

Family History Newsletter Issue 8: November 15, 2016









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Version 2 of The Family **History Guide is Here!**

I remember that evening like it was just last week ...

It had been a busy, and successful day with The Family History Guide booth at RootsTech 2016. I was sitting with Bob Ives (COO) and Paul and Sue Maxwell (now on the Advisory Board) in the Little America Coffee Shop, finishing a late and tasty meal.



I had just received an email from my friend Dan, with an intriguing link. I opened it on my laptop for the others, and we got our first look at the prototype for Version 2 of The Family History Guide.

We were duly impressed. Yes, it was an early proof of concept, but we could see what it would lead to - a mobile-friendly design with a trendy color set and helpful widgets - and a new site to carry The Family History Guide to greater heights.

Fast-forward to November 15, 2016 ...

After months of development and tweaks, as well as porting all the content over from the original site, Version 2 is finally here. We're excited to share it with you and hope it will be an even better resource for your family history experiences.

So here's a handy guide to what's new and different in Version 2 ...



What's New - and Different?

Overall

- Mobile-friendly design with more horizontal space
- Many new, larger photos
- Larger font size and new color schemes
- No underlining for hyperlinks just color change
- Top menu tabs: Home, Intro, Projects, Children, Training, Vault, LDS. On the Home page and Introduction, these tabs shrink on scrolling.
- Bottom-of-page bar for common links and Donate button
- Google Translate feature added to most pages

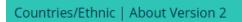


Search bar added to most pages



Home Page

Links to Country/Ethnic pages and Version 2 info



 Large icon links to Introduction, Projects, and Training sections

Introduction

- Submenu bar with About, FAQs, Computer Basics, FH Basics, About the Projects, and Project Resources
- Links to the Vault in Computer Basics and FH Basics



Up arrow to scroll to the top of the page



Children

- Submenu bar with Coaching, About FH, Family Tree, Memories, and Misc. Activities
- Links grouped by submenu activity type
- Codes added: P=preschool; Y=youth (12+); C=children (6-11); A=apps and online games

Vault

All links visible in scrolling, instead of hide/show

LDS

- Goals (10) now used for content; Goal 7 is Inspiration, and Goal 8 is Find/Take/Teach
- Added a Goal for Family Home Evening

Projects

• Navigation bars that list each Goal in the Project



 Alternate languages (German, Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, Japanese) for selected articles



• Top / End navigation buttons at the bottom of each Navigation bar



- Countries and Ethnic Groups all visible with scrolling, instead of hide/show
- QUIKLinks label at the top of the Country or State page; links at the bottom of the page
- Counties label at the top of each State page; links at the bottom of the page

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 Continent / region navigation links at the top of each Country page

Training

- Submenu bar with Start, Presentations, Catalog, Individuals, Families, Groups, Consultants, Tracker, Tools
- Training Tools includes course evaluation form and other training materials

FamilySearch and The Family History Guide

The partnership between FamilySearch and The Family **History Guide** continues to grow. As announced previously, a link to The **Family History** Guide was placed on the main page of the Family **History Center Portal** (https://fhc.fam ilysearch.org/).

Genealogical Resources



Premium Family History Websites

Center Access Only: Free patron access to premium subscription websites.

Premium Website Training:

Lesson 1: U.S. Sites

Lesson 2: British and Swedish Sites

The Family History Guide

A free, comprehensive learning and resource center about family history and FamilySearch.

The *latest development* is exciting as well: on Nov. 17, Bob Taylor and Bob Ives will present a training seminar at the FamilySearch Family History Library (downtown Salt Lake City). This seminar is to train the FamilySearch volunteers at the library on how to use The Family History Guide to assist visitors who

come to the library. This highlights the The Family History Guide as an essential training tool and resource used by FamilySearch.





The training seminar will be recorded and simulcast to leaders of 13 FamilySearch Regional Libraries. The content will cover a brief introduction to the purpose of The Family History Guide, followed by a walk-through of the features of the new Version 2 website.

Stay tuned for more announcements, as FamilySearch and The Family History Guide continue to break new ground in the development of training and resources.

Exploring Military Records with The Family History Guide

November 11 was Veterans Day, and that U.S. holiday put military service in the forefront of many people's minds.

The Family History Guide has a wealth of resources available for military research, both in the United States and other countries worldwide.



Let's take a look at how to get started finding your military ancestors with The Family History Guide.

Introduction to U.S. Military Records

First, go to Project 9: United States in The Family History Guide, then choose <u>Goal E-1</u>. This goal gives you a good start with understanding U.S. military records (Choice A), learning to trace your military



ancestors (Choice B), and exploring the Fold3 website for military records (Choice C).

The video and article in Step 1 of Choice A are a good introduction to the basics, while the Ancestry videos in Step 1 of Choice B go more in depth with how to find the military ancestors you're looking for. Two additional resources not to be missed are the FamilySearch Wiki (Choice A, Step 2) and the Fold3 website (Choice C).

U.S. Military Records by Conflict

Goal E-2 takes you through U.S. military research, conflict by conflict. It starts with the Revolutionary War (Choice A) and then covers the Civil War (Choice B), World Wars I and II (Choices



C and D) and the Korean War (Choice E). Also included in Choice F are the "minor wars" such as the Indian Wars, the War of 1812, and the Spanish-American War.

Military Records and Resources in the United States

In the United States page, you'll find plenty of military record resources by clicking QUIKLinks. There are also Goals for military research in each of the 50 State pages, as well as QUIKLinks for most of these.

Military Records in Other Countries

In The Family History Guide there are Country pages for over 50 nations, and most of these pages contain Goals for military research. Here's a list of the countries with military research Goals:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Scotland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, Wales

Late Bloomers

On Nov. 5, I delived a keynote address on The Family History Guide at the Pikes Peak Family History Fair in Colorado. It was well-received, and those who attended were the first to see the new Version 2 website (still in Beta at the time).

Of the many experiences there, I'll recount two that made a lasting impression on me - both having to do with senior citizens, who could be termed "late bloomers" in genealogy.

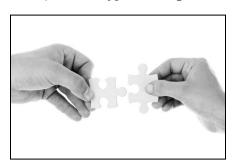
The first experience was a woman who watched a demo of The Family History Guide website and then remarked, "Well that would be



wonderful - if I had a computer!" Her response caught me off-guard for a moment, and then I realized there was a good teaching moment. I asked if she would rather not carry around a stack of papers everywhere, but instead record her family history online for everyone to see. She liked that.

Then we had the conversation about how she could be trained in computer skills. Of course we were standing right there in the Pikes Peak Library, so getting volunteer help wouldn't be a problem - not to mention the myriads of FamilySearch Family History Centers that specialize in just that type of thing.

The second elderly woman attended the keynote address I gave. When I asked if anyone in the room had had an interesting experience with



DNA testing, she raised her hand and remarked, "Yes - I found my birth father." You could hear a pin drop, as the rest of the group pondered that news. She had been willing to step into uncharted technology



territory, with most of her life behind her, and she found the ultimate reward - connection to the birth father she never knew.

Two stories of late bloomers, one common theme: it's never too late to take the plunge and discover the joy of family history.

On the Horizon

We will be at all Family History Fairs and events listed below. For details, see the Events link on the website for details (www.thefhguide.com/events.html).

BYU Webinar: Training with The Family History Guide, Version 2 - is on Nov. 16, 2016 at 6 p.m. To register, go to https://sites.lib.byu.edu/familyhistory/classes-and-webinars/online-webinars/

Family History Library: Private Training for Library Service Missionaries 2 - is on Nov. 16, 2016.

RootsTech Conference - is on Feb. 8-11 in Salt Lake City, UT.



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