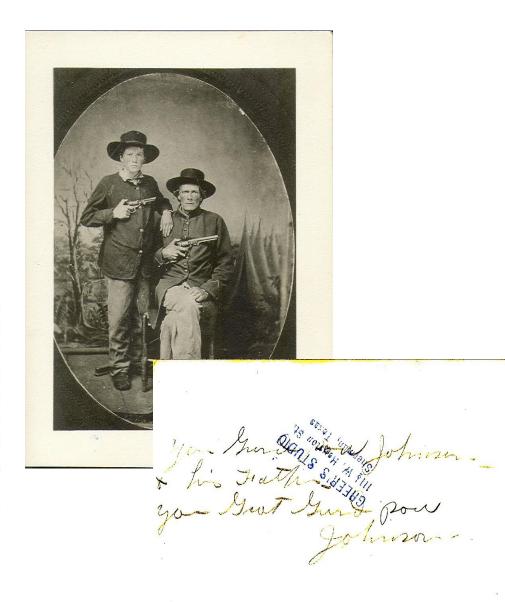
Il Rhiene, Liermany 23, March 1945.

Il Stormede , Liermany 24, March 1945.

Il Tour of Reichband 4, Mpril 1945.

Il Parch in hermany 8, April 1945.

Il Neumarkh Liermany 11 April 1945.



- Create a document with thumbnail pictures of mementos /keepsakes, etc.
  - Jewelry
  - Scout and club awards and pins
  - Military pins, medals, patches & insignia
- Record a brief history of the item, including the person to whom the item belonged.



I won third place in talent show in eighth grade at Spring Valley Junior High School. I was part of a skit.



Banner carrier pin – I was captain of the Monte Vista Banderettes in my sophomore year.



MIA Maid pin – my award for completing all the requirements of the YWMIA's program for 14-15 year-old young women.



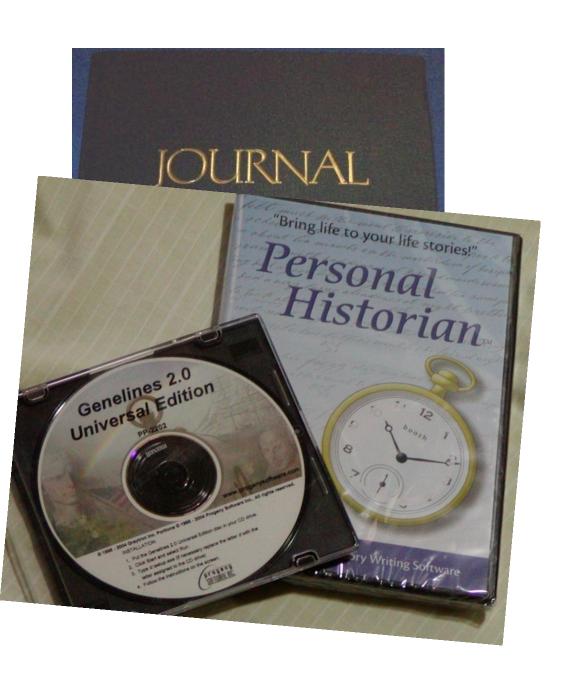
Laurel pin –for completing all the requirements of the YWMIA's program for 16-17 year-old young women.



My senior class ring from Orange
High School, Orange County, Calif. Class of 1504.

Create a shadow box to display some of your family history mementos and photos





Write in your journal – in a book or on your computer:

## Best websites for starting your family history:

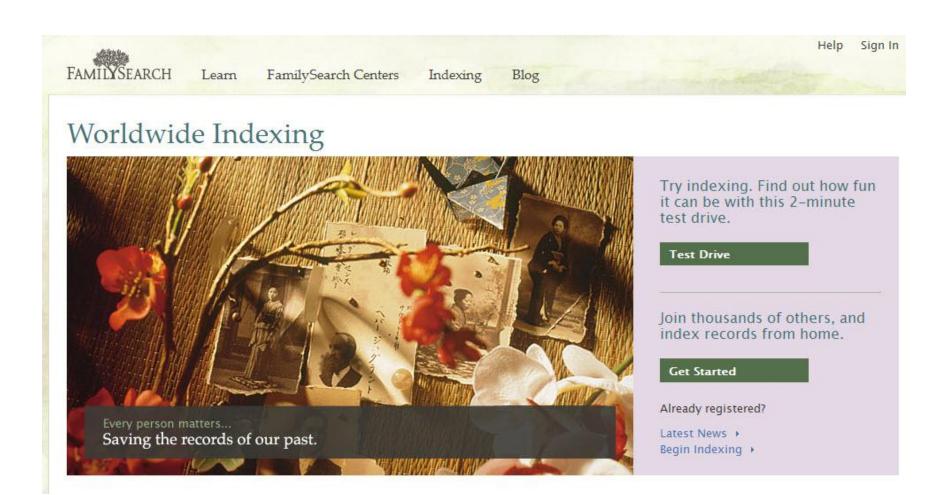
FamilySearch.org



### FamilySearch.org

- www.familysearch.org From that site, follow the links to:
  - Record Search
  - Trees
  - Catalog (Family History Library Catalog)
  - Books
  - Learn (Research Wiki, Research Courses, Discussion Forums)
  - Blog

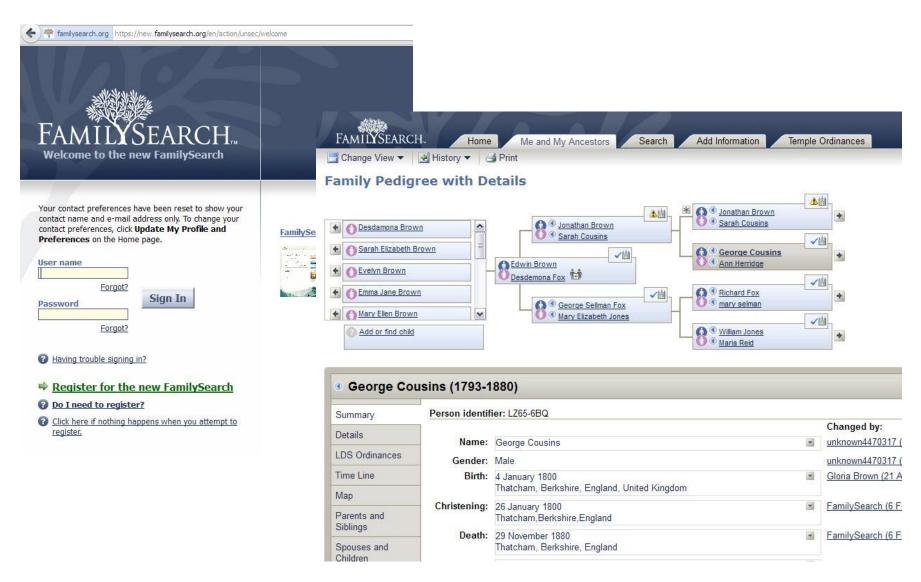
## FamilySearch Indexing



### Indexing

- Help make 1940 census information available
  - Sign up using your LDS account
  - Read the simple instructions
  - Start indexing
- Another EXCELLENT family home evening activity

#### new FamilySearch.org



# The Church's Goal for the new FamilySearch:

- Merge several databases into one
- Share these databases with the others
- Make research easier for the novice family researcher
- AVOID DUPLICATION AT THE TEMPLE

### Affiliate Database Options:

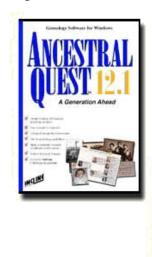
Ancestral Quest

Family Insight (PAF Insight)

RootsMagic 4



Legacy





#### Why we are steering away from PAF:

 PAF is still available – for now – but there will be no updates or adjustments to changes in operating systems in the future

 The other databases are more comprehensive for maintaining and sharing information AND are better at syncing information with FamilySearch

#### new FamilySearch

- http://new.familysearch.org
  - See what records for your family are available
  - We are the "clean-up generation." Use new.familysearch.org to correct information and consolidate records
  - Prepare names for temple work.

## FamilySearch, Indexing & new FamilySearch

- Those who are not members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have access to these programs:
  - Create a FamilySearch account to access Indexing and new FamilySearch, as well as additional features on FamilySearch.
  - Request permission to access new FamilySearch at the following:
    - Call 1-866-406-1830, ask for new FamilySearch
    - Send email to: support@familysearch.org

#### Cyndi's List

- www.cyndislist.com
  - A free site with links to many research sites



#### Family History Center

- Visit your Family History Center
- Merced FHC Hours:
  - Tues-Thurs: 10:00a.m.-4:00p.m.
  - Tues-Wed: 7-9:00p.m.
- Come receive help from our consultants and learn more about many other programs available without charge through our premium services sites.

## Where to get my hand-out for this class:

#### http://www.robynechols.com/about.html

(Available until at least 1 Jun 2012)

Or, send an email to the following and I will respond with a copy for you:

robynechols@gmail.com

Or

drechols45@comcast.net

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