

CHAPTER 8



Other Rewarding Opportunities



There are many rewarding opportunities in family history other than building your family tree and connecting with the lives of your ancestors. Technology has made other family history activities – such as, creating your own family web site, family blog, online photo album, or just holding a family reunion – very fun, easy, and exciting. I hope you explore all of these other rewarding opportunities. You don't have to be a genius or computer guru to accomplish great things, even if you never considered them previously. Just have a little courage to jump in and start paddling and you will discover miraculous things happen to you and your family as a result.

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Suggested Activities

1. Hold a family reunion.
2. Start a family newsletter or blog.
3. Create a family web site.
4. Create a list of all the descendants of your grandparents and share it with all of your cousins.
5. Protect and preserve irreplaceable family records and heirlooms.
6. Publish a family history of your ancestors.
7. Look for ways to express your family history through painting, needlework, music or other creative channels.
8. Link into your ancestral homelands through traditional foods, festivals, and customs.



Spencer Kimball

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Connected With Our Past

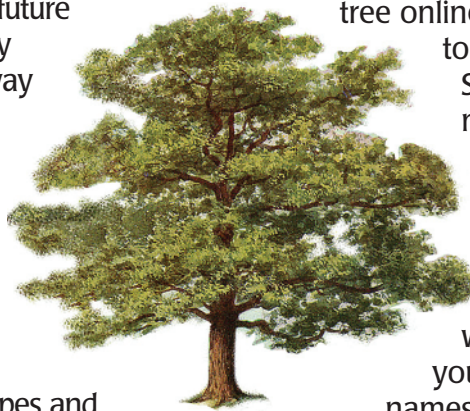
“Whether we recognize it or not, we are connected with our past... people who care nothing for the past usually have no thought for the future and are selfish in the way they use the present.” Spencer W. Kimball, World Conference of Records, 1980

Sharing Your Family History



Once you have dug up your family history records and organized them into a computer database file, you may want to share your information and stories with others. It's important to share them for many different reasons.

It's more meaningful to you personally when you share with your dear relatives, plus sharing helps preserve your history for future generations. Sharing your family tree on the Internet is a great way to connect with your extended family and collaborate on your shared family history, and it helps them get involved. It allows other relatives to view your information and add their own, thus making it more complete. It's also a great way to exchange family photos, recipes and stories. By sharing your information you can help others in their research and reduce the duplication of effort.



There are more really good, easy and fun ways to share your family history today than ever before.



Easy Ways to Share Your Family History

- Submit your info to large family tree databases
- Create your own family web site (either hosted by your Internet Service Provider or by a social networking site)
- Create your own family blog
- Create your own online family photo album
- Email information and documents or send simple GedCom's to other family members (see Chapter 2 for information about how to create and send a GedCom file).

Publishing Your Family Tree on the Web

The Best Places to Put Your Family History Online

You can easily publish your compiled family tree online simply by uploading a GedCom to an existing family tree database. Some are free and some require a membership fee. Your GedCom can contain your entire family history or just one or more family lines. It can also exclude personal information about living people. There are several websites that allow you to deposit your information, index your family names, view the data, and download a GedCom to interested parties. See Chapters 1 and 2 for more details on these websites.



Free Existing Family Trees **FREE**

See pages 43-45 for more information on online family trees.

Ancestry World Tree (and RootsWeb WorldConnect) - www.ancestry.com/trees/awt 468 million, last updated Oct 1997. Need to register (free) to search.

FamilySearch Pedigree Resource File www.FamilySearch.org
About 225 million family tree names; updated regularly. Search the index online but the details are currently on CDs available for free at Family History Centers.

FamilySearch Ancestral File - www.familysearch.org
About 37 million, last updated 2000.

Global Tree - <http://www.gencircles.com/globaltree>
Over 90 million names.

GeneaNet.org - www.Geneanet.org
Over 500 million names; Content: UK, Germany, France, Holland Spain, and Italy. Free, but you pay for advanced functions and no commercials.

Subscription Family Trees **\$**

OneGreatFamily.com - www.OneGreatFamily.com
Contains over 200 million submitted pedigree-linked names in their family tree database.

MyTrees.com - www.MyTrees.com
A pedigree-linked database with over 370 million names

GenServ.com - www.Genserv.com A collection of GEDCOM data files; 23+ million names, free trial if you submit your info. \$12/year.

Ancestry OneWorldTree - www.ancestry.com > Search > Search All Records > Family Trees
192 million, last updated Apr 2004. You can search for free, but must become a member to view details.

Ancestry Millennium File - www.ancestry.com > Search > Search All Records > Family Trees
880k, last updated Apr 2005. These lineages extend back to nobility and renowned historical figures. You can search for free, but must become a member to view details..

Ancestry Private Member Trees - www.ancestry.com > Search > Search All Records > Family Trees
162 million, updated regularly. Can only be viewed by Ancestry members to whom the owners have granted permission to see their tree.

Ancestry Public Member Trees - www.ancestry.com > Search > Public Member Trees
586 million, updated regularly. Can be viewed by all Ancestry members.

How to Submit Your Family Tree Online

First, save your genealogy as a GedCom file. See the instructions provided with your family history software for more information on how to do this, but most programs are simple. For example, click on *file > export and then* indicate where you want to export to, i.e. which folder to save your GedCom file. When you are ready to submit the file, go to the internet site you want to submit your family tree to, after logging-in (or registering) select the *Share Your Information* or *Submit your Family Tree* button. Then select the GedCom file you wish to submit (or upload). It's that easy!

More Family Trees Online

Geni.com - www.geni.com

FamilyLink.com - www.familylink.com

GenealogyWise.com - www.genealogywise.com

MyFamily.com - www.myfamily.com

MyHeritage.com -
www.myheritage.com

GeneTree.com - www.genetree.com

Genes Reunited.com - www.genesreunited.com

Amiglia.com - www.amiglia.com

Our Story.com - www.ourstory.com

WeRelate.org - www.werelate.org

KinCafe.com - www.kincafe.com

Creating Your Own Family Web Site

Social Networking Web Sites



Social networking refers to web sites and services that allow you to