

Temple and Family History Newsletter

March 2022

News

Roots Tech was March 3-5

We hope everyone was able to view it
Here is the link if you wish to view or review.
<https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home>

March 3rd Training Recap

The 1950 census is completely different from any other census. This website has good information about what is included and also graphics of the form itself: <https://familylocket.com/preparing-for-the-1950-u-s-federal-census-release/>

Cam discussed the form itself, which you should be able to see in the website above (of course, if you have questions, let us know!)

She also taught us how to get to indexing from FamilySearch: on the top row, choose "Get Involved", from the drop down "Indexing". That will take you to your (their) indexing page. Choose "Find a Project". On the left side, you can choose beginning, intermediate or advanced (or all three). Be sure to read the project instructions for whatever project is chosen. You can also check the instructions anytime while indexing if you are unsure. Cam Clark also went over the bar at the top with all the options there (after opening the project to index).

It doesn't matter at all if you choose to index something else rather than the 1950 Census—it's just a great opportunity. So many of us will have people we knew or know who are in it!

This is a Stake Challenge and not part of an area challenge.

We will be scheduling our Party/Reunion Beyond the Veil for the end of April or beginning of March and would love to be able to recognize every Ward for their accomplishments.

Please send us interesting stories about Lessons Learned Spritual Stories, Search Successes, or Finding Failures. If you have been searching for more than a month we have all had some of them. You will find one on the back.

Great link to the stake news and events <https://fwtns.com/>

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TEXAS DEATH CERTIFICATE PROJECT, 1890-1976, INDEX ENHANCEMENT

Purpose:

We are indexing new fields in the Texas death certificates: the deceased's race, the informant's name, the burial date, burial place, cemetery, funeral home, and funeral director's name. We will also be correcting the county where the death occurred if needed.

How To Get Started:

Training Video and PDF - <https://tinyurl.com/TexasDeathCert>

For any other questions or problems, please contact Don Goehring at Don.Goehring@FamilySearch.org or Jean Bavender at jean.bavender@FamilySearch.org

Thank You!

from NA FamilySearch Records - Texas

As native Texans, Cindy and I would appreciate any support you can lend to this effort. *It appears that many of our ancestors tucked their tombstones under their arms and hid in the woods when people were searching cemeteries.*

The 1950 Census will be released on April 1

We are not sure when it will be available for us to index; hopefully within a few days. This project will be more like reviewing because Ancestry has spent the last couple of years working on an AI (artificial intelligence) app to fill it in for us. We will do the checking to be sure it is correct.

Sourcing

Sourcing is a fundamental skill that I did not do very well when I first started.

1. When information is found, where it was found needs to be recorded in such a way that anyone with an interest can find it.
2. Writing only "FindaGrave" or "Aunt Agnes" is not a good way for someone to find the data you found. Record the Memorial ID no. or write down what Aunt Agnes told you.
3. Once upon a time, I thought I would remember all my data and where it came from. Today, my database contains more than 60,000 people and 3,800 photos. No one can remember all that.
4. As time goes by, we all forget stuff. "Now, what were the directions to that cemetery we found in 1987 in Fayette County, Alabama?"

If you are young, ask the older people to tell you their memories. If you are old, tell your stories to your children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren.

Saturday, we took two of our grandchildren to the Stockyards and saw the train come in. My grandmother's maternal grandfather was ten years old when the first train arrived in Ft. Worth in 1876. It was a very big deal. I enjoyed telling them that as we watched the train pull in.

Take every opportunity to share.



Family History Highlights

*Brother Reed Bales
Park Glen 1*

A few years back we had a Stake Temple day and our Stake President challenged everyone in the stake to take at least one family name. My wife and I decided to go to Family Search and see if we could find anyone who didn't yet have their work done. To our surprise, we were easily able to find a couple of names.

After finding these names our curiosity was piqued and so in the next weeks and days we started looking a little closer at what was done and what needed to be done still. This was not the first time looking somewhat broadly at where our family history work was. It was different this time though. Due to so much indexing, all of a sudden we were able to easily find information for people who were at the ends of different lines that we previously thought were "dead ends."

Once we came to this realization that there was so much work that we could do, and new information to find and organize, we quickly began adding names to many different places on our family tree. Within a short time, we had added dozens of family members we could take to the Temple, more than we could do by ourselves.

As we became more engaged in doing work for our family, I had a special experience which I will share.

It was not too late on a Tuesday night. I was going to deliver a mattress to a customer who had purchased earlier that day. Less than ¼ mile from the customer's home, I came to a red light at an intersection and all of a sudden I was jolted forward. I was unsure what had happened but then quickly saw a pickup truck rolling through the intersection. The truck went off the road, taking out a road sign, and stopped. I drove across the intersection and jumped out of my truck to check on the other driver. Other cars that were there stopped and also assisted. Meanwhile, 911 was called and I realized that the big jolt was me being rear ended by this truck, and the driver was heavily inebriated.

After the fire department and police came and did their thing, and my mattress delivery had been completed, I started towards home. I was still a little rattled and was feeling a little irritated at the state of my now smashed truck. As the emotions started to come along, the spirit came even stronger. My mind was completely enlightened to the details of this event, and I was clearly shown how I had been protected. My foot was not pressed down hard on the brake, it was just resting lightly, allowing the wheels to roll forward. I had my bed cover turned up, blocking my view of the oncoming truck from behind. I was on the phone with my brother. Those two things allowed me to be completely relaxed upon impact. All that happened was a little bump on my head when the sun visor popped down. This actually kept my head from going further forward then back which would have

caused whiplash. The spirit told me that I had been protected! Then the spirit said, "Don't be mad about the truck. Insurance will take care of it and it will be fixed. I needed you there to save the lives of the people in the other vehicles that were going through the intersection at the time. You blocked the other truck from getting there sooner and killing those people."

I had a tremendous calm come over me, and any feelings of anger were completely gone. I knew I had been protected, but not necessarily by whom.

That night, my wife had a dream. My lifelong best friend who had passed away just a couple of years earlier came to her and told her that he would never have let anything happen to me!

Later that week we took 50 or 60 family names to the Temple to do sealings. It was so interesting. In most sealing sessions, the sealer keeps moving along quickly to get things done, but this day was different. He stopped every few names and talked about the people; when they were born, and where they lived, and telling us details about those places and making the family connections in a way I had not experienced before. There was a random brother who came into the session and was a proxy for some sons as my wife and I proxied for the couples. The sealer talked about Joseph Smith once teaching that these people would bathe our feet with their tears for the work we were now doing. This brother was completely overcome by the spirit and just sobbed.

What stood out the most during this session was that I kept thinking about the car accident and the details of that night. Near the end of the session, it was almost as if the spirit spoke to me in an audible voice. I knew I was told by the spirit on that night that I had been protected, but the realization came over me that it was family members. I thought to myself, "It must be the ones we are doing sealings for today. 50 or 60 people" but then came the part that seemed almost audible "You have NO IDEA how many people were there protecting you that night!" So I guess it was a lot of people. More than 50 or 60! But I have no idea how many.

After the session, as I was folding my robes, another brother came and stood next to me, folding his robes as well. He said something that was very strange to me to be part of a normal conversation, but since I knew what was going on, it wasn't strange at all. I wonder if he thought it was strange!? He started normally "How are you today? How was your session?" He asked. "Fine, we had a very nice sealing session." I replied. Then he says "You know...I think there is a real connection with doing family history work and having our lives prolonged, don't you think!?" What else could I say? "Absolutely! I think you are right on 100% with that assessment!" I replied, and we went our separate ways. So there you have it. There is a real connection with doing family history work and having our lives prolonged! Of this I have no doubt. Angels have been sent to watch over us for sure.