

Bi-Monthly Newsletter January 31, 2021



Contents for this Issue:

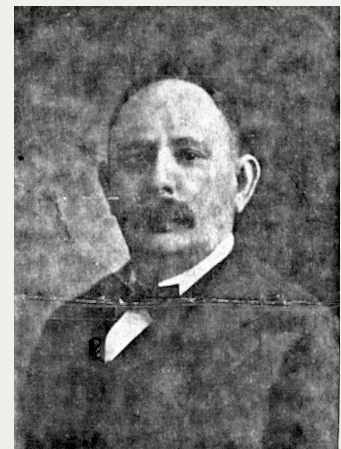
- Articles Published Since Last Issue
- Interview with Alan Martin, CEO of Audiobiography
- Quick Sheet “The BEST Way to Find HIDDEN Ancestor Newspaper Articles”
- The usual tips, jokes, etc.

Why Aren't You Searching Mortuary Records?

What might be in a Mortuary or Funeral Home Record?

- ⇒ Name of informant and person paying for the service
- ⇒ Cause of death
- ⇒ Address of the deceased
- ⇒ In some cases - the name of the father and mother
- ⇒ Attending physician as well as hospital or place of death
- ⇒ Date of birth
- ⇒ Date of death
- ⇒ Date and location of planned burial
- ⇒ Obituary from multiple newspapers
- ⇒ Occupation
- ⇒ Birth Place
- ⇒ Marital Status, Gender, and Race

Who Is Your Favorite Ancestor?



Mine is Samuel Braunhart

→ Please Note: Hot Links are in **BLUE**



Articles Published Since Last Issue

- [Please Read - Change to Subscriptions - Two Options](#)
- [560 Free Obituary and Obituary Index Links for the Mid-Atlantic States](#)
- [FamilySearch New and Updated Collections - January 1-31, 2021](#)
- [Chronicling America Updates - January, 2021](#)
- [Ancestry New and Updated Collections - January 1-31, 2021](#)
- [Free New Jersey Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Kentucky Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free District of Columbia Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Pennsylvania Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Indiana Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Bi-Monthly Newsletter from The Ancestor Hunt - January 15, 2021](#)
- [Need Help With Your Genealogy Research? Check out Trace](#)
- [Free Delaware Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Maryland Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Maine Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Minnesota Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Nebraska Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Tennessee Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free Michigan Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free Illinois Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [NY State Historical Newspapers Adds/Updates 2 Titles - January, 2021](#)
- [Free Florida Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free Wisconsin Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [Free North Carolina Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free Ohio Obituaries and Obituary Index Links](#)
- [1,555 Free Obituary and Obituary Index Links for the Mid West States](#)

WHAT I AM WORKING ON IN FEBRUARY

FINISH OBITUARIES UPDATE

FINISH NATURALIZATIONS UPDATE

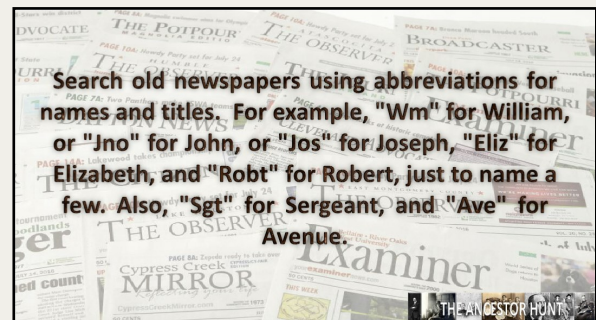
NEW CATEGORY: CEMETERY AND BURIAL

Quirky Old Newspaper Ad



Remember This!

Are you lost, bewildered, or confused as to what to do to further your ancestor research? It is easy to get that way, but there are some things that you can do. Remember most of all to have fun. For most, it's a hobby.



Did You Know?

- The Ancestor Hunt has over 35,000 links to Free Online Historical Newspaper Titles for the U.S.
- There are over 6,800 titles that represent “Special Collections”
- There are 20 different categories of special newspaper collections, listed below:
 - [African American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [American Farming Newspapers Online](#)
 - [American Labor and Union Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Civilian Conservation Corps \(CCC\) Newspapers Online](#)
 - [French American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [German American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Hispanic and Portuguese American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Indigenous and Native American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Irish American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Italian American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Japanese American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Japanese Internment Camp Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Jewish American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Nordic American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Polish American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Swedish American Newspapers Online](#)
 - [College and High School Student Newspapers Online](#)
 - [Free Online Protestant Newspapers](#)
 - [Free Online Catholic Newspapers](#)
 - [Alternative Press Newspapers Online](#)

GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



Big hug after an all-morning newspaper genealogy search.



Useful Articles from Other Sources

Need to Get Organized or More Disciplined?

- [Free Genealogy Forms from Family Tree Magazine](#)

Looking for Family History Books?

- [How to Find Genealogy, Family History, and Local History Books in the Internet Archive](#)

Interested in DNA Research?

- [Best Free DNA and Genetic Genealogy Websites](#)

Are Your Sources Reliable?

- [The "Three Plumbers" Rule](#)

Do You Like Free?

- [A Baker's Dozen of Free Genealogy Websites! Are You Missing These?](#)

Newspaper Articles About Our Ancestors Besides Obits After Death?

- [Newspaper Searching After Death](#)

Have you Reviewed the Two Newsletter Subscription Options?

Subscription Option 1

For the last 5 years, if you have subscribed on my site, you receive 5 times a month in your email a simple list of the links to articles that I have posted on this website since the prior mailing. Sometimes there are about 10 links and lately, many more. I am changing the delivery dates to the 7th, the 15th, the 23rd, and the last day of the month. By subscribing, you will receive 4 emails a month.

Subscription Option 2 (new)

In the past month, I have started publishing a Bi-Monthly Newsletter (This!), with 4 to 8 pages of all kinds of useful (I hope) information. It includes links to all the articles published since the previous Bi-monthly newsletter, as well as articles that I think you might find interesting from other authors. It also includes research tips, a joke or two, and other useful genealogical stuff. By subscribing, you will receive the Bi-monthly email twice a month, on the 15th and the last day of the month.

Check out the By Location feature that has recently been added to The Ancestor Hunt Website:

As you probably know if you have used the site, that each state or province's link lists are separated for each category. For example, there is a New York Newspapers article, a New York Obituaries article, a New York Naturalizations article, etc. I have just made it a little easier to go from one category to the other (saves a click or two). At the very end of each article there is a list to the article links for **every** category for that state or province. Try it. It will save you time if you are searching in just one geographical area.

Interview with Audiobiography CEO Alan Martin

I have been having discussions for the last year or so with my friend Alan Martin about recording one's family history as an alternative or adjunct to writing it. I have been writing my ancestor's family history through blog posts on my two family history websites for years. I fully intend to write a book about one branch of my tree, hopefully soon.

In any case, I was intrigued by his idea and asked him to answer a few questions below about using audio in documenting one's family history. I have started recording my own autobiography using his product [Audiobiography](#), and it is very easy to use. I hope to finish mine this year.



1. Hello, Alan. Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions. Could you provide a short history of the [Audiobiography](#) company and product and its mission?

Very happy to, and thanks for the invitation. The inklings for Audiobiography actually started with my kids. I began recording them in audio when they were small using the voice memo app on my phone. I knew the way they thought and talked was fleeting and I wanted to capture these pretty normal, everyday moments. But video felt wrong. Audio felt easier, and more importantly, it felt authentic. Over time it became obvious just how valuable this had become to our family. Other experiences convinced us similarly that audio had the power to bring the people we loved into our life and transport us back in time. So, we had this growing pile of digital recordings of my kids, and a realization that audio connected us deeply to those we love. Then a twist of fate gave me and my oldest brother and his sons (who are exceptional software engineers) the time to come together and bring an idea to life that would be part physical, part digital, and totally novel. We turned our idea into a Kickstarter campaign, and that Kickstarter campaign led to the launch of Audiobiography. That was almost two years ago now, and we've expanded our product line fairly quickly since then. In simplest form, we build easy to use tools to help stories be told and shared that otherwise likely wouldn't have. And audio is always a key component.

2. There are a lot of websites and other applications that are emerging with the goal to capture life stories and publish them. Some in hardbound books, others including video, etc. What prompted your audio approach?

Audio is so powerful. Hearing someone's voice is actually the closest you can feel to them, without physically touching them. Many of us have experienced this. Think of the voicemail from someone you love who has passed on that you'll never delete. Or the contact in your phone that you'll never remove because even the thought of hearing their voice on the other end of the line is too powerful to let go. Audio captures the very essence of the people we love in ways writing and even video cannot. It seemed obvious and right that we should orient our products around audio. And it happens to be a technological benefit that audio is lightweight so it can be very reliably and inexpensively stored, backed up, shared, and transferred around over time, etc.

3. Could you summarize the process for recording a life story in audio, using your product?

We marry the physical and digital worlds together in a novel way. Our books for example are a 90 page life interview. Questions are written on every page to prompt memories and experiences. But instead of writing the answers, you scan the page with your phone camera, hit a record button, and just talk. That's it. It's as easy as having a conversation with a friend. Your answers are recorded in your own voice and linked to the page. Two really important things happen at that point. First, if anyone opens that book and scans the page with their own phone camera, your recorded answers become available to play.

Interview with Audiobiography CEO Alan Martin

This lets others take an audio journey through your life while holding the physical book. But even more important is that your story is saved digitally and can be shared with family and friends worldwide, for free, just like a podcast. There's no limit to the amount of audio that can be recorded per page, and you can come back and add, delete, rearrange, rename, and more throughout your life. The outcome is remarkable; a life story told in first person audio and shareable worldwide. And of course privacy settings ensure sharing happens only how you want it to.

4. Could you describe how the content is stored?

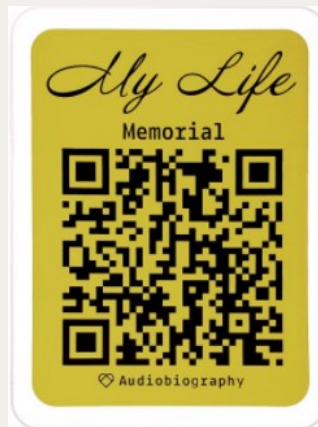
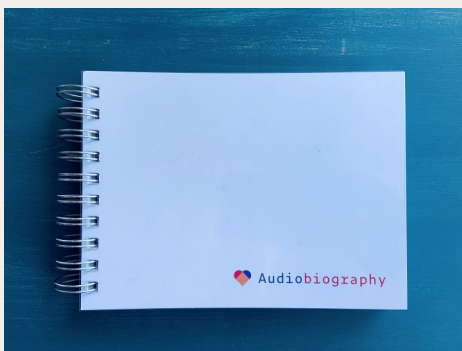
We store and serve all content from the cloud. We're built atop the Google Cloud Platform to be exact. But you can also backup a copy of all of your content at any time and as often as you want from within your account. This serves two important purposes. First, it gives you a personal local backup so you can rest easy knowing you have an extra layer of redundancy. And second, it's common to take parts of a life story in audio and upload them to other websites.

5. Is there a way to incorporate photos?

*Yes, photos are a big part of **Audiobiography**. Some of our products allow unlimited photos. Others have a limit. But in any case photos are always part of the experience. Case in point, one of our products is called Audiostickers. They're audio enabled stamps that you stick to anything physical and record audio to. Think physical photographs, photo books, scrapbooks, and the like. Just peel, stick, record. Listening to someone's voice alongside still pictures of them or the places they've been is transformative. It's hard to fully understand until you've experienced it, but there's something about removing the cognitive overhead of a video, and just sitting with nothing more than a person's voice and photographs. It's intimate. It's a very different dimension of connectedness.*

6. I notice that you have a new product called "Memorial". Could you summarize that?

We actually have our customers to thank for Memorial. We had been asked consistently if we had something that could attach to a headstone. After a lot of time both at the drawing board and in the shop, Memorial became our answer. It's a small, clear, weatherproof plaque that attaches directly to a headstone and links to an unlimited amount of information about a person's life. This includes pictures, audio recordings, embedded videos, and text. The link to it can be shared across the globe so friends and family can contribute memories and tributes with no content limits. Anyone visiting the resting place simply scans the headstone with their phone camera to access the tribute page where they can see the content, and add their own tributes on the spot or later when they get home. Memorial is essentially a limitless digital canvas that brings those we love back to our hearts and mind and memorializes them in a way they deserve. It's something we're super proud of, and grateful that our customers pushed us to develop and make it available.



Interview with Audiobiography CEO Alan Martin

7. One big question is, how do I ensure that my audio "story" will be maintained and available after my passing?

The good news is technology is making this more and more answerable all the time. Nobody can guarantee the future, as much as we'd like to. But we do know at least two things. First, our products do an exceptional job of pulling the story out of someone. Stories go from untold, to told, every day with Audiobiography. We actually consider this the biggest challenge. And second, even though we maintain the story securely in the cloud which has become phenomenally secure and reliable, we give users a very simple "download" button inside their account and we encourage them to use it. Once a story is told, it should be downloaded. Once it's downloaded, it can be uploaded to other, totally different platforms (i.e. family search and the like). It can also be stored locally and placed on more than one type of physical media, shared as an email file with family who can then place it in their own family history repositories, and so forth. The cost and reliability of storing and sharing digital content have come so favorable, that really the harder part of the equation is simply telling the story in the first place.

8. Is there anything else that potential users/customers should know?

We always say that whether you use our products or not, just start recording your stories in audio. It is the ultimate medium and you'll feel the power and value in it the minute you do it. You can get started by using free resources like the voice memo app on your phone. At some point those stories will become tremendously valuable, and they'll be heard and shared and told and re-told. If those stories ever end up organized and shareable in an Audiobiography product, great. If not, that's OK too! Just hit that record button and capture your stories starting now, even if that means storing long-term and and sharing later.

Record Your Autobiography With



AUDIOBIOGRAPHY

Find out all about Audiobiography right [HERE](#)

Online Newspaper Research Quick Sheet

The BEST Way to Find HIDDEN Ancestor Newspaper Articles

- **What?** - Deliberately misspell your search criteria
- **Why?** - OCR is not perfect and 100 year old newsprint is full of errors
- **How?** - Change the letters in your search criteria
- **Result?** - Find hidden articles - up to 20% more pertinent hits

Letter Pairs Often Confused

rn and m (ar n and em)

h and b

Capital D and O

Capital D and G

i, l, 1, /, !, and I

0 and O

c and e

r and n

[,] and l (el)

nl and m (en el and em)

n and ri (en and ar eye)

Capital B and 8

v and y

Capital R and B

d and cl

e and o

Capital H and B

h and k

h and n

Capital S and 8

Capital S and 5

Capital Z and 2

Capital G and 6

Capital K and |<

Deliberately misspell your search criteria and you will find hidden articles and get up to 20% more pertinent hits.

For more neat tricks to help you find more ancestor newspaper articles,

Visit The Ancestor Hunt at:

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/newspapers.html> to get hundreds of articles and links to help you become a master newspaper researcher



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Help Your Ancestors Live Forever - Write Your Family History And Write Your Own History While You're At It

One of my goals in my personal genealogy is to make sure that my ancestors are remembered. Many had no descendants, so absolutely no one alive remembers them. That's sad to me, which is why I created a couple of family history websites. But recently I have been seeking even better ways to memorialize their lives. Their stories are important to be documented, which might explain why I am such a fan of newspaper research.

In any case, here are a few tools that I have discovered that provide a unique means to memorialize our ancestors.

And guess what? We need to produce our own autobiographies. We aren't getting any younger and memories do fade.



Whoowe

Produce an online history easily with text, video, and audio from online questions on your phone. You can contribute content in minute or several minute increments.

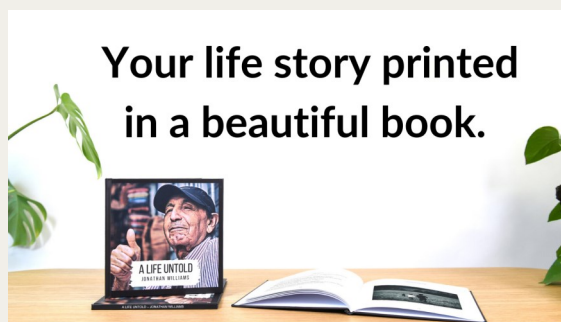
Whoowe is available from the AppStore and Google Play. Info at whoowe.com Try it out for free. Discount coupon for readers coming soon.



StorySpot

Produce an online memorial with text, video, timelines, photos, favorite songs, and audio, and produce an optional book. Great for family reunions also

Available at www.storystop.com. Try it out for free. 25% discount available by using "ANCESTOR" as coupon code.



A Life Untold

Produce an online history easily with text, video, and audio from online questions. Proceed at your own pace, and add questions if you like. Very easy to use.

Available at A Life Untold. Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

Record Your Autobiography With



AUDIOBIOGRAPHY

Audiobiography

They say the closest you can feel to someone without touching them, is hearing their voice. Produce an online autobiography or memorial with audio; add photos and coordinate with a book.

Available at Audiobiography. Try it out. 10% discount available by using "HUNT as coupon code.

"The Ancestor Hunt" is an affiliate for several of these companies and may receive a small commission should you purchase through this newsletter or the website and/or if you use the coupon codes mentioned above.

Last But Not Least

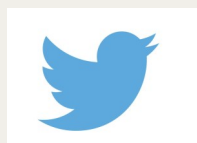
Free Stuff from the Western States

- 1,061 Free Online [Idaho](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 752 Free Online [New Mexico](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 3,443 Free Online [California](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 574 Free Online [Alaska](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 512 Free Online [Hawaii](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 1,713 Free Online [Washington](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 1,314 Free Online [Arizona](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 1,644 Free Online [Colorado](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 1,230 Free Online [Oregon](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 341 Free Online [Nevada](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 574 Free Online [Alaska](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 970 Free Online [Utah](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories
- 1,074 Free Online [Montana](#) Collections Available Now in 16 Genealogy Record Categories

The Ancestor Hunt Research Link Categories:

- Newspapers
- Obituaries
- BMD Records
- Directories
- Photos
- Yearbooks
- Divorce Records
- Naturalizations
- Cemetery and Burial Records
- Mortuary Records
- Immigration
- Church Records
- School Records
- Voter Lists
- Coroner Records
- Probate and Wills
- Alumni Records

Check out The Ancestor Hunt on Social Media



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