

Let's Discuss It – Saturday November 21, 2009

On Tuesday November 13th, Vince Hughes held a workshop in the Tennessee Genealogical Society workroom. They've had several requests to do an extension of that class which will show how to create an EXTREMELY simple webpage that will allow a genealogist to post their research in order to start making those useful contacts with other researchers.

Vince will be using YOLA, which can be found here: <http://www.yola.com/>

He discussed the creation of the Rootsweb Family Tree at his Tuesday meeting, so won't cover that again in detail, but you can begin with YOUR tree here:

Main page of rootsweb: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>

Where you start on rootsweb to place your family tree online:

<http://accounts.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index.cgi?op=show&page=freagree.htm>

It would be GREAT if one of you would create your rootsweb information, and then Vince could use YOU as the guinea pig and create YOUR webpage for YOU.

In the second half of our meeting, I'd like to hear from Marvin on how the research went on creating a photo slideshow. He had suggestions from several of our Let's Discuss It folks since the last meeting.

Here are a few things I ran across this month that might be useful to someone:

Georgia Historic Newspapers:

http://upfront.ngsgenealogy.org/2009/11/georgia-historic-newspapers-available.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+UpfrontWithNgs+%28UpFront+with+NGS%29&utm_content=Google+Feedfetcher

<http://enquirer.galileo.usg.edu/enquirer/search>

<http://milledgeville.galileo.usg.edu/milledgeville/search>

<http://telegraph.galileo.usg.edu/telegraph/search>

Yadkin County NC Deed Index

<http://sherifenley.blogspot.com/2009/10/online-land-records-in-north-carolina-i.html>

Finding Mexican-American War Records for Pennsylvanians

<http://askolivetree.blogspot.com/2009/10/finding-mexican-american-war-records.html>

We had discussed backup methods. Here is an article I found:

External hard drive backup versus online:

<http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=7548>

Sam Jobe sent along these links:

A "best sites" page: <http://www.sardallas.org/GENEALOGYSITES.htm>

Photo editing software: http://www.komando.com/newsletter/TOTD_11-9-09.htm

You'll notice that a couple of the links, above, are from the Kim Komando site. I subscribe to three of her newsletters: Daily Tips; Technology News Items; and Cool Site of the Day. On Saturdays I also receive her Saturday newsletter. I have found useful information OFTEN. Here's a link to the latest newsletter:
http://www.komando.com/newsletter/NL_11-14-09.htm

Concerning the posting of your information online:

I've probably knocked down the most brick walls in my research by connecting with other folks who were researching the same line. Usually these folks found me by seeing my research posted on my website, or they saw a post I made on GenForum or Rootsweb or Ancestry.com or they found something of interest on my blog.

My webpage is very simple. It can be found here: <http://www.nhalaw.com/debbie/index.html>
The surnames are links, with webpages created with PAF. There are pictures and old letters. I have a link at the bottom of the page for email.

My blog was simple to create. I used BLOGGER and you can create yours here: <http://www.blogger.com/start>
I listed it on the facebook genealogy sites page, and I get feedback often from others with blogs that I also follow. I use my blog for genealogy postings, posting pictures of my grandchildren and for posting other things that interest me. My blog is located here: <http://debs-midlife.blogspot.com/>

Over the last year or so, I've transcribed and posted on my blog the:

“Lyon County Kentucky Lunatic Records”: I started it in October 2008: <http://debs-midlife.blogspot.com/2008/10/1-lunatic-inquest-book-lyon-county.html>

“Pension Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers in Caldwell County Kentucky”: I started this project in March of 2008 here: <http://debs-midlife.blogspot.com/2008/03/1840-caldwell-county-ky-revolutionary.html>

Another place where other genealogists might find me is on Genforum:

Genforum: <http://genforum.genealogy.com/>

If you go to the Genforum site, it seems a little more confusing than it was in the past. They have a few “search” boxes around the perimeter that LOOK like search boxes for Genforum. Most ARE NOT. They're advertisements for another site. Even I was fooled by those silly boxes. Don't let that discourage you. Genforum has been a useful site for connecting with researchers on a common surname. Another useful thing that can happen on this site is that a person can post something that interests you, and Genforum gives you the ability to see ALL the posts made by this same person on ALL their forums. I'll use me as an example.

Go to Genforum.

Under FORUM FINDER, type Atchley

It will match on ATCHLEY FAMILY GENEALOGY FORUM

Click on this link

When the page pops up, it's showing only ONE message. Click on ALL MESSAGES to see ALL the messages posted to this forum.

Scan down the page about 14 topics and you'll see one titled: Daniel Atchley listed as dying 2 March 1863.

You'll see that I, Deborah Atchley, posted a message October 1, 2009.

Click on my message.

The obvious thing here is that people discuss the topics listed. Here's the additional help. That message shows:

POSTED BY: Deborah Atchley

Click on my name (it's a link)

It will show you my email address (in a form that spammers can't usually stick into a "bot"), and a link at the bottom showing: SHOW THIS USER'S MESSAGE POSTING HISTORY.

Click that link.

You'll see all the posts I've made to GenForum since 2000.

I find this very useful for finding people who are related to me by more than one surname, or for figuring out if their folks are from the same general area.

Rootsweb has message boards for connecting with others also. <http://boards.rootsweb.com/>

If you search for a surname, example: Atchley

You'll be taken to the message board for that surname.

It is arranged in a TOPIC (or THREAD) format. You can reply to a message already posted, or start your own THREAD. If you click the link CHANGE TO FLAT VIEW you are given the choice of seeing OLDEST FIRST or NEWEST FIRST. You can search ALL MESSAGE BOARDS or you can search ONLY THE BOARD YOU ARE CURRENTLY READING (see top of the message board page). You can also choose an ADVANCED SEARCH.

You can search the family trees at roots web here: <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi>

If you're interested in Military records, Vince will be posting the slides from my "FINDING MILITARY RECORDS", along with a LINKS page I did for the Veteran's Day Seminar November 7th for the Tennessee Genealogical Society.

Hope to see you at the meeting.