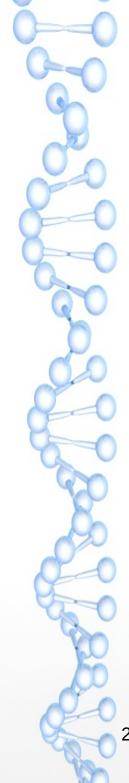
#### <u>I'm Related to Who??</u>

Getting Started in the World of Genealogy

Craig Rhombs

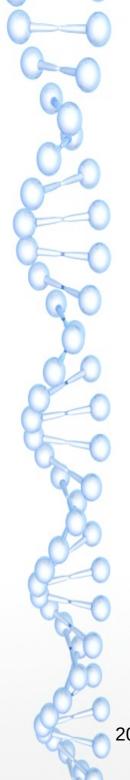




#### Welcome

- · Who am I?
- Why am I doing this?
- Definition of genealogy = "an account of the descent of a person, family, or group from an ancestor or from older forms"
- Basic objectives
  - Suggest how to start your work
  - Suggest best practices
  - Suggest low cost options
  - Introduce genetic genealogy (optional second session)





#### Where Can I Find Class Materials?

https://281connections.us

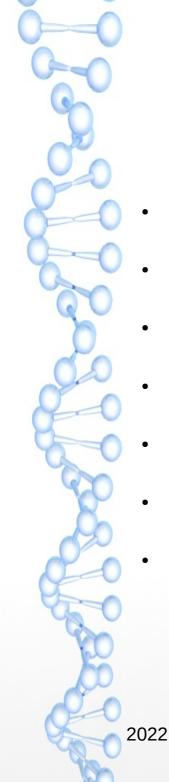
Email: 281connections@gmail.com



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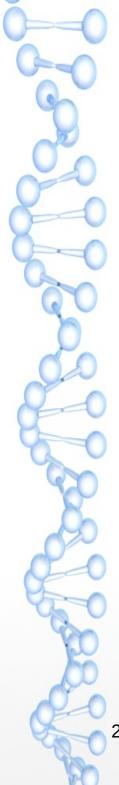




#### Topic Outline

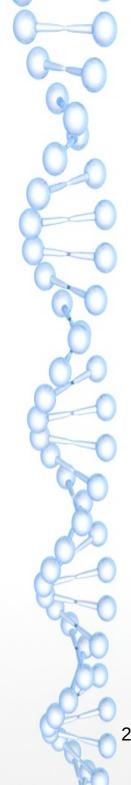
- Basic Data Concepts
- Ways to Get Started
- Basic Tools (pedigree, family group sheet)
- Software Tools 💥
- Research Using Living Resources 🔍
- Research Using Historical Data
- Publishing Results





#### **Attitudes**

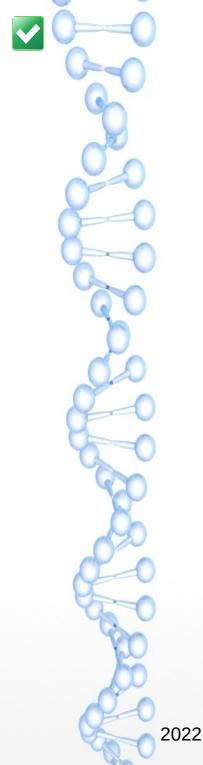
- "I don't know who my grandfather was, I am much more concerned to know what his grandson will be." -- Abraham Lincoln
- "When a society or a civilization perishes, one condition can always be found. They forgot where they came from." -- Carl Sandburg
- "We are the children of many sires, and every drop of blood in us in its turn ... betrays its ancestor." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson



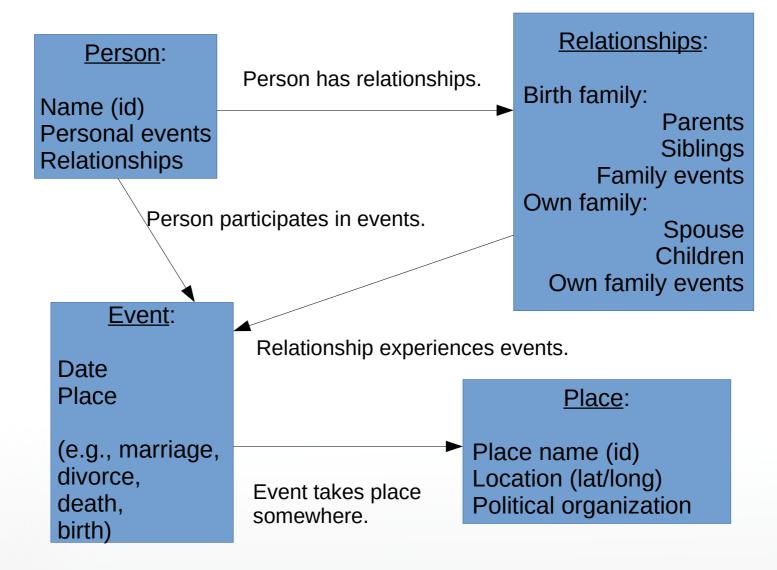
#### **Review Expectations**

- Who are you?
- In what are you most interested?
- What is your objective for being here?
- Have you started collecting your ancestral data already?
- What tools are you using?
- Why are you interested in spending \$ and time on this sometimes frustrating pursuit?

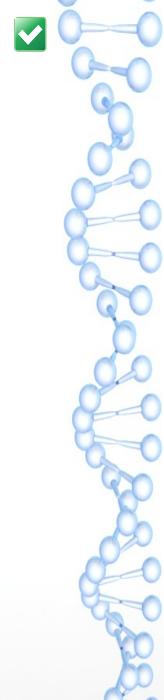




#### Basic Data Concepts



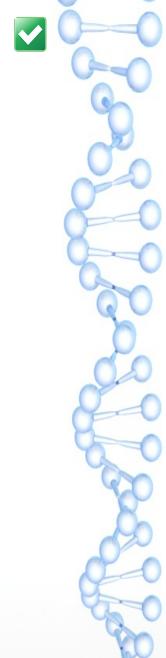




#### Ways to Get Started

- · Establish prioritized objectives! (Make a list.)
- Keep records, including an issues list.
- Assemble tools to help keep organized.
- Build on the work/knowledge of others (carefully!)
- Research historical sources
- Get stumped, regroup (what, so what, now what)
- Keep an open mind & be analytic.
- Think about how H. L. Gates, Jr., conducted his TV show. (talk, research, genetics)





#### Getting Started References

- Don't believe me, check out other sources.
- According to American Ancestors:
  - https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/read/getting-started
- Free Guide to getting Started with Tools to Organize Your Family History:

https://hubs.americanancestors.org/tools-to-organize

- Form and templates:
  - https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/download



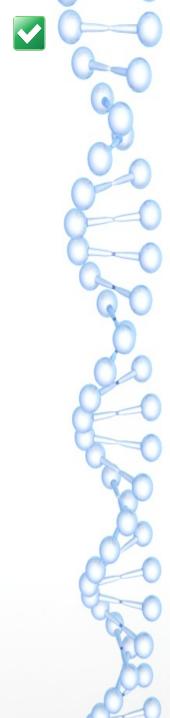


# Annotated Research Log Focused on an Objective

e.g., find historical records pertaining to a specific family or person

Source	spellings)	Dates examined	Place	Relevant Record	Notes	Objective	Citation
mmigration Records							
Local and Regional Histories							
Published Genealogies							
Genealogical Journals							
Manuscripts							
Other							
	I	I	I	I	I	I	l

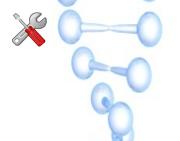




## Suggested Homework

- Create a prioritized list of objectives.
- Create a family group chart for your family.
- Sketch a pedigree chart for your family.
- Try to find some information about one of your ancestors at familysearch.org.
- Bring back thoughts and questions.





## Tools: planning

- Categorize & prioritize; Use spreadsheet or Kanban style . . .
- Spreadsheet:

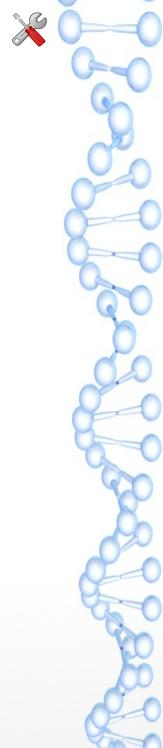
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ID	Priority (1-5)	description	notes	status
4		finish notifications re. The Rombs 1648-1808 doc		complete
13	1		geneanet Ancestry American ancestors Familysearch?	in progress
3		create problem description for Snyder line & get research help	Lacopo & O'Hara	open

Focalboard: https://www.focalboard.com/ & https://github.com/mattermost/focalboard/releases



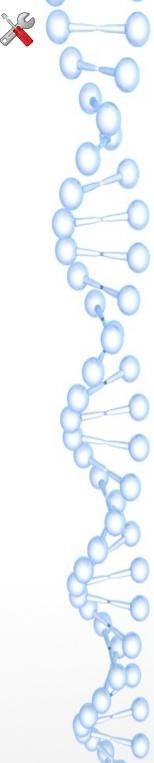




#### Tools: keeping research records

- Be consistent! See for example the following re. organization.
  - https://www.sassyjanegenealogy.com/product/organizing-genealogy-research/
- Consider features of the following products. (e.g., tags, images, attachments, reporting, backups, mobility, . . .)
  - Wiki style: http://zim-wiki.org/ (I really like this one.)
  - Task Coach: https://www.taskcoach.org/
  - Simplenote: https://simplenote.com/ (I use this when traveling.)
- The annotated research log mentioned earlier

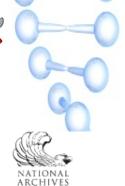




# Tool: Family Group Chart Representation

- All about a couple and their children
- This and other charts can be found in assorted locations. Here's one free one.
- http://www.genealogicalstudies.com/eng/forms.asp





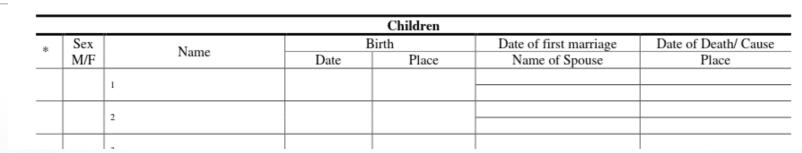
Mother

# Family Group Chart Form

#### **Family Group Sheet**

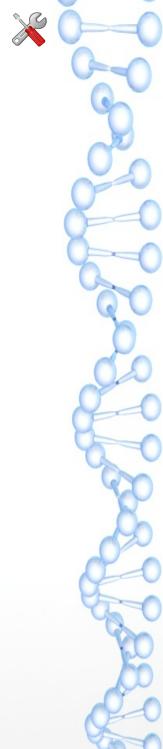
Husband			Occupation(s)		
	Date Place		Immigration		
Born			Naturalization		
Christened			Military Service		
Died			Cause of Death		
Buried			Date of Will		
Married					
Father	<u>'</u>		Other Marriages		
Mother	other				
Wife (maiden name)			Occupation(s)	,	
	Date	Place	Immigration		
			Naturalization		
Born			Titataranzation		
Born Christened			Military Service		
Christened			Military Service		

Other Information/Records (ie. Census, Passports, etc...)



See:https://www.archives.gov/files/research/genealogy/charts-forms/family-group-sheet.pdf



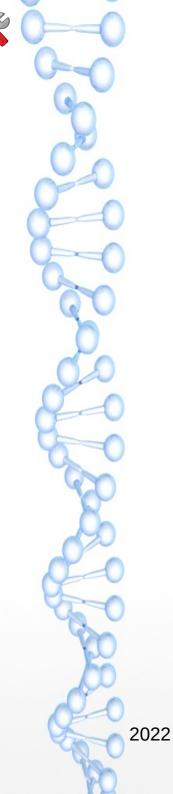


# Tool: Pedigree Chart Representation

- Another defn of genealogy = "regular descent of a person, family, or group of organisms from a progenitor or older form : <u>pedigree</u>"
- Focuses on an individual and his/her parents, grandparents, etc.
- · Reference:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pedigree\_chart

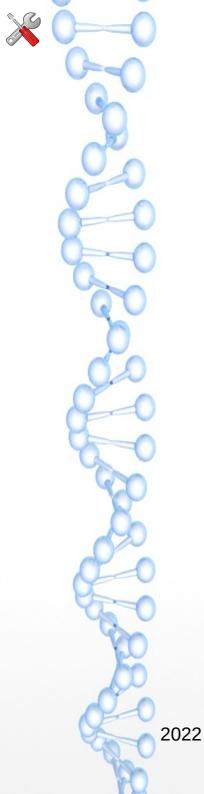




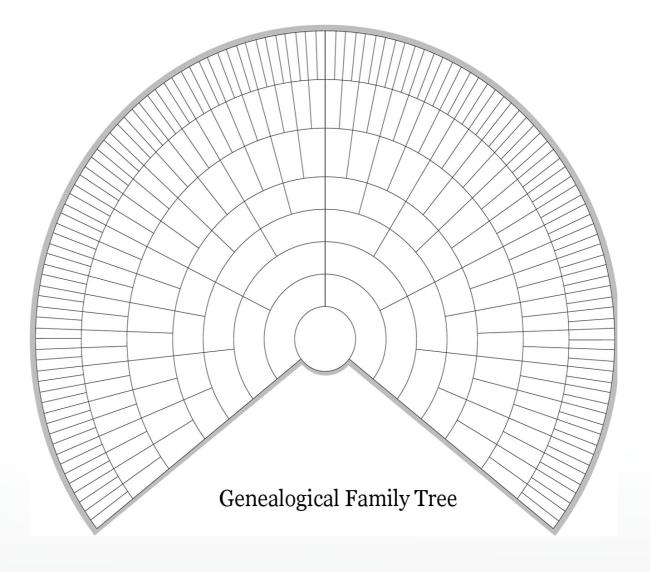
# Pedigree Chart Picture

1 ANSELMO BRAAMCAMP FREIRE	2 MANUEL NUNES FREIRE DA ROCHA 1.º Barão de Almeirim, do Conselho de Sua Magestade, Fidalgo da Casa Real por sucessão, 3.º Snr. do Praso de Lameiras, Cavaleiro Pro- fesso da Ordem de Cristo nasceu a 28-9-1805 fale- ceu a 16-6-1859 casou a 28-10-1835 com:  3 DONA MARIA JOANA BRAAMCAMP nasceu a 21-10-1815 fale- ceu a 21-3-1862	4 MANUEL NUNES GASPAR Fidalgo da Casa Real e Cota d'Armas, Ca- valeiro da Ordem de Cristo, Capitão-mór e Sargento-mór de Santarém nasceu a 25-2- 1755 faleceu a 25-4-1808 casou com sua prima  5 Dona Rita Mariana Gi- ralda Freire nasceu a 18-1- 1781 faleceu a 19-8-1836  6 Anselmo José Braam- camp de Almeida Casstelo Branco, Ministro de Estado Honorário, Fidalgo da Casa Real por Sucessão, Comen- dador da Ordem de Cristo casou com sua prima  7 Dona Maria Inácia Braamcamp de Almeida Cas- telo Branco	8 José Nunes Rodrigues Grande proprietário, natural de Tabuaço  9 Dona Maria de Jesus Freire, natural de Lisboa  10 Manuel Marques das Neves, Tenente-Coronel de Milícias de Tavira e Sar- gento-mór da mesma vila. Nat. Valongo  11 Dona Teresa de Jesus Freire, natural de Tavira  12 Geraldo Wenceslau Brasmcamp d'Almeida Cas- telo Branco 1.º Barão de Sobral 4.º Sr. de Sobral 2.º Sr. do Morgado da Luz  H. 13 Dona Jona Maria da Cruz Sobral 4.º Sr.² de So- bral de Mont Agraço 2.º Morgada da Luz  14 José Francisco Braam- camp de Almeida Castelo Branco, Par do Reino  H. 15 Dona Maria Antónia da Silva Franco de Moura (1768–1788)	16 Bento de Azevedo Grande proprietário 17 Dona Maria Duarte Rodrigues  18 Pedro Nunes Gaspar Proprietário 19 Dona Joaquina Josefa Freire  20 José Marques 21 Luisa da Rocha  22 Manuel Nunes, capitão 23 D. Antónia do Sacramento  24 Hermano José Braamcamp, Cavaleiro de Cristo, Ministro da Prussia em Lx.* (1709–1755) 25 Dona Maria Inácia d'Almeida Castelo Branco 1. Sr.* do Morgado de Sobral e 2.º Snr. de Sobral 27 Dona Maria Madalena Crocco  28 Hermano José Braamcamp n.º 24 acima 29 Dona Maria Inácia de Almeida Castelo Branco  10 De s e m b ar g a do r 10 Dr. Carlos António da Silva Franco, Morgado de Nossa Senhora da Vitória 31 Dona Clara Rosa de Moura
Control of the Contro				

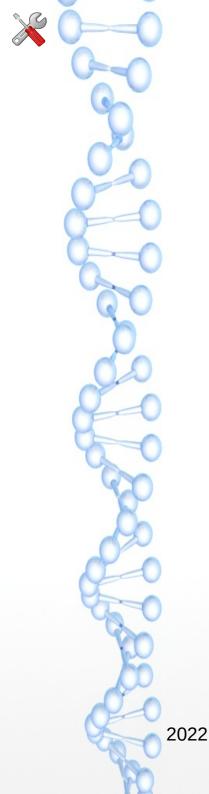




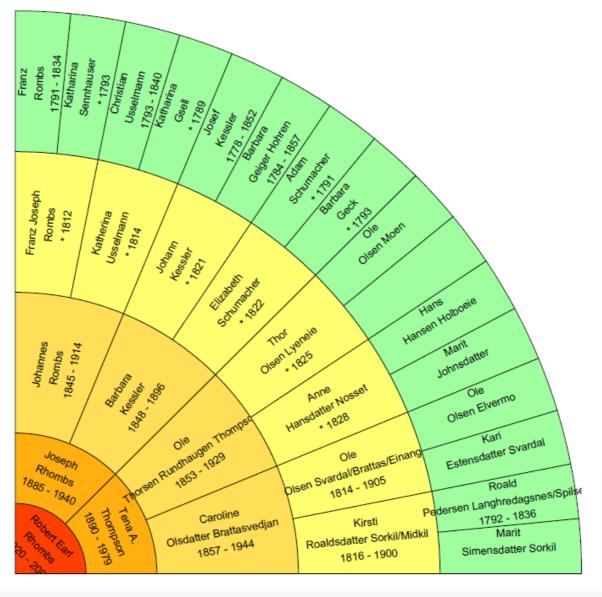
# Pedigree Fan Chart







# Real Pedigree Fan Example







#### Another Pedigree View

Gen 0	Gen 1	Gen 2	Gen 3	Gen 4	Gen 5
1	0.5	0.25	0.125	0.0625	0.03125
YBP 0	YBP 30	YBP 60	YBP 90	YBP 120	YBP 150
			3-1 G 2-1 Pgd 3-2 G	4-1	5-1 GGG
				GG	5-2 GGG \
				4-2	5-3
				GG	5-4
				4-3	5-5
				GG	5-6
				4-4	5-7
	1-1			GG	5-8
	Dad	2-2 Pgm	3-3 G	4-5	5-9
				GG	5-10
				4-6	5-11
				GG	5-12
				4-7	5-13
			3-4	GG	5-14
			G	4-8	5-15
you				GG	5-16
you	1-2 Mom	2-3 Mgd	3-6 G 3-7 G	4-9	5-17
				GG	5-18
				4-10	5-19
				GG	5-20
				4-11	5-21
				GG	5-22
				4-12	5-23
				GG	5-24
		2-4 Mgm		4-13	5-25
				GG	5-26
				4-14	5-27
				GG	5-28
				4-15	5-29
				GG	5-30
				4-16	5-31
				GG	5-32

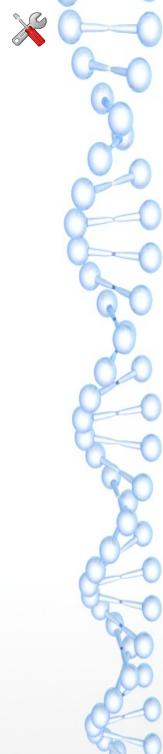
Generation number.

Fractional contribution to you.

Years before present assuming 30 years per generation.



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#### Lots of People!

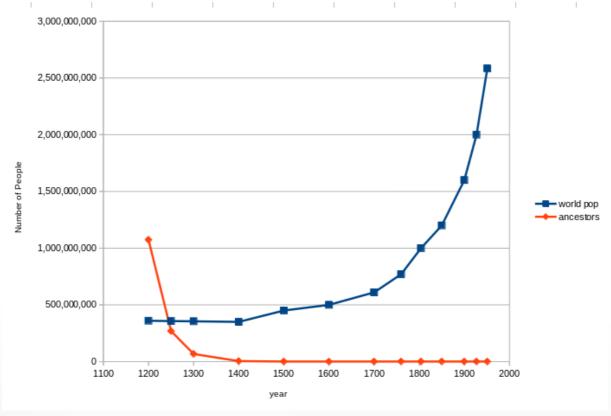
- Number of people = (2\*\*N)-1, where N is the number of generations
- This excludes cousins.
- Imagine one of these charts for each person with whom you share a pair of ggg grand parents.
- Can be a staggering effort.
- Note the fallacy in carrying this type of estimate too far back in time.
- That's why software can help!



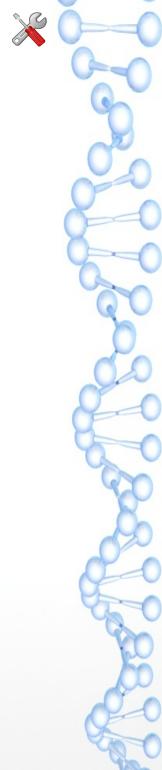
# Beware of Projections and Reality

 If you blindly assume that every generation of your pedigree consists of unrelated individuals, you are sure to be wrong at some point.

· Scientific American article: link







#### Tool: Family Tree Software

- Should help organize the data
- Should present different views of the data
- Should support GEDCOM format import and export
- Should make backups easy
- Should provide a number of reporting options
- Should not cost much (\$0 is feasible)
- Mainly for showing relationships.
- I suggest other methods of documenting "stories" or complex reasoning. (Like simply writing a document.)







0 HEAD

**1 SOUR Gramps** 

2 VERS 3.4.8-1

**2 NAME Gramps** 

1 DATE 13 JUL 2014

2 TIME 14:18:46

1 SUBM @SUBM@

1 FILE C:\Users\Craig\Desktop\20140713cgr.ged

1 COPR Copyright (c) 2014 Craig Rhombs.

1 GEDC

2 VERS 5.5

**2 FORM LINEAGE-LINKED** 

1 CHAR UTF-8

1 LANG English

0 @SUBM@ SUBM

**1 NAME Craig Rhombs** 

1 ADDR

0 @10001@ INDI

1 NAME Robert Earl /Rhombs/

**2 GIVN Robert Earl** 

**2 SURN Rhombs** 

1 SEX M

1 BIRT

2 DATE 20 FEB 1920

2 PLAC Lebanon, South Dakota

1 DEAT

2 DATE 31 AUG 2005

2 PLAC Sarasota, Florida

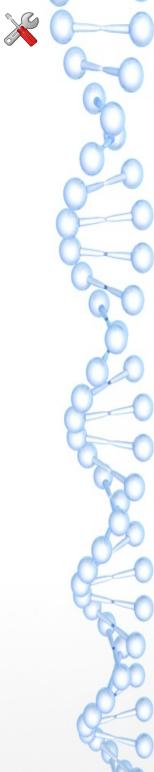
. . .



A new version is coming. See . . .

https://gedcom.io/

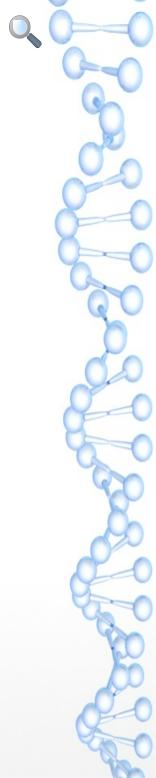




#### Software Examples

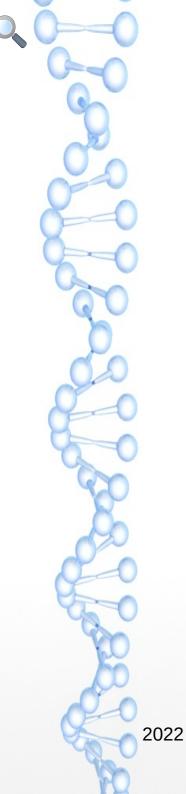
- Many options! (
   https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison\_
   of\_genealogy\_software
   )
- GRAMPS (
   https://gramps-project.org/wiki/index.php/Gramps\_5.1\_Wiki\_Manual
   )
- Walk through GRAMPS to illustrate concepts





#### Research Living Sources

- Talk, but mostly <u>listen</u>.
- Probe for sources to corroborate info.
- Keep careful records during or shortly after each interaction.
- Don't wait!
- Respect! Portrayal versus Betrayal.
- Examples: The work of Robert Russell at Northern State U. https://sdgfr.org/home/oral-histories/
- Examples: NDSU https://library.ndsu.edu/ir/handle/10365/26144
- Finding the living (USA) https://www.truepeoplesearch.com/

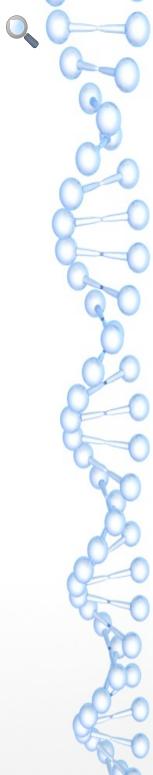


#### Preserve Artifacts – bound docs

Steve Prokop: http://specialbindings.com/







#### Preserve Artifacts – electronic

Old photos should be scanned at fairly high resolution and saved in an appropriate format.

- 300-600 dpi
- Tiff and/or jpeg format

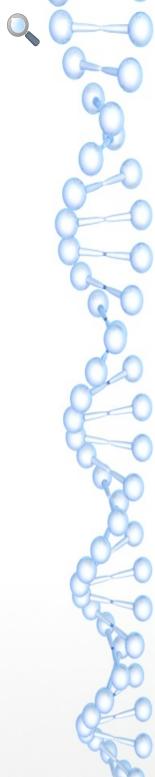
Save photos and electronic documents (PDFs)!

- don't save just .doc/.docx or .odt files; save PDF as well
- Save multiple copies in multiple places (media and locations).
- don't use DVDs
- Cloud storage and local storage
- Refresh & periodically check to make sure that archives can be read!
- Your old photos may benefit from image enhancement.
- Physically store valuable photos in acid free enclosures.

See also the following from the U of MN . . .

https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/preservation-resources/saving-your-personal-treasures/preservation-survey-results

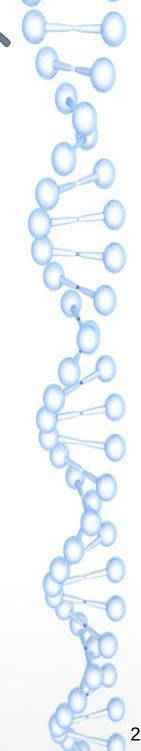




#### Research Historical Sources

- Most are available on line. (Get good at it!)
- Many are free; some are not.
- Be clever with names, dates, locations, etc.
- Keep in mind that our ancestors did not live for us, and historical data was seldom, if ever, collected for genealogical purposes.
- Learn some contextual (social) history!!!
- Location is important!— who was nearby?
- Recorded transactions may help.
- Be careful to <u>not</u> be overwhelmed; stay on task!

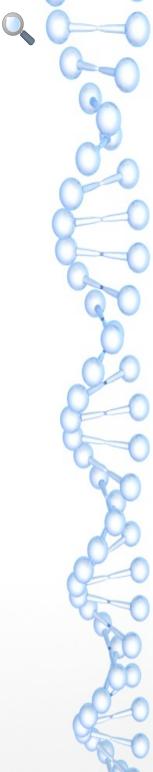




## On-line Sources (1): misc. examples

- LDS Church: https://familysearch.org/ and research centers (one here in Golden Valley! Another at the MNGS (https://www.mngs.org) library.)
- Cemeteries: https://www.findagrave.com/
- US Immigration:
  - https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1849782 (Castle Garden);
  - https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1368704?collectionNameFilter=true %7C
     (Ellis island);
  - https://www.immigrantships.net/;
  - https://stevemorse.org/ellis2/ellisgold.html (:-);
  - http://www.theshipslist.com/
- Land grant/patent records: https://www.glorecords.blm.gov/search/default.aspx
- · Vital Records: state records and/or county records of birth, death, marriage, etc.
- By state (by volunteers): https://www.usgenweb.org/
- · Newspapers
  - ad hoc by state (e.g., state historical societies)
  - Library of Congress: https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/
  - Also: newspapers.com & newspaperarchive.com (fee)





#### On-line Sources (2): misc. examples

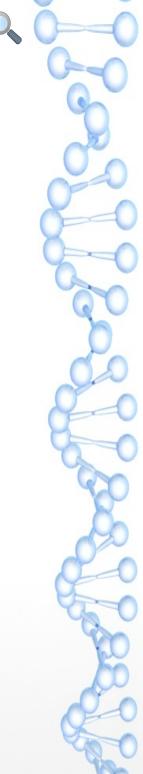
- Free Compilations of References and Info Sources
  - https://oedb.org/ilibrarian/250-plus-killer-digital-libraries-and-archives/
  - https://stevemorse.org/
  - https://www.cyndislist.com/
  - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poorhouse
  - https://familyhistorydaily.com/
  - https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/
- More complex, <u>fee based</u> offerings
  - Ancestry: https://www.ancestry.com/
  - MyHeritage: https://www.myheritage.com/
  - FindMyPast: https://www.findmypast.com/
  - American Ancestors: https://www.americanancestors.org/
  - Geneanet (Europe +/-): https://en.geneanet.org/



## On-line Sources (3): misc. examples

- Naturalization (SD example):
- https://history.sd.gov/archives/naturalization.aspx
- Telephone numbers for the living on the planet: https://www.thisnumber.com/ and https://www.truepeoplesearch.com/.
- Great maps:
- http://www.historicmapworks.com/
- https://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps/about-this-collection
- https://maps.lib.utexas.edu/maps/histus.html
- https://www.davidrumsey.com/
- http://www.rootsandroutes.net/roots.htm (technical problems)
   https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/United\_States\_Migration\_Internal
- Social History: http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/immigration/
- National Archives: https://www.archives.gov/





### On-line Sources (4): local

- What's at Hennepin County Library?
- http://hclib.org/programs/genealogy-local-history
- Online databases
  - Ancestry.com library edition (must be physically present)
  - Fold3 Archives Plus
  - Genealogy Connect
  - HeritageQuest
- Advice at Central Library "A genealogy volunteer will help you get started or offer suggestions on where to find more useful genealogy information. No appointment necessary."
- Safety valves: https://www.worldcat.org/ and https://www.hathitrust.org/
- Upper Midwest Jewish Archives: <a href="https://www.lib.umn.edu/umja">https://www.lib.umn.edu/umja</a>
- Archives in General: https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/





#### On-line Sources (5): international

- Germans from Russia Heritage Society: https://www.grhs.org/pages/home
- American Heritage Society of Germans from Russia: https://www.ahsgr.org/
- France (an example of how FamilySearch.org can help): https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/France\_Genealogy
- Translating "foreign" sites: try the Google Translate extension; https://translate.google.com/ and an add-on for Firefox
  - Or https://translate.com and https://languagetool.org
- Norway: https://www.arkivverket.no/en
- Norwegian names !@@#\$%^^&&^\$#!!!:
   http://www.norwayheritage.com/norwegian-names.htm
- Scotland: https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/

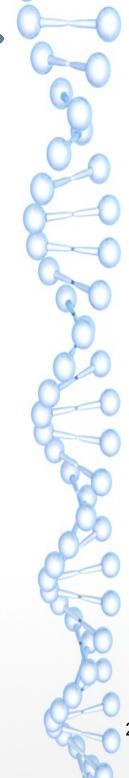




#### On-Line Sources (6): states & misc.

- · Allen County (IN) Public Library: https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy
- South Dakota Historical Society: http://history.sd.gov/Archives/
- Wisconsin Historical Society: http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/ https://badgerlink.dpi.wi.gov/
- North Dakota images, documents, etc.: http://digitalhorizonsonline.org/
- Minnesota genealogical societies: https://mngs.org/ & http://www.mnhs.org/ & https://www.mnjgs.org/ & https://ggsmn.org/ & . . . .
- · Digital, but not on-line: Church records; court records; land transactions
- Internet Archive: https://archive.org/
- Spatial distribution of names in Germany: https://nvk.genealogy.net/map (explained at https://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Namensverbreitungskarte); also http://geogen.stoepel.net/
- Estimate current value: https://www.measuringworth.com/calculators/uscompare/





#### About the U.S. Census

- Reference = https://www.census.gov/en.html
- History: https://www.census.gov/history/
- Familysearch.org has great info online: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/United\_States Census
- Special schedules: mortality, slave, agricultural, etc.
- Info by decade follows (from familysearch.org)
- Note that there are some state census "enumerations" at half-decadal points in time.





## 1790

Name of family head; free white males of 16 years and up; free white males under 16; free white females; other free persons (including Indians unless not taxed); slaves.

## 1800

Names of family head; if white, age and sex; race; slaves.

## 1810

Name of family head; if white, age and sex; race; slaves.

## 1820

Name of family head; age; sex; race; foreigners not naturalized; slaves; industry (agriculture, commerce, and manufactures).

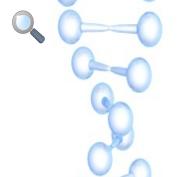
## 1830

Name of family head; age; sex; race; foreigners not naturalized; slaves; industry.

## 1840

Name of family head; age; sex; race; slaves; number of deaf and dumb; number of blind; . . .





# US Census Metadata (2)

## 1850

Name; age; sex; race; whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic; value of real estate; occupation; birthplace; whether married within the year; . . . . (Note that slave schedules exist for this year.)

## 1860

Name; age; sex; race; value of real estate; value of personal estate; occupation; birthplace; whether married within the year; . . . . (Note that slave schedules exist for this year.)

## 1870

Name; age; race; occupation; value of real estate; value of personal estate; birthplace; whether parents were foreign born; month of birth if born within the year; month of marriage if married within the year; . . .

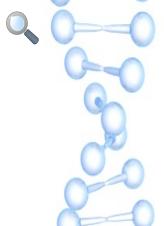
## 1880

Address; name, relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; month of birth if born within the census year; occupation; . . .

### 1890

General schedules—destroyed. Supplemental schedules for Union veterans of the Civil War and their widows. Actually there slightly over 6000 entries that survive.





## US Census Metadata (3)

## 1900

Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; number of years married; for women, number of children born and number now living; birthplace of person and parents; if foreign born, year of immigration and whether naturalized; occupation; months not employed; . . .

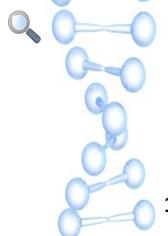
## 1910

Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; number of years of present marriage for women, number of children born and number now living; birthplace and mother tongue of person and parents; if foreign born, year of immigration, whether naturalized, and whether able to speak English, or if not, language spoken; occupation, industry, and class of worker; if an employee, whether out of work during year; literacy; . . .

## 1920

Address; name; relationship to family head; sex; race; age; marital status; if foreign born, year of immigration to the U.S., whether naturalized, and year of naturalization; school attendance; literacy; birthplace of person and parents; mother tongue of foreign born; ability to speak English; occupation, industry, and class of worker; home owned or rented; if owned, whether free or mortgaged.





## US Census Metadata (4)

## 1930

Address; name; relationship to family head; home owned or rented; value or monthly rental; radio set; whether on a farm; sex; race; age; marital status; age at first marriage; school attendance; literacy; birthplace of person and parents; if foreign born language spoken in home before coming to U.S., year of immigration, whether naturalized, and ability to speak English; occupation, industry, and class of worker; whether at work previous day (or last regular working day); veteran status; for Indians, whether of full or mixed blood, and tribal affiliation.

## 1940

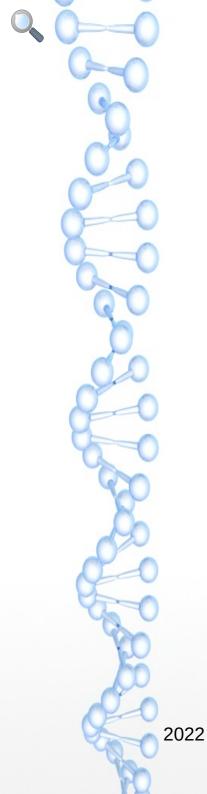
Address; home owned or rented; value or monthly rental; whether on a farm; name; relationship to household head; sex; race; age; marital status; school attendance; educational attainment; birthplace; citizenship of foreign born; location of residence five years ago and whether on a farm; employment status; . . .

**1950**: (released & being transcribed)

https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/decade/1950/census-records.html

https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950





# Example 1850 US Census

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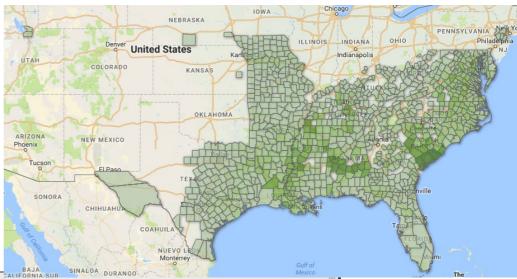
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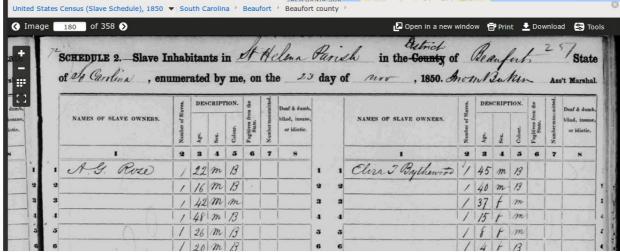


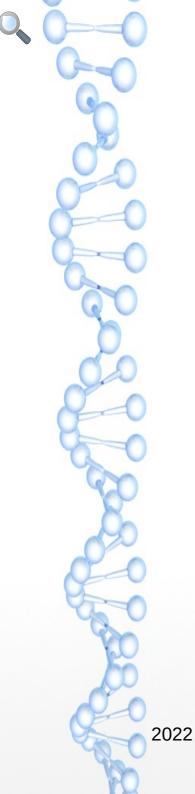
## Slave Schedules

· 1850 & 1860

https://www.loc.gov/resourc e/g3861e.cw0013200?r=-0. 231,0.076,0.768,0.399,0







# Example 1890 US Census (!)

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# 1890: Most Burned, But...

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From chedule No. 1.	Names of Surviving Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, and Widows.	Rank.	Company.	Name of Regiment or Vessel.	Date of Enlistment.	Date of Discharge.	Length of Service.



# Example 1905 SD Census

Male	Name Marian Lon Card No. 12
Female	
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Black	Township Sec. T. R.
Red	
Yellow	Ward City Wo.
Married	WardCity
Single	
Widowed	Hotel or Institution
Divorced	Age Occupation
Can Read	
Can't Read	Place of Birth
Can Write	Years in South Dakota Years in United States
Can't Write	Tears in South Dakota Tears in Omted States
Blind	Birthplace of Father
Deaf	
Idiotic	Birthplace of Mother
Insane	Signed ANNOVER Enumerator



# 2022

# Example 1940 US Census

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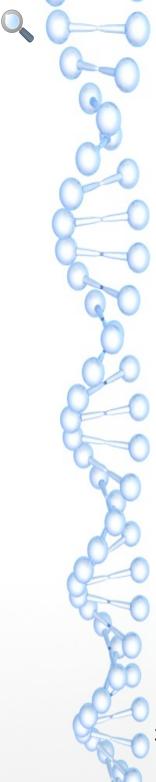
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Line No.	Skreet, avenue, road, etc.	House number (in cities and towns)	Number of household in order of visitation	Heme owned (0) or rented (R)	Value of home, if owned, or monthly rented	Dees this household live on a farm? (Yes or No)	Name of each person whose usual place of residence on April 1, 1940, was in this household.  RE SURE TO INCLUDE:  1. Persons temporarily absent from household. Write "Ab" after names of such persons.  2. Children under 1 year of age. Write "Infant" if child has not been given a first name.  Enter & after name of person furnishing information.	Relationship of this p son to the head of household, as w daughter, fath mother-in-law, gra- son, lodger, lodge wife, servant, hir hand, etc.	ife, er, ad- er's	Sex-Male (M), Female (F)	Color or race	Age at last birthday	Marital status— Single (S., Married (M), Widewed (Wd), Divorced (D)	Attended school or college any time since March 1, 1940? (Yes or No)	Highest grade of school completed	CODE (Leave blank)	If born in the United States, give State, Territory, or possession.  If foreign born, give country in which birthplace was situated on January 1, 1937.  Distinguish Canada-French from Canada-English and Irish Free State (Eire) from Northern Ireland.	CODE (Leave blank)	Citizenship of the foreign born
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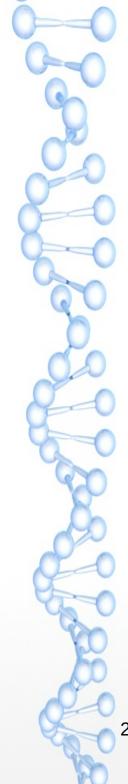
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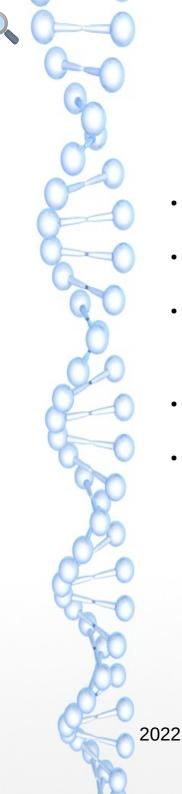
## **Archive Facilities**

- Libraries & universities frequently save collections of photos and papers
- Donated materials of various kinds
- Examples
  - Augustana: https://library.augustana.edu/specialcollections
  - State of SD: https://history.sd.gov/archives/
  - U of MN: https://www.lib.umn.edu/uarchives
- Guides: https://www2.archivists.org/usingarchives
   https://researchworks.oclc.org/archivegrid/



# Feeling Lucky?

- Or very skilled . . .
- Try https://www.startpage.com/
- Use operators and wildcards to go from broad and general to specific and more useful.
  - AND OR NOT NEAR ()\*
- Play the game while Google tries to customize results to what it thinks you have an interest in.



# Search Using Images!

- Thank you Google!
- Search using a name (e.g., a surname)
- Search using an actual image (might help identify a person in a photo that you can't otherwise identify)
- If nothing else, you'll be amused. Don't be shocked!
- https://images.google.com/





# 2022

# "rombs" example image search

Wenn die Kraft zu Ende geht, ist Erlösung Gnade.

In Liebe und Dankbarkeit nehmen wir Abschied von meinem lieben Ehemann, unserem Vater, Schwiegervater und Opa

## **Alexander Rombs**

15. 9. 1930

† 14. 10. 2016

Er ist in Frieden eingeschlafen.

90522 Oberasbach, Distelweg 3, im Oktober 2016

In stiller Trauer: Ida Rombs

Maria und Nandor Rombs Nikodemus Rombs und Maria Christian, Sabrina und Janine Rombs nebst allen Verwandten

Die Trauerfeier findet am Donnerstag, dem 20. Oktober 2016, um 12.00 Uhr im Krematorium Westfriedhof statt. Wir bitten von Blumenschmuck Abstand zu nehmen. Für zugedachte Anteilnahme herzlichen Dank.





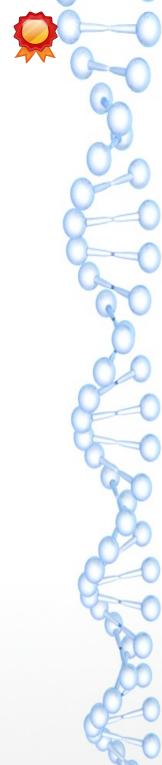




# Quality Matters!

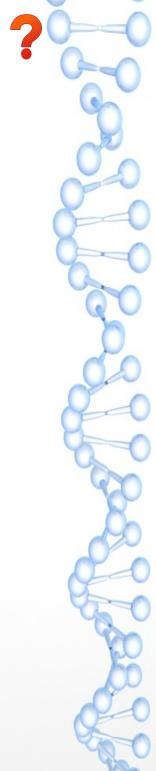
- Not all sources are as reliable as others
- Primary sources (original docs)
- Secondary sources (transcriptions/interpretations)
- Tertiary sources (e.g., genealogies submitted at websites)
- Cite your sources! Find a standard way for doing this.
- Answer, "How do you know that??"
- Can you recite a full life's worth of coherent info about an individual?





## Quality - A Humorous Example

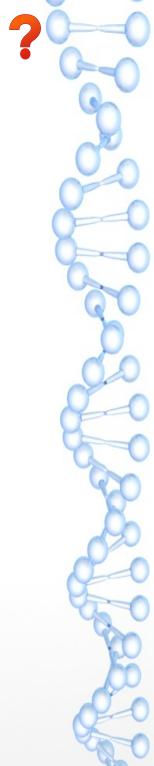
- · Thanks to A. O'Hara . . .
- · Pilgrims Arrived 1620 in what is now MA.
- Submitted ancestral family trees claim more than 14,000 were born in MA in 1615.
- Were there 14,000+ Europeans there to greet the Pilgrims?!?



## Prepare to be Stumped!

- Again, our ancestors did not live their lives for our convenience.
- Most had struggles of their own. Life was messy for many.
- Keep an open mind.
- When stumped, develop a hypothesis that can explain the facts; test it; revise as necessary.
- Maintain an issues list.
- · Reach out for help. . .
  - https://community.familysearch.org/en



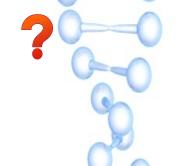


# "Scientific" Approach . . .

- Think of yourself as a historian, a writer, a researcher, an organizer, and a problem solver!
- Conduct a reasonably exhaustive search in reliable sources that are or may be pertinent to identity, relationship, event, or situation..
- Collect and include a complete, accurate citation to source or sources of each item of information.
- Analyze and correlate collected info to assess quality as evidence.
- Resolve conflicts caused by contradictory evidence.
- Arrive at a soundly reasoned, coherently written conclusion.

(Reference: BCG Genealogical Standards Manual)

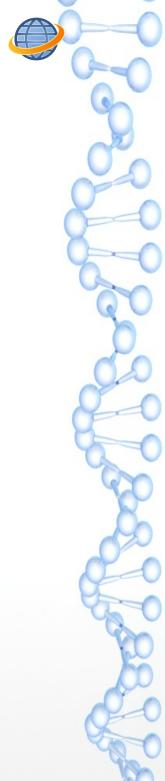




# A Word About Old Names and Documents

- Note that surnames did not come into widespread use in Europe until about the 12<sup>th</sup> century.
- German names tend to be structured as a surname preceded by two given names. The first given name (vorname) was generally not the commonly used name. The second name (rufname) was the name used everyday (informally). Also, a specific given name changed according to whether it was used as the first or the common name. Take Johann/Johannes as an example. - Johannes Brahms; Johann Sebastian Bach.
- Norwegian names were composed of a given name, a name identifying the father by his first name, and then a farm or commune name. e.g., Ole Thorsen Rundhaugen.
- Transformations: Hydaker/Heidegger; Augustine/Eyestone/Augenstein
- Learning how to read old documents in German script visit the local Germanic Genealogy Society (www.ggsmn.org)
- Reference: https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany\_Personal\_Names

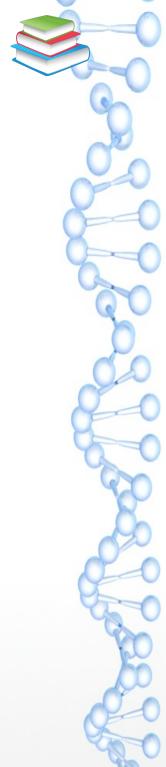




# Publishing Your Results

- Know why you are doing this! Write interesting stories! Write something, anything!
  - e.g., Communicating with relatives? Trying to find relatives?
- Understand the costs; privacy considerations
- Suggestions: https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/patience-loader-memory-writing/ https://www.voicedlife.com/ (great ideas on how to get started)
- Your personal site. https://281connections.us
- Blog examples:
  - https://mooregenealogy.wordpress.com/
  - https://familytreegirl.com/
  - https://www.sassyjanegenealogy.com/
- Example places to create hard-copy books and ebooks:
  - https://kdp.amazon.com/en\_US/
  - https://www.lulu.com/
  - https://pressbooks.com/self-publishers/
  - https://www.yumpu.com/en/publishing-software/free

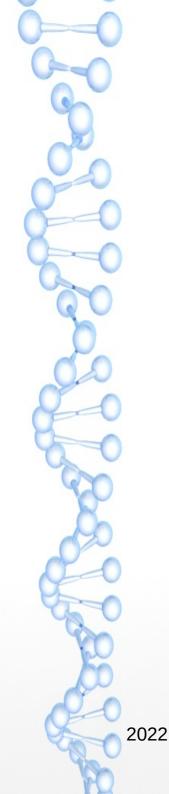




## References

- The Family History Guide: <a href="https://thefhguide.com/">https://thefhguide.com/</a> (The Family History Guide is a Registered Solutions Provider for FamilySearch, who refers to it for training assistance.)
- · Books, articles, etc. regarding "traditional" research are quite common.
  - The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy, Kimberly Powell.
- · References on genetic genealogy are less common.
  - Trace Your Roots with DNA, Smolenyak and Turner.
- Biology books on genetics are available also.
  - Essentials of Genetics, Klug and Cummings
- An interesting case study <u>Mr Atkinson's rum contract : the story of a tangled inheritance</u>, by R. Atkinson.
  - https://www.worldcat.org/title/mr-atkinsons-rum-contract-the-story-of-a-tangled-inheritance/oclc/1242864525&referer=brief\_results
- · A comprehensive guide to maps.
  - Walking with Your Ancestors. Melinda Kashuba

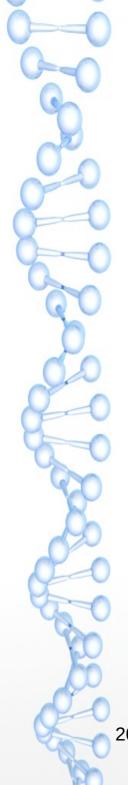




# What Makes a Good Genealogist?

- Respect for / love of family
- Organizational skills
- Communications skills
- Love of learning history
- A sense of responsibility toward others





# Thank you!

## A Final Quote

"Why waste your money looking up your family tree? Just go into politics and your opponents will do it for you." -Mark Twain

