

Welcome to this issue, from **RootsBasic™** www.rootsbasic.com



If you have a specific question about how and where to find sources for your family tree, or wonder about genealogy classes online (run by certified genealogists), drop me an email and I'll include my answers in the next issue of TreeTips. - Celia

Note: All web links in the newsletter go to primarily free sites

TreeTip #1: GENEALOGY NEWSLETTERS – great resources

Online genealogy newsletters are often overlooked by beginners in genealogy. But there are many helpful websites by professional genealogists, or by commercial groups, with free newsletters. Sign up, and see what you think. Here are a few ideas to check out:

➤ **Commercial Websites:**

Remember that some commercial sites selling genealogy software or publications may also have a newsletter, such as **RootsMagic**, **Legacy**, etc. As you search on commercial websites, check to see if they have a free newsletter. After reading a few issues, you will know if you want to continue.

➤ **FamilyTreeMagazine** <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/>

You do not need to have a subscription to receive the newsletter. On the home page, sign up for the Free E-Newsletter in the top left box. Containing tips and suggestions for researching ancestors, this newsletter has something for everyone.

➤ **GenealogySpot** <http://www.genealogyspot.com/site/newsletter.htm>

Sign up for the quarterly newsletter with information on genealogy resources and more. Check out the other resources down the left side of the page for more links to help you, including records, countries, forms, and more.

➤ **Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter**

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/standard-edition.html

This is a very popular daily newsletter to read or listen to online. Dick Eastman is a well-known genealogist, who loves to share information and ideas, latest news, and more.

➤ **Family Newsletters Site – Search for Your Surnames with Family Newsletters!**

<http://familynewsletterregistry.homestead.com/index.html>

On this site, search on the left side column for either surnames, or newsletter list by alphabet grouping. There may be a family newsletter or association for one of your ancestor's surnames. Very helpful resource.

TreeTip #2: HUMOUR – GENEALOGY-WISE!

When you are frustrated and unsuccessful, you need a lift! Here are several wonderfully funny sites with genealogy humour to lift your spirits – and sometimes to remind you of to-do's! (free)

➤ <http://www.genetoons.com/>

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~gaseeger/funny.html>

<http://www.joke-archives.com/oneliners/genealogyquips.html>

<http://www.pennyparker2.com/addicted.html>

<http://www.genealogue.com/2005/05/top-ten-list-index.html>

<http://freepages.family.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~families/halsey/humor.html>

<http://www.abaysview.com/RUGenie/Genealogist.htm>



Genealogy - my favourite past-time!

TreeTip #3: WHY *DO* YOU WANT TO BUILD A FAMILY TREE?

This is not the silly question you might think it is, at first glance. In terms of what you want to do with your research results, you need to think about this question – first! Do you want to have a full listing of all your cousins and their children for family picnics or reunions once a year? Do you want to find out more about your ancestors who came to Canada in the 1860s? Or, do you hope to understand more about your family, particularly your father's - or mother's - family? Do you want to write a book about your family, using your grandmother's diary and the Family Bible records to make it more real? There are many very personal reasons to begin to build a family tree.

If you want to write about your family, you will also find useful published articles and books on how to write memoirs or family histories. Or you may want to take a writing course on this exciting topic.

If you love to scrapbook, you may enjoy doing several family scrapbooks on your greatgrandparents and their children, as a Christmas gift to your closest relatives. Or just do one for each of your children. Going to all your relatives and gathering copies of documents, photographs, copying various records and memorabilia – all these activities will enrich your family scrapbook.



If you hope to have a Reunion of all the relatives in your family – you will need to give yourself about a one year period to plan such an event. Finding all those relatives may be a bit of a challenge, and your searches will be different from another person's search- for example 1700s English ancestors!

Think about your purposes in building your family tree, and you will be able to fine-tune your research focus to those items most useful to supporting your goals.

TreeTip #4: FAMILY BIBLES – Where are they?

Family Bibles with hand-written (at the time) listings of names, birth dates, baptisms, marriages, deaths, burials: we would all love to have one in our eager hands, ready to transcribe into our family tree. But they are elusive, those Family Bibles. Travelling, emigrating, boxed and forgotten, moving residences, being passed down to various children... after awhile, they get thrown out, or sold on eBay, or given to a local history association. How can you find one of yours -?

➤ **Finding Bibles Online:**

http://www.ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=8912&cj=1&o_xid=0001029688&o_lid=0001029688 This is a rather difficult web address – the 2 apparent blank spaces are actually underline marks.

<http://www.biblerecords.com/> This is the web site referred to in the above article.

Another website, attached to a ring of related topic websites on family bibles:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~familybibles/index.html>

Check with your relatives

it is possible that a Family Bible will turn up in an attic, or in the trunk in the basement or, on a great-aunt's bookshelf. Always, ask! Ask everyone you can think of. You may be wonderfully successful!



Happy searching!

- Celia

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