Ohana Software June 2008 / Issue 16

In this issue:


- Divine Choreography
- Insights into Insight: Using the Edit RINs and Pedigrees Mode for File Management
- Spotlight on: search.labs.familysearch.org - A Glimpse into the Future
- Quick Tips - Customer Service
- Odds and Ends


**Divine Choreography**

**I love the phrase, "divine choreography" because it so perfectly describes the Lord's hand in guiding and preparing us for our future. We can decline his invitation to dance but when we take the master's hand, follow him to the dance floor of life, and follow his lead, it is amazing what happens.**

**Early in our mission I attended a meeting where the speaker described the process of uniquely identifying people. The people working on the new FamilySearch were looking for ways to uniquely identify people for temple work because not all countries keep vital/civil registration records. Government agencies and others that are in the business of identifying people have found that we can be uniquely identified by our names and the names of our close relatives even without dates or places. The speaker also said that sometimes identifying a person by their relationships is more accurate than identifying them by a date and a place! I was fascinated and have passed this information along to many others.**

**Last month I wrote about working with a cousin to research our great grandfather, Joseph Berry. Part of our problem is some records list his name as Frederick James or James Frederick instead of Joseph. To further complicate matters, Berry is a common name in England and his parents were named John and Mary. Karen used census records to try and find Joseph Berry and his parent's in England. This is the search criterion:**
**Name: Joseph Berry; Father: John; Mother: Mary;**
**Birth Year: 1857 plus/minus 2 years**
**Place: England**
**Search results: One family - John & Mary A. Berry, with son Joseph age 3, in Dewsbury Civil Parish, Yorkshire**

**Second search: Expanded search to plus/minus 5 years from the birth year**
**Search results: Still this one family.**

**She repeated the two searches using the name Fred* Berry; using a wild card to include Fred, Fred James & all spellings of Frederick.**

**Search results: No matches**

**Following a friend's suggestion, Karen repeated this search in the 1871 and 1881 census and still came up with this one family.**

**Knowing that a lot of the parish records from Yorkshire have been extracted, I used this method to look for marriages between John Berry and Mary (no middle initial or last name) in Yorkshire, England. There were lots of John Berry's and lots of Mary's who married someone with the last name of Berry but only one John Berry with a Mary. We still have no proof that this is the correct family but neither have we found anything to discredit this relationship. Follow-up work using census records reveal other tantalizing similarities between these families and what we know about Joseph from family lore.**

**I think this is a perfect example of uniquely identifying a person by their relationships. I do not suggest we rely exclusively on this type of identification but is certainly narrows the search to a manageable size. Since it is often easier to disprove a theory than it is to prove it, we will continue looking for evidence that will either substantiate or refute our supposition. I also think it's a perfect example of divine choreography. Had I not learned about the accuracy of uniquely identifying people by their relationships, I doubt I would feel as confident about this research. Because of my previous exposure, I'm pleased to think that we may have actually found Joseph's family.**

~ Cina Johnson ~

**Insights into Insight: Using the Edit RINs and Pedigrees Mode for File Management**

**Each name in our file represents a real person. It also represents time and effort spent finding that person. However, sometimes we end up with individuals or small family groups that we cannot link to anyone in our family tree. We are loath to simply cut them out of the file, never to be seen again, yet they are hard to locate within the file since they are disconnected from your family tree. Depending upon how many disconnected groups you have, they can add to the file size, too.**

**This article addresses one question...**
***~ I have some unattached pedigrees in my file that I want to separate into a new file. How can I move them out of one file and into a new file? ~***

**This is a two part process. One step creates a new file for the unlinked pedigrees and the second step removes them from your main file. I suggest you open your file, rename the file as a play file, and follow the instructions so you can see how this works. You can experiment without affecting your actual records.**

**STEP 1 - Separating the Unlinked Pedigrees from the Main Pedigree**

***Before trimming a file, please make a BACK UP copy!*** **After backing up the current file, you are ready to create a new file for the unlinked pedigrees.**

- **With your main file open in PAF, click File and choose Save As.**
- **Enter the new name and click Save.**
    - **You may want to include unlinked in the file name.**
    - **Check the Title Bar to make sure the file shows the NEW name.**

    - **Changes made to the new file will not change your original file.**
- **Open PAF Insight by clicking on Tools and selecting PAF Insight from the menu.**
- **When the program opens, choose Edit RINs and Pedigrees.**
    - **Once again, make sure that the Title Bar says, PAF Insight - Editing RINs and Pedigrees in [NEW file name]. If it is not the correct file, you need to exit PAF Insight, open the correct file in PAF and reopen PAF Insight into the Edit RINs and Pedigrees mode.**

**You are ready to separate the unlinked pedigrees from the Main pedigree. You will do that by deleting the Main pedigree and leaving the unlinked ones.**

- **Click on one name in the Main pedigree.**
    - **The people at the top of your list of names should be marked as Main Pedigree**
- **Click the Trim icon and select the option, This entire pedigree.**
    - **Every name in the pedigree will be marked as Deleted.**
    - **If you move down the list to Pedigree 2, 3, 4, etc., you will see that they are NOT marked as deleted.**
- **Save the file and return to PAF.**
- **The new file only contains the unlinked pedigrees.**
- **Close the file in PAF**

**STEP 2 - Remove the Unlinked Pedigrees from you Main Pedigree**

**You may now delete the unlinked pedigrees from your original file. This file was backed up in the first step so you do not need to back it up again.**

- **Open the ORIGINAL file in PAF**
    - **This step is optional so do what makes sense to you.**
        - **If you would like to rename the file, to signify this is the file without any unlinked pedigrees, you may rename it by clicking File and choosing Save As.**
    - **Enter the new name and click Save.**
- **Open PAF Insight by clicking on Tools and selecting PAF Insight from the menu.**
- **When the program opens, choose Edit RINs and Pedigrees.**
- **Once again, make sure that theTitle Bar says, PAF Insight - Editing RINs and Pedigrees in [file name]. If it is not the correct file, you need to exit PAF Insight, open the correct file in PAF and reopen PAF Insight into the Edit RINs and Pedigrees mode.**

**You are going to delete the unlinked pedigrees to remove them from this file. Multiple select all the unlinked pedigrees and delete them in one step by doing the following:**

- **Drag the slide bar by the list of names until you see the first person on Pedigree 2.**
- **Click on the first person in Pedigree 2 to highlight them.**
- **Use the slide bar to move to the very bottom of the list of names.**
- **When you see the last person on the list, hold down the Shift key on your keyboard.**
- **With the Shift key depressed, click on the last person on the list.**
    - **All the names between the first person you clicked on to the last person should be highlighted in blue.**
- **Click the Trim icon.**
- **A popup window appears asking if you want to delete all the people. Click OK.**
    - **Everyone in the extra pedigrees is marked Deleted.**

    - **Nobody in the Main Pedigree is marked Deleted.**
- **Click Save then return to PAF**
- **The only people left in your file are the ones that are linked together in the Main Pedigree.**

**Now you have a backup copy of the file with everyone, a newly named file with only unlinked pedigrees and a third file that has one large pedigree and no unlinked people or pedigrees.**

**The Edit RINs and Pedigrees mode is extremely helpful and I trust you will find it helpful for your file management.**

**Spotlight on: search.labs.familysearch.org - A Glimpse into the Future**

**Websites featuring genealogy related databases are hugely popular among family history enthusiasts. Many people believe that "everything is available on the Internet". Not so...at least not yet. The Family History Library in Salt Lake City is the "largest library of its kind in the world" according to www.familysearch.org. The "collection includes over 2.4 million rolls of microfilmed genealogical records; 742,000 microfiche; 310,000 books, serials, and other formats; 4,500 periodicals; 700 electronic resources."**

**For a number of years, FamilySearch has been digitizing these records in anticipation of providing them online. This mammoth project also requires legal permission from the copyright holders to put the images onto the Internet, indexing each record, and creating a user friendly website with an outstanding search engine.**

**For a glimpse into the future, check out search.labs.familysearch.org. This pilot version of FamilySearch has 40 different databases (US and International) to play around with. Some of the databases have the actual images and I found a great uncle's death certificate today. You can search records by entering a person's name or just a place name. I did this and got an index of people with records from the specific town I'd entered. There were death records and census records from 1880 and 1900.**

**You may also "browse" the records by selecting the specific record type, such as the 1930 Mexico Census. Next, select the state, then the municipality, and finally the city. When there is a long list to choose from, such a the list of cities, simply hover your mouse over the down or up arrow and it will scroll through the list without clicking or holding down the mouse button. What a wonderful feature for arthritic or trembling hands!**

**Please remember this is only a pilot version of the website and the databases are there for experimentation. The fact that you may find something useful about your family is a pleasant bonus. As the project progresses and becomes part of FamilySearch, it will undoubtedly become a vital research site for everyone. Enjoy your glimpse into the future!**

**Quick Tips - Customer Service**

**Ohana Software is committed to your complete satisfaction. If you have any questions, feedback, or problems, please contact us so we can help you.**

**We have several ways for you to contact us. Chat online with us by going to www.ohanasoftware.com and clicking on the Live Support box in the left column. Send us an email at support@ohanasoftware.com or call us Monday through Friday between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Mountain time, at 1-877-436-3256 and dial 0 (zero) to speak to a customer service representative.**

**Good service takes good communication by both the company and the customer, so here are some suggestions to help you get a faster and better service.**

- **Be specific - A message saying, "My PAF Insight isn't working. What do I do to fix it?" doesn't give us enough information to provide you with the appropriate response. We either have to write back with questions for send a list of possible solutions for you to try. A message saying, "When I click on the link from PAF to PAF Insight, the program does not open. I just see a message about returning to PAF." gives us the specifics we need to send the correct answer.**

- **Identify yourself - We often have to check your registration information in order to provide you with the help you need. When you send an email but fail to identify yourself, we can only look for your records by your email address. If you have a new address, we will not be able to find your records. Once again, we have to request more information before we can answer your question.**

  **If you are unsure how you are registered with us and you can open your PAF Insight, you can find that information. Open PAF Insight to any mode. Click Help and choose About PAF Insight. You will see "Registered to" followed by your name as we have it in our records.**

- **When you call, have your computer ready - When possible, be at your computer and have it running before you call us. You can describe problems more accurately when you look at the screen and we can walk you through the procedure to fix your problem. If necessary, we can synchronize our computers and actually see the problem you are having. This helps us fix the problem faster.**

  **If you cannot be at your computer, be ready to write down the instructions we give you. In other words, please do not call us while you're driving to work!**

- **As applicable, provide us with an alternate number and your availability - If you leave a phone message or write and ask us to call you but you are not home during our business hours (Monday through Friday between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Mountain time), please help us by providing a number where you can be reached. We want to be considerate, so please let us know when it is most convenient to take calls.**

**We really appreciate all of our customers and feel you are the best customers in the world. We want you to be happy with our service and our products so contact us when you need help. Using these hints will help us to serve you better. Thank you!**

**Odds and Ends**

**FamilyInsight - Yes, we are still working on FamilyInsight and it keeps getting better and**

**better. No, we still do not have a target date for it's release.**

**Link to World Vital Records discount for Ohana Software customers -- WorldVitalRecords Discount link**

**CALENDAR**

**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/**

**Mesa Arizona Family History Expo 2008**
**November 14-15, 2008**
**Mesa Convention Center - 263 N Center St, Mesa, Arizona**
**John Vilburn will be teaching FamilyInsight classes**
**Learn more: Click here**

Copyright © Ohana Software 2008

If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter, click here and log in to change your preferences.