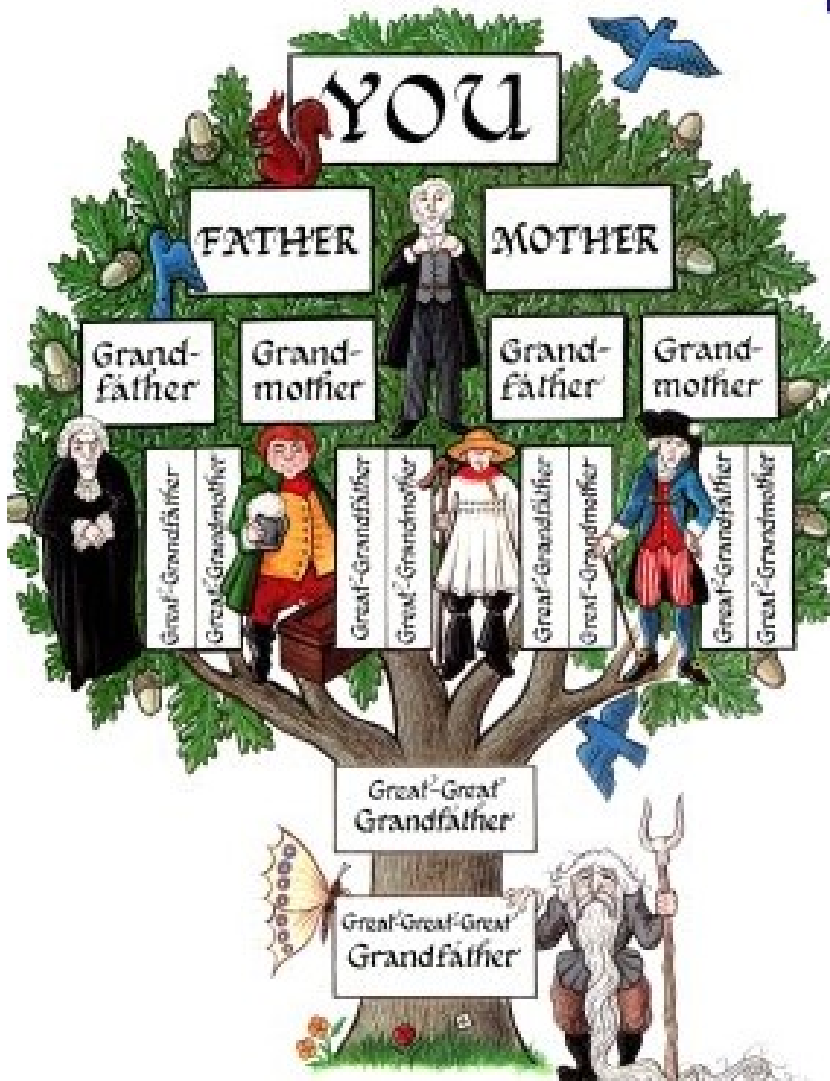




# S. C. Computer / Genealogy Class SIG

Thursday, September 08, 2016, 10:00 a.m.  
*Karen Ristic*

1



## *Six Tips to Begin Your Own Family History*

*Some basic ideas in starting to  
research your family history*



# Six Tips to Begin Your Own Family History

**1. Record What You  
Already Know**

**2. Get Organized**

**3. Read Genealogy  
Articles / View  
Wikis/Videos**

**4. Begin Your  
Research at Home  
and Document What  
You Find**

**5. Look for Compiled  
Information**

**6. Look for Original  
Records (at home,  
census records, and  
vital records)**

# #1. Record What You Already Know

## Basics of Recording Data

1. Use Pedigree Charts:
2. Begin with yourself and work back one generation at a time.
3. You are number 1.
4. Your father is number 2.
  - The father's name is on the upper line.
  - Men always have even numbers, wives have odd numbers which are one more than their husband's number. Customary to have marriage information in male record
5. Your mother is number 3.
  - \* Use the woman's maiden name.

**4 GENERATION PEDIGREE CHART**

COMPILED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_ Chart No. \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**4 GENERATION PEDIGREE CHART**

1 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
3 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
4 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
5 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
6 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
7 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
8 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
9 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
10 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
11 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
12 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
13 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
14 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Married \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_  
15 Born \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_ Died \_\_\_\_\_ Where \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse of No. \_\_\_\_\_

# An Ancestral (3-generation) Chart

## Ancestral Chart

ancestry.com

Chart No.

No. 1 on this chart is  
the same person as No.

On Chart No.

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

NAME OF SPOUSE

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

BORN  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

BORN  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

BORN  
PLACE  
MARRIED  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

BORN  
PLACE  
DIED  
PLACE

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

CONT. ON CHART

Form # F120

<http://www.ancestry.com/save/charts/ancchart.htm>

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09/08/2010

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# Recording Information in Pedigree Charts

- **Use full names, including middle names where possible; initials and suffixes okay. Surnames always in capital letters, maiden names for married women.**
  - William James ELLIS
- **Write dates military style; always 4 digit years**
  - 10 Aug 1878
- **Write names of places from smallest to largest: Wikipedia can often help with identifying current county-level place information.**
  - Cleburne, Johnson, Texas, USA.



# Using Family Group Sheets

- A family group sheet includes parents, children, and the spouse of each of those children.
- Prepare a family group sheet for each couple, formally married or not.
- Include all children alive or deceased.
- Include adopted children, but indicate adopted.
- Show where you found the information.
- Use a separate family group sheet for each parent couple and their biological and adopted children.

**FAMILY GROUP SHEET**

Husband's Full Name										Family Group ID#		
Spelling Variations												
Photo	Date	Day	Month	Year	Code	City / Twship	County / Province	State / Country	Health / Misc / Info			
	Born											
	Married											
	Died											
	Buried											
	Occupation	Other Marriages										
Church		Date Chn / Bapt.		Located								
Military		Unit		Years Served								
Father's Full Name						Mother's Full Maiden Name						
Wife's Full Maiden Name										Family Group ID#		
Spelling Variations												
Photo	Date	Day	Month	Year	Code	City / Twship	County / Province	State / Country	Health / Misc / Info			
	Born											
	Died											
	Buried											
	Occupation	Other Marriages										
	Church		Date Chn / Bapt.		Located							
Military		Unit		Years Served								
Father's Full Name						Mother's Full Maiden Name						
Children (in Birth Order)	Sex	Date	Day	Month	Year	Code	City / Twship	County / Prov.	State / Country	Photo		
1		Born										
		Married										
Spouse		Died										
		Buried										
Spouse		Occupation										
		Church			Located							
Spouse		Military					Years Served					
		Misc / Info	No. of Children									
2		Born										
		Married										
Spouse		Died										
		Buried										
Spouse		Occupation										
		Church			Located							
Spouse		Military					Years Served					
		Misc / Info	No. of Children									
3		Born										
		Married										
Spouse		Died										
		Buried										
Spouse		Occupation										
		Church			Located							
Spouse		Military					Years Served					
		Misc / Info	No. of Children									
4		Born										
		Married										
Spouse		Died										
		Buried										
Spouse		Occupation										
		Church			Located							
Spouse		Military					Years Served					
		Misc / Info	No. of Children									



# A Family Group Sheet

## Family Group Record

ancestry.com

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Preparer \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Ancestral Chart # \_\_\_\_\_ Family Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Husband		Occupation(s)	City	County	State or Country	Religion
Born	Date—Day, Month, Year					
Christened						Name of Church
Married						Name of Church
Died						Cause of Death
Buried		Cem/Place				Date Will Written/Proved
Father						Other Wives
Mother						

Wife maiden name		Occupation(s)	City	County	State or Country	Religion
Born	Date—Day, Month, Year					
Christened						Name of Church
Died						Cause of Death
Buried		Cem/Place				Date Will Written/Proved
Father						Other Husbands
Mother						

No.	Sex M/F	Children Given Names	Birth Day Month Year	Birthplace			Date of first marriage/Place Name of Spouse	Date of Death/Cause			Computer ID. #
				City	County	St./City		City	County	State/Country	
		1									
		2									
		3									
		4									
		5									
		6									
		7									
		8									
		9									
		10									
		11									
		12									

NOTE—Direct Ancestor

Form # F106

<http://www.ancestry.com/save/charts/familysheet.htm>

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# Always Work Backward from Known to Unknown

- **Work backwards from the present to the past, one generation at a time.**
  - This will help you from making mistakes.
- **Dates and places of events** are just as important as names.
- For every generation back, the **number of ancestors doubles.**
- **Know the history of where your ancestors lived.** The more general history you know of the time and place your ancestors lived the easier your research will be.



# What You Need to Find More Information

- **Who**
  - A full name, use a woman's **maiden name** if known.
- **What**
  - The event: **birth, death, marriage**, etc.
- **Where**
  - A very important thing you need to know is the **place** where a person was born, married, lived or died, etc.
- **When**
  - An (at least) **approximate date** for a vital event (birth, death, marriage, etc.)



## #2. Get Organized



- The best approach is to organize yourself according to your own personal preferences for taking notes, filing records, and scheduling research activities.
- Cite every source.
  - Keep a written record of all the sources you have searched.
  - Try to photocopy the information and the title page of books.
  - Indicate where the source is located and its call number.
  - Interviews with relatives count as sources. Indicate person, date, and time.
  - Include both positive and negative results.
  - Keep the information in files or notebooks in an organized manner.



# Get Organized with Paper Forms

- Set up an organizational plan. You will always be looking for things!
- Papers and objects—binders, file drawers, storage containers. One location for all records?
- Using a computer? Always backup!
- Use what works for you. Adjust and refine as your needs grow.
- Use pedigree (or ancestry) charts, family group sheets, research logs, etc., to use as worksheets.
- Genealogical forms are available for you to copy at:
  - Ancestry.com  
<http://www.ancestry.com/trees/charts/ancchart.aspx>
  - FamilySearch.org:  
<http://www.byub.org/ancestors/charts/pdf/pedigree.pdf>



# Get Organized with Genealogy Software

- By using a genealogy software program you can:
  - Enter individual information
  - Link individuals together
  - Produce family narratives in many styles
  - Allow for as many notes as necessary
  - Share information with others
  - Download (copy) files from other people
  - Add photographs, video clips or pictures of family memorabilia
  - Produce artistically pleasing and personally-designed forms
  - Search databases automatically



# Using Genealogy Software Programs

- For Windows: PAF, Legacy Family Tree, Family Tree Maker, RootsMagic
- For the Mac: Reunion, MacFamilyTree
- Wikipedia has a nice comparison of genealogy programs:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison\\_of\\_genealogy\\_software](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_genealogy_software)
- Software Considerations:
  - All current choices are well developed and accommodate genealogy data needs well
  - Do you want the data available to you on a local computer or via the Internet?
  - How useful to you are the extra features of the software?
  - Does the application's user friendliness match your style and skills?



## #3. Read/View Genealogy Articles (FamilySearch.org)

- The Research Wiki is a **free** collection of family history articles provided by family history enthusiasts from around the world. Research Wiki articles are valuable resources for anyone who wants to learn more about their family history.

[https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main\\_Page](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page)

### Family History Research Wiki

Get genealogical research advice, or learn where to find record collections in our **84,411** articles

Search by place or topic  
(or click on the map)

**Search Tips:**

- Start with broad localities, then click through to smaller ones  
*Example: England*
- Use keywords, not phrases  
*Example: Hispanic Resources*





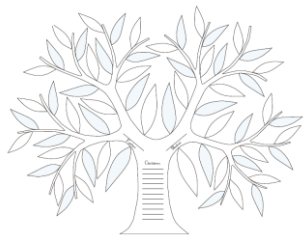
**New to Genealogy**  
The Research Process



**New to the Wiki?**  
How to Use the Wiki

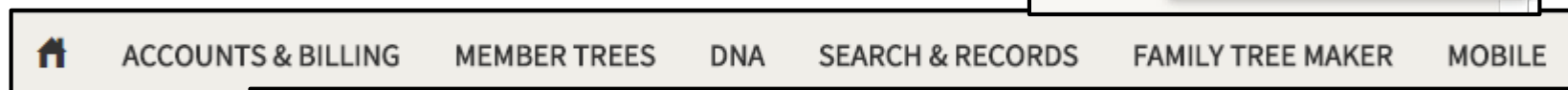
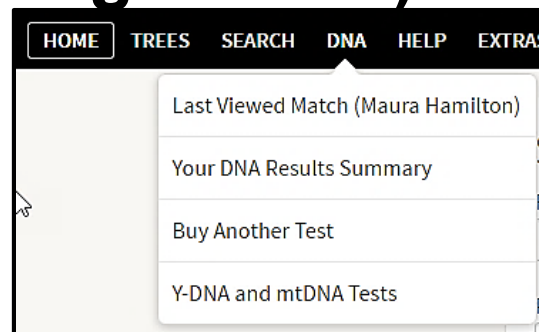


**Want to Help?**  
Get Involved



# Read/View Genealogy Articles (Ancestry.com>Learning Center)

<https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Getting-started-on-Ancestry-Lesson-1-Starting-Your-Tree-1460088573376>



Jul 21, 2016

By now you have started your tree on Ancestry and filled in all of the information that you can on your own. The next step is finding records that could support the information you already have in your tree, or could lead to more ancestors. Being able to search Ancestry effectively will give you the edge in your research. To access the other lessons in this series, please select one of the links below.

- [Getting started on Ancestry, Lesson 1: Starting Your Tree](#)
- [Getting started on Ancestry, Lesson 2: Building Your Tree](#)
- [Getting started on Ancestry, Lesson 4: Using the Show more options feature when searching](#)
- [Getting Started on Ancestry, Lesson 5: Collaboration](#)

This article discusses the following:

- [How to use hints](#)
- [Doing basic searches](#)
- [Viewing and saving records](#)



## #4. To Get Started: Use Home Sources

- **These may be in your home or the home of a relative:**
  - Birth, marriage, and death certificates
  - Deeds, wills, and titles
  - Bibles
  - Diaries, journals, and birthday calendars
  - Family trees
  - Funeral cards
  - Certificates (from schools or jobs)
  - Military service records
  - Newspaper clippings
  - Pictures
- **Make copies whenever possible and include the source.**



## #5. Look for Compiled Information and Be Sure to Document Everything!

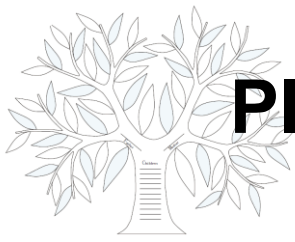
- Learn what information on the family has already appeared on the Internet, books, and periodicals.
  - Published information on your family could appear in four types of resources:
    - Biographies, Genealogies, Local histories, and Published original records.
- These resources are published as periodicals, books, and computer databases. Be sure to document where you found the information: **\*Who:** author/record holder, **\* What:** title or type of record, **\*When:** published/created, **\*Where:** location/repository, **\*How:** book/microfilm/digital image.



# Evaluate Compiled Information

- **Evaluate Written and Oral Evidence**
  - Remember the old adage: *Just because it's in print (or on the Internet) doesn't make it true.*
- **Look to see if the book is documented; that is, did the author cite a source for each fact?**
  - Spot check some of the author's sources.
    - Are you able to find a document based on the footnotes or endnotes?
  - Another adage: *There is no truth without proof.*

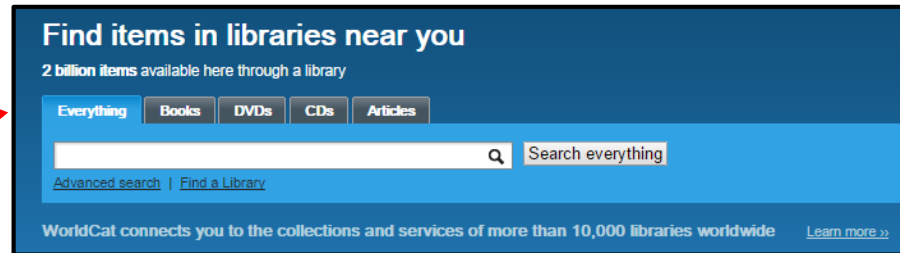




# Places to Find Published Genealogies

- WorldCat:

<http://www.worldcat.org/>



- FamilySearch.org

[www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) and click on the Search tab and then click on *Genealogies*

- Library of Congress:

[www.loc.gov/index.html](http://www.loc.gov/index.html) and in the Search box type *genealogies*

- Ancestry.com

<http://home.ancestry.com/> and search the Card Catalog

- And don't forget to try Google:

[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)



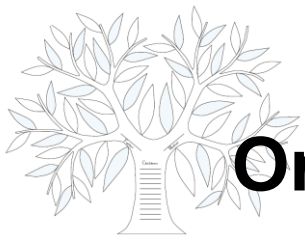
## #6. Look for Original Records

- Many times you will use records that were **created for purposes other than genealogy.**
- **Most records were originally recorded on paper.** Many have since been **microfilmed, indexed,** compiled in **books** and/or on the **Internet.**
- **Good indexes** will always point you to the **original source document.**
- Other sources include birth, marriage and death certificates, local newspapers, church records, census information, court house records, libraries, historical societies, and local LDS libraries.



# Original Records: Primary Sources

- **A primary record or source is one created by an eyewitness of an event.**
  - Whether the writer records the event as it occurs or describes it at a later time does not change the fact that **a record created by an eyewitness at any time is a primary source.** Vital records (birth, marriage & death certificates) are usually primary sources.
  - However, the period of time between the event and the recording of the event could dramatically affect the source's accuracy.



# Original Records: Secondary Sources

- **A secondary source is based upon evidence gathered after an event occurred by a person who was not an eyewitness.**
  - Newspaper clippings, compiled family histories, etc.
- ***Sources may be both primary and secondary.***
  - A death certificate is a primary source for the death but may be a secondary source for a birth.



# Vital Record Information on the Internet

- You can find some vital record information on databases such as Ancestry.com or at individual websites such as those from the LDS Family History Library, state and National Archives, and universities.
- But often you will have to write to the county or state where the records are held and pay money to get copies.
- Use websites such as *Where To Write for Vital Records*, <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm>



## **Local Resources**

### **The Family History Center in Las Vegas**

- **Located Downtown Las Vegas:**
  - 509 South 9<sup>th</sup> Street
  - Las Vegas, NV 89101
  - 702-382-9695
- **Hours:**
  - Monday, Friday, Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - Tuesday, Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

### **Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society (CCNGS)**

- Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in Henderson at the library
- [www.ccngs.org](http://www.ccngs.org)



# Summary

## **1. Record What You Already Know.**

- Start with yourself and work backwards.

## **2. Get Organized.**

## **3. Read a Genealogy How-To Book.**

## **4. Begin Your Research at Home.**

## **5. Look for Compiled Information and be sure to Document the Information.**

## **6. Look for Original Records:**

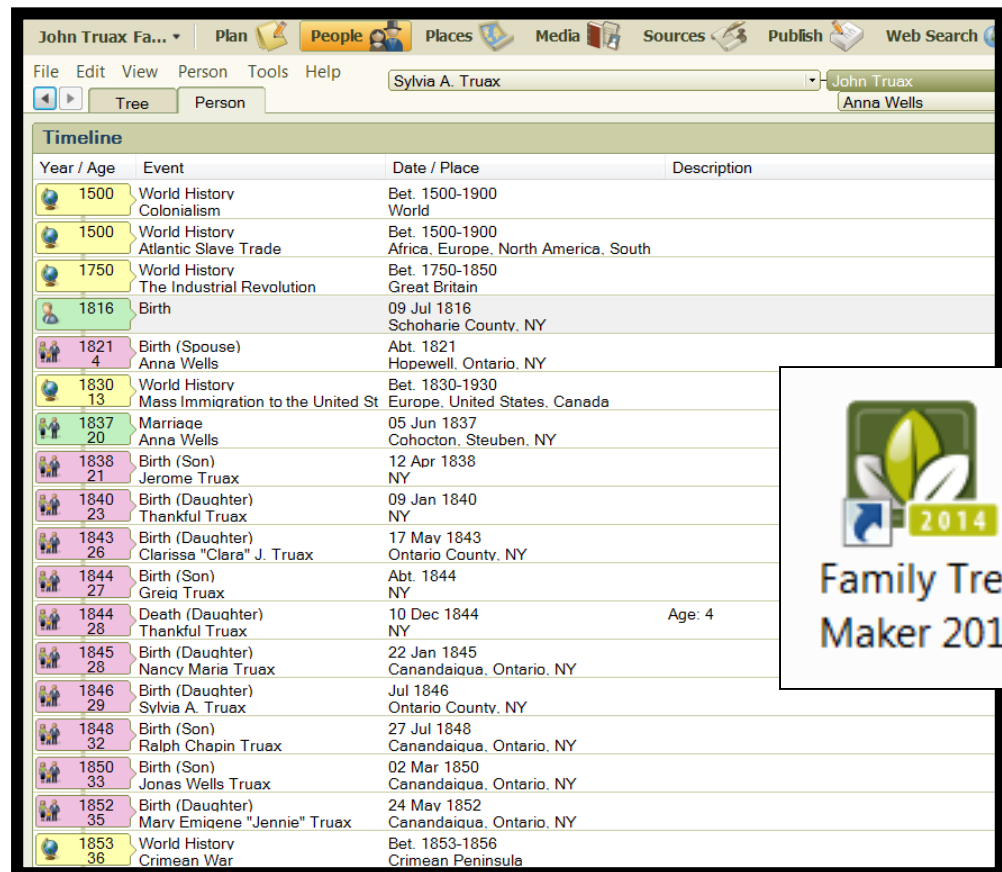
- Census Records
- Vital Records
- Home Records

Good luck!



~NEXT MONTH~  
 S. C. Computer / Genealogy Class SIG  
 Thursday, October 13, 2016, 10:00 a.m.  
*Karen Ristic*

# Timelines: An Important Genealogical Research Tool



Year / Age	Event	Date / Place	Description
1500	World History	Bet. 1500-1900	World
1500	World History	Bet. 1500-1900	Africa, Europe, North America, South
1750	World History	Bet. 1750-1850	Great Britain
1816	Birth	09 Jul 1816	Schoharie County, NY
1821 4	Birth (Spouse)	Abt. 1821	Hopewell, Ontario, NY
1830 13	World History	Bet. 1830-1930	Europe, United States, Canada
1837 20	Marriage	05 Jun 1837	Cohocton, Steuben, NY
1838 21	Birth (Son)	12 Apr 1838	NY
1840 23	Birth (Daughter)	09 Jan 1840	NY
1843 26	Birth (Daughter)	17 May 1843	Ontario County, NY
1844 27	Birth (Son)	Abt. 1844	NY
1844 28	Death (Daughter)	10 Dec 1844	NY
1845 28	Birth (Daughter)	22 Jan 1845	Canandaigua, Ontario, NY
1846 29	Birth (Daughter)	Jul 1846	Ontario County, NY
1848 32	Birth (Son)	27 Jul 1848	Canandaigua, Ontario, NY
1850 33	Birth (Son)	02 Mar 1850	Canandaigua, Ontario, NY
1852 35	Birth (Daughter)	24 May 1852	Canandaigua, Ontario, NY
1853 36	World History	Bet. 1853-1856	Crimean Peninsula



Family Tree  
Maker 2014