Newspaper Necessities:

Getting the Most Out of Your Search Plus, Using Free Genealogy Web Sites and Subscription Newspaper Databases



Presented by Tina Beaird

TYPES OF NEWSPAPER FINDS

- **×** Births and Christenings
- ★ Birthdays and special events
- **★** School accomplishments
- **★** Weddings, anniversaries, divorces
- **x** Employment
- **★** Military Service
- **★** Social interactions, clubs, memberships
- **★** Deaths, funerals, memorials

ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY

- * There are more to old newspapers than births, marriages and deaths.
 - + Small town newspapers reported EVERYTHING!
 - × Look for birth notices and christening/Baptism announcements under 'community news' or 'society columns'
 - × Birthday announcements (doesn't matter what age)
 - × Awards and accomplishments: Dean's lists and sports stars
 - × Graduation announcements/programs for the graduating grade/high school classes
 - × Community service: Lyons Club, Knights of Columbus, Kiwanis Club, American Legion
 - × Vacations, family reunions, family visits
 - × New home construction/moving/renting
 - × Disasters: floods, fires, earthquakes...

ADOPTION NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Birthdays Christenings Adoptions to All Whom It May Concern that a petition for adoption has been filed by the petitioners, Vincent M. Zembrzuski and Gertrude B. Zembrzuski, in the County Court of Will County, Illinois, whereby the petitioners seek to adopt the said James Twins Observe William Riggs. Now unless you appear by May 19, 1947 and show cause against such applications, the Have Birthday Parties petition shall be taken as confessed, and a default entered against you, and a decree of adoption entered. Dated this 15th day of April A. D. 1947. Joseph H. Hartley Clerk of the above named court J. Hinton Massey Chalstrom Bldg., Joliet, Illinois Attorney of Petitioners. Mrs. Mat Fahey presented her husband with a young attorney on Saturday night He is a fine boy and his father is hap; y. ?

STUCK IN THE MIDDLE WITH YOU

- * Engagement announcements
 - + Many have photos included
- **×** Wedding Announcements
 - + Descriptions of the event replete with descriptions of the dresses and flowers!
- × Yes Divorces
 - + You can also find hints towards divorce files by looking at the 'Public Notice' sections for name changes
- **×** Anniversary Announcements
 - + Parties, get-togethers

nts Boston Not Grounds for Diverce.

Boston A sneege even of the openraced viriety, and perpetrated at the
submet lable, is not sufficient grounds
for diverce according to Judge Walt.
The judge declared that the woman
was not justified in leaving her husband.

PARENTS BALK:

NURSE ELOPES

abeth Jones, Plainfield' Belle, Reported Married

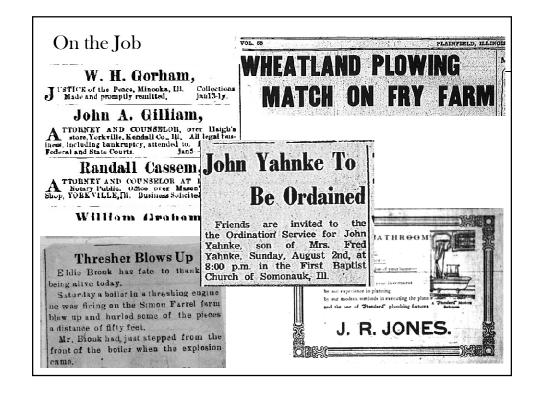
in Chicago.

* Military Service:

+ Enlistments, Service awards, Furloughs, Discharges

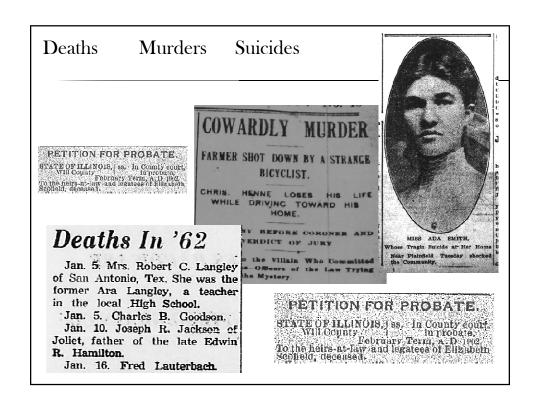






IN THE END...

- * Think outside of the obituary box
- * There are other ways to look for death information
- ★ Probate Notices were typically run for 30-90 days after the date of death to allow creditors time to settle with the estate
- ★ Mortuary or death notices (usually) weekly notices of deaths from the previous week. Name, date of death and address only
- ★ Coroner's Inquest notices sometimes were run for persons who died from unnatural causes
- ★ Cards of Thanks from families to thank the community for their sympathies during their difficult time
- × Year-in-review columns



WWW.ANCESTRY.COM/ ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

- ***** <u>www.Ancestry.com</u> has a much larger newspaper collection than Ancestry Library Edition including:
 - + The Historical Newspaper Collection
 - + Obituary Collection
 - + Historical Newspapers Birth, Marriage and Death Announcements (1850-2003)
- **★** Search each individual newspaper databases for best results
 - + Only 80-85% of their databases are indexed within the surname search on the homepage
 - + Search by surname first then by given name. OCR search is horrible
- * Ancestry Library edition is only available inside libraries, there is not remote access. They have 90% of what Ancestry.com has... What they're missing? Newspapers!

AMERICA'S GENEALOGY BANK

- **★** Full-Text newspapers available from 1690-1977 including:
 - + Philadelphia Inquirer (1860-1922)
 - + Chicago Inter Ocean (1874-1896)
 - + Boston Gazette (1719-1798, 1800-1820)
 - + New York Herald (1802-1830)
 - + Digitized everything; advertisements, classifieds, etc...
 - + OCR text reader marginal, but better than other programs
- * America's Newspapers (national coverage, various years)
 - + Abstracts of newspapers, no PDF's of articles or front pages
 - + Currently, our library only has local papers.
- * America's Obits & Death Notices (national coverage, various years)
 - + Abstracts of newspapers, no PDF's of articles or front pages

WWW.FOLD3.COM

- ★ Historical Newspapers including
 - + London Times (1785-1820)
 - + Chicago Tribune (1870-1923)
 - + San Francisco Chronicle (1865-1923)
 - + Fort Wayne Indiana Newspapers (various dates)
- **★** Searchable within publication by
 - + Year
 - + Month
 - + Date
 - + Page Number
 - + Search Term



WWW.ARCHIVES.COM & WWW.WORLDVITALRECORDS.COM

- * www.archives.com
 - + Access to Newspaper Archives
 - + A subsidiary to Newspaper Archives
 - + Limited to 10 article downloads per day
 - + Fabulous collection of downstate Illinois Newspapers
- **x** <u>www.worldvitalrecords.com</u>
 - + Good assortment of small digitized newspaper collections
 - + Best collection of Iowa newspapers that I have found on the Internet



PROQUEST HISTORIC NEWSPAPERS

- ➤ ProQuest Digitized everything; advertisements, classified, weather reports etc...
- **★** Available at most university libraries & larger public libraries
- **★** Includes Digital copies of newspapers
 - + New York Times
 - + Washington Post
 - + Chicago Tribune
 - + Los Angeles Times
- **★** OCR text searching available (better than most)
- **★** PDF images of all newspaper articles
- **★** Option to view article or entire page

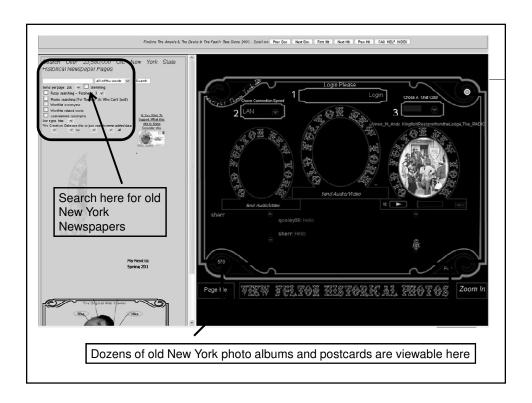


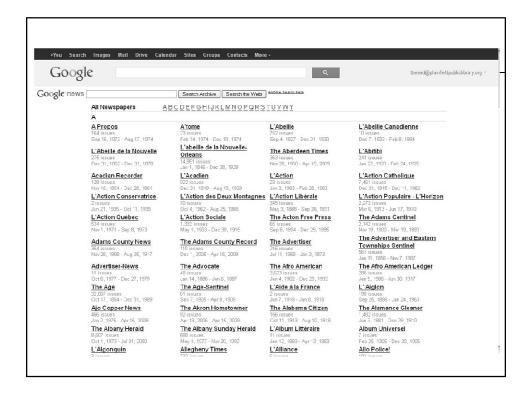
DIGITAL NEWSPAPER COLLECTIONS

- **★** Chronicling America: http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/
- **★** Google News Archive http://news.google.com/news/advanced news search?as drrb=a
- **★** Listing of All Google Newspapers http://news.google.com/newspapers
- **★** Digital Public Library: http://dp.la
 - + Growing consortium of library digital collections. Some newspaper collections included
- ★ Fulton History(New York Newspapers): http://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html



- **★** Colorado Newspaper Collections: http://www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org
- **★** Utah Digital Newspapers http://www.lib.utah.edu/digital/unews/





DIGITAL NEWSPAPER COLLECTIONS

- **★** Hyde Park Herald http://hpherald.com/new-and-improved-digital-archives
- **×** Californian Digital Newspaper Collection: http://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=p&p=home&e=-----en--20--1--txt-txIN------
- ★ Pennsylvania Digitized Newspaper Collections from Penn State: http://www.libraries.psu.edu/psul/digipres/panp/freehistoricpanewspapers. html
- ★ North-Western Iowa Newspapers: Login dickinsoncounty Password: archive http://lakepark.newspaperarchive.com/Default.aspx
- **★** Olden Times http://theoldentimes.com/news.htm
 - + To search this website you have to click on "Search" in the white box on the right side



INDEXED NEWSPAPER COLLECTIONS

Indexed Newspaper Collections:

- Illinois Historical Library Obit Index: http://www2.illinois.gov/alplm/library/collections/newspaper/Pages/default.aspx
- Los Angeles, CA Obit Index: http://www.lapl.org/resources/indexes/rip.html
- Ohio Obituary Index: http://index.rbhayes.org/hayes/index/
- St. Louis Dispatch Obituary Index from the St. Louis Public Library: http://www.slpl.org/slpl/gateways/article240117800.asp
- Omaha Nebraska newspaper Indexes: http://omahaobits.wordpress.com/
- ★ Southern Minnesota Newspapers: http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~laneblood/newsmn.html
- ★ Troy N. Y. Newspapers (click on projects): http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nytigs

MORE NEWSPAPER COLLECTIONS

- ★ National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) http://www.loc.gov/ndnp/
- **★** Obituaires 101 http://www.big101.com/OBITUARIES101.htm
 - + Only current obituaries are free. Abstracts of current obits, not original images.
- * The Illinois Newspaper Project: www.library.uiuc.edu/inp/
 - + Comprehensive index to all known published IL newspapers. No digital copies available.
- * Rootsweb <u>www.Rootsweb.ancestrv.com</u>
 - + Volunteer obituary look-ups: http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~obitl/
- * About.com http://genealogy.about.com/od/historic online/
 - + Volunteer obituary look-ups This is a hard web site to search. You MUST read the instructions first. These are abstracts of newspapers only.

TIPS AND TRICKS FOR GETTING THE MOST OUT OF NEWSPAPERS:

- * Family and friends as an additional source of information
 - + Check the newspapers where your ancestor's relatives lived. They would often report on the deaths of family members
- **★** In the absence of nothing...Something!
 - + Use newspaper articles detailing events (accidents, military incursions etc...) You might not find information specific to your ancestor, but you can fill in pertinent details of the experience for your family history
- × Cast a wider net
 - + Sensational events were often picked up by the AP and other news agencies and run across the country. Don't rule out 'search hits' in other states if they match your timeline

ON-SITE NEWSPAPER RESOURCES

- ★ Wisconsin State Historical Society (Madison, WI)
 - + Largest circulating collection of newspapers in the Midwest
 - + To browse the collection visit: www.wisconsinhistory.org/genealogy/newspapers/
- * Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library (Springfield, IL)
 - + Statewide Illinois newspaper collection on microfilm
 - + Listing of available newspapers here: www.illinoishistory.gov/lib/newspaper.htm
- * The Allen County Public Library's Genealogy Center
- ★ Has an extensive newspaper collection on microfilm http://www.genealogycenter.org/Pathfinders/NewspaperMicrofilm.aspx
- × Your Local Library!
 - + Microfilm can often be ordered to your library by reference staff

CHICAGO & COOK CO. RESOURCES

- ***** University of Chicago: Regenstein Library 1100 E. 57th St. Chicago, IL
 - + Large collection of local newspapers, including foreign language presses
 - + Visit <u>www.uchicago.edu</u> and then click on Library to search their computer catalog. Newspapers on microfilm both national and international films
 - + Chicago's foreign language presses can be found at the Center for Research Libraries' web page (CRL is a by-appointment only library): http://www.crl.edu/content.asp?l1=5&l2=23&l3=44&l4=26
- * Chicago Public Library: Herald Washington Branch 400 S. State St. Chicago, IL
 - + Not as big as University of Chicago's collection but has slightly better parking
 - + Chicago Daily News
 - + Chicago Inter Ocean
 - + Chicago Sun-Times
- * Newberry Library: 60 E. Walton Chicago, IL
 - + Only the Chicago Tribune on microfilm, no other papers