



In this issue:

- [Continued Learning](#)
- [Ordinance Tracker Stand Alone Released](#)
- [Spotlight: USGenWeb](#)
- [WebinarsWebinars](#)
- [Odds and Ends](#)

Continued Learning

August and September are over and that means most of the younger generation is back in school. The economic downturn has lead many people in their 30s, 40s and 50s to return to school, too. But what about those of us who are working or who are retired? Do we have to miss out on all the fun? Never!

There are educational opportunities all around us. I've been watching NOVA lately and learned about the creation of the world (according to scientists), volcanology, the newest research on dinosaurs, our genes and other great topics. I might not be able to pass a biology test but my heart rejoices over the incredible scientific advances. Learning is good for our spirits and our minds.

Ohana Software may not be in the same league as NOVA but we offer FREE training classes. If you go to our website www.ohanasoftware.com, and click on the Community tab, there is a link that says Webinars. This will take you to the page to sign up for Webinars. We have classes on various FamilyInsight topics plus guest speakers who speak on topics that are near and dear to their hearts. Next month we will have Rae Lee Steinacker as our guest speaker. She teaches Intermediate and Advanced Internet Research at the BYU Family History Center. Her topic will be **How to Find U.S. Birth, Marriage, and Death Records (& Substitutes) on the Internet**.

Last month, Merlin Kitchen, Assistant Director at the Utah South Area Family History Training Center in Orem, Utah presented a class on the FamilySearch Records Search pilot program. As FamilySearch converts films to digital images, and those images are indexed by volunteers, the records become available online for free through FamilySearch. We recorded this and other classes so you can watch them over and over again. You can find this and other archived classes on our [Webinar Archive page](#).

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City offers classes every day. If you ever visit that library, you can attend the classes in person. Happily, many of these training classes and series of classes have been recorded so that you and I can watch them at home. You can find them at www.familysearch.org. Click on the "Library" tab and choose "Education". On the new page, click "Family History Library Research Series Online". You can receive training for:

- England Beginning Research (5 classes plus handouts)

- Germany Research New! (2 classes)
- Principios básicos para la investigación genealógica en Hispanoamérica (México) ¡Nuevo! (3 classes)
- Russia Research New! (2 classes)
- U.S. Research New! (4 classes)

So, if you are feeling left out and miss the smell of newly sharpened pencils and an opened box of crayons, do the next best thing and go to school online.

~ Cina Johnson~

Press Release: Ordinance Tracker Stand Alone Released

Ordinance Tracker was first released as an integrated part of the program FamilyInsight. Because of its success, Ohana Software has now released Ordinance Tracker as a stand alone. The program is new in that it gives LDS genealogists the ability to print and track ordinances in a what-you-see-is-what-you-get interface. When you bring up your reserved ordinances, it actually looks like a bunch of ordinance cards stacked up by type. Three stacks, pink, blue, and yellow. When asked about this design, John Vilburn said "The simple design is meant to be intuitive. You pick up the ordinance card and put it into the ordinance request preview, then click print. There's not much to learn."

The ordinance tracker cards also show you what is going on in much the same way. If an ordinance is complete, you see the date as if it were stamped on there. If a card has been printed it says so. And if it is ready to go, it says "ready".

Some LDS genealogists have been hesitant to submit family names to the temple because they would prefer to do them themselves and don't want their ancestors stuck waiting. This is no longer a problem because users can see exactly what is going on with their temple assigned ordinances. If a card has been processed at a temple, the card says so. If not, and a user doesn't want to wait, they can take it back from the temple list by simply dragging and dropping it back to their personal list.

"One of the factors that contributed to releasing Ordinance Tracker as its own program, was the feedback we receive from family history center directors and consultants saying that it made teaching ordinance management so much simpler for them." said John. "By releasing it by itself, it makes it available to everyone, no matter what database program they are using" All that is needed to run the program is an active login to the new FamilySearch website. For this reason, Ordinance Tracker can be used with any of the current database programs like Rootsmagic, Ancestral Quest and Legacy. For those who have decided to work directly from FamilySearch, without a desktop database program, the program is a much needed tool to organize their reserved ordinances.

To find out more about the ordinance tracker program, Visit the Ohana Software website. Ordinance Tracker costs \$12.50 and is available for both Mac and Windows computers.

For those that currently use FamilyInsight, Ordinance Tracker will still be on the tools menu for you to use. There is no need to purchase Ordinance Tracker if you are using FamilyInsight.

For more information on Ordinance Tracker visit:

The [Ordinance Tracker learn more page](#) at Ohana Software

Spotlight on USGenWeb

I am always on the lookout for good resources to help others find their ancestors. USGenWeb is an all volunteer website that has been a treasure of information as I have helped others in my roll as a Family History Consultant. The site has state and county sites for all of the United States. Each site is maintained by volunteers and varies in what kind of resources and information that they have.

I definitely check these sites when doing US research and the cost is **FREE**. If you are doing United States Research take a look at this website and navigate to your areas of interest. From the main page www.usgenweb.org select the state you want from the list in the left hand column. A new window will open and you will be taken to the state GenWeb site. On this page there will usually be some statewide resources and often links to offsite databases. All state sites that I have visited have had a list of counties and/or a map of all the counties that you can click on to go to the county GenWeb site that you want. The county sites can be the real gem.

One of the ones that I have used and found to be a treasure trove of good information and original sources is the Vigo county Indiana Genweb site. I do not have any ancestors in this area but a friend of mine does and when helping him I discovered these wonderful pages. Among the treasures are the Marriage Applications. These are indexed with links to images of the original documents. My friend was delighted to see these applications for members of his family. They included birthplaces and residences of the bride and groom as well as for their parents. This site also includes obituary indexes, cemetery links and records, township histories, and much more.

As I said these are all managed by volunteers and I think this is a very unselfish use of ones time. If you have an interest in an area and have time or resources to offer, I am sure that you would be welcomed as a volunteer at any of these site.

USGenweb sites are an adventure waiting to happen in your research. Take advantage of these resources and who knows where they will lead you.

Webinars

Our Webinars are growing in popularity and we appreciate your participation. A few have mentioned that they have missed the webinar because they got mixed up on the correct time. When you register for a Webinar there is a link just above the Last Name field that says "**Show time in my time zone**". If you click on this link you can choose your time zone for listing the time of the webinar.

Our upcoming classes are:

1. Syncing files with FamilySearch using FamilyInsight

Learn to use FamilyInsight to synchronize files with the new.familysearch.org website. We'll walk you through an actual synchronization so you can quickly start updating your records and helping others. **We will also include a run through of the ordinance reservation capabilities.**

Throughout the presentation, there will be short question and answer sessions. **This webinar is being held in conjunction with the BYU-Idaho Family History Conference.**

- Saturday, October 17th, 2009

- 3:40 PM - 4:40 PM MDT

To sign up for this webinar, [click here](#).

2. FamilyInsight for Beginners

Come learn the basics of FamilyInsight. We'll show you how to get rid of duplicate records, correct place names, and quickly update your file from new.familysearch.org. We will also give you all the tips and tricks you need to easily navigate and edit information using FamilyInsight.

- Wednesday, October 28th, 2009
- 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM MDT

To sign up for this webinar, [click here](#).

3. How to Find U.S. Birth, Marriage, and Death Records (& Substitutes) on the Internet

Guest Presenter: Rae Lee Steinacker - Teaches Intermediate and Advanced Internet Research at the BYU Family History Center

Vital records - records of births, marriages, and deaths - provide important information and clues, not only about the primary person in the record, but often about other family members. The exciting news is that more and more U.S. vital records are being indexed and placed on the internet each day. This saves family historians loads of time and money, and it also gives us access to records of family members we might not have known existed. This webinar will show you how to find free U.S. vital records databases on the local, state, regional, and national level, as well as point out secondary sources that provide clues to vitals.

- Thursday, Nov. 5th, 2009
- 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM MDT

To sign up for this webinar, [click here](#).

Watch our [Webinar page](#) for future additions to the schedule.

If you would like to watch a video of a past webinar, please visit our [Webinar Archive](#).

Odds and Ends

We have a winner! Ken Richins of Gridley, California is the winner of the 2 FREE tickets to the Redding Family History Expo. congratulations Ken. See you in Redding.

The current version of FamilyInsight is 2009.9.29.0 This version has the Helper function, Ordinance Reservations and Ordinance Tracker. You can update through the Auto updates in PAF Insight or FamilyInsight, or choose Check for Updates in the Help menu, or go directly to the [FamilyInsight download page](#) on our website and download the latest version.

October is Family History Month and [One Great Family](#) is celebrating by discounting their memberships.

World Vital Records has a [7 day free trial](#) to their database.

October 16th-17th, 2009

California Family History Expo 2009

Redding Convention Center

747 Auditorium Drive

Redding, California 96001

FamilyInsight and other genealogy classes.

John Vilburn and other Ohana Software representatives will be present.

[Click here](#) for more information.

October 17, 2009

BYU-Idaho Family History Conference

Thomas E. Ricks building

BYU-Idaho

Rexburg, Idaho

FamilyInsight and other genealogy classes.

[Click here](#) for more information.

January 22-23, 2010

Mesa Arizona Family History Expo 2010

Mesa Convention Center

263 N. Center Street

Mesa, Arizona

FamilyInsight and other genealogy classes.

Ohana Software Representatives will be present

[Click here](#) for more information.

February 26-27, 2010

St. George, Utah Family History Expo 2010

The Dixie Center

1835 Convention Center Drive

St. George, Utah

FamilyInsight and other genealogy classes.

Ohana Software Representatives will be present

[Click here](#) for more information.

Copyright © Ohana Software 2009

If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter, [click here](#) and log in to change your preferences.