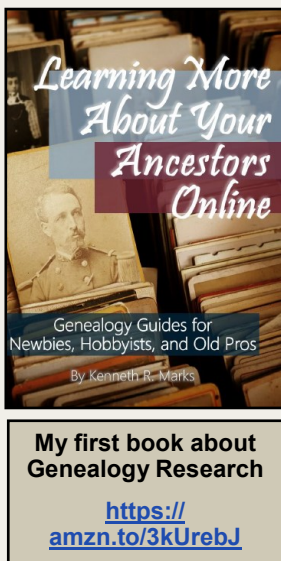


Bi-Monthly Newsletter December 31, 2021



Contents for this Issue:

- Articles Published Since Last Issue
- Useful Articles from Other Sources
- Interview with CEO of Memorygram
- 5 Free Ways to Find Patents from Your Inventor Ancestor
- 13 Types of Genealogical Information You Can Find in Old Yearbooks
- The Library of Congress Digital Collections
- Chapter List for "Learning More About Your Ancestors Online"



Reminders

We spend a lot of our research time trying to find the story of our ancestor's lives. It is also important to discover the story of our ancestor's deaths.

Finding out that one of our ancestors was a murderer, a philanderer, or a robber is no reason to smile... unless you are a family historian.

Hit a Brick Wall? Need Help?

Sometimes, we need to call in an expert, and yes, we may have to pay a few bucks, but it's worth it.

Get some help from

[Trace.com](https://www.trace.com)



**Risk-free genealogy research
from the most talented
professionals on Earth**

Stop overpaying researchers you don't know or who don't have the specific skills you need. Our process and network give you the best price with high-quality results.

→ Please Note: Hot Links are in [BLUE](#)



Articles Published Since Last Issue

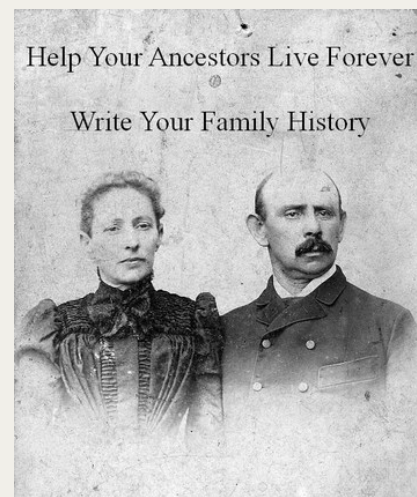
- [FamilySearch New and Updated Collections – December 1-31, 2021](#)
- [Ancestry New and Updated Collections – December 1-31, 2021](#)
- [Free Online United States Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [19 Places Where You Can Access Old Yearbooks Online](#)
- [Free California Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free Online California Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Free Idaho Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free Online Ohio Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [9 Reasons Why You Should Be Researching Voter Records – A Hidden Gem](#)
- [Free Online Alabama Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Free Online Florida Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Free Online Texas Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Free Online Mississippi Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Free Online Missouri Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [The Library of Congress Digital Collections](#)
- [Free Online Oklahoma Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Free Online Wisconsin Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Free Online Nebraska Birth Records and Indexes](#)
- [Interview with Founder of Shotbox](#)
- [13 Types of Genealogical Information You Can Find in Old Yearbooks](#)
- [13,000 United States High Schools and Colleges with Free Online Yearbooks](#)
- [Free California High School and College Yearbooks Online](#)
- [Free Alaska Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free Wisconsin Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [13 Reasons to Include Tax Records in Your Genealogy Research](#)
- [Introducing “Ancestor.Photos” – Images of Your Ancestors from the Victorian Era](#)
- [Free Hawaii Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [Free Montana Online Cemetery and Burial Records](#)
- [5 Free Ways to Find Patents from Your Inventor Ancestor](#)

New From The Newspaper Corner

- [Veridian Adds/Updates 80 Titles – December 2021](#)
- [NewspaperARCHIVE Update – December, 2021](#)
- [British Newspaper Archive Adds/Updates 123 Titles – December, 2021](#)
- [Find My Past Adds/Updates 61 Historical Newspaper Titles – December, 2021](#)
- [Chronicling America Updates – December 2021](#)
- [Advantage Archives Adds 1.2 Million Historical Newspaper Pages – November, 2021](#)
- [American Prison Newspapers](#)
- [GenealogyBank Adds/Updates 18 Titles – December 2021](#)
- [The Best Way to Find 20% More Pertinent Newspaper Articles Online](#)
- [9 Ways to Effectively Find Obituaries in Online Newspapers](#)
- [10 Clever Ways to Find More Ancestor Newspaper Articles](#)
- [Use Nicknames in Your Newspaper Searches to Find 50% More Ancestor Articles](#)
- [Use Abbreviations in Your Newspaper Searches to Find 50% More Ancestor Articles](#)
- [Search Hyphenated Words in Historical Newspapers to Get Up To 30% More Results](#)
- [13 Hidden Gems in Old Newspapers to Amplify Your Ancestors' Life Stories](#)
- [8 Ways to Screw Up Your Newspaper Research](#)

There is a Russian proverb that states the main reason I do genealogy research:

“You live as long as you are remembered”



Useful Articles from Other Sources

Looking for a Genealogy Event?

- [Remember to Check Out Conference Keeper!](#)

Doing Research for Your Jewish Ancestors?

- [10 Essential Online Jewish Genealogy Resources](#)

Did you Find a Typo in a Record?

- [Typos are Just Typos](#)

Why Did Your Ancestors Move?

- [How Did They End Up There?](#)



Register for RootsTech 2022 for free
at www.rootstech.org
March 3–5, 2022

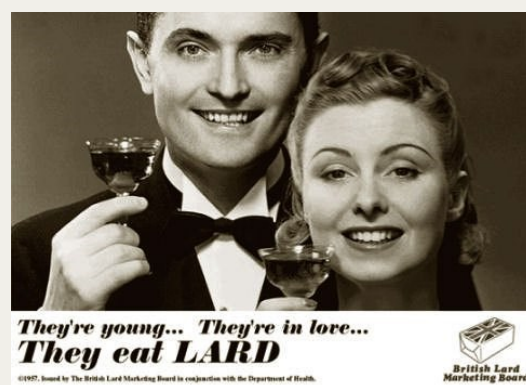


Check out Shotbox at <https://shotbox.me/>
Enter the Code "TAH20" at Checkout to save an
additional \$20.00

WHAT I AM WORKING ON IN JANUARY

- FINISH MILITARY RECORDS CATEGORY
- START TAX RECORDS CATEGORY RE-SEARCH
- CHECK FOR BROKEN LINKS AND FIX THEM
- UPDATE MORTUARY RECORD CATEGORY
- PUBLISH MORE QUICKSHEETS

Quirky Old Newspaper Ad



FIND *your* ANCESTORS
Newspapers and more
(1690 to today)

[Search Now](#)



GENEALOGYBANK



Interview with CEO of Memorygram

As always, I am interested in new products and services that will help family historians to document their finds for future descendants and associated family members. Recently I became aware of a service called Memorygram. It is a service that builds a biographical/autobiographical book for you based on a [prompted set of questions. There are quite a few services like this in the market, but this one has some distinguishing characteristics

I interviewed the founder, Sara Damiano. The following is the interview.



What prompted you to start Memorygram?

As a clinical social worker and gerontologist, I dedicate my life to helping others in need with a focus on individuals and families living with severe illnesses in the healthcare space. With over ten years in the healthcare field, I have found quite a bit of distress, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder that can arise when patients and families cannot share in meaningful conversations about what matters most. Memorygram was formed as a legacy building and memory-making tool to help individuals and families connect on what matters most. Memorygram is a digital storytelling platform that helps increase connection and self-reflection through the experience of sharing life stories with the culmination of all of the memories being captured in a beautiful hardcover customized book.

Tell me a little about Memorygram

A Memorygram purchase includes access to our digital storytelling site to create a personalized book. The book can be written by yourself, or you can have stories written by a loved one.

Users can choose from hundreds of inspiring questions in easy-to-find categories or write their own custom questions and even reference a specific memory (tell me about that time when you...)

Every week, Memorygram will email out engaging questions, and the storyteller can reply with their story and attach their favorite photos. Also, stories can be written, edited, and photographs uploaded directly on the Memorygram site. Once complete, all stories will be bound together in a beautiful, customized book, and the user can customize the cover by selecting a cover design and adding a photo!

A purchase also includes one printed book of the stories with a full-color cover, black and white interior pages, and free shipping. Once the book is ready, we welcome users to upgrade to a full cover interior for \$38. We also invite users to order additional books for the price of \$39 each for a full-color cover, black and white interior, or \$78 each for a full-color cover, full-color interior.

How does it work?

We have made the process very simple with a stepwise approach:

1. Select inspiring questions from the Memorygram platform to be emailed weekly.
2. Simply reply back to the email to share your memory and photos
3. Choose from customized covers to build your book
4. Enjoy your memory book to be cherished for generations!


Please also check out our YouTube video on how Memorygram works <https://youtu.be/tuZXmo7Q8f4>

Interview with CEO of Memorygram

What has been the response to Memorygram so far?

Very positive! We started our business in August 2021 and launched our services in November 2021. We have received over a hundred thousand views to our website memorygram.com and customers are giving us amazing feedback.

There are multiple autobiography "creator" websites that ask many questions and then produce a published book. How is Memorygram different?

memorygram.	Other services
✓ Higher quality book with thicker paper	✗ Lower quality book with thinner paper
✓ Additional storytellers are simple & affordable	✗ Additional storytellers cost full price
✓ 24/7 customer support via LiveChat	✗ Email support only, days to respond
✓ Multi-language	✗ English only
✓ 45 day money back guarantee	✗ Questionable return policy
 Proudly made and based in the USA	

As a social worker, I am committed to health equity and culturally competent services. We are dedicated to also catering to the over 350 million people worldwide who speak Spanish as their primary language.

How many pages is an average book based on your experience?

The average page length is 280-300 pages.

Are there many people who sign up and then drag their feet in responding to all the questions? Or never finish?

We have found that everyone who signs up is highly engaged in the process and answers all of the weekly questions.

Have you changed the set of questions much since you started this?

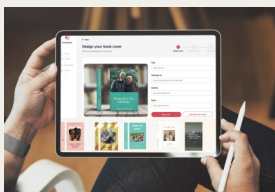
Yes! We continually add to our curated and categorized library of questions.

Where can I find out more?

memorygram.com

Do many people decide later to buy additional books after they have received their first one?

Yes! We have so many customers who have added additional "storytellers" to their book who will also answer questions (think both grandma and grandpa in the same book). These customers will be purchasing additional books for the entire family so their grandparents' memories will live with them forever.



5 Free Ways to Find Patents from Your Inventor Ancestor

I knew that my Dad had several patents, and that his grandfather possibly held one or two. So a few years ago I started searching and found two additional ancestors that had filed for and gotten approved a few more patents. I would suggest that you search these five free databases that have patent documents from all over the world. You just might be surprised!

Google Patents Search – is generally the “go to” website to search for patents. It has over 18 million documents and has patent documents world-wide, not just the U.S. It gets the nod over the US Patent Office because older patents are text-searchable with Google Patents and are not via the USPTO. Google Patents has documents starting from 1790.

Just go to <https://patents.google.com/> It is free.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) – One can search for patents via text for patent documents newer than 1976. But if you have the Patent number, you can get the image online for patents older than 1976. To be more specific for patents prior to 1976, Patents from 1790 through 1975 are searchable only by Issue Date, Patent Number, and Current US Classification.

Just go to <https://patft.uspto.gov/netahtml/PTO/search-bool.html> It is free.

European Patent Office – Espacenet provides free access to over 130 million patent documents from 1782 to the present. It includes patents from the U.S., as well as world-wide.

Just go to <https://worldwide.espacenet.com/> It is free.

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) – Has a service called PATENTSCOPE that provides search of 100 million patent documents including 4.2 million published international patent applications.

Just go to <https://www.wipo.int/patentscope/en/> It is free.

LENS – is a scholarly database that serves over [225+ million scholarly works](#), [127+ million global patent records](#), and more than [370+ million patent sequences](#). There are over 136 million Patent Records from 106 jurisdictions around the world.

Just go to <https://www.lens.org/lens/search/patent/structured> It is free.

Try out one or more of these databases. You might be pleasantly surprised like I was!

Real Newspaper Headlines

Worker suffers leg pain
after crane drops 800-
pound ball on his head

Man tries armed robbery
with knife in gun store

17 REMAIN DEAD
IN MORGUE
SHOOTING SPREE

Man with nothing to declare
had 55 tortoises in his pants

Senior Center holds
Old Bag Sale



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13 Types of Genealogical Information You Can Find in Old Yearbooks

Yearbooks from high school or college are one of the most fun set of records for a genealogist to search. It provides you with a ton of story-like information about your ancestor's life. What their interests were, what sports and clubs they participated in, and often some goofy snapshots of them before they settled into being an adult. And of course, you get to see what they looked like.

So, what useful genealogical information that you can derive from old yearbooks?

- Residential Location—the specific address and city are not presented, but typically the school is within 5 to 10 miles from their actual residence. Some smaller area schools may include their residential address. Some colleges may include their city of residence.
- Interests—The clubs and other interests may provide a clue as to their future occupation, for example 4-H Club. Where they in ROTC? Maybe this provides a clue to which future military service they were a part of.
- Signatures—Although autographs and the few words that are written may seem silly, there may be mention of what your person may do in the future. And who knows, if their siblings or cousins went to the same school and are also in the yearbook, mention of their relationship may be included. Maybe, just maybe, girlfriends and boyfriends in high school may end up being spouses in the future. Don't underestimate the clues that may be in autographs.
- Age—you will know the year of the yearbook and based on their class, e.g., senior, sophomore, etc. you can roughly estimate within a year their birth year. Of course if they skipped a grade or were held back a year, that may make your estimate off a year or so. But again, it is a great clue.
- Non-student information—faculty and other employees are generally included in yearbooks. Maybe your ancestor/relative worked at a school for 30 years. This might provide you with a photo of them for multiple years!
- Photos—this is the holy grail of yearbooks. But not only will you get "headshots", but also your ancestor/relative in sports, clubs, and other interesting scenes that help you fill out their life story.
- Rural Schools—might include younger students in a combined school that includes elementary or middle schools grades. In the late 1800s and early to middle 1900s, many students didn't stay in school past the 6th or 8th grade.
- "FAN" Club—friends and acquaintances can be determined not just by the appearance of other students in the yearbook, but who autographed your ancestor/relative's yearbook can — provide other research targets that might indicate a longer relationship into the adult years. Again, don't underestimate the clues that may be in autographs. They may be invaluable to your research.
- Advertisements—may not necessarily provide direct information about your ancestor/relative, but may give you a sense of the community where they went to school.
- Nicknames—generally via autographs or other notations about your ancestor/relative, nicknames can be critical information to use when searching old newspapers. Maybe Richard Johnson was a left-handed baseball player nicknamed "Lefty". In newspapers he might have been found as "Lefty Johnson"
- Middle Names—are not generally found in yearbooks, but possibly. However, many students "went by" their middle name rather than their first name, so this might be helpful in future genealogy research about the individual.
- Maiden Names—you've found the woman; you know what her married name is; and you know where she lived in her high school years. Check out the yearbooks in the area. If you know what she looked like, you might find her in a yearbook. Tedious yes, but a possibility. Maybe she married her high school sweetheart. Check out their yearbook.
- Military Service—during World War 1 and World War 2, there might be separate lists in the yearbooks for students who were in the military.

Do you want to search or browse through over 13,000 Free Online Yearbooks from the U.S. and Canada? Just go to the [Yearbooks Page](#) on The Ancestor Hunt website.



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Download this Quick Reference Guide by clicking [HERE](#)



The Library of Congress Digital Collections



The Library of Congress Digital Collections are large and growing. Currently there are 486 different collections. They are divided into 15 different topics (number of collections is in brackets):

- [American History \[209\]](#)
- [Government, Law & Politics \[157\]](#)
- [World Cultures & History \[128\]](#)
- [Performing Arts \[105\]](#)
- [War & Military \[85\]](#)
- [Local History & Folklife \[64\]](#)
- [Art & Architecture \[55\]](#)
- [Social & Business History \[41\]](#)
- [Geography & Places \[31\]](#)
- [Science & Technology \[24\]](#)
- [African American History \[22\]](#)
- [Literature & Poetry \[16\]](#)
- [Religion & Philosophy \[16\]](#)
- [Women's History \[16\]](#)
- [Sports & Recreation \[10\]](#)

For genealogy research, there are three topics that are quite useful, although many of them might have pertinent information that can assist us.

On the surface, Local History & Folklife, War & Military, and Geography & Places is where I started, to see what might advance my research.

The collections with many different types of maps is quite helpful and extensive.

Take a look at the list of these digital collections. You may find some real gems that can assist you in your research.

Go to [LOC Digital Collections](#) to examine the contents.

Chapter List for “Learning More About Your Ancestors Online”

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Chapter 1: Introduction | • Chapter 8: Newspaper research |
| • Chapter 2: Birth and marriage | • Chapter 9: Occupations |
| • Chapter 3: Death records and information | • Chapter 10: Photos and physical description |
| • Chapter 4: General advice about genealogy research | • Chapter 11: Residences and other locations |
| • Chapter 5: Immigration, naturalization, travel | • Chapter 12: Schools and yearbooks |
| • Chapter 6: Military | • Chapter 13: Resources |
| • Chapter 7: Miscellaneous records (societies, illnesses) | |



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.

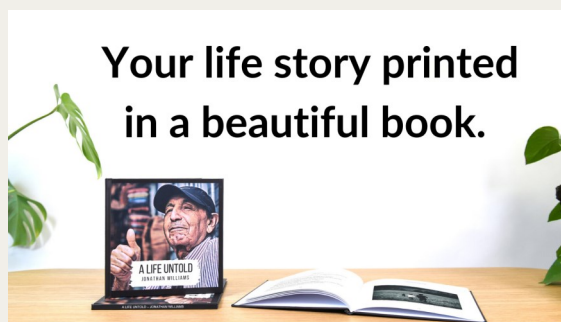
Whoowe is available from the AppStore and Google Play. Info at whoowe.com Try it out for free. Discount coupon for readers coming soon.



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

Newly Completed States with All Categories Created

- *1,951 Free Online South Carolina Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *5,407 Free Online Georgia Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,296 Free Online West Virginia Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,826 Free Online Tennessee Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,183 Free Online Nebraska Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *1,924 Free Online Arkansas Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,576 Free Online Florida Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *4,598 Free Online Indiana Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *1,879 Free Online Mississippi Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *1,066 Free Online New Mexico Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *4,635 Free Online Kentucky Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *1,981 Free Online Louisiana Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *718 Free Online Delaware Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *4,804 Free Online Michigan Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,277 Free Online Minnesota Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *3,168 Free Online Oklahoma Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *7,814 Free Online North Carolina Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,344 Free Online Alabama Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,339 Free Online New Jersey Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*
- *2,997 Free Online Maine Collections Available Now in 20 Genealogy Record Categories*

The Ancestor Hunt Research Link Categories:

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

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