

Using Family Search

Well here we are. Standing at the beginning of using the Internet to find out more genealogy research information. So far you have compiled your own records, made copies, set up files, started to use the PAF computer program and circled the areas on your forms that are missing information.

Now it is time to find out all you can about the relative you chose. Today we begin by going to a website that contains a lot of information, is well organized, and has searching capabilities.

FamilySearch.org organizes the searching capabilities it has into the following sections.

1. Ancestral File: A collection of millions of names from throughout the world that are organized into family groups and pedigrees.
2. Census: They list the 1880 United States Census, the 1881 British Census (which covers England, Wales, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man). They also have the 1881 Canadian census.
3. International Genealogical Index (IGI): This index lists several hundred million names of deceased persons from throughout the world. Many names come from the early 1500's to about 1885.
4. Pedigree Resource File: A collection of pedigrees and family groups submitted by individuals through FamilySearch Internet.
5. Vital Records Index: This is a collection of birth, christening, and marriage records from various countries.
6. U.S. Social Security Death Index: This index lists several million records about people whose deaths were reported to the U.S. Social Security Administration from about 1937 through September 30, 2000.
7. Web Sites: A collection of thousands of other web pages that are organized.

You can discover this amazing resource for yourself by going to <http://www.familysearch.org>. FamilySearch.org uses a very simple interface to help you with your searching. You can choose to search all the indexes listed above or each one individually.

Now it is time to go to work. Pull out your work sheets or print out a report from your PAF and let's dig in. Circle any missing information on your forms. Use that as a map to help you navigate through FamilySearch.org.

Take the last name of the person that is missing information and enter it into the site. Watch how fast you can recover missing information. As you use this website enter the missing information back onto your forms. Later you can enter it all into your PAF program. You're on your way to great and wonderful experiences..

The submitted articles to Familysearch do not require documentation. The information is usually correct, but some errors have been submitted by well meaning people. ONLY USE THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED AS A GUIDE. DOCUMENT ALL RESEARCH BEFORE ADDING TO YOUR PERSONAL GENEALOGIES.

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