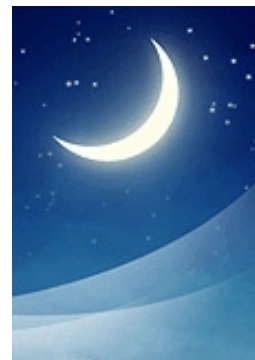


Multitasking 101: Family History While You Sleep

Laurie Werner Castillo ©1 Dec 2015



I RootsWeb Home Page www.Rootsweb.com See *Getting Started at RootsWeb*

A. Share Your Research <http://searches.rootsweb.ancestry.com/share.html>

1. **Submit Transcribed Records** - Do you have a transcribed database you could share?
2. **WorldConnect Project** - Free Family Trees - Great options
 - Here you may locate and download family tree information.
 - Great place to post your own family tree and let others find you, while you sleep.
3. **RootsWeb Surname List (RSL)**
 - Post the Surnames you are researching with locations.
 - List includes contact information so you can be reached.

B. Communicate and Connect with Others:

1. **Rootsweb Mailing Lists** - “An e-mail party line.” Messages are archived and can be searched.
 - Lists are according to a surname, locality, or topic.
 - Join a list(s) and ask questions of those with similar interests.
 - Request a new list or adopt one that needs an administrator.
2. **Message Boards** - Message Boards happen on a website.
 - Message boards are arranged by surname, locality or topic.
 - Messages are posted and answered in full view and are connected in “threads.”
 - Message Board Alerts - Receive email when posts are made to message boards of interest.
3. **Your Personal Website**
 - Website Hosting - RW hosts many personal websites. Request free webspace.
 - Website Listing - If you have a website, add it to the RW website registry through RootsLink
 - Resource Clusters - If your page is hosted at RW, you can create links to other pages on RW.
4. **Post-em Notes** - Electronic sticky notes. Attach information to records located on RootsWeb.
 - Include email address or link to another web address.
 - Notes work on SSDI and most user contributed databases, including WorldConnect.

II Free Volunteer Run Websites: USGenWeb & Linkpendium & Genealogy Trails

A. USGenWeb www.usgenweb.org WorldGenWeb Project www.worldgenweb.org

1. **Look-Ups** People who own books or are able to obtain documents, photos, etc.
2. **Message Boards, Mailing and Surname Lists** (Linked to Rootsweb)
3. **Links** to Historical and Genealogical Societies, Archives and Museums
4. **Contribute Family Info:** Obituaries, Birth records, Family Histories, whatever will be posted.

B. LinkPendium www.Linkpendium.org

1. **Locality Search** - Select State and drill down to county and town levels.
2. **Surname Search** - Go for a name and watch for variations.
3. **Topics to Target:**
 - Libraries, Museums, Archives, Societies - Places to contact, websites to investigate.
 - Mailing Lists and Message Boards Links - RootsWeb System

C. GenealogyTrails <http://genealogytrails.com/> Unique mailing list system - more places to post.

III Other Options for Posting Your Tree - Post all or just part of your tree.

- A. **FamilySearch FamilyTree** - Be sure your contact information is current and available.
1. **Record Hints** - links to possible sources
 2. **Watch** - Click Watch button for any ancestor and receive notification of changes made.
- B. **Ancestry.com** www.ancestry.com
1. **Shaky Leaves**
 2. **Post trees** publically or privately;
 3. **Communication**: Message Boards; Communication with Private Tree owners, etc.
- C. **Mocavo** <http://www.mocavo.com/> See Community: Mocavo Free, Mocavo Gold - Subscription;
1. **Groups** - For Surname Queries
 2. **Karma** - Free Look Up Request System
 3. **Discovery Alerts** - Gold members w/posted tree receive emails with new info & suggestions.
- D. **MyHeritage** <http://www.myheritage.com/> [FamilyTree Builder database software]
1. **Record Matches** - Records that match an ancestor [Hints.]
 2. **Smart Matches** - Your ancestor matches a person in another posted tree.
 3. **MyHeritage owns WorldVitalRecords.com and FamilyLink.com.** They share the same trees and Record Match technology. Only My Heritage subscription version has Smart Matches.
- E. **FindMyPast** <http://www.findmypast.com/> Hints - Tutorial available

IV Personal Database Programs - Your software program may include Internet Connectivity

Top Ten Reviews: Best Genealogy Software of 2016 <http://genealogy-software-review.toptenreviews.com/>
Are you using all the features your program has to offer?

V eBay at eBay.com A new use for an old friend! Here's How:

1. **Go to eBay.com and sign in** [You will need to create an account if you do not have one.]
2. **Enter a search** for a county, family, specific school, church, fraternal organization, military unit or event.
Examples: "Castillo Family Bible" or "Door County Wisconsin" or "Peshtigo Wisconsin Fire 1871"
3. **Follow this Search**: At top of search results page click Follow this Search → Receive confirmation msg.
4. **To edit, delete or track followed searches**: Go to MY eBay and scroll to **Searches You Follow**

VI Google - What a browser can do for you.

A. Locate and Update Previous Queries

1. **Google your name** in whatever format you used for posting.
2. **Update** e-mail address and/or query as needed.

B. Google Alerts www.google.com/alerts

1. **Google Alerts Help** <https://support.google.com/alerts/>
2. **Lisa Louise Cooke** <http://lislouisecooke.com/2014/07/set-google-alerts-for-genealogy/>
3. **L. L. Cook** <http://lislouisecooke.com/2015/09/google-alerts-for-genealogy-not-what-they-used-to-be/>

VII Further Suggestions

A. Local Historical and Genealogical Societies: Investigate the website, the publications, etc.

1. **Become a Member** - Post queries in the quarterly publication; Discounts on research and publications.
2. **Donate a copy of your research** to the collection – with your contact info. attached!
3. **Researcher Lists** - Add your surnames of interest and contact info to any lists available to the public.
4. **Offer to write article(s) for the quarterly, or website.** They will get help & you will get free publicity.
5. **Post information to the group website if possible-** Transcribed obituaries, wills, family histories, etc.

B. Libraries and Archives: Each has a unique collection and one of a kind items.

1. **Use the website** to determine what you can do online v.s. in person or by request.
 - Terms, conditions, fees, copy and mailing/scanning costs for research requests.
 - Email your questions. Staff can answer at their convenience.
2. **Interlibrary Loan** - U.S. Library List http://www.publiclibraries.com/state_library.htm
 - Locate a library where you are eligible to participate and set up your account. Get details.
 - Request books, newspaper, articles, book chapters or pages.
 - You will receive electronic notification regarding your request.

C. Find A Grave www.findagrave.com Create a free account. You will have many more options.

1. **Request a cemetery photo.**
2. **Create memorials** - Post what info you can, people can contact you.
3. **Create Custom Links** between your Find A Grave Pages and your personal website.

D. Book Purchasing Websites: Your favorite site may have locator tools such as *Wish Lists* and *Alerts* .

E. Create a Website https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Create_a_genealogy_web_page

1. **Many database programs will create a website for you.** [See IV above.]
2. **Investigate the options** with your web service provider.
Your Genealogy Website <http://freepages.computers.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~pasher/genesite.htm>
Genealogy Website Creation <http://www.cyndislist.com/genealogy-website/>

VIII Strategies - How to use these free opportunities to best advantage?

A. **Focus** on a particular ancestor or family & **Make a list** of specific questions you seek to answer.

B. **List which locations and time periods may be involved.**

1. The time period dictates the correct civic or ecclesiastical jurisdiction.
2. Use appropriate historical reference materials to ensure your list is comprehensive and correct. See:
Moving County Boundaries <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/moving-county-boundaries/>
Atlas of Historical County Boundaries <https://www.newberry.org/atlas-historical-county-boundaries>

C. **Queries - Formulate, Post, Store and Track.**

1. **Formulate your query, message or request in advance**, on your word processor.
 - Be concise and clear and type the surnames in ALL CAPS
 - Tweak it for the particular county or site where the posting will occur.
2. **Post, Store & Track your queries, messages, and/or requests.**
 - Keep a list of postings you have made and where you made them – a log.
 - Paste the URLs of the locations by the query already stored in your word processor.

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D. DNA Testing

1. **Ancestry.com** - Do a basic test on Ancestry.com [Largest group of participants. More tree matches.]
 - Matches will be listed. Links will be available to public trees of matching participants [cousins].
 - Member contact available through onsite messaging.
2. **Family Tree DNA [FTDNA]** - Database for matches.
3. **23and Me** - Limited group for matching. Many are not genealogists.
4. **GEDMatch** - Upload results from Ancestry, FTDNA and or 23and Me. Find more matches/cousins. More and different types of reports.

E. Social Media

1. **Consider using general social media websites:** Facebook, Pinterest, LinkedIn & Twitter
2. **Social Media Sites especially for Genealogists:** Genealogy Wise, WeRelate, Geni.com, Famiva, & more.
3. **WikiTree Surname Following** <http://www.wikitree.com/> See benefits of free membership.

About: Social Networking for Genealogists http://genealogy.about.com/od/social_networking/tp/portals.htm

Family Search: Popular Social networks for Genealogy

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Popular_Social_Networks_for_Genealogy

F. Posting Unidentified Photographs of Ancestors or Locations to Obtain Help

1. **Post free of charge at:**
 - **Dead Fred Genealogy Photo Archive** <http://www.deadfred.com/>
 - **Family Old Photos** <http://www.familyoldphotos.com/3c/1-unknown.htm>
 - **Ancient Faces** <http://www.ancientfaces.com/photos>
2. **Options vary by site.** You may be able to post photos with a location, possible surname, or both.

G. Become a Blogger - Posts become internet searchable. Post what you are working on/stuck on. See:

1. **Lisa Louise Cooke 7 Reasons to Start a Family History Blog**
<http://lusalouisecooke.com/2015/08/5-reasons-you-should-start-a-family-history-blog/>
2. **T. MacEntee A Genealogy Blog Primer** <http://www.geneabloggers.com/genealogy-blog-primer/>

H. Helpful Articles

1. **The Armchair Genealogist: Search While You Sleep** <http://www.thearmchairgenealogist.com/>
2. **Fitting Genealogy Into Your Busy Life: Ten Tips to Maximize Your Research Time**
<http://www.archives.com/experts/alzo-lisa/time-saving-tips.html>

BONUS: Free Look-ups & Searches by Volunteers <http://www.cyndislist.com/lookups/>

Books We Own <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~bwo/index.html>

Genlookups.com <http://www.genlookups.com/>

Ancestral Findings <http://www.ancestralfindings.com/page10.htm>

Genealogy Look Up Forum <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~genealogylookup/birthlookup.html>



*Sweet Dreams &
Check your email in the morning!*