BOUSE GENIES

WHAT'S IN A NAME? THAT WHICH WE CALL A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME WOULD SMELL AS SWEET

Vol. 8, No. 4
Oct-Nov-Dec 2014

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

So said Shakespeare's Juliet, but if your 2nd great grandmother Rose was called by any other name, would you know she was indeed your direct ancestor? Would you even be able to find her in historical records?

This is the greatest challenge all of us face at one time or another in our research—dealing with names, name changes, nicknames, and naming conventions of previous eras and generations.

We all know genealogical research is not just typing names onto our lineage database or filling in names in the boxes on a pedigree chart. On the other hand, first and last names are the single, most important fact we have for knowing who our ancestors were and following our family lines back in time.
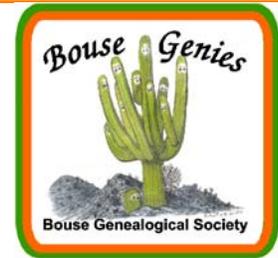
So, what's in a name?

Names distinguish us from others in our family unit and in our society. It was the same in past generations, but naming conventions have changed over the decades and centuries. We cannot depend solely on the naming patterns we are familiar with today to find our ancestors of yesterday.

Thus, in this edition of the *Bouse Genies Newsletter* we are focusing on the many types of personal names, various historical and ethnic naming traditions, and the research techniques that can guide us in distinguishing the right person to add to our family tree.

Given names have been around since Adam and Eve, but surnames as we know them have only existed for the last one thousand years, and in some cultures only the last one hundred years. What complicates our research is that since the beginning of time our ancestors' names have changed—some evolved gradually from generation to generation while others were dramatically altered with a strike of a pen.

Since we are so dependent on knowing our ancestors' given and last names to track them, studying the ethnic idiosyncracies, naming trends at the time of your ancestors, and the reasons for name changes will certainly improve your ability to correctly identify your Rose. Now isn't that sweet?

In the next 26 pages you will find numerous examples demonstrating naming conventions. In some articles the names used are those of our ancestors or real people—therefore the surnames are in capital letters. In other articles we use hypothetical names to illustrate a naming pattern— those surnames will be in mixed case. ❧

F R O M   T H E   C O M P U T E R   D E S K

SPRUCE UP YOUR SHARED DOCUMENTS WITH *GDOC BINDER*

By Carolyn H. Brown [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

Last year, in an attempt to find a new way to display and share some of my family history books I spent an afternoon surfing the Internet. In the process, I found the program *gDoc Binder* by Global Graphics. This nifty program creates a digital three-ring binder, with a cover you design, an automated table of contents of every file imported to the binder, and up to 36 colored tabs. It works just like inserting pages in a three ring binder, only with digital rather than paper files.

The *gDoc Binder* program can import files in Word, Excel, PowerPoint, many image formats, PDF, PDF/A, Email, HTML, and XPS formats. There are future plans to add video and audio formats. It provides text touch-up so you can correct small portions of the text on the page, headers & footers, redaction, insert content and watermarks.

Table of Contents of imported files.

After files have been imported to the binder and have been updated in their original format, there is an option to automatically update the files in the binder, however, the updated files must have the same file name as the original file. Since most image file formats can be imported to the binder, it can make a great scrapbook to share with family.

When viewing a binder, the user can turn pages by sliding them left or right with the mouse (even without a touch screen) as you would with a regular binder.

Sample binder pages.

The program comes with a *Getting Started* book on bookshelf in the *gDoc* Library, which explains how to make a binder with text and pictures.

After reading the reviews on some websites, I recommend you purchase the program directly from the Global Graphics website at <www.gdoc.com/showcase/binder/> to make sure you get the latest version. The program costs $10 for 10 binders and additional binders can be purchased at anytime in 10-binder increments. There is a *gDoc Binder* Viewer app available for the iPad from iTunes. ❦

Bits & Bytes

IT'S ALL ABOUT NAMES

ROOTSWEB SURNAME LIST (RSL)   http://rsl.rootsweb.ancestry.com/#search
Registry of surnames with dates/location and contact information of the person who submitted the surname. Entries are made daily, but this is a very old site, so some contact email addresses may be obsolete.

ANCESTRY - FREE DATABASE   www.ancestry.com/learn/facts
Enter your surname to learn its meaning, origin and a variety of interesting facts about your family name.

BEHIND THE GIVEN NAME   www.behindthename.com
At this site you can search or browse alphabetical lists for information about the origin of a given name, common variants/spellings and the transliteration of Hebrew, Greek and Cyrillic names.

BEHIND THE SURNAME   http://surnames.behindthename.com
This database provides the byname source, the countries where the name is found, variants, and the meaning and history of the surname.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION   www.ssa.gov/OACT/babynames
This site has databases with all sorts of search options of popular baby names some going back to the 1880s.

NAME AND NICKNAMES   www.moonzstuff.com/articles/nicknames.html
This site provides research tips as well lists of nicknames, biblical names, Puritan virtue names, literary and classical names, common namesakes and abbreviations. ❦

NAMELY, WORDS

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

ONOMATOLOGY is the study of the origin, history and use of proper names.

MONONYM, a single name by which an individual is known (i.e., Hermann), was the naming convention of our early ancestors. However, since the medieval period, mononyms in western cultures have been used mainly by royalty (i.e., Queen Elizabeth II) and famous people who had surnames but legally changed their name to a mononym (i.e., Cher). Until the 1800s most Native American names were mononymous.

SURNAME is the English word for the hereditary name identifying a person as belonging to a particular family. In European cultures it is also known as the last name, but in Oriental cultures the surname precedes the given name. Surnames are also given as first or middle names (i.e., Cassidy, Jordan, Lincoln, McKenzie, Tyler, and Walker) which may lead you to the surname of a distant female ancestor.

BYNAME is the generic term for descriptive words used to differentiate people having the same given name before the development of hereditary surnames. A byname could be an individual's occupation (the miller), physical attribute (the tall), residence (of the dale) or patronym (the son/daughter of...).

PATRONYMIC or MATRONYMIC is a naming convention where the individual, along with their given name, is identified as the child of a particular father or mother. Although they are often erroneously listed in the surname-field on databases, they are not hereditary so they change with each generation.

NÉE is an adjective used to denote a married woman's birth/maiden surname.

GIVEN NAMES or FORENAMES are "given" by the parents soon after birth. It differentiates an individual from other family members. Different cultures have different customs and conventions for choosing a child's name.

MIDDLE NAMES are common in the USA and many European countries. Research problems may arise when an ancestor is commonly known by their middle name, resulting in various names recorded on source documents.

NMI or NMN are acronyms which stand for No Middle Initial or No Middle Name. Often found in American military records, the acronym is not part of the individual's legal name and is rarely, if ever, found on other official documents. While NMI or NMN should not be recorded in the name field of your lineage database, it does provide solid evidence the individual had only one given name.

NICKNAMES are shortened, altered or affectionate forms of a person's given name. I have also seen the word used as a synonym for the "physical attribute" type of byname.

ABBREVIATIONS of names, not to be confused with nicknames, often appear in historic legal documents. In previous centuries paper and ink were expensive, so the cleric or clerk saved space by using abbreviations. Some are quite easy to decipher (Ch^s for Charles and Dan^I for Daniel), while others will make you wonder (Xpher for Christopher and Jn^o for John).

LATIN VARIATIONS of our ancestors' given names are found on ecclesiastical and some civil records because Latin was the principal written language during the Middle Ages. Therefore, a knowledge of the Latin form of your ancestors' given names is invaluable. Many Latin names are nearly identical to those of other languages with suffixes of *us* or *s* for masculine names (i.e., Phillipus = Phillip) and *a* for feminine names (i.e., Catharina = Catherine). Others may require some thought or research (i.e., Hieronymous = Jerome). My ancestor named Karl is recorded as Carolus. Although that is the name on his baptismal record, it is not truly Karl's name and doesn't appear in any other documents. Therefore, he is recorded as Karl in my database, with a footnote explaining the difference between the primary source document and his name.

ONE-NAME STUDIES is the research of the genealogy of all persons with the same surname and its variants, rather than the direct and collateral lines of the same family with different surnames. It is the surname that is of interest—not if they are biologically related. The Guild of One Name Studies has a register of over 8,300 surnames at <www.one-name.org/register.html>. ❦

MAPPING YOUR SURNAME

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

Being compulsive travelers as Escapees tend to be, maps are a favorite tool for finding our way across the country. It is not so different for the genealogy-enthusiast. We often use them for finding our way to our previous generations. The entire *Bouse Genies Newsletter*, Vol. 5 No. 3, published in the Jul-Aug-Sep of 2011, discussed various maps for locating and learning about our ancestors. One type of map not covered and one researchers often overlook are Surname Distribution Maps. They are valuable because the maps provide us with a picture of the places where a surname occurred at specific time periods.

I am one of the lucky ones. Documents here in the USA gave me specific locations for all but two of my immigrant ancestors. For those surnames I am searching European Surname Distribution Maps of the time period when they immigrated. The results will narrow down possible locations to look through civil and church records. Hopefully, some of them have been indexed.
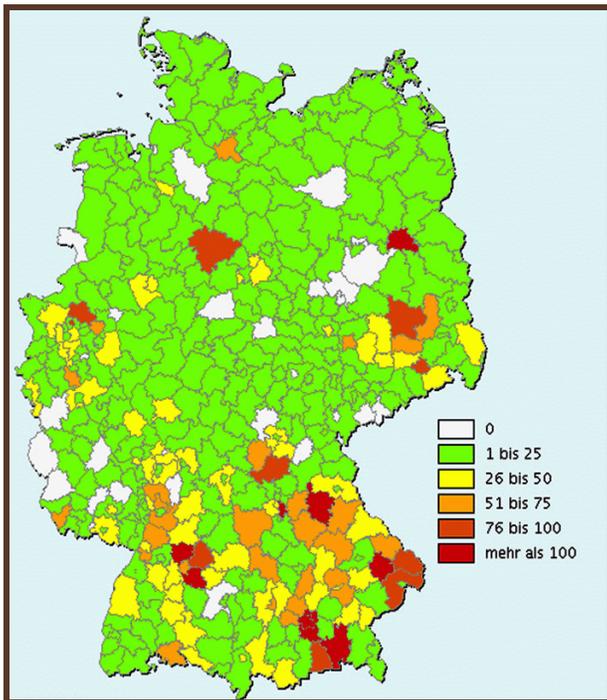
SURNAME DISTRIBUTION MAP
FOR **SCHOBER** IN 2008
COPIED FROM VERWANDT WEBSITE

Surname Distribution Maps can be quite helpful in locating and contacting distant cousins. Because we do not have access to recent detailed census data, the distribution maps will narrow down the possible locations where those with the same surname are living today. Telephone books and city directories have contact information of those with our surname—but which ones do we search? The world is a big place; in fact, individual countries are pretty big places.

Searching for your name of interest on a Surname Distribution Map will allow you to concentrate on the geographical areas where your distant family members may live—at least where those with your surname currently reside. Then you can check telephone books (often online) or other directories for contact information. For instance, the map on the German website *Verwandt* <www.verwandt.de/karten/> is interactive so by moving the mouse over the map, the name of the district is shown. Several generations of my SCHOBER line lived and had children—lots of children—in Eglosheim and Möglingen, Württemberg, during the 1700s. The map tells me 76 people with the surname SCHOBER live in that very area today. Thus, directories of Landkreis Ludwigsburg will be the first I browse, and the SCHOBERs in the area will be the first ones I will try to contact.

The Family History Library's Wiki <https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Surname_Distribution_Maps> has links to sites with distribution statistics and maps of many nations. Maps may be in the local vernacular, but don't despair—just dig out your foreign language dictionary to determine what to put in the various fields. You may be surprised at what the website tells you about your surname and its demographics.

Those of you with English surnames may want to read about the *Surname Profiler*, which maps surname concentration by county. Information is at <www.ucl.ac.uk/news/news-articles/0601/06011801>.

At <www.ancestry.com/learn/facts> Ancestry has maps of surname distributions in the USA based on the Federal Censuses enumerated in 1840, 1880 and 1920; and four censuses taken in England, Wales and Scotland in 1841, 1861, 1881 and 1901.

Granted, Surname Distribution Maps provide only clues as to where your family *may* have been during a specific time frame; and it works best for less-common surnames or for families who have not wandered far from their ancestral roots. But if you need help in looking for previous generations or contacting very distant relatives, then you just may want to start by using a Surname Distribution Map. ❦

CHARTING YOUR MATERNAL SURNAMES

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

Changes in surnames through the generations of our American and British foremothers can be particularly troublesome. It is probably one of the greatest challenges we face as genealogists. I have found it quite helpful to diagram my husband, Lee's, direct-line female ancestors through all the changes in surnames by making what is known as a Drop Line Chart. This type of descendant chart is a great visual aid for clarifying relationships for you during the analysis process and for the rest of the world as they read your family history.

Samuel QUINCY 1787-1860	1816	**Violetta ALLEN 1793-1833**
Judson Warren STONE 1829-1892	1852	**Emma Erminda QUINCY 1830-1866**
Nels Christian NIELSON 1850-1930	1882	**Emeline Leona STONE 1859-1901**
Jacques Johannes POORT 1890-1965	1910	**Gladys Althea NIELSON 1888-1962**
Walter William NUEHRING 1904-1973	1929	**Leona Catherine POORT 1911-1980**
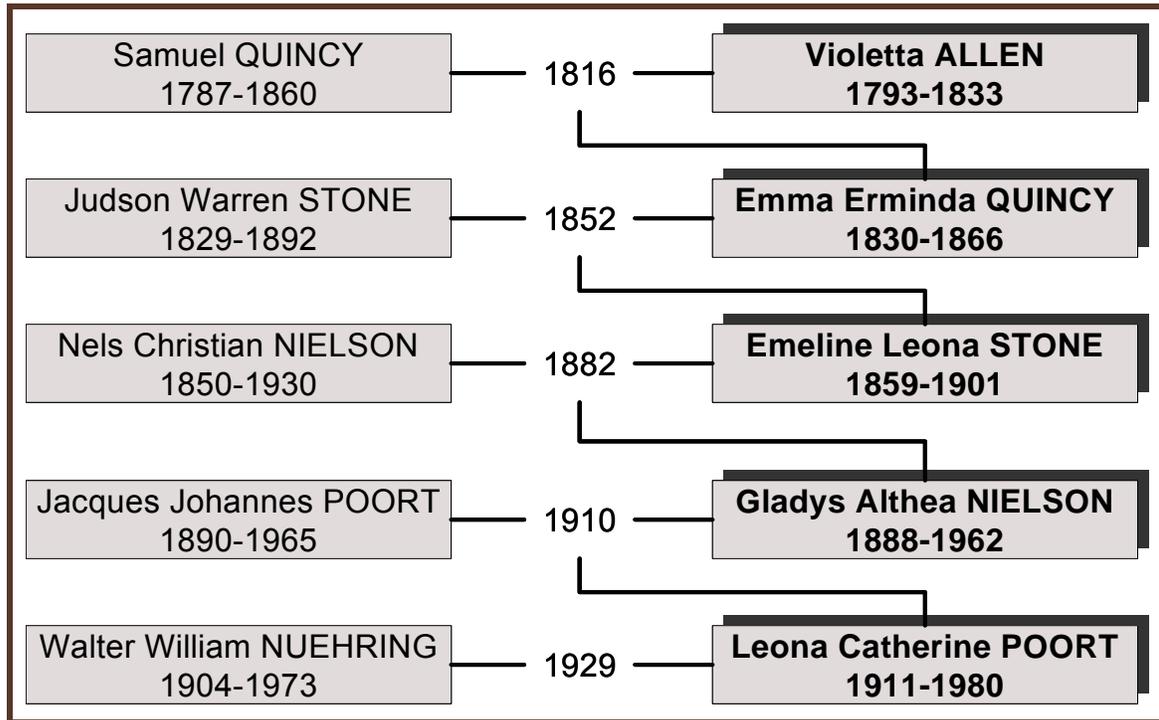
NAMES THE SAME: IN SAME PLACE AT SAME TIME

By Carolyn H. Brown [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

When several people appear with the same name, in the same place, at the same time, what is a genealogist to do? Too often, based on possible birth date calculations, it is assumed by novice researchers that there was only one person of that name, or if birth dates were far enough apart that they were father and son, or mother and daughter. In many cases, with more intensive research, the truth may identify the fact there were two or more individuals with the same name involved.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR SYNDROME
In the past, using the suffix of Sr. (senior) and Jr. (junior) to separate one individual from another could mean they were actually father and son or mother and daughter, but it could also distinguish the elder from the younger of the same name. In which case, they may or may not have been related.

How do you prove the relationship if there was one? Start by looking for vital records, probate records and deeds, as the relationship may be identified there. When no record exists for either person which directly identifies relationship, don't make assumptions. You will need to dig deeper by researching multiple record types.

Identifying the place where each person lived, owned land and paid taxes may place the individuals with their personal FAN group (friends, associates and neighbors). It may then will help to determine if John Smith, Sr. who often had Roy Brown sign documents for him and appeared near him in the census records is the same John Smith, Jr. who often had Roy Brown sign for him. This method may prove if they were or were not father and son. However, it does not necessarily prove they were related at all.

Records concerning the parents and siblings of each individual may provide the desired information. If this does not clear up the relationship issue, then expand the research to all known FANs of each individual.

One of the problems I had included three men of the same name, in the same place, at the same time. They were listed as Solomon COX; Solomon COX, Sr.; and Solomon Cox Jr. In the earliest census there were two Solomon COXes with no suffix. Having previously uncovered a case where an individual was recorded twice in the same census, I knew that more documents needed to be uncovered. Additional research turned up a third Solomon COX, who turned out to be Solomon COX, Jr. which added to the confusion. I used censuses, land patents and deeds, and tax records to separate the three Solomons. I finally determined Solomon COX, Sr. and Solomon COX, Jr. were father and son, however, no known relationship has been found between them and the other Solomon COX who didn't have a son named Solomon.

Another case I researched proved James BULLIFANT, Sr. was the uncle, not the father, of James BULLIFANT, Jr., therefore, distinguishing between the elder and younger James.

NAMES THE SAME IN THE SAME CENSUS

Sometimes an individual may appear twice in the same census. This may occur if the individual entries appear several days or weeks apart. Often it occurs when a couple separates during the time span, or the individual was enumerated at home and then went to stay with or work for someone else. This would happen if the person giving information identified everyone in the family, even those working away from home, and the person who employed the individual gave the name of everyone working for them. Here again, using the same methods as stated above can clear up the issue.

NAMES THE SAME, NO SUFFIX

When you are met with the issue of two people with the same name, in the same place, at the same time, and no suffix was used, then you need to search for any document you can locate to differentiate them. Some identifying differences are: birth and death dates; home addresses; property owned or rented; extended family; and number of slaves owned. Again, researching all of each individual's FAN groups is in order.

CHILDREN NAMED FOR A DECEASED SIBLING

It was not uncommon for parents to name a new born child the same name as a deceased sibling. Sometimes they added or changed the middle name. It is important to look for any document which might identify different birth and death dates for each individual. Church and cemetery records may clear up the issue for children born before the state kept vital records. If the births occurred after vital records were required, look for birth and death records to resolve the issue.

WATCH OUT FOR ERRORS IN COMPILED FAMILY TREES

It is not uncommon to find multiple people with the same name to be in the same area. Thus, it is not uncommon for name gatherers to overlook the possibility there may be more than one person by the same name in the area they are researching. Name grabbers often make this assumption and the wrong information shows up in online family trees.

I found this problem in one family I was recently researching. I felt like the source documents supplied on the site by the owner would probably provide good source documentation. When I printed out the linked documents and studied them, I found that the ages for the couple whose names matched in the 1860 and 1870 censuses were, in fact, not the same couple. The 1860 census showed the couple with one child. However, in the 1870 census ages of the couple of the same names were almost 20 years younger than the 1860 couple. They also lived in a different part of the state without a child who might have still been at home. Further research showed that the woman and the child were enumerated in the same place in 1860, but the husband was missing in 1870. These records were not for the same couple. ❧

Always end the name of your child with a vowel, so that when you yell the name it will carry. —Bill Cosby. ❧
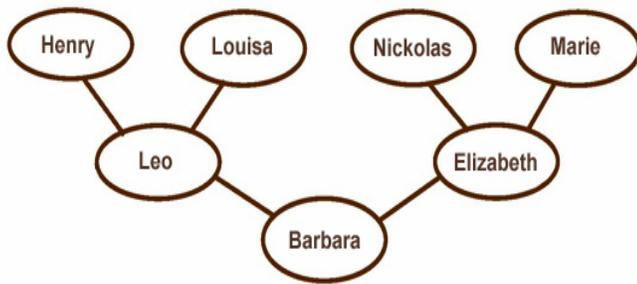
RECORDING NAMES IN YOUR LINEAGE DATABASE

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring

[From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

We are not name-gathers—we are family historians, genealogists, researchers. But I venture to say, you get a special thrill when you have discovered proof-positive evidence that a particular name belongs on your family tree and you can enter it into your lineage database. I certainly do. And if the sudden *wows, yipees* and *yahoos* heard at genealogy repositories are any indication, many researchers also experience that exhilaration when a name "fits."

But wait! Just like other facts and details we deal with in our research, there are principles we should faithfully follow when adding an ancestor's name to our database. Most are long-held commonly accepted standards in the genealogy community. Others are contemporary guidelines because of the way computers "think" and "translate" what is entered into database fields. For instance, the combination of symbols (i.e., [-?-]) that was once the genealogical standard does not work well in the electronic/digital age and means something different in computer language.

If any of the given, middle or last names are unknown, leave the field(s) blank. Do not enter "unknown", "unkn" "NMN" "MNU", other acronyms or symbols such as question marks, parenthesis or brackets in the field. The information will not index correctly, may be misinterpreted by others or become muddled when it is communicated to other databases or to a GEDCOM file.

Enter all given names in mixed-case letters and capitalize any initials. Some genealogy software programs have separate fields for the first name and the middle name(s); most only have one field for all the given names. They should be listed in the order on the birth/baptismal record.

The surname should always be displayed in capital letters. This makes it easy to distinguish surnames from first and middle names. Plus, it facilitates scanning pedigree charts, family group sheets, narratives, societies' newsletters/journals, and family histories—even your own handwritten notes. Many of the current lineage software programs allow us to set the default for the surname field to automatically show the surname in caps without having to type it that way ourselves. When selecting and designing a report, set the properties for surnames to be in "caps".

A patronym is a component of a personal name based on the name of the person's father or grandfather. It is not a surname. It changes with each generation. Therefore, it should be entered in the given name field(s) and the surname field should stay blank.

Since a major genealogy rule is to record individuals with their birth name, women's names present a challenge. We must enter our female ancestors' maiden names. Seems simple enough. However, almost all the women in our family trees would have been known most of their lives, not by their maiden names, but by their married names. In many cases we first become aware of our female ancestors from source documents pertaining to another individual (i.e., a son's birth record) or records created after her marriage (i.e., a couple's land deed), so we only have her married name. Therefore, until you discover her birth name, leave the surname field blank—you won't find her parents or ancestry using her husband's surname.

There may be an instance when you need to enter information and your genealogy database does not have the appropriate name field. Don't be afraid to use the notes fields; they are there to help you and those researchers who will follow you. For example:

If you have a female ancestor whose birth name was the same as her husband's surname, you will want to make a note of that so it is not assumed in the future that you had made an incorrect entry.

If records about an ancestor's activities use the individual's initials, middle name, nickname or his/her given name in another language, you will want to note each variant you have found if your database does not have a field for AKA (also known as) or alternate names.

If you find spelling variations due to Americanization, phonetics, typographical errors, or non-standardized spellings, you will want to note it so others know you are not merging different individuals or following the wrong line.

If your female ancestor had multiple marriages and your database does not have fields for recording more than one marriage—list the other married names she had during her lifetime.

It is a true genealogy-high when we can record a new name in our lineage database. But don't let your eagerness override the need to abide by the standards established by the genealogy community. If you cannot find a rule to follow for a particular circumstance, make your own—but be consistent in following it. ❧

SEARCHING FOR AN ANCESTOR'S MAIDEN NAME

By Carolyn H. Brown [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

At one time or another we all have had a problem finding the maiden names of the distaff side of our ancestry. This is because in most cases in the USA, United Kingdom and former British colonies when a woman marries she uses her husband's surname as her surname. So we will usually find her maiden name used only before she married. To compound the problem the name may be spelled or indexed some way we never dreamed of. Therefore, we must look at all possible records she might have created before she married, or for later documents which asked for her maiden name.

As with all other research, start from the known and work back to the unknown. Following is a list of places and specific documents to look for:

HOME SOURCES: Any document, photograph or keepsake may help.

FAMILY MEMBERS: Does someone else in your family have items you don't?

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS: She may appear in the same documents as her associates.

FOLLOW THE MEN: The will or other documents created by the men in her family may mention her maiden name.

CENSUS RECORDS: Is an unmarried sibling living in the home with her?

CHURCH RECORDS: Women often taught Sunday School; check all church records.

MARRIAGE RECORD: If her maiden name was not on the record because she had been married before, the name of the witnesses may provide a clue.

DEATH RECORDS: Her death certificate, obituary, tombstone, cemetery records or funeral home records may provide her maiden name. Is she buried among a family you have not identified?

NEWSPAPERS: Check the social page for an engagement or marriage announcement. Was she involved in a special event?

LOCAL HISTORY BOOKS: She may show up with her parents identified by her married name.

CITY DIRECTORIES: Is someone living at the same address with a different surname?

WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS: She may have joined the organization before she married.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS: Their records often show the movement of the member. She went where he did and that information may provide a new place to research. She may have joined the "Ladies Auxiliary."

LINEAGE ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS: This is one group of organizations where someone else may have identified her by her maiden name and also listed her husband's name.

If you are having problems researching the women in your family, we suggest you review the *Bouse Genies Newsletter* Vol. 3, No. 1 published in Jan /Feb 2009 that focused on "Researching Your American Female Ancestors". Past newsletters through 2013 can be found on the *Bouse Genies Newsletter* 2007-2013 CD. See page 27 of this newsletter for instructions to order the CD. ❧

DEALING WITH VARIOUS NAMING PATTERNS

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

In the United States for the past 100 years an individual's given and surnames have been recorded at birth and reported to various government agencies. Except for when a woman marries, a surname virtually never changes. Oh, we can use any name we want as long as there is no intention to defraud, but with Social Security Numbers, drivers' licenses, credit cards, passports, and annuity payments it is impossible to just assume a different name. We must go through the court system and the procedure is thoroughly and publicly documented.

It was not the same a century ago in this or other countries. Since there were no rules, it means we, as genealogists, need to have rules as we search for family members of previous generations. Abiding by these three rules has helped me tremendously when researching my ancestors both here and abroad.

RULE # 1: FORGET WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT FIRST, MIDDLE AND FAMILY NAMES.
First, middle and last name is how a child in the USA was named in the 20th and 21st centuries. It was not necessarily so in previous centuries or in other countries. Naming practices vary considerably in European countries, and those traditions immigrated to the USA along with your ancestors, whether they arrived in the USA during colonial times or after the Second World War.

In the beginning, most people only had a single name chosen by their parents. As populations increased and several people had the same given name in the village, it became necessary to distinguish between them.

People solved the problem of knowing whom a person was referring to by adding a descriptive byname about that individual. For instance, they may have been identified by the village they came from (Henry, from Bad Kissingen), or a physical attribute (Norman with black hair), or their occupation (Peter, the printer), or who their father was (Hans, the son of Anders).

These designations applied only to that one individual, not the whole family. However, over several centuries the descriptions evolved into hereditary surnames—Henry KISSINGER, Norman SCHWARZKOPF, Peter DRUCKER and Hans Christian ANDERSON.

RULE # 2: LEARN THE NAMING CONVENTIONS FOR YOUR ANCESTRAL AREA.
In order to learn what the surname rules are for the country where your ancestors originated, you will need to study the social history of the area and find the answers to a few questions.

Question: When did hereditary surnames begin? Answer: At different times in different countries. In the countries on the British Isles it evolved over two centuries starting about 1050. In Sweden it was in the latter part of the 1800s—at the time of their heaviest immigration to the USA. In Turkey surnames were not required until 1934. There came a time in each nation's history that the government decreed when an hereditary name had to be chosen, but in some countries Jews were exempt from the national mandate.

Question: Is a "female" form of the surname used? Answer: In some countries "yes" and in others "no". For instance, in some German-speaking territories an unmarried woman was designated by the suffix "in" added to her father's surname, although it was not part of her legal last name. In Greece it was the opposite. When a woman married she took her husband's surname, but the suffix "aina" was legally added.

Question: Do wives typically take their husband's surname or do they keep their birth name? Partial answer: In Germany and England (until recently when the woman could choose) the woman's surname was officially changed to that of her husband's. In Russia and some other Slavic countries the woman takes the husband's name, but adds a female suffix. In France, Spain and the Netherlands women keep their birth names. To verify relationship on official documents it is normally stated that the couple was married or a term such as "legitimate wife of..." was used. As long as a country was using the patronymic naming system the woman kept her birth patronym as there was no surname for her to adopt.

Question: What surname is given to a child? Answer: In most western cultures it is the father's surname. However, in most Spanish-speaking countries the child has both parents' surnames. Traditionally the first surname was the father's paternal surname and the second was the mother's paternal surname. As an example, Juan Lopez González is the son of Jose Lopez Garcia and Maria González Hernández. This convention may cause problems when searching indexes and databases as those not familiar with the Spanish tradition are likely to put only the last surname in the surname field. In most cases Hispanic surnames are separated with blank space, but in some cases you will find them separated with a dash, the word "de" (meaning "of") or the letter "y" (Spanish for "and").

The second rule also applies to given names. In the USA we give our children names that sound good with our surname; or we follow family traditions with "juniors" named after their father; or are in fashion at the time. Back a couple of generations it was different. Thus, knowing given naming patterns of your ancestors' time and locale will certainly help in finding them among all the other people living in their area.

Since religion played such an important role in our ancestors' lives it is natural that their faith or church dogma dictated the naming of the children. Even in many Protestant church records we find the tradition of naming children after the family's favorite saint or the city's patron saint. In many cases I have found a saint's name repeated with each child. For instance, my 3rd great-grandfather Johan David SCHOBER had brothers named Johan Georg, Johan Bernhardt, and Johan Conrad. In fact, a saint's name is not gender driven, for I have seen boys with the name Maria followed by a masculine name.

Birth order in some family traditions or ethnic practices dictates the name of the child.

1st son after the paternal grandfather	1st daughter after the maternal grandmother
2nd son after the maternal grandfather	2nd daughter after the paternal grandmother
3rd son after the father	3rd daughter after the mother

Many countries seem to have this custom. While it may help you to identify your lines, it may also complicate your research and require extensive analysis. Male cousins (the sons of the father's brothers) will have the same name because they both have the same paternal grandfather.

The name of a child is also a parent's personal preference for certain names. A custom unheard of today was not uncommon in past centuries. When researching my father's maternal line, the BUSCHLEs, I came upon this situation:

Uncle Franz immigrated to Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1848 with his parents, Theodor BUSCHLE and Maria Anna LANG, and seven older siblings when he was 14 years old. He married Martha HOEFFER at the age of 20 and they had 11 children.

The only problem is, when I traced the family back to Württemberg, Germany, and started working my way through the church records I found Franz Xaver, son of Theodor BUSCHLE and Maria Anna LANG died at the age of two on 4 September 1824, in Stetten a.d. Donau, Württemberg!

Further research lead me to the records of Franz Xaver, son of Theodor BUSCHLE and Maria Anna LANG, born 28 November 1833 in Stetten a.d. Donau, Württemberg, and baptized the following day in the Catholic church in Mühlheim, Württemberg. Uncle Franz was born eleven years after his brother died and was given the exact same name.

Since then I have found in many of my families the parent's have named a child with the same name as a deceased child—in one case just months after the death. Was the child named after his or her sibling, or did the parents just really like that name? I will never know.

Native American naming patterns vary significantly between tribes. However, one thing they do have in common is that the various naming systems are very complex and quite foreign to those of us with European ancestry. The choice of a birth name was influenced by nature or a physical attribute, and was usually selected by the parents. However, names changed through the individual's lifetime. Adolescent and adult names were most often bestowed by the society and were based on character traits, physical attributes, or their position in the tribe. In some cultures the person was given a spirit-name known only to the individual and the Medicine Man. Native Americans did not have surnames or family names until they began to assimilate into our culture.

As Myra Vanderpool Gormey said: "Given names have histories—just as surnames do—and for genealogists the study of the given names selected and passed down for generations by our ancestors can provide

important clues to their ethnic origins, religions, educational and social backgrounds." You can read her entire article at <http://rwguide.rootsweb.ancestry.com/1stnames.htm>.

RULE # 3: BE OPEN MINDED WHEN DEALING WITH SURNAMES AND GIVEN NAMES.

Spelling was not standardized until recently and that includes names. There is one exception; French law standardized surname spelling in the early 1800s—c'est bon!

Illiteracy was high in previous centuries. I doubt the clergy or the clerk would say "Excuse me, sir, how do you spell your name?" He would record it how it sounded—to him! Therefore, always check all possible spelling variations.

When searching for your immigrant ancestor in their country of origin, you must use the name as it was spelled in that country—at that time. Remember, borders changed frequently in Europe. Thus, the official language changed including the pronunciation of names—which in turn affected the way names were recorded in documents. For instance, a masculine name popular in most countries was pronounced and spelled differently:

Matthew (English)	Mattheus (Latin)	Mathias (German)	Mathieu (French)
Mads (Danish)	Mátyás (Hungarian)	Matej (Czech)	Matvei (Russian)
Maitiú (Irish)	Mats (Swedish)	Maciej (Polish)	Mateo (Spanish)

Although Latin was not a spoken language in the time of our ancestors, it was the official language of the Catholic church and we find their parishioners' Christian names are often recorded in the Latin version. So a priest in County Kerry, Ireland, may have recorded the baptism of Maitiú O'Brien as Mattheus O'Brien. Even some early Protestant clergy continued to use Latin in their records.

Because of significant differences in languages and the inability for Americans to pronounce certain European names, some of our immigrant ancestors found it prudent to Americanize their names. For example, a Polish man named Wojciech probably started introducing himself as Albert or George.

In other cases, just the spelling was modified if the name had diacritical letters not used in the English language. My husband's ancestors did this when they immigrated in 1865. In Germany their surname is spelled NÜHRING. Most of the adult immigrants of the family chose to spell it NUEHRING, but there is always one or two in the crowd. One just dropped the umlauted "u" and his descendants spell it NUHRING, while another decided to spell it NEUHRING. Still, they are all children of the immigrant Heinrich Friedrich Philipp NÜHRING and his wife Caroline Sophie Louise BAHLMANN.

If the ancestor immigrated before the First World War they probably just made the name change they wanted. They may have decided since they were going to be Americans, they would have an American name and they chose one. More recent immigrants would have changed their names when they were naturalized or legally through the American courts. In fact, the spelling of names remained fluid until the Social Security System required standardization.

On the other hand, some immigrants wanted to maintain their European culture and gave their American-born children an ethnic name. Of course, children being children wanted to "fit in" so they took a nickname they carried either unofficially or legally throughout their lives. As an example, Matej became Matt and Hedwig became Hattie when they started school. Some American-born citizens with German names Anglicized their names in the early 1900s because of discrimination. My uncle Karl GEIGER suddenly appears as Charles GEIGER on his First World War Draft Registration Card and subsequent documents.

When dealing with our ancestors' names it is wise to be open minded. One way to put this into action is to turn off the EXACT SPELLING option when searching indexes and databases. By doing that I get most name variants. For example, I have found my 3rd great-grandfather, Johan David SCHOBER, recorded as David SCHOBER, Jean David SCHOBER and Hans David SCHOBER on various documents in the Pfalz area of Bayern, Germany.

DEAL WITH IT!

Dealing with various naming patterns of past eras and cultures is something we all face regardless of our ethnicity. Knowing the naming conventions of the lands and times of our ancestors will aid us in locating individuals, determining familial relationships and ascertaining who are in our direct lines and who are not. Following these three simple rules will certainly help you deal effectively with the challenges of various naming patterns. ❧

A FARM NAME AS A LAST NAME

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

As the term implies, a farm name is the appellation of an estate or farm. In the days of our ancestors it served as an address in rural areas. However, the importance to genealogists is not just to learn about where our family lived, but to identify specific ancestors. Knowing about this naming convention is vital because in some regions people used the name of the farm as part of their name.

The use of farm names as a last name was most common in areas where the patronymic naming convention was in use—the Scandinavian countries, eastern Netherlands and northern Germany. It is also found in other regions of western Europe and the British Isles, but as a surname.

NÜHRING FARM IN GROSS-VARLINGEN, HANNOVER, GERMANY, IN 1995

In countries using patronymic names, a few dozen or so given names—and therefore patronyms—were used over and over making it difficult to distinguish between individuals. Even a small parish could easily have many people with identical names. Thus, the name of the farm was added at the end of the person's name. Since everyone living on the property had the farm name, a person's last name could change several times throughout a lifetime as he or she moved. When inherited surnames became mandatory, some of our ancestors chose their farm name to be their family's surname for all future generations.

In areas where hereditary surnames were established there is the situation of what came first—the chicken or the egg. Farms in western Europe and the British Isles were named after the owner. Thus, the owner's and the farm's names were synonymous since the property was usually inherited by the oldest son. However, there were circumstances when the farmer only had surviving daughters. When a woman who had inherited the farm married, her husband changed his surname to the farm's name so the mother's birth surname was passed down to their descendants.

Depending on the country, censuses or enumerations taken for tax purposes may be by farm and provide information about the adult residents. In addition to distinguishing between individuals with the same name, farm names identify exact locations that you can find on maps and maybe even visit. When searching the Family History Library (FHL) catalog, look for [COUNTRY] - NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL. Also check the country's archives or governmental databases. For instance, there is a Norwegian Farm Names database at <www.dokpro.uio.no/rygh_ng/rygh_form.html>.

Farm names were necessary components of some of our ancestors' names making them important pieces of information for us—plus, farm names give us insight into the daily lives of our ancestors and the cultural environment of their time. Before the Industrial Revolution the majority of our ancestors lived on farms, either as the proprietor or as a laborer. Thus, some of us will have ancestors who had farm names which add an interesting new dimension to our research endeavors. ❧

TIPS:

RESEARCHING NAMES ONLINE
The person making the index may not have recognized the name and may not have been able to read the handwriting. The record may be faded or illegible.

When you are using computer-generated database indexes, you must check every possible variation. The computer will alphabetize strictly by letter and space, unless it is told differently. You have to look carefully through all of the possibilities. For example: Willam/William; Will/Wl; and Elisabeth/Elizabeth/Lisabeth.

FIRST NAME AND NICKNAME SPELLING VARIATIONS
When researching a name which may have various spellings, you also need to think about the variations in the nickname as well. For example: Sidney may be spelled Sydney and the nickname, Sid, many be spelled in a variety of ways such as Syd, Cyd, or Cid. ❧

SEARCHING FOR ANCESTORS WITH COMMON SURNAMES

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

In your research have you come across ancestors who are hard to search because:
- ◆ they have a common surname like SMITH or ALLEN;
- ◆ their surname is the same as an ordinary item such as CHURCH or STONE;
- ◆ there are communities that have the same name as do the ancestors, for instance PRATT;
- ◆ there are famous or historical people with the same name as 3rd great-grandfather Samuel QUINCY?

I have. These are not fictitious names, they are my husband's early New England ancestors. What problems these families have caused me! You'd be surprised by the results I get from non-genealogical search engines when I query their surnames.

Thank goodness there are tactics which have been very helpful when looking for surnames—especially when I'm dealing with common names.

Do you remember how Jesse Tyler FERGUSON did a Google search for his great-grandfather on the 30 July 2014 episode of *Who Do You Think You Are?* Although Jesse's ancestor had an unusual surname, he just didn't enter "Jesse UPPERCUE", he also added +LAWYER and +MARYLAND to his search parameters in order to pare down the list of results. In doing so, Jesse demonstrated the effectiveness of using Search Operators—words or symbols for combining, excluding or filtering words/phases/surnames which gave a more manageable list of results for him to consider.

Not familiar with Search Operators? There is an explanation of the symbols for filtering Google queries at <https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/136861> or you can cheat by using the Advanced Search option at <www.google.ca/advanced_search> where you just fill in operator fields to filter the query. Other search engines and databases may use Boolean Operators. You can download a PDF *Basic Search Tips and Advanced Boolean Explained* from <www.lib.berkeley.edu/TeachingLib/Guides/Internet/Boolean.pdf>. Another explanation of using Boolean Operators is at <www.csa.com/help/Search_Tools/boolean_operators.html>.

USING SEARCH OPERATORS

When Googling for an ancestor with a common name (i.e., "Samuel QUINCY"), put the name in quotes, then narrow the parameters to a particular location (+VERMONT), specify a time period (1787..1860) and omit the identifiers of famous contemporaries (-POLITICIAN).

When searching just a surname add common genealogical terms to form a phase ("CHURCH SURNAME" or "STONE FAMILY HISTORY") which will eliminate many non-genealogy sites.

Add the name of a relative with a less common name to the query (i.e., "Oliver PRATT" +WILLARD).

If there are variant spellings (i.e., ALLEN, ALLAN, ALLYN) then try a wildcard (ALL*N) when searching, along with narrowing parameters (i.e., location, time period).

Don't become overwhelmed by the number of irrelevant results when searching for ancestors with common names. You don't have to look under every stone. Be particular—use search operators for an expedient way to find information about your individuals-of-interest. If you don't find who you are looking for, simply expand your search by eliminating one search operator at a time. ❦
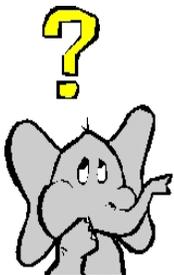
BELIEVE IT OR NOT: Smith is not the most popular surname in the world, it only ranks eighth on the list of the ten most popular surnames around the world. They are: Li/Lee, Zhang, Wang, Nguyen, García, González, Hernández, Smith, Smirnov/Smirnova, and Müller. (Source: <www.theworldgeography.com>).

THE TOP 10 SURNAMES IN THE USA ARE: Smith, Johnson, Williams, Brown, Jones, Miller, Davis, Garcia, Wilson and Rodriguez. (Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_most_common_ surnames_in_North_America #United_States>.) ❦

WORKING WITH NICKNAMES

By Carolyn H. Brown [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

According to Wikipedia a nickname is "a name added to or substituted for the proper name of a person, place, etc., as in affection, ridicule, or familiarity." There are several different types of nicknames, and based on an individual's life experiences their nickname may change over their lifetime.

CATEGORIES OF NICKNAMES

Nicknames have been a common part of naming individuals throughout history. They are generated based on any one of the following criteria:

◆ a diminutive or substitution of a longer given name or surname.
◆ a family or fun name.
◆ a personal characteristic or personality trait.
◆ an occupation or title.

DIMINUTIVE OR SUBSTITUTION OF A LONGER NAME

In genealogy, we often think of nicknames as substitutes for the given or surname name. A nickname may be a contraction of a longer given name such as "Rob" for Robert, or of a surname like "Hutch" for Hutchinson. However, in many cases nicknames are based on commonly accepted substitutions.

Following are just a few nicknames used in various records, as well as official documents:

Alexander	Sandy, Alex, Lex, Alexis, Alec, Zander, Sander, Xander
Alexandra	Sandy, Alex, Lexie, Alexis
Andrew	Drew, Andy
Ann/Anne	Nancy, Annie, Nan, Hannah
Anthony	Andy, Tony, Tonie
Barbara	Barb, Babs, Bar
Benjamin	Beno, Benj, Beng, Beni, Ben, Benji
Carolyn	Carol, Carole, Carrie, Car, Kitty, Lynn
Charles	Chas, Chuck, Charlie
Christopher	Chris, Chuck, Christo
Daniel	Danny, Dan, Dani
Dwight	Ike
Diane	Diana, Di, Dy, Dani, DeeDee
Donald	Don, Donny
Dorothy	Polly, Dottie, Dory, Dora, Dolly
Edward	Ed, Ned, Ted, Ward
Eleanora	Laura, Nora, Ellie
Elizabeth	Beth, Betsy, Eliza, Elix, Elisabeth, Eliz, Isabel, Betty, Liza, Liz
Ellen	Helen, Nellie, El, Lenie
Frances	Fran, Fanny, Frankie
Harriet	Harry, Hattie, Rita
Henrietta	Henri, Heni, Rita, Etta
Henry	Harry, Hank
Hester	Esther, Hettie, Ettie
Isaac	Zak, Zax, Ike
James	Jams, Jim, Jimmy, Jamie, Jas (could be Jason),
Jacob	Jake, Jack
Jennifer	Jane, Genny, Gean, Jennie, Jen, Janie
Joanne	Joan, Anne, Jo
Jonathan	Jon, Jonnie, Jonny
Joseph	Joe, Joey, Josh, Josie,
Josephine	Josie, Jo, Joann, Joanne
Louise	Lou, Lois, LuLu

Margaret	Patty, Margo, Maggie, Greta, Mattie, Meg (same apply to Marguerite)
Mary	Polly, Marie, Maria, May, Mamie
Martha	Patsy, Marta, Patty, Mattie, Pat, Mart, Mat
Patricia	Pat, Patty, Patsy, Trish, Trisha
Peter	Pet, Pete, Paddy
Raymond	Ray, Raymie
Robert	Robin, Rob, Bob, Bobbie, Robbie, Bert
Roberta	Bertie, Babs, Bobbie, Robbie
Ronald	Ron, Ronnie, Ronny
Samuel	Sammie, Sam
Samantha	Sam, Sammie, Manny
Sarah	Sara, Sari, Sar, Sally
Sidney	Sid, Cid
Thomas	Thom, Tom
William	Bill, Billy, Will, Willie

It is obvious from the above list that many first names are used for both male and female children, especially nicknames. Sometimes it is very hard to determine the sex of a child unless designated in a census record, referenced as daughter, son, niece or nephew, or by the name of the person they married.

FAMILY OR FUN NAMES

Sometimes a nickname is given to a baby or a young child which is carried on through the rest of their life. My Aunt Marguerite HARMAN was called "Tooty Fruity Baby" by her father when she was born up until she became a toddler when it was shortened to "Tootie". She carried the name "Tootie" the rest of her life. Her given name was only used for legal documents. A researcher will find her as "Tootie" in membership lists, newspaper articles, family letters and other such documents. My mother's name was Myrtle, however, as a child she had very frizzy hair. Her dad called her "Frizzles", which became "Fritz" for the rest of her life.

In the south it is common to refer to a favored son as "Bubba". Other areas and ethnic groups may have different friendly or family nicknames.

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTIC OR PERSONALITY TRAIT NAMES

Often a nickname is acquired later in life and may be changed over time based on the personality and characteristics.

Named after parent or to distinguish age—"Junior"
Personality trait— someone who smiles a lot—"Happy" or "Sunshine"
Hair color or type—"Red", "Blondie", or "Curley"
Physical characteristic—weight or height–"Slim" or "Shorty"

OCCUPATION OR TITLE NAMES

When a person graduates from college or changes jobs, they may assume a nickname based on their occupation.

Surgeon—"Doc", "Bones" or "Sawbones"
Military rank—"Sarge" or "Probie"
Electrician—"Sparky"

RESEARCHING NICKNAMES IN ONLINE INDEXES

When you are looking in indexes, remember to not only look under a variety of spellings of the given name and surname, but also for the individual's nickname(s). It is important to determine each name the person used and for what period of time. Any of their names may be found in legal and other documents.

RECORDING GIVEN AND NICKNAMES

To inform an audience or readership of a person's nickname without actually calling them by their nickname, English nicknames are generally represented in quotes between the bearer's first and last names (e.g., Dwight David "Ike" EISENHOWER, Daniel Lamont "Bubba" FRANKS, etc.). However, it is also common for the nickname to be identified after a comma following the full real name or later in the body of the text, such as in an obituary. The middle name is generally eliminated (if there is one), especially in speech.

Most genealogy programs today offer an option to list all forms of an individual's name in an "also known as" or AKA field. Every time you find an individual's name spelled differently in any way, with initials only or initials and surname, or as a nickname, make sure you have it recorded in your program. Use all of these variations when researching that individual.

FINDING NICKNAMES

There are many websites and books on this subject of nicknames. If you have a name you are interested in, check online or visit your library and locate one of the many books on this subject. ❧

PATRONYM—WHEN A LAST NAME IS NOT A SURNAME

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

It was about a millennium ago that last names in Western European countries began to slowly evolve into inherited surnames replacing bynames that reflected an individual's appearance, occupation, residence or kinship. However, Scandinavian and some Eastern European countries continued using the patronymic naming system until more recent times. In fact, patronymic names are still used in Iceland.

Although many surnames have their roots as a patronym, a patronym is not a surname. It is the last element of an individual's full name based on the given name of his or her father or, in some cases, grandfather and, therefore, changes with each generation. Generally, patronyms are formed by adding either a prefix, suffix or genitive "s" denoting the person is the "son of..." or "daughter of..." an individual. When a woman married she did not change her patronym—she did not become the son of her father-in-law.

Different cultures had different ways of expressing a patronym. In some cultures the patronym matched the gender of the child, in other ethnic groups the patronym was not gender specific. Using the Danish patronymic method, this chart is a hypothetical example of how patronyms work.
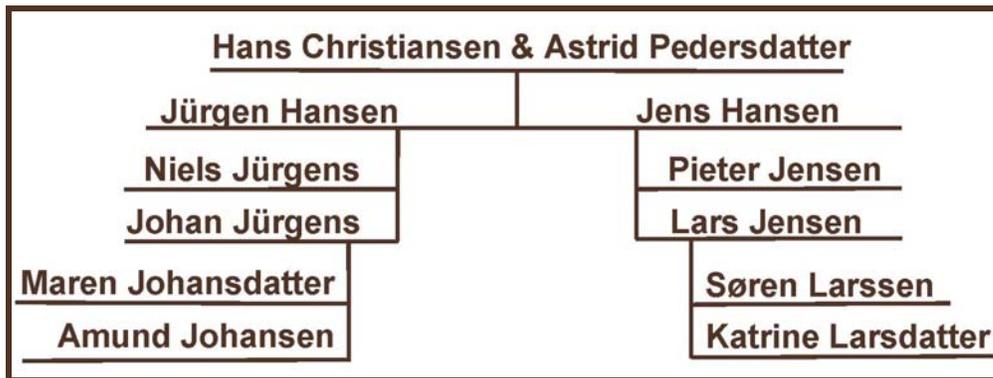
Dates when patronymics vanished and surnames were established vary by locale and social economic status. Surnames were first used by the nobility and wealthy land owners followed by those living in larger towns. Those living in rural areas were the last to relinquish their patronymic and use a fixed surname. Often it took a full generation after a law was passed before surnames were widely established throughout the land.

When hereditary surnames became compulsory, many people adopted their patronym or their father's patronym as their surname. Using the names on the example above, these are two scenarios that actually happened in many families:

1) When surnames became mandated by law, the sons of Jürgen and Jens took their patronym. This resulted in Johan's childrens' names becoming Maren Jürgens and Amund Jürgens, and his direct descendants had the surname Jürgens; and Lars' childrens' names becoming Søren Jensen and Katrine Jensen, and the surname Jensen was the name his descendants carried.

2) When Jürgen Hansen and his family immigrated to the USA in 1841, patronyms were still in use in his area of Denmark. When the children were enrolled in school in Wisconsin, they were registered as Niels Hansen and Johan Hansen since the patronymic naming system was not used in America. This resulted in all descendants of the immigrant Jürgen having the surname Hansen while the descendants of his brother Jens (who remained in Denmark) continued using patronyms. Thus, the first cousins did not have the same last name, and the American Hansens were not related to other Hansens in Wisconsin.

Not all cultures dropped the use of patronyms when surnames became mandatory. Some simply added a surname and kept their patronym as their middle name. Today Russians and Ukrainians still follow this custom and, except in the most intimate settings such as the immediate family unit, the individual is called by his or her first and middle (patronym) name rather than by their given name and/or surname. For instance:

We know him as PUTIN or Vladimir PUTIN, but to the Russian people he is Vladimir Vladimirovich. His father was Vladimir Spiridonovich PUTIN and his grandfather was Spiridon Ivanovich PUTIN.

For hundreds of years the Scandinavian countries used the patronymic naming pattern, and it wasn't until the mid-1800s that hereditary surnames were established. Therefore, we are most likely to encounter patronyms when researching our ancestors who lived in those countries.

DENMARK: The suffix *sen* (for a boy) or *datter* (for a girl) was attached to the father's given name. Patronyms were used by the majority of Danes until 1856 when it was decreed the patronym of the male head of the household was to be the family's surname and female patronyms (those ending in *datter*) would cease.

NORWAY: Several different suffixes attached to the father's given name were used—*sen*, *son* or *søn* (for a boy) and *datter* or *dotter* (for a girl)—depending on local tradition. In 1923 a law was passed requiring each family to adopt a surname that would be passed to successive generations.

SWEDEN: The suffix *son* (for a boy) or *dotter* (for a girl) was attached to the father's given name. Patronymic names were used until the 1860s when many individuals started to adopt surnames. In 1901 a law was passed requiring everyone to have a hereditary last name.

FINLAND: There were different naming traditions used by our ancestors depending on the county they lived in. In eastern Finland hereditary surnames go back as far as the 1200s making them some of the oldest surnames in Europe. However, Finns in the western counties used a patronym with the suffix *poika* (for a boy) or *tytär* (for a girl) attached to the father's given name. But since Finland was under Swedish rule from 1150 to 1809, you may find the Swedish version influenced Finnish patronymic suffixes. The adoption of fixed surnames began around 1890 and became mandatory in 1920.

ICELAND: Today the Icelandic people continue to use the patronymic naming system with the suffix *son* (for a boy) or *dóttir* (for a girl) attached to the father's given name.

The countries making up the United Kingdom had a wide variety of patronymic naming systems which were based on ethnic traditions, foreign invasions and archaic languages.

ENGLAND: The structure of patronymics was influenced mostly by Normans who arrived in the early 1100s (the prefix *Fitz* is derived from the Norman French word "fiz" meaning son); and the Vikings who invaded and settled in the area in the 1100 and 1200s (the suffixes *son*, *doghter*, or *wyf*). Sometimes a patronym was simply the father's given name (i.e., ALLEN, Clark, Martin) or its genitive form (i.e., Jones, MATHEWS, Stephens). In the late 1200s and during the 1300s the use of hereditary family names gradually replaced patronymic names which completely disappeared in the early 1400s when King Henry V decreed that surnames had to be included on all official papers.

WALES: The designation of a relationship was not a prefix or suffix, but a word between the child's name and the father's name. That word was *ap* or *ab* after a son's given name and the word *ferch* or *verch* followed the daughter's name. No Welsh law mandated when the use of patronymics was to cease, but in 1536 the Act of Union required that official documents be recorded in the English language. Thus, we find Welsh names being anglicized and any patronymics made into surnames.

SCOTLAND: The use of the prefix *Mac* and *Mc* indicated that a person was the "child of..." is found throughout Scotland. But in the lowlands we find the suffix *son* was common due to the Viking and English neighbors to the south. Patronyms were used in the highlands and the islands until the 1700s, but in lowlands surnames were being adopted by the 1500s.

BRITISH COLONIES: The use of patronymic names in the Americas was abolished in 1687. This impacted the Dutch, Danish, Finn, Swedish and Norwegian colonists the most. During the latter part of the 17th century, various documents may record an individual's surname and/or patronym.

In other European countries surnames started to replace patronyms in the 11th century. The transformation was pretty well completed by the end of the 16th century. Cities in some western European countries required surnames, while at the same time patronymics continued to be used in the countryside.

IRELAND: Patronyms were formed using *Mac* (for a boy) and *Ingen* or *Inghean* (for a girl) followed by the genitive form of the father's given name. The prefix *Ó* followed by the genitive form of an ancestor's given name formed a clan name. Some Irish had both a patronymic and clan affiliation name, in which case the patronymic came first. Gaelic underwent a change in spelling conventions around 1200, so early period and late period names will be spelled differently.

NETHERLANDS: The suffix *zoon* or *soen* (for a boy) or *dochter* (for a girl) was added to the genitive of the father's given name. The Netherlands has a number of dialects caused by various cultural influences so you may find other endings used. The patronymic naming system ended in 1811, during the Napoleonic era, when everyone had to register and select a family name.

FRANCE: There are three styles of patronymic names in France. Both the suffix *eau* and the prefixes *De* and *Fitz*. But most French patronymic names were simply the father's given name. By the 1400s most French citizens had adopted hereditary surnames.

GERMANY: Patronyms were not common in most German speaking areas and if one was used it was simply the father's given name or its genitive form. Inherited surnames, in use by the 1300s, mostly evolved from an individual's occupation or residence. But there are always exceptions. The patronymic naming convention similar to their Dutch neighbors was used in Ostfriesland until the early 1880s. Danish style patronyms were used in the northern part of the current state of Schleswig-Holstein because at times it was a Danish duchy and at other times it was part of the Prussian Empire.

ITALY: Generally, patronyms were formed either by using the prepositions *di* and *de* or the contraction *D'* (meaning "of..." or "from...") preceding the genitive form of the father's given name, or by simply using the father's name unmodified. (The genitive form was made by adding an "i" to the father's given name; or if his name ended in a vowel changing it to an "i".) During the time of evolving surnames the Italian peninsula consisted of separate independent city-states and kingdoms, so the adoption of hereditary family names varied by locale. By the early 1500s most Italians had ceased using patronyms in favor of surnames.

SPAIN: Patronyms were formed in most cases by replacing the final vowel in the father's name with the letters *ez*. If the father's given name ended with a consonant then *ez* was added to the end of the name. By the 1500s inherited family surnames had almost completely replaced patronymics.

RUSSIA: The most common way to form a patronym is to add the suffix *ov* or *ev* (for a boy) and an *a* (for a girl) to the father's given name. During the enumeration of the 1897 census, Russians were assigned a surname which, in most cases, was the father's patronym. Since that time Russians have traditionally made their individual patronym their middle name.

Throughout the countries mentioned there were also ethnic minorities that conformed to the local naming practices to one degree or another. The largest ethnic group in Europe were the Jews who had their own patronymic naming system. Patronyms were structured the same by Sephardic Jews and Ashkenazic Jews, but their language and the time when patronyms were abandoned for surnames differ.

SEPHARDIC JEWS living in the heavily Arab-influenced Iberian peninsula formed their patronyms with the prepositions *ihn* (for a boy) and *bat* (for a girl) followed by the father's given name. They began using hereditary surnames in the early-1500s, often translating their given name into Spanish and using it for their surname. When they emigrated they changed their surnames to match the naming customs of their new country or local Jewish community.

ASHKENAZIC JEWS of central and eastern Europe formed their patronyms with the prepositions *ben* (for a boy) and *bas* (for a girl) followed by the father's given name. The majority of Jews used the patronymic naming pattern until the early 1800s. It was at this time most European countries were granting civil rights to their Jewish citizens. With it came the requirement to cease using patronyms and adopt a permanent family surname which was to be in the language and style of the particular country.

It is very important to know when the transformation from patronyms to surnames happened in your ancestor's area for it will impact your research. The key for determining when the change occurred is to watch for the pattern in the records and pay attention to when last names of parents differ from generation to generation.

You may find in civil or church records where a name has been crossed through, and another surname written in. With luck, it may reference the date of the change and perhaps the law mandating inherited surnames.

Remember that many families in the same area adopted the same surname. It does not mean that they were related—just that they all had a father with the same first name. Also remember the choice of a surname was many times completely up to the individual, so his or her siblings may have chosen a different surname.

An illegitimate child may have been given the matronym of the mother or the patronym of the biological father, maternal grandfather, or that of the individual who raised the child.

The patronymic system was the most prevalent byname pattern in Europe before mandatory surnames. However, that doesn't mean all surnames evolved from a patronym. One of the other bynames (appearance, occupation, or residence) may have been the factor in a person choosing the surname that would be handed down to the generations you will be researching. ❦

DEBUNKING THE ELLIS ISLAND MYTH

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

"Our name was changed at Ellis Island." How often have we heard that? Did your parents tell you that? Have you repeated that "fact" to your children and other genealogy researchers?

Stop it! It is an appalling misconception that our ancestors' names were changed as they were processed through Ellis Island. It is time to set the record straight and debunk this common myth.

Immigration control was a federal government operation and a bureaucracy being what it is, did not permit a name change at the immigration processing center on the whim of some inspector.

The ship's captain or purser gave officials at Ellis Island a list of every passenger who was onboard including a physical description. These were the immigration records for entering the country and what was used to interview, medically test and process the immigrants. Additionally, Ellis Island employed a wide variety of interpreters to aid in the interviewing processing of new arrivals.

It is an undeniable fact some of our ancestors' names did change—some slightly and some radically. However, it was after they left Ellis Island that the immigrant initiated the name change. Most of the time they wanted to Americanize their names in order to better assimilate into the social environment or to avoid discrimination.

Sometimes there would only be a slight change in the spelling. Most foreign languages have letters with diacritics (i.e., acutes, graves, circumflexes, tildes, and umlauts) that English does not use. Thus, on employment records, rental or purchase contracts, children's school enrollments and government forms these diacritical letters were either dropped or a letter combination was used to maintain the same pronunciation (i.e., NÜHRING in Germany became NUEHRING in the USA).

ELLIS ISLAND OFFICER AND TRANSLATOR INTERVIEWING AN IMMIGRANT

Due to the significant differences in languages and the inability for Americans to pronounce certain foreign names, some of our ancestors found it practical to Americanize their names. This was particularly true with those from Greece, Russia and the Slavic countries. There were various ways both given and/or surnames were changed:

◆ Adapt the spelling to match the American style (i.e., Marek Nowak to Mark Novak).
◆ Shorten the name (i.e., Konstantyn Poplawski to Stan Pope).
◆ Translate the name to an equivalent English name (i.e., Grezegorz Szewc to Gregory Shoemaker).
◆ Just pick an American name they like (i.e., Lechosława Chlebek to Lee Harris).

Those who emigrated from a country still using the patronymic naming system found it necessary to adopt a surname as soon as they left Ellis Island. In those days American society and institutions were just not equipped to deal with a family where the members had different last names. (Are the parents not married? Are the children illegitimate?) The immigrant family may have chosen to use the father's patronym, or the name of the farm or town where they lived in Europe, or they may have just picked a name out of the blue.

Yes, some of our ancestors changed their names when they immigrated to the USA. They did it for any number of reasons in any number of ways. But their names were not changed by the inspectors at Ellis Island—that is a horrible, misleading myth. Do your part to debunk the myth. ❧

Naming Patterns in Sections of Early America

By Carolyn H. Brown [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

Before the American Revolution there were very distinct first name naming patterns in both the northern and the southern sections of America. Some names like Mary and John were common to both areas.

Northern Naming Patterns
The naming patterns of the north followed the naming patterns of the Puritans. They often named their children after old testament people (i.e., Asa, Daniel, Jonah, Samuel, and Ruth) or for virtues (i.e., Increase, Prudence, Reliance, and Thankful).

Southern Naming Patterns
In Virginia and further south they followed the naming patterns of warriors, kings, and queens (i.e., Edward, Elizabeth, Henry, Richard, Robert, Virginia, and William).

African-American Naming Patterns
In the African community children were less frequently named for their parents and more often named for other of their kin than was the custom among European Americans.

Backcountry of Virginia Naming Patterns
Because the majority of settlers in the backcountry of Virginia (from the Shenandoah Valley westward) were from Scotland, Ireland and Wales, given names in that area were predominately those of patron saints (i.e., Andrew, Patrick, and David). ❧

Swedish Naming Customs— Patronyms and Soldiers Names

By Bob Ed [From the SKP Genies Newsletter Fall 2014]

Gust ED
1850-1914

My great grandfather, Gust ED, immigrated from Sweden to Moline, Illinois, in 1872. He was the sixth of ten children born in Sweden, and the second of seven to immigrate over the period from 1870 to 1893, all to Moline, Illinois. One of the major attractions to Moline was John Deere manufacturing, and many Swedish people came to this city for employment with this and other manufacturing companies. Gust ED Construction Company was also an attractive employer, and many a Swedish immigrant worked for Gust including most of his brothers and sons as well as the husbands of his sisters and daughters.

The name ED is pronounced "eed" so as to rhyme with Swede. Variant spellings are ID and IDH, all pronounced "eed." The well known cartoonist for the Chicago Tribune and creator of the comic strip "Harold Teen", Carl ED (1890-1959), enjoyed introducing himself as "Ed the Swede".

PATRONYMS

Sweden and the other Scandinavian countries are well known for using the patronymic system of naming. The word patronymic is derived from the Greek words *pater* meaning father and *onoma* meaning name. That is to say that the child's surname was derived from the father's given name.

In the following example the father, mother and son number one are my direct ancestors; the others are hypothetical names in order to demonstrate Swedish naming customs.

Gustaf NILSSON and his wife Elin PERDSDOTTER had a son whose given name was Gustaf, thus his full name was Gustaf GUSTAFSSON. If they had a son whose given name was Otto, the son's full name would be Otto Gustafsson. If Gustaf NILSSON had a daughter whose given name was Christina, then her full name would be Christina Gustafsdotter. Let's say they had another son they named Nils. His full name would be Nils Gustafsson. And from Gustaf NILSSON's name, one can derive the fact that his father's given name was Nils. And Elin PERDSDOTTER's father's given name was Per. Gustaf and Elin's family group would look like this:

Father   Gustaf NILSSON
Mother   Elin PERSDOTTER
Son   i.   Gustaf GUSTAFSSON
Son   ii. Otto Gustafsson
Dau   iii. Christina Gustafsdotter (Note: Father, mother and son number one are my direct ancestors; the others are hypothetical names in order to demonstrate Swedish naming customs.)
Son   iv. Nils Gustafsson

SOLDIER NAMES

In the 1700s, the Swedish Army found that it had a bit of a problem with repetition of names. Of course, the Army was an all male institution, and at that time there were approximately ten male names that were the most popular. So using the patronymic system of naming, and only about ten popularly used male names, there would only be about one hundred male names in use.

Let's demonstrate using the three male names in our sample family above: Gustaf, Otto, and Nils. Using these three names, you would have the following nine name possibilities: Gustaf Gustafsson, Otto Gustafsson, Nils Gustafsson, Gustaf Ottosson, Otto Ottosson, Nils Ottosson, Gustaf Nilsson, Otto Nilsson, and Nils Nilsson. Three male names equate to nine possible name variations, ten or so popular male names equate to a little more than 100 name variations in the Army.

To solve this problem, the Swedish government declared that soldiers would take a non-patronymic name upon entry into the Army. Swedish names like Ed, Ek, Wretman, Eng, Strand, Huggare, Ny, Erla, Nors, Bergman are examples of these "soldier names".

In our family example above, when Gustaf NILSSON went into the Army, he took the surname ID, so his name became Gustaf Nilsson ID. Over time, the name became abbreviated to Gustaf ID. If the soldier stayed in the Army for his career, he retained and used the "soldier name" for the remainder on his life. If he left the Army after a few years, he was given the option of retaining his "soldier name" or reverting back to his patronymic name.

A soldier's children also had options as to what name they used. When the children became adults, they had a choice of taking the patronymic surname derived from their father as their family name, or they could take their father's soldier name and use that as their family name.

In our sample family above, the father became a career soldier and became known as Gustaf ID. His son, Gustaf, adopted his father's soldier surname and became known as Gustaf ID. When he emigrated from Sweden, the spelling of his name was changed at the port of Gothenburg from ID to ED. Remember, names were spelled as they sounded, there were no spelling rules, and ID to ED are pronounced the same. Son Nils took the surname Gustafsson and he immigrated to the United States with that name. Son Otto served in the Swedish Army, at which time he took the soldier surname Eng and became known as Otto Eng. He left the Army after a few years, retained his soldier name, and eventually immigrated with the name Otto Eng. As an adult, Christine used the patronymic surname Gustafsdotter. And so it happens that siblings acquire different surnames as they reach adulthood.

In the late 1800s, Sweden began moving away from the patronymic system of naming. By1901, the patronymic system was discontinued. Family surnames are now used in the same manner as in the United States.

Although there are still many family names that look like the old patronymic names, the patronymic system is no longer in use. ❦

AFRICAN-AMERICAN ADOPTED SURNAMES

By Barbara Pierce, SKP 78048

The reasons are varied why African Americans adopted certain surnames after emancipation. African-American Genealogical Research is virtually the same as for other Americans until that first real brick wall is encountered—which is identifying the last slave owner. In most cases, the surname will not be the same, but it provides the impetus needed to delve into other records such as wills, court records, and plantations records.

It is generally assumed most African Americans took the surname of the last slave owner—this has been proved to be somewhat inaccurate. Only about 15 to 20% of African Americans took the last slave-owner's surname. Since the names are mostly European, it is more probable they assumed the surname of a previous or perhaps the first slave owner. The average slave changed owners approximately seven times during his lifetime. Therefore, the question is—did the family adopt the name of a particularly fair owner, or the one they were with the longest, or the first owner? We may never know as the answers are wide-ranging.

On the 1870 census, most African Americans were still in the same geographic area where they were enslaved, and perhaps listed with the previous owner's surname. By 1880, family groups were recombining and selecting meaningful surnames. Many former slaves were most likely engaged in similar occupations and took names such as Driver, Cooper, Smith, Cotton, Weaver, Carpenter, and Butler. Some used Freeman or Freedman, while others assumed popular political names of the period such as Washington, Hamilton, Jackson, Jefferson, and Lincoln. More recently, some African Americans adopted names associated with a religion or another culture and we see names such as Ali, Abdulah, Soloman, or adding Bey to the last name like Parsons-Bey, or Carlton-Bey.

Slaves were known by first names only, but most did have last names which they used among themselves in a sort of underground network. These names, of course, were not recognized or even known by Whites. Sometimes, on large plantations where there have been two or more slaves with the same first name, some distinction was made with an owner's surname or the mother's name. For example, on the Oatlands Plantation there were two Daniels; one was identified as black Daniel and the other as Daniel of Allie.

Barbara's great-grandmother, Agnes Bryant JACKSON.

There were always some free African Americans, approximately 400,000 before emancipation, and those persons no doubt had family members still enslaved. This is a likely source of many surnames and perhaps the reason for surnames changing from the 1870 census to the 1880 census. Also, legitimizing slave marriages accounts for many name changes.

My BRYANT ancestors were owned by the Joseph LEWIS family and the Robert and Elizabeth CARTER family and their relatives of Loudoun County, Virginia, since about 1741. Many were passed on in wills or as gifts. Some were sold; some were freed at various times—such as my second and third great grandfathers— albeit at different times. However, none adopted those surnames. I'm still trying to find the first ancestor to use the BRYANT surname and why.

Slaves named their children after relatives to keep the family connections alive in the hopes of reconnecting someday. Thus far I have ascertained that two young female slaves were given to Vincent LEWIS and Betty BROWN as a wedding gift from her father, John, in 1741. The will stated that the increase of those slaves should be divided equally among Vincent's children. Consequently, from the often repeated first names, oral tales and ads placed in newspapers and journals looking for separated family members, I can presume that a good many of the BRYANTs were reunited after slavery was abolished.

Thus, we can surmise that there are a myriad of reasons why some emancipated African Americans adopted certain surnames. ❦

ORIGINS OF THE MOST COMMON BRITISH ISLES SURNAMES

By Barbara A. H. Nuehring, SKP 83946

As we know, western surnames have evolved from a progenitor's occupation, physical description, place of residence, or patronym. But do you know the origin of your particular surname? Here is an alphabetized list of the most common English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh surnames and their origins:

Alexander - patronymic (Greek)
Anderson - patronymic, meaning "son of Andrew" (English/Greek)
Armstrong - descriptive (English)
Austin - (1) patronymic, from Augustine (Latin) or (2) used for Uisdean (Gaelic)
Bailey - occupation, meaning "bailiff" (French)
Boyd - residence, from the Isle of Bute (Gaelic)
Brown - descriptive, from the colour (English)
Bruce - residence, from Brix in Normandy
Buchanan - residence, from the district in Stirlingshire
Burnett - patronymic, from Bernard (Old English/Germanic)
Burns - residence, from "bourne" meaning "stream" (English)
Calhoun/Colquholn - residence, from the lands in Dunbartonshire (English/Scottish)
Campbell - descriptive, from "cam beul" meaning "crooked mouth" (Gaelic)
Carr/Kerr - residence, meaning "copse" (Old Norse)
Clark - occupational, as clerk (Latin)
Cooper - occupational (English)
Craig - residence, from "crag" meaning "rock" (English)
Crawford - residence, from the barony in Lanarkshire
Cummings/Cumming - residence, from Comines near Lille in France
Cunningham - residence, from Cunningham in Ayrshire (English)
Davidson - patronymic, meaning "son of David" (English/Hebrew)
Douglas - descriptive, meaning "dark stranger" (Gaelic)
Duncan - descriptive, meaning "brown warrior" (Gaelic)
Elliott - occupational, from Aelfwald (Old English)
Ferguson - patronymic, meaning "son of Fergus" (English/Gaelic)
Fleming - residence, meaning a person from Flanders (English)
Fletcher - occupational (English)
Frazier/Fraser - occupational, from "fraise" meaning "strawberry" (French)
Gillespie - occupational meaning "servant of the bishop" (Gaelic)
Gilmore - occupational, meaning "servant of Mary (Gaelic)
Gordon - probably residence, from Gordon in Berwickshire
Graham - residence, from "graeg-ham" meaning "grey home" (Old English/Norman)
Hamilton - residence, from Hambleton or Hambledon in England
Henderson - patronymic - "son of Henry" (English/Norman/Germanic)
Johnston(e) - patronymic - "son of John" (English/Hebrew)
Keith - residence, from the lands in East Lothian
Kennedy - origin obscure (Irish)
Livingston(e) - residence, from the lands in West Lothian
Logan - residence, from Logan in Ayrshire; might be related to "lag" meaning "hollow" (Gaelic)
Marshall - occupational, meaning "horse servant" (French)
Maxwell - residence, from "Maccus' weal", a pool in the River Tweed (Old English)
McBride - matronymic, meaning "son of Bridget" (Gaelic/Irish)
McCall - patronymic, meaning "son of Cathal" (Gaelic)
McCulloch/McCullough - patronymic, possibly meaning "son of the boar" (Gaelic)

McDaniel - patronymic, meaning "son of Daniel" (Gaelic/Hebrew)
McDonald - patronymic, meaning "son of Donald" (Gaelic)
McDowell - patronymic, meaning "son of Dougal" (Gaelic)
McIntosh - patronymic, meaning "son of the chief" (Gaelic)
McKenzie - patronymic, meaning "son of Kenneth" (which means "handsome" or "born of fire") (Gaelic)
McKinney/McKenna - patronymic, meaning "son of Cionaodh" (Gaelic)
McLaughlin/MacLachlan - patronymic, meaning "son of Lachlan" (Gaelic)
Mitchell - patronymic, meaning "son of Michael" (English/Hebrew)
Monroe/Munro - residence, meaning "from the foot of the Rover Roe" (in Derry, Ireland) (Gaelic)
Montgomery - residence, from Sainte Foy de Montgomery, Lisieux, France (French)
Morrison - patronymic, meaning "son of Maurice" (which means "Moorish") (English/Latin)
Murray - residence, from the province of Moray
Nicholson - patronymic, meaning "son of Nicholas" (English/Greek)
Patterson - patronymic, meaning "son of Patrick" (English/Latin)
Ramsey - residence, from Ramsey in Huntingdonshire, England. Usually spelled Ramsay in Scotland
Reid - descriptive, meaning "red" (English)
Robertson - patronymic, meaning "son of Robert" (English/Norman/Germanic)
Ross - (1) residence, from Ross in northern Scotland or (2) descriptive, meaning red-haired (Old English)
Scott - (1) a Scotsman (English) or (2) descriptive, from "scutt" (English)
Shaw - (1) residence, from a place name meaning "thicket" (English) or (2) an anglicisation of Sithig (Gaelic)
Smith - occupational, as in "blacksmith or goldsmith" (English)
Stevenson/Stephenson - patronymic, meaning "son of Stephen" (English/Norman/Greek)
Stewart/Stuart - occupational, from "stig-weard" meaning "sty-warden (Old English)
Thompson - patronymic, meaning "son of Thomas" (English/Hebrew) the spelling in Scotland is Thomson
Walker - occupational, from "wealcere" meaning a fuller (Old English)
Wallace - descriptive, meaning "Welsh" or "foreign" (Celtic)
Watson - patronymic, meaning "son of Walter" (English/Norman/Germanic)
Wilson - patronymic, meaning "son of William" (English/Norman/Germanic)
Young - descriptive (English) ❦

WHO IS JACK SCHITT?

Finally, after all of these decades the lineage of the famous, or is it infamous, Jack Schitt has been discovered and revealed by an anonymous researcher. Since many people are at a loss for a response when someone says, "You don't know Jack Schitt", the staff of the SKP Genies Newsletter *is pleased to be able to provide you with the genealogy of Jack Schitt.*

Jack is the only son of O. Schitt and Awe Schitt. O. Schitt, the fertilizer magnate, married Awe Schitt, the owner of Kneedeep N. Schitt, Inc. In turn, Jack Schitt married Noe Schitt, and the deeply religious couple produced six children: Holie Schitt, Fulla Schitt, Giva Schitt, Bull Schitt and the twins: Deap Schitt and Dip Schitt.

After being married 15 years, Jack and Noe Schitt divorced. Noe Schitt later married Mr. Sherlock, and because her kids were living with them, she wanted to keep her previous name. She was then known as Noe Schitt-Sherlock.

Against her parents' objections, Deap Schitt married Dumb Schitt, a high school drop out. Dip Schitt married Loada Schitt and they produced a nervous son, Chicken Schitt. Bull Schitt, the prodigal son, left home to tour the world. He recently returned from Italy with his new bride, Pisa Schitt.

Fulla Schitt and Giva Schitt were inseparable throughout childhood and subsequently married the Happens brothers in a dual ceremony. The wedding was announced in the newspapers as the Schitt-Happens wedding. The Schitt-Happens children were Dawg, Byrd, and Hoarse.

So now when someone says, "You don't know Jack Schitt" you can correct them. ❦

BOUSE GENIES NEWS

By Carolyn H. Brown

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

I am sorry to report that Harry JENSON, our Program Chairman, had submitted his resignation from office. We are looking for someone to please step forward to prepare the program portion of our meetings. Harry gave us a list of his planned programs for the rest of 2014 and early 2015. Thank you Harry for a job well done.

BOUSE COMMUNITY BUILDING CONDEMNED

Because of the flooding rains received here in September, the Bouse Community Building has been condemned by the state. The building is slipping on its foundation and there is black mold in the ceiling. Until further notice we will be meeting in the Bouse Booster Club. BGS cabinet, chairs and other things have been moved to Gloria Freemon's storage area. Thank you Gloria for helping with the move. We are working on a place to meet.

ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

Ancestry Library Edition is now being paid for by the State of Arizona Library Development Department. We have received the full refund of monies we sent to ProQuest in May. We will be returning the donations from local businesses and organizations for this year.

NEW BOOK FOR THE LIBRARY

In September, we received a free copy of the book "The Lost Ancestor", A Forensic Genealogical Crime Mystery, from the author Nathan Dylan Goodwin. Last year he sent us his first forensic genealogical crime mystery "Hidden in the Past". Both of these books are fiction, but are a good read, especially for genealogists. In "The Lost Ancestor", you can follow him through his research as he tells the story of a woman who worked as a third maid on a large estate in England in 1911. She was released from service and then was missing. It is a very captivating story.

BOUSE PUBLIC LIBRARY COMPUTER ISSUES

The Bouse Public Library has had major issues with their computers for a year. This summer La Paz County hired Alex Taft to handled grants, and she has been working with Heather to get the computer problems corrected. The major issue turned out to be the program used for the firewall was incompatible with the program used to keep children from accessing pornographic websites. That issue has been taken care of. The other issue is the company who sold the county Internet service for the library cut the baud rate in half. The county is changing the Internet service provider and the service should be greatly improved by the end of October.

GENEALOGY STUDY GROUP

The Bouse Genealogical Society - Genealogy Study Group (GSG) will be studying an article from the National Genealogical Society Quarterly at each meeting. By understanding how professional genealogists gather, analyze, and record information concerning a particularly difficult genealogical problem, we can learn how to become better genealogists ourselves.

We will reconvene on 20 October 2014, the third Monday of the month, from 10 AM --12 NOON. We will meet in the Library. This group is open to all members. The topic for October is "Sarah Songster Everett: Disproving a Knitted Name." It is a case of proving a negative. If you wish to join, please contact us at the Bouse Genies e-mail address: <BouseGenies@gmail.com> and we will e-mail you a copy of the article.

BOUSE GENIES BOOK CLUB

Is there a genealogy related book you would like to read, but don't want to pay for and own? Bring your request to us, and make a donation toward the purchase of the book. Others interested in the book can make donations until the cost of the book has been collected. Once the book arrives, the person who first requested the book will get to read it first. The book will then be passed to the others who donated for it. When those who donated for the book have read it, the book is to be returned to the BGS Librarian. It will then be placed on the Genealogy bookshelf in the Bouse Public Library for others to use. ☙

From the Editor's Desk

By Carolyn H. Brown, SKP 20363

The late fall holidays are almost upon us again, and many of us are gearing up for spending time with our family and friends. Are you preparing to share your new genealogy discoveries with your family? How about taking a few minutes and write to us about what you are planning to make your research easier for your family to understand. Is there someone in your ancestry who stands out in your research? What makes that individual almost come alive for your? We would love to read your story. It would be perfect for our "Great Journeys Into the Past" segment, which was created just for those types of articles.

If you have experience in any of the upcoming newsletter themes which you would like to share with us, please record your experiences. Don't worry about style, spelling and all of those writing rules, our editorial staff will help you make it suitable for publication. Send your articles to me at <GenieCarol@gmail.com>.

Following are the scheduled themes through next year:

Winter 2015: *Self-Improvement.* Looking for articles about online Wikis; podcasts; blogs; chat rooms; apps on mobile devices; local, state, and national conferences; genealogical standards; published books and scholarly journals; community-college and university courses; and annual institutes. (Deadline is 1 March 2015.)

Spring 2015: *Onsite Research: Libraries, Courthouses, Genealogical & Historical Societies.* Looking for articles on repositories, such as hours of operation; holdings of each repository; using online indexes; and information found in books vs original documents. (Deadline is 1 June 2015.) ❦

STAGE NAMES

Do you have an actor or actress in your family? If so, you will need to look for them by their "Stage Name". Some actors and actresses changed all or part of their birth name to a stage name. This is especially true if their birth name identifies them to a certain ethnicity.

"50 Cents"	Curtis Jackson
"Cher"	Cherilyn Sarkisian
"Fred Astaire"	Frederick Austerlkitz
"George Burns"	Nathan Birnbaum
"Ice-T"	Tracy Marrow
"Jack Benny"	Benjamin Kubelsky
"Joey Bishop"	Joseph Abraham Gottlieb
"Piper Laurie"	Rosetta Jacobs
"Tony Bennett"	Anthony Dominick Benedetto. ❦

The difference between a geologist and a genealogist is that one digs in the dirt and sometimes find artifacts, while the other digs in facts and sometimes finds dirt.

Common entertainment included playing cards. However, there was a tax levied when purchasing playing cards but only applicable to the 'Ace of Spades'. To avoid paying the tax, people would purchase 51 cards instead. Yet, since most games require 52 cards, these people were thought to be stupid or dumb because they weren't 'playing with a full deck'.

In the late 1700's, many houses consisted of a large room with only one chair. Commonly, a long wide board folded down from the wall, and was used for dining. The 'head of the household' always sat in the chair while everyone else ate sitting on the floor. Occasionally a guest, who was usually a man, would be invited to sit in this chair during a meal. To sit in the chair meant you were important and in charge. They called the one sitting in the chair the 'chair man'. Today in business, we use the expression or title 'Chairman' or 'Chairman of the Board'. ❦

BOUSE GENIES ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Send general correspondence, membership renewals and address/email changes to:

> **BOUSE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**
> **PO BOX 624**
> **BOUSE, AZ 85325-0624**

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2014 BOUSE GENIES MEETING SCHEDULE

All meetings are held from 10 AM – 2 PM unless otherwise specified. Location to be determined.

10 & 24 October

7 & 21 November

5 & 19 December ❦

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Fall into a learning experience this Fall.
These are just a few of many opportunities:

PIMA COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY WORKSHOP
3–4 October in Tucson, Arizona
Info at: http://pimacountygenealogysociety.blogspot.com

FORENSIC GENEALOGY ~ WHERE CSI MEETS ROOTS
3–4 October in Lincoln, Nebraska
Info at: http://llcgs.info/cpage.php?pt=95

IOWA GENEALOGY SOCIETY ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE
10–11 October in Johnston, Iowa
Info at: http://iowagenealogy.org/?page_id=6307

WESTERN MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
10–11 October in Grand Rapids, Michigan
Info at: http://gotancestors.com/registration/

ISBGFH'S 14TH ANNUAL BRITISH INSTITUTE
20–24 October in Salt Lake City, Utah
Info at: http://isbgfh.org/cpage.php?pt=50

2014 FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE
25 October in Mesa, Arizona
Info at: http://mesafsl.org/MyExpo/Conf2014/

FAMILY HISTORY RETREAT AT THE FAMILYSEARCH LIBRARY
27–31 October in Salt Lake City
Info at: www.familyhistoryexpos.com/viewevent/index/73

30TH ANNUAL SALT LAKE CHRISTMAS TOUR
13 December in Salt Lake City, Utah
Info at:
https://sites.google.com/site/saltlakechristmastour/ ❦

CHRISTMAS PARTY 2014
Don't forget our Christmas Party will be held on 19 December. Send us a wedding photo of you and you spouse for the "Who Is This?" PowerPoint. Also bring a pot luck dish. ❦

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