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The Society Page

Our March meeting will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at the Southeast Branch Library, 6670 US 1 South. The program begins at 1:00pm with Denise Olson presenting Evernote - A Revolution in Research.

The March short course begins after Denise's Q&A and will introduce the Genealogy Gophers - a search engine designed to search digital public domain libraries for books containing information about our ancestors.

Reminder . . . dues are due!

Need research help now? SAGS is here to help! You can find help online at our new Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/sagsonline/) and our Facebook group (https://www.facebook.com/groups/StAuggens/). Just post a description of your research problem and we'll do what we can to help.

If you have set up your account at SAGSsupport, you can submit a research request there too or just leave a comment in the Cafe and get the attention of all our members.

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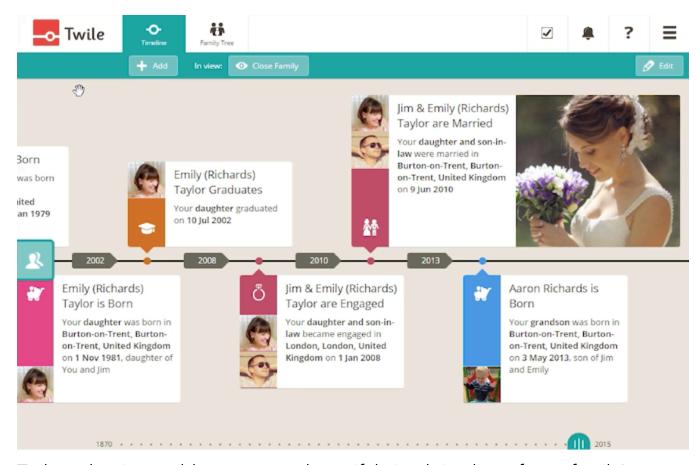
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Timelines

Editoral Notes

We have often been told that timelines are useful because they offer a different perspective from that of the standard family tree. Today, timelines are also becoming works of art that not only support researchers, but can also attract family members. Thanks to a company called Twile, timelines can now "make family history exciting and engaging for the whole family and preserve as many memories as possible for future generations".

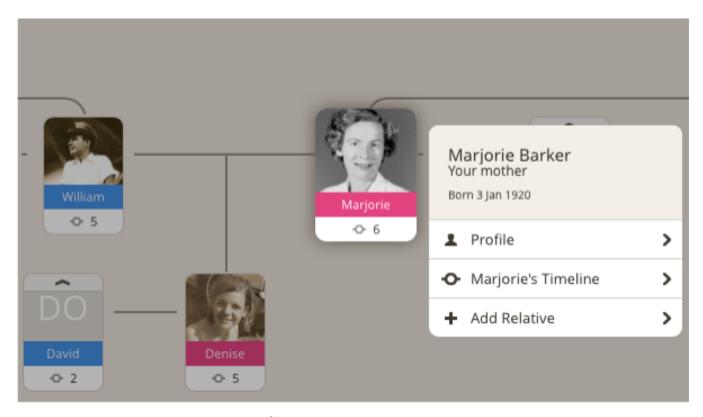


Twile makes it possible to create a beautiful visual timeline of your family's history online so everyone can enjoy it and even contribute to it. The original vision was to make it available to all family members so they could share and

collaborate together. To me that sounds like a great way to inspire a new generation of genealogists!

But it gets even better. Twile is free.

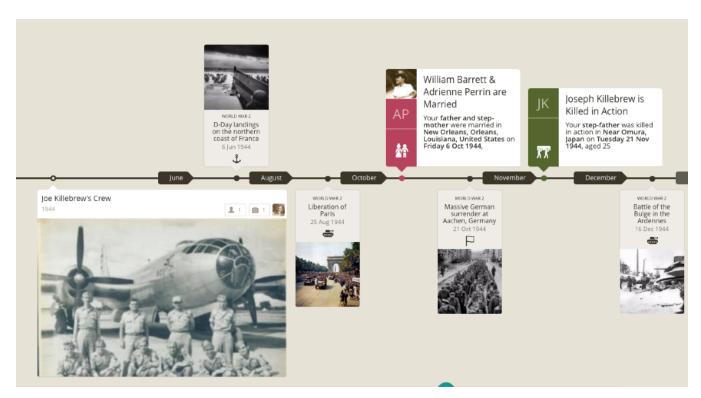
There are two components to Twile - your family tree and your timeline. You can import your family tree data from a GEDCOM file or from your family tree at FamilySearch. From there you add milestone events, photos and stories.



You can use each person's Profile screen to add photos and milestones which will also be added to their timeline. Here's where things get really interesting. Each person included in your tree has their own timeline. You can change views whenever you want.

The timeline you create is only visible to you until you invite others to share it. From the Family Tree view, mouse over the person you'd like to invite, click "Invite Them" and enter that person's email address. Twile will do the rest. Once your invitation is accepted that person can also add milestones and photos to

the timeline. You will receive an update from Twile when your family adds to your timeline.



One more thing . . . overlays. Twile has developed several historical overlays that you can include in your timeline. In the example above, the World War II overlay has been added to my timeline. My mother's first husband was shot down over Japan and my father married his first wife during the war. These and other family milestones are shown in relation to the key events of the war.

If you would like to learn more, visit Twile (https://twile.com) to get your own timeline started.

Scanning Basics

Research Toolbox

Scanning is the process of converting a paper object (letter, form, printed page, photo, etc.) to a digital object. As family historians we are always collecting records, photos, personal documents and other assorted ephemera related to our family. Many are fragile and must be protected. Letters, journals and other personal documents are irreplaceable.

Why is scanning important to the family historian? Here are several good reasons . . .

- Scanning creates a digital file that is easily stored on local and cloud storage for instant access.
- Digital files protect your collection from disasters. Having multiple copies of each file stored both at home and online will insure they survive fires, earthquakes, hurricanes and other disasters.
- They provide easy access to your records and documents. Your computer's search facility can find and display the document you want faster than you can reach for the filing cabinet drawer.
- Sharing with others becomes much easier. Copy costs and postage are replaced with the copy command and email.

First you need a scanner. There are three basic scanner types: flatbed scanner, document scanner and book scanner. Many of today's printers include a flatbed scanner. They scan one document or photo at a time.

Document scanners allow you to place a number of pages into the scanner's feeder which will be automatically fed in and scanned - front and back - into a

single document file. Even better, many of them include software to create searchable and even editable document files.

Book scanners make it possible to scan the pages of a book without having to first rip that book apart. These scanners also include software to "flatten" each page so it is readable. They are impressive, but they are quite expensive.

Today's "smart" phones include sophisticated cameras. These not only allow us to take high-quality photographs, we can also combine them with mobile scanning software to turn them into portable scanners. These have quickly captured the interest of the genealogy community. Scanning a page or two from a book in the library can save you copy charges. Apps like Google's free PhotoScan for Android and iOS phones allow you to create high-quality digital photos even when the original photo is permanently stuck in one of those "sticky" albums. Windows users will find the Office Lens app can save scans as images, PDF files and even Word documents. Office Lens is available for Android and iOS phones.

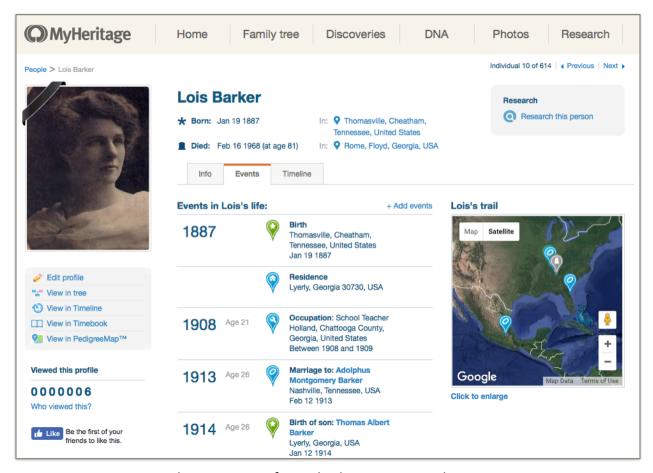
Another portable option is the Flip-Pal mobile scanner (http://flip-pal.com). It is battery-powered and saves the scanned files on an SD card. You can also scan larger things - framed paintings, heirloom quilts, etc. - by removing the lid, turning the scanner over and taking side-by-side scans until you've scanned it all. The Flip-Pal comes with software that will "stitch" those multiple scans into a single image.

The best treasures are yet to be found.

- Mel Fisher

MyHeritage

In the Archives



MyHeritage is an Isreali company founded in 2003 and now supporting 86 million users across 196 countries. Their database includes records from every country in the world and their search engine is incredible. SmartMatches are delivered to your home page for your review. When you find a record that relates to an ancestor, you can view or download the image and attach it to your family tree. Your home page serves as your personal dashboard giving you easy access to your family tree, discovered matches, photos and research.

When you log into MyHeritage you are taken to your home page. It is the hub of everything you do. Here you build and manage your tree, respond to match notices and manage the many tools included in your subscription plan. You can also manage your DNA matches here even if you had your DNA tested elsewhere.

The subscription plans can be a bit confusing. There is a Family Site subscription so you can build your family tree, add photos and stories, and share it with your family. The Family Site subscription comes in two flavors - Premium and Premium Plus. Premium supports up to 2500 people in your family tree and includes Smart Match Merge, all-in-one charts and interactive maps. You also have access to the family sites and members collections to improve your research.

Premium Plus removes the limit to the number of people you can have in your family tree and unlimited access to their Instant Discoveries feature along with all the features in the Premium plan.

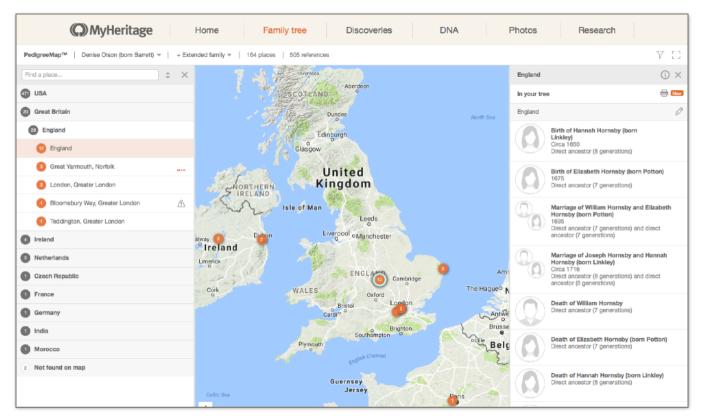
Then there is the Data subscription with gives you unlimited access to all MyHeritages historical records from around the world. It costs approximately \$160 a year.

The best option is the Complete Plan. It combines the PremiumPlus family site with full access to MyHeritage's world-wide historical records. Keep an eye out for discounts. I recently upgraded my BillionGraves account and I was also offered a 50% discount at MyHeritage.

MyHeritage members have access to their desktop Family Tree Builder software (for Windows and Mac) along with mobile apps for iOS and Android devices. All are free and sync with your online tree so you have up-to-date records wherever you view your account.

I'm just getting started in MyHeritage but already I'm fascinated with the connections I've made. My first smart matches connected me with a research cousin I haven't "seen" in years. I'm delighted to find her and look forward to catching up with her again. One of the things I enjoy most is connecting with

cousins and MyHeritage gives me many opportunities to do just that. And, even though I haven't had my DNA tested, I am receiving matches made through ancestors in my tree from others who have been tested.



They also map all the events - birth, marriage, death, etc. - documented in your family tree. Click on a location in the left column and the right column displays the events in the right column.

Take a look at MyHeritage, but look for discount deals before you take the plunge.

Society Services

The Research Help Desk supports our members with research assistance either at meetings, online or via email. Members can submit a help request form online at SAGS Support or you can email your request to **sags.research@yahoo.com**. The Research Committee will respond with suggestions on search options and sources. Members with research experience are encouraged to volunteer on the Research Committee.

There are a number of ways SAGS members can connect online. These include:

- SAGS Online The society's public web site and records archive.
- SAGS Facebook Page Our home on Facebook.
- SAGS Support The society's members-only site offers weekly news updates, research support, 24/7 access to our publications library along with social networking features making it easy for members to stay connected between meetings.
- SAGS Writers Group This virtual special interest group supports members looking for creative ways to document and share their family history.
- SAGS Facebook Group This is a public group and once you join, you can set it to notify you when items are posted to the group. It's a great place to share useful research resources, ask questions or share a success story.

Publishing Guidelines

We accept articles related to genealogy, family history and research methodology from our members for publication in the Ancient City Bulletin.

Submissions should be sent as an electronic file in either rich text format (.rtf) or MS Word (.docx) format via email to sags.publications@gmail.com. Please keep formatting to a minimum as the article will need to be styled to match the Bulletin's design. The article title should be on a separate line at the top of the page with the author's name listed immediately below. Photos included as part of the article are welcome, but please also send a copy of each photo as a separate file. Captions are always welcome and please include the photographer's name for proper credit. Including a list of sources is also encouraged.

Articles will be edited for grammar and style and any edits will be reviewed with the author prior to publication.

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