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Gardening

I have Spring Fever. For those of you in the southern hemisphere that face shorter days and cooler weather, please bear with me as I dream of butterflies and bumble bees.

Spring does seem to be gaining on winter in Denver so the yard beckons for attention. Some jobs, like rotor tilling the vegetable garden and thatching the lawn must be done soon because planting and good growth, require it. Other jobs, like mowing and weeding require constant repetition throughout the spring and summer. Improvements to the landscape necessitate planning, hard work and commitment of time and resources. The work may be hard but satisfaction comes from seeing the results of our work and eating or sharing the fruits of our labor.

Like a yard and garden, our genealogy is not static; it grows and requires attention. A season of research inevitably requires a season of data input. Fallow periods often follow a rich harvest and give us time for cleaning, weeding and fixing before starting again. Some of the chores are more fun and enlightening than others but fulfillment comes as we improve our file, turn our hearts to our families, help others attain great blessings, and share what we know with our loved ones.

Whether this is your time to sow, reap, or repair, may your family tree be all that it should be as a result of your careful efforts and dedication.

~ Cina Johnson ~

Insights into Insight: Archives

John Vilburn recently taught a PAF Insight class in St. George and asked the following questions, "How many of you know about the automatic archiving of PAF Insight? How many of you have

used it?" Next, he asked everyone that uses PAF Insight to raise their hand. Then he stated, "That's how many of you have it and use it but you did not know it was happening."

Unless you have changed your preference setting, all of you use it. Now I ask you, do you know what it is and what it can do for you? Every time you SAVE your file in PAF Insight, the program automatically makes a backup of your file as it is now and stores the file in an archive; after that, it saves the changes in your PAF file. The process never interrupts you with annoying reminders to backup your records; it simply takes care of you by making the lifesaving copy in case you find a problem later on.

I imagine this raises questions for many of you and perhaps a concern for others. Let me make a guess at your questions and try to answer them.

How can I turn this off?

As John said in class, "Do yourself a favor, don't.... You really wants this!" Therefore, I will wait and answer later. If I cannot convince you to keep the Archive, then you can turn it off.

Won't all these files fill up my hard drive?

In a word, no. Hard drives are a lot bigger than they used to be and since the archived records are compressed, they take up comparatively little room. To prove my point, I looked at my Archive. I have a LOT of different files that I use in PAF Insight for training and testing purposes. Each file has its own folder within the Archives. Because there are folders within these folders, I have a grand total of 551 folders requiring one tenth of a Gigabyte. "WOW, that's a lot", you think but please stay with me. Today, an 80 gig hard drive is considered small, yet my archived records would only require one 800th of the hard drive. That is why we confidently say, it will not fill your hard drive.

We also "prune" the Archive over time. There are more copies of recent records and fewer copies of older records going back for over a year. Also, as long as you have your computer and do not delete the file, there is always a copy of the very first archived record. The archive tab in the Preferences window explains how the file pruning works.

Will the Archived records protect me against a hard drive crash?

You should not rely on the Archive to protect you against a hard drive crash because they are stored on your hard drive. If the drive crashes, it may destroy these files. Therefore, you should continue making backups onto another storage device such as a thumb drive or an external hard drive.

If the Archive does not protect me against a crash, what are they used for?

Most of us, at one time or another, experience a sickening feeling as we discover a major problem in our records. Perhaps we mistakenly merged the wrong people and now we cannot remember how the family should look. The Archive files along with the Compare and Sync mode come to your rescue.

First, you may want to use "Save As" to give the corrupted file a new name to help you differentiate between the good, the bad and the ugly. Next, try determining the approximate date and time that

the mishap occurred. Next, open the current version (renamed) as the Primary file in the Compare and Sync mode then open an archived copy (from before the mistake) as the Secondary file. Using the archive record as your guide, you can rebuild the families in your current file.

In some circumstances, you can restore the file from the Archive and redo the lost work faster than you can rebuild the file. Compare and Sync can still help you update the good information into the restored file. The decision depends upon the nature of the problem and the time that has elapsed between making and discovering the error.

How can I find the Archived records when I need them?

The archives are hiding in plain sight in My Documents. When you open the PAF Insight folder (in My Documents), you will see the Archive folder. Opening the Archive folder reveals a list of folders with the same names as your PAF files.

- Select the folder with the **same name** (the original name) as your corrupted file.
- Select the folder with a **date** just prior to when you found the problem.
- Select the folder with the **time** just prior to when you found the problem.

If you are using PAF to restore the file or PAF Insight to Compare and Sync, double click on the backup (.zip) file to open it.

Will FamilyInsight have an Archive, too?

FamilyInsight will have this feature and it will work just like PAF Insight. The only difference is the name of the folder where the Archived records reside. Currently, the folder in My Documents is called **PAF Insight**. When we change the name of the program to FamilyInsight, the folder in My Documents will also be called **FamilyInsight**.

For additional safety, keep your PAF Insight Archives folder even after installing FamilyInsight.

As promised, if I did not convince you to keep the Archive active, you may turn it off by doing this:

- Open PAF / FamilyInsight.
- Click on the Edit menu and select Preferences.
- Click the Archive tab and remove the check by, Keep Archives.

I hope you never need the Archive but knowing it exists should give you peace of mind.

Spotlight on: AniMap 3.0 - Recently Released

People doing U.S. research have long appreciated **AniMap** for its assistance in tracking all county boundary changes (not just those existing on census years), calculating distances, finding cemeteries, and much more. Users will be happy to learn that earlier this month Gold Bug released AniMap 3.0 with some significant improvements.

The most welcomed improvement centers on the ability to change the size of the maps. Over time, the standard map size of 640 x 480 pixels resulted in small maps on our large monitors. There are now three sizes to choose from and the program should automatically open with the optimal size for your monitor and screen resolution. If you want to change the size, simply click on the **View** menu and select the preference of your choice. When you choose the larger map size, the font size for the place markers also increases, making them easier to read.

Gold Bug also included more than 200,000 new locations and additional location categories. The site find feature in the last version of AniMap had places, cemeteries, churches and schools. Version 3.0 adds buildings, civil (towns, counties, townships, boroughs, etc), courthouses, islands, military, mines, parks, post offices and reserves. The updated and expanded help documents define these categories in clear, understandable terms.

Installing the new version of AniMap was very easy because they offer a no-questions-asked installation option. I cannot remember a simpler installation! When finished, there were three desktop icons; one for the program itself, one for the site finder so you can open it separately to look up places, and one for the PDF version of the manual, which you may print.

If you are unfamiliar with AniMap, you can learn more by reading *Ohana Insights* Issue 5 from July 2007. Back issues may be found under the Newsletter tab of our website. (www.ohanasoftware.com)

You can purchase AniMap 3.0 on CD for $69.00 US. We also sell the AniMap training video on CD for $12.95 US. For $79.95, you get both AniMap and the training video. Due to their size, you cannot download either of these programs.

Please note, if you have a previous version of Animap, Gold Bug offers an update version for $39.50. ***The update version only applies to people who already own AniMap.***

Attention Mac Users, Potential Mac Users and Friends of Mac Users!!!

You asked for it and we listened! **FamilyInsight will have a Mac version as well as a Windows version.** If you already have a valid license for PAF Insight, you may download the Mac and/or the Windows version onto your household computers.

The ability of the program to read and write to standard GEDCOM files means you can use Mac genealogy programs and use FamilyInsight for Mac without the need for a windows operating system or special software.

When we announce that the FamilyInsight beta test can begin, we hope Mac users will join us by testing this version.

Odds and Ends

WorldVitalRecords Offer for Ohana Software Customers Continues

Get 2 years of the U.S. Collection for only $39.95.
Get one year of World Collection (which includes the U.S. Collection) for the NEW PRICE of $89.95 - **$10.00 off our previous offer!**

This is a special offer for our customers and NOT the general public. This is not a publicly advertised price and is only accessible through WorldVitalRecords Discount link

If you have questions about the offer, please contact WorldVitalRecords and tell them you are an Ohana Software customer.
Phone: 1-888-377-0588

Offer may end without notice.

CALENDAR

Utah Valley PAF Users Group
May 10, 2008
9 am to 12 noon
~ John Vilburn will conduct a FamilyInsight class ~
"Red Church"
4000 North 650 East (Timpview Drive)
Provo, Utah

2008 Conference on Family History and Genealogy
July 29-August 1, 2008
Brigham Young University - Conference Center
Provo, Utah
Registration & Information available at http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen/

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