

BEST WEBSITES RECOMMENDATION

We could have certainly included more sites in our Best Websites feature in June/June 2010, but space was limited. We thank one of our readers for sending in this interesting item as a follow-up...

I'm surprised that *Vintage Kin* does not appear on your list of best genealogy sites. It's been going for over 10 years now and has undoubtedly the best free collection of web graphics and clipart designed specifically for family history. Recently they introduced free genealogy word press themes and a selection of new ancestry charts, which I personally found useful. You should check it out. The address is www.vintagekin.com — you can also find them through Facebook. I'm sure you'll agree they're worthy of a nod.

Charlie Calliper
Bristol (England)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA JAMBOREE 2010 A HUGE SUCCESS!

We've just returned from the Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree 2010 in Burbank, California. This was our first time attending and I was very impressed by the venue and overall organization of the event. We got a chance to introduce *Internet Genealogy* to many more family historians, beginners and die-hards alike, and also had a chance to catch up with a lot of our regular subscribers. To all those who stopped by, we thank you and hope that we will see you again in 2011. It was also nice to mingle with other exhibitors and talk with many of our authors as well. These conferences are an excellent opportunity for us to exchange ideas and see what's new and upcoming in the world of genealogy. Congratulations to Leo Myers and Paula Hinkel, all the volunteers and everyone who worked so hard to make it a superb event! Next up... the FGS in Knoxville, TN. We hope to see you there!



Clockwise from top-left: Joanne and Tom Ryder of EasyNetSites with Drew Smith (the Genealogy Guys Podcast); Gena Philibert Ortega, author (World Vital Records); John Reid, author (Ottawa, ON), Ed Zapletal (Internet Genealogy), Dave Obee, author (Victoria, BC), and Patty and Leland Meitzler, author (Family Roots Publishing).

www.internet-genealogy.com

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INTERNET GENEALOGY LOOKS AT WEBSITES AND RELATED NEWS THAT ARE SURE TO BE OF INTEREST

Net Notes

MN MARRIAGES

www.mncounty.com/Modules/Certificates/Marriage/Default.aspx

MARRIAGE RECORDS ARE great records. They have the advantage of being a document where the key information is provided by the individuals (bride and groom) involved and not (as with death certificates) by a third party. This can make them invaluable to our research.

If you are researching family in Minnesota, this has just gotten a whole lot easier. Not only does this website contain marriage records for many of the counties of MN, it has a state-wide search engine. How often have you known that grandma and grandpa married in MN and yet you weren't sure in what county? Well, now you will have a chance to

maybe figure that out.

I like that this page, www.mncounty.com/CountyInfo.aspx, provides you a county-by-county overview of what these records are, what they include and for what time period. This way, when you don't find grandma and grandpa, it might just be because the county and/or time period is not included. Or, if you are successful in finding their marriage certificate, you will be directed to a form that you can fill out and then mail, with payment, to the appropriate county recorder!

It makes me wish that I wasn't finished researching my distant MN cousins! — DIANE L. RICHARD

APPALACHIAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY

www.appalachianamericangenealogy.com

THIS GREAT GATEWAY OF resources focuses on 83 counties in the states of Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee and South Carolina — the Southern Appalachian Region known as the "Tri-State Area", plus the Northwestern area of South Carolina because it was significant in ancestors' migration patterns into the southern Appalachian area.

The navigation bar on the left lists the different types of resources available. When you click on a record type, you will see an overview of identified online resources, typically grouped by state. Given the variability in what is available online, both for a certain record group and for the states/counties of

interest, what you will find listed reflects a wide range of availability. Recognize that some categories overlap — e.g., birth records and bastardy bonds, pauper lists and bread-salt lists, etc.

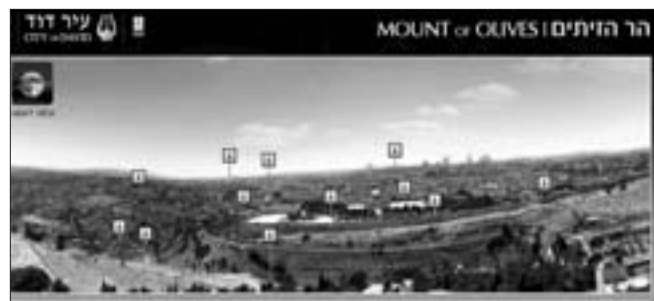
When I'm researching families who, at one time, lived in these mountain counties, I now check out what is listed on this website just to make sure that I've not overlooked what could be a valuable resource. Note that when you first visit the web-site, you will be greeted by an avatar named "C.A.T.", who will provide you with an overview of the site. If you prefer to explore on your own, simply mute your speakers before visiting. — DIANE L. RICHARD

MOUNT OF OLIVES CEMETERY

www.mountofolives.co.il/eng

THE GRAVES AT THE world's oldest Jewish cemetery — that on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem— are in the process of being indexed and placed on the Internet. You can search for a person by last name, first name and date of death. Or, you can browse a section of the cemetery, zoom in to see the graves and then, for any tan-colored graves, you can click on it and learn more information. The above link is for an English-language interface (there is also a Hebrew interface and a Russian one) which is very easy to use and the map tools are similar to those you might have experienced with other map sites. Though, if you run into an error — it always pops up in Hebrew!

Even if you are not researching anyone who might be buried in this historic cemetery, do check



out the information on ancient Jerusalem, view the interactive timeline and just browse around the site — it is impressive. — DIANE L. RICHARD

ICON — NEWSPAPER DIGITIZATION

<http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm>

THE INTERNATIONAL COALITION on Newspapers (ICON) is a multi-institutional cooperative effort to increase the availability of international newspaper collections by improving both bibliographic and physical access to these resources, and to preserve global cultural heritage through the preservation of international newspaper collections held in the United States and

abroad. What this means for genealogists and family historians is that we have increased access to information about non-US newspapers.

The main newspaper database, <http://icon.crl.edu/database.php>, provides information on newspapers published outside of the United States and includes bibliographic descriptions of titles as well as specific information on institutions' holdings of the same. The

database contains information on international newspaper collections available in North American libraries and in selected libraries outside North America. And, some of the newspapers published outside of the US have English-language versions, such as the *International Herald Tribune*, published in Paris since 1967 — a newspaper I have read when traveling abroad. Now we have an easy way to find

out what newspapers may have been published and are available for the communities where our ancestors emigrated from and/or passed through on their journey to the US or Canada.

And, with more and more newspapers being digitized, it is also a great site to see what newspapers might be digitized and/or what digitization projects might exist, <http://icon.crl.edu/digitization.htm>. I was wondering what newspapers might exist for Paris (France) and Berlin (Germany) as I was tracking someone who traveled from the US to the UK and then, on the European continent, got arrested for "theft" in 1908, before we lose track of him. Since he was arrested in Cologne on the way to Paris and transported back to Berlin, according to a few US newspaper reports at

the time, could we learn more in the local newspapers of the time? I learned that newspapers for both Paris (searchable) and Berlin (browseable) are online. Now I have to decide if my rusty French and dictionary caliber German are up to the task of delving into these newspaper archives! — DIANE L. RICHARD



BRITAIN'S SMALL WARS

www.britains-smallwars.com

When this site was created and developed, its aim, which remains, was to record those conflicts since 1945 in which British service personnel have been called upon to do their duty. It reports, as much as possible, through the eyewitness accounts of those involved and has created Honor Rolls, where none existed before, for those who gave their lives in service to their country. As such, it is dedicated to the men and women who served in the mostly forgotten conflicts that occurred in India, Palestine, Malaya, Korea, Suez Canal Zone, Kenya, Cyprus, Suez 1956, Borneo, Vietnam, Aden, Radfan, Oman, Dhofar, Northern Ireland, the Falklands War, the Gulf War, Bosnia, Kosovo, Sierra Leone, Iraq and many more.

The coverage for many of the conflicts is extensive and detailed. I learned a lot about some familiar conflicts and a lot about conflicts and places that I was previously unfamiliar with. Whether your inter-



est is in history or those who served, do check out this jam packed website.

— DIANE L. RICHARD

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