

Genealogy Technology Notes
March 26, 2011

Technology is “tools” to find more information quicker, easier, and enabling more accurate conclusions for genealogical research. It's about telling your story, remembering, having success and fun!

Computers: desk top/laptop/notebook

Tablets: iPad/Samsung Galaxy/Xoom

Phone: iPhone/Droid phones/Blackberry

Scanners: Canon Canoscan 8800F (do your own research on brands)

Online services & tools:

Genealogical queries: mailing lists, message boards

Textual documents: blogs, wiki's, collaborative editing

Social Networking: Facebook, MySpace, Classmates.com, etc.

Photo & video sites: Flickr, YouTube, RootsTube on Roots Television

Website bookmarking on your browser

Books: GoogleBooks, LibraryThing

Audio Files: podcasts

WEBSITES:

GeneaPress (www.GenePress.com) is a blog for media press release information. Thomas MacEntee set it up, and many geneabloggers contribute to it.

Adventures in Genealogy Education (<http://genealogyeducation.blogspot.com/>) is a blog by Angela McGhie to highlight educational opportunities.

GeneaWebinars (<http://blog.GeneWebinars.com>) is a blog set up by DearMYRTLE to announce and list webinars (online seminars).

Upfront with NGS (<http://upfront.ngsgenealogy.org/>) is a blog for news from the National Genealogical Society.

NARAtions (<http://blogs.archives.gov/online-public-access/>) is the blog of the United States National Archives.

Genealogy Tip of the Day (<http://genealogytipoftheday.blogspot.com/>) is written by Michael John Neill.

GeneaBloggers (www.geneabloggers.com) is the genealogy community's resource for genealogy blogs, written by Thomas MacEntee.

GenSoftReviews (<http://www.gensoftreviews.com/>) is for reviews of genealogy software, hosted by Louis Kessler.

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter (EOGN) by Dick Eastman (free & plus edition \$) published in blog format at: blog.eogn.com

DearMYRTLE's Genealogy Blog: <http://blog.dearmyrtle.com>

GeneaMusings: <http://www.geneamusings.com>

Cyndi's List: www.cyndislist.com/blogs.htm provides over 70 genealogy blog links

Genealogy Blog Find: blogfinder.genealogue.com this site searches over 1,100 genealogy-related blogs

Creating Your Own Blog:

Review popular "Blog" software (free & \$)
<http://blog-software-review.toptenreviews.com/>

Google:

MAKE the time to learn about all the free services available from Google!! There are tutorials on how to use them. I suggest setting up an iGoogle page & customizing it! There are "widgets" available!!!

Online training: Granite Genealogy – Training, has links to materials on the web that can help you learn genealogy & specific software programs

<http://granitegenealogytraining.blogspot.com>

Archiving: learn how to safely & correctly store old documents & photos

Sally Jacob—Master's degree, worked at Library of Congress Prints & Photos Division

<http://practicalarchivist.com>

Sign up for her free newsletter & receive a free PDF e-Book, "8 Blunders People Make When They Scan Photographs"

Webinars:

GeneaWebinars: a calendar blog to coordinate online genealogy webinars hosted by: Dear MYRTLE

Legacy Family Tree Webinars:

<http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/Webinars.asp>

[Ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) has webinars & archived webinars.

E-newsletter—many websites offer these or RSS feeds

RSS feeds & Google Reader: subscribe & assign the subscription to an “aggregator” such as Google Reader where you can read NEW content as it is added to websites/blogs

Podcasts: digital audio files available on the Web for listening & downloading, usually resembling a type of radio show. May be listened to on your computer, mp3 player (SanDisk or other), from iTunes on your iPod or iPhone.

Create an account with iTunes & browse the huge podcast selections!

Podcasts have their own websites & you can go there to subscribe & download, too.

Message Boards: a website that allows individuals to compose & publish message that can be read by others on the same website.

GenForum:

genforum.genealogy.com

[Ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) at boards.ancestry.com

Can “search” for topics/surnames of interest to you & post queries, such as, “I’m looking for _____ who was born _____ at _____.”

Some sites have simple and/or advanced search features.

Mailing Lists: service that allows you to compose & send e-mail messages to others & communicate on similar topics of interest.

RootsWeb.com has this service at: lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com

Personal Libraries: LibraryThing

Photo & Video sharing:

Flickr—flickr.com a service of Yahoo!

YouTube—service of google—more than 2,000 videos for genealogy with many being tutorials, family stories, travelogues of ancestral towns.

RootsTube—genealogy videos at Roots Television (rootstelevision.com) a site that showcases original genealogical programming. To see the RootsTube submission form, which includes information about video file formats & size limitations, visit: www.rootstelevision.com/submit_rootstube.php

Smart Phones:

Deseret News, March 25, 2010 article, “Apps complement Genealogy Research”

CBS News March 13, 2011, “How apps are changing our phones – and us”

iPhone & or iPod Touch apps:

Traces of the Past (portal to FamilySearch website), Research Logger, Cousin calculator, Story Corps, Facebook, My Vacation, Evernote, Google Reader (RSS feed aggregator), Google Books (search for “genealogy” & find hundreds of free books!)

Social Networking: Facebook

Virtual Worlds: Second Life

Second Life is a free 3D virtual world where users can socialize, connect and create using free voice and text chat.

<http://secondlife.com/>