

- MPAFUG

WHAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW

- 2025
- Presentation Overview Randy Ray
- Exploring lesser-known features of Ancestry.com and genealogy tools
- Understanding the Tree Checker and photo enhancement options
- Using library and online resources for naturalization and death records
- Interpreting unusual data codes and records in genealogy research

If you have a tree on Ancestry.com you may have noticed a green highlighted number in the upper right of your tree.

What is that?

Key points about the Tree Checker:

Function:

It looks for inconsistencies in your family tree, highlighting issues like duplicate entries, missing birth/death dates, or illogical relationships.

Access:

You need an active Ancestry Pro Tools subscription to use the Tree Checker.

A score around 5 is average. Above 8 is a clean tree according to Google.

While on Ancestry.com, check out the new photo features.

Open a person's gallery view, pick a photo, and click sharpen or colorize.

- A lady came in with a group to the FS Library, she asked me to find her ancestors Naturalization paper. I checked my usual

source at FS, catalog, Milwaukee. The Milwaukee County papers are stored at the Milw. Cty. Historical Society and not online. *This is not right and should be challenged with a FOIA lawsuit.*

I thought about it for a while and then looked at the LABS EXPERIMENT in FS. I opened the search bar and typed in "Sarafina Perlongo" and all her Nat. Docs showed up.

WHAT.....

I was searching for a death for Thomas Abbott in Nebraska.

This death index came up for two Thomas Abbotts.

But it had a county code? 33 and 62 What is that?

A friend asked me to look for a FHL film (digital set) document at the FS library. The FS system would not let her see the files from home, only at the FS library.

FHL # 008024788

I pulled it up at the library and search through 42 pages until I found it. It was for 1849. I found it interesting that there were that many marriages in Danzig in 1849. (Danzig in Germany) is now Gdansk in Poland. Northern port city of Poland and the capital Pomeranian Voivodeship.

You can find these records on Family Search. FREE

Some may be locked or only viewed at the FS Library. This is because of contracts between FS and the record holder.

It takes time and patience.

I used ChatGPT to translate the document.

- TRANSLATION
- Clarification of Key Details:

- 1. Names and Roles
- Michael Dombrowski – The groom.
- Magdalena Krampowski – The bride.
- Fried. Domi Küster – Likely *Friedrich Domini*, with *Küster* indicating he was a sexton or church official.
- Joh. Bachma Erwi... – Likely *Johann Bachmann* (the last word is unclear but could mean *Erwiesener Zeuge* meaning "certified witness").

ChatGPT.com

The record states that Michael Dombrowski and Magdalena Krampowski were married.

Their ages are 33 and 32, respectively.

There is a reference to a witness, possibly "Johann Bachna."

There may also be a reference to their professions or places of origin.

Tip and trick for photo editing.

I edit a lot of photos for the Ozaukee Archives. We need to take out some people and things like address numbers license plates, etc.

Load your photo in Window photo and edit it away.

How do you find the tragic deaths of "FOUR SONS".

For two years and hours of searching Canadian records.

The Canadian records did not help.

I found them by searching Newspapers for 1 and half years.

I found the fourth brother on Jan. 31, 2024

To setup up a search in Newspapers.com, open the page and type in the name you are searching.

If nothing comes up, you get a page that looks like this.

Just click on the save button. It will alert you if a new article pops up.

Jeremie Eusebe Mallette 1862-1901

run over by steam train, he was deaf

Frederick Mallette 1856-1904

wagon full of logs tipped and crushed him

Telephore Mallette 1858-1863

drowned

Theodule Mallette 1864-1913

ore cart ran over his legs, then fell from trestle

U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995

If you want to track a family in a large metro area. You can use this directory.

It is very easy.

Here is how you do it.

On Family Search, go to search, scroll down a little to Records, Find a Collection.

Click on Browse all collections, a new window opens, on the right click on Directories (6) of them click on United States.....

A search box for the collection opens, enter your info and start searching.

A directory page usually looks like this.....

I am going to show you a few examples that I used to track a complicated family in Chattanooga..

Cemeteries.....I preach this all the time.

When you are going to go to a cemetery, email them for information or ask for the burial card.

95% of cemeteries have them.

They give you the rest of the story. Just ask Paul Harvey!

The “Anna Simmons Scott” I am looking for was born in 1914.

This Anna was buried in 1958 at age 72.

That makes her born in 1886.

This Anna is now no longer a contender.

My search goes on.....

You need to think like a detective, from the time you are searching in.

What was life like in the 1920’s for example?

Passenger air traffic was just beginning. People traveled long distance by train.....

Now,

Aurigeneo, Ticino, Switzerland

Photos and video.

YouTube is free and a valuable resource.

This should keep all of you busy for a while.

Have a great evening.....

Thank you

Randy Ray for MPAFUG

SSA and Genealogy

Bob Tatalovich 13 August 2025

Information that is publicly accessible:

SSA Death Index 1935-2014 (FS, Ancestry, etc)

SSA Application & Claims Index 1936-2007 (Ancestry)

SSA Numerical Identification Files (Numident) 1936-2007 (FS or NARA)

Where to find Morse's aide:

<https://stevemorse.org/>

Look for vital records > Social Security Numbers

SSA Headlines in the news

2/22/25 Social Security head refutes claims of dead recipients

3/21/25 SSA to begin 'stronger' ID verification for recipients

5/11/25 Social Security agency rolling out digital ID cards

5/11/25 Many rushing to claim Social Security

6/29/25 Social Security wait times under fire

7/27/25 Social Security moving to all electronic checks