



Genealogy and the Internet

**Becky Hill, Head Librarian
Hayes Presidential Library**

* - Denotes web sites available from home, for free.

I. *Obituary Index www.rbhayes.org/index

A. Indexes almost 350,000 people from Sandusky County and surrounding area.

B. Indexes all of the Fremont and Clyde newspapers, part of Bellevue, Bloomville, Green Springs, Sandusky, Woodville, Rising Sun and Tiffin papers.

In September 2003, the following NORWELD libraries started adding their newspaper indexing: Bloomville, Carey, Fostoria, Huron, Kenton, Liberty Center, New London, Oak Harbor, Pemberville, Upper Sandusky, Wapakoneta and Wayne.

In May, 2004, another 7 libraries were added to the partnership, thanks to a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, awarded by the State Library of Ohio: Bluffton, Defiance, Lima, Bellefontaine, Paulding, Vermillion and Rossford.

C. Use the Advanced Search Engine to search for maiden names and alternate spellings.

D. Shopping cart option allows long distance users to order the copies of the obituaries for \$2.50 each.

E. Other online obituary indexes :

1. Findlay/ Hancock Co., Ohio: <http://www.findlay.lib.oh.us/genedatabase.htm>
2. Bowling Green/Wood County: <http://wcdpl.lib.oh.us/lochistgen.html>
3. Cleveland, OH – Necrology File: <http://www.cpl.org/>

II. *Family Search: Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) web site: www.familysearch.org

A computerized system of genealogical information that helps researchers identify their ancestors and organize family history information.

A. **Ancestral File.** Contains names and other vital information (such as date and place of birth, marriage, or death) of millions of individuals throughout the world. Names are organized into family groups and pedigrees. To allow for coordination of research, the file also lists names and addresses of those who contributed to the file – mostly Mormons.

B. **International Genealogical Index.** Lists several hundred million names of deceased persons from throughout the world. It also lists some vital information, such as a birth or marriage date and place. Many names in the index come from vital records from the early 1500s to 1885. Others have been submitted by members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

C. **Pedigree Resource File** Contains names; family relationships; and birth, marriage, and death information for millions of people. The information in this file appears as it was originally submitted and is not merged with information submitted by others. The file is indexed on the internet and full information is available on CD's, some of which are at the Hayes Presidential Center. All submissions do not necessarily come from Mormons.

D. **Family History Library Catalog.** Describes the records available at the Family History Library for the whole world. The catalog provides a guide to family histories; birth, marriage, and death records; census records; church registers; and many other records that may contain genealogical information. These records may be in a book, on microfiche or microfilm, or in a computer file. Copies of most microfilm and microfiche records can be loaned to local Family History Centers (Perrysburg, Sandusky, Findlay)

E. **Personal Ancestral File.** A computer program used to record, manage, and share genealogical information Can be downloaded for free from the web site or purchased for a minimal fee.

III. Subscription Internet Resources

A. **AncestryPlus.com** - www.ancestryplus.com - Hayes Presidential Library has a paid subscription.

1. Census records for the following years for the **entire country**
2. Census indexes to 1790 - 1850, 1880, 1920 - 1930
3. Thousands of databases containing 700 million names including :
 - Civil War Pensions Index
 - Early American Marriage Records
 - Slave Narratives
 - *The American Genealogical - Biographical Index* (AGBI)
 - *DAR Lineage Books*

B. **HeritageQuest Online** – www.heritagequestonline.com - Library has a paid subscription.

1. Census record images from 1790 to 1930 for the entire country
2. Census indexes to 1790 to 1820, 1860-1870, 1890, 1900, 1910
3. Over 25,000 family and local histories.
4. PERSI – The Periodical Source Index – an index to 6500 genealogical journals, including 1.6 million citations.

Join the Hayes Presidential Center and have access to Heritage Quest Online at home. HPC members at individual plus (\$45) level can log on to the Heritage Quest

web site by typing in their member number and password. If you subscribed to Ancestry at home, it would be over \$100. You can join online at the <http://www.rbhayes.org/membership.htm>

IV. Other Internet Resources

- A. *USGenweb and World Genweb - <http://www.usgenweb.org>, <http://www.worldgenweb.org>
1. County-by-county access to genealogical information - always an important way to search. Easy to use. Logical
 2. Wide variety of what is available at each site. Some have volunteers who have packed the site with raw data; others have only minimal information. Can change frequently. Keep checking back. Typical topics included on the sites: queries, surname lists, general information on the county and its resources, e.g. courthouse hours, free look-ups, sometimes how to subscribe to a mail list for that county.
- B. **Genweb Archives** - actual documents, databases. Also check out Statewide material. Example: USGenWeb Archives – NY- State Files – Prisons
- C. ***Rootsweb**: A vast clearinghouse of genealogical data, co-sponsored by Ancestry.com; www.rootsweb.com
1. Massive search engines that index a variety of databases.
 2. Worldconnect – <http://worldconnect.rootsweb.com> - index to thousands of gedcoms, some of which you can download.
 3. Immigrant Ship Transcribers Guild <http://www.immigrantships.net/> listing of ship passenger lists
 4. Obituary Daily Times - <http://obits.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/obit.cgi> – listing of fairly current obituaries
- D. ***Kris Kuhn Krumm's** amazing personal page: <http://www.kriskuhn.net/>
- E. ***Cyndi's List**: Largest site for finding genealogical web pages by general topics – over 200,000 links listed <http://cyndislist.com>
- F. *www.acpl.lib.in.us – Fort Wayne, Indiana's huge genealogy library catalog
- G. *www.ellisland.org – Ellis Island records from 1892 to 1924
- H. * <http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/> Ohio Historical Society's various databases, including Ohio death certificates.
- I. *www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac/cac.html – Center for Archival Collections at Bowling Green State University. Includes listings of northwest Ohio newspapers, church records, manuscripts
- J. *www.google.com – Best search engine for the web. Try your names. Put in quotes, add location, to cut down on hits (e.g. "Rebecca Hill" Fremont Ohio)

V. Library Catalog

- A. * The Hayes Library book collection is on-line and available from your home computer. <http://maurice.bgsu.edu>

B. Our catalog is part of Bowling Green State University's **BGLink** and also part of **OhioLink** and **WorldCat**.

C. Search by author, title, subject, keyword or call number.

D. Three places to search:

1. ***BGLink** – searches BGSU and Hayes Presidential Center:

maurice.bgsu.edu

2. ***OhioLink** – searches all of Ohio's public universities' libraries, including BGSU and Hayes – <http://olc1.ohiolink.edu/search/>

3. **WorldCat** – searches libraries nationwide (ask librarian to set up – not available from home computers)

E. Examples of genealogical searches: try for your family name to see who has books about the “Sherman Family”; try a locality to see what books are available for “Clyde, Ohio”; try a name of a relative who may be an author or a recorded musician and see what libraries have their books or recordings

F. Manuscript collections are also being put online – try World Cat for your family name and you may come up with some original material. Example – Thaddeus Hurd.

VI. **Personal Genealogical Programs**

A. My favorite: **Roots Magic** (formerly **Family Origins**). Easy to use, inexpensive, flexible, good support:

Published by FormalSoft – 1-866-GO-ROOTS

\$29.95. With book, \$39.95. Used for Hayes family genealogy. Can be ordered from the Hayes Museum Store

<http://www.rootsmagic.com>

B. Family Tree Maker: Popular program available at computer stores. Only need actual program. \$29.99 Deluxe sets include additional CD-ROMs, some of which are available at Hayes Center for free. 1-800-779-6000. <http://www.genealogy.com/softmain.html>

C. Personal Ancestral File: Mormon (LDS) program – Can be downloaded for free from their web site: www.familysearch.org. Click on “Order Family History Resources”, then “Software Download”

Genealogy classes at Hayes Presidential Center, held monthly - (all run 9:30-11:30 am). Alternating “Computers and Genealogy” and “Beginning Genealogy”. Call for registration – 419-332-2081; Free

Becky Hill
Head Librarian
419-332-2081
bhill@rbhayes.org
4/2004