



Director's Message *by Wayne Stoker*

Take Courage as We Move Forward!

I love to reflect upon my grandfather's era, and the wisdom he shared from his life experiences. To a young teenager interested in keeping my first car looking its best, he gave this good advice, "If you keep your hubcaps shiny and white walls white, the whole car will look clean". That seemed to work for the old 1949 Studebaker I drove in High School. I



can't pass that wisdom on to my grandsons though, because cars no longer have hub caps to keep shiny and bright, nor whitewalls to scour until they are white. Things change.

Grandpa thought he lived in the very best era because he saw all the modern things happen. He was there when the first automobile came to town, he saw the first airplane fly over the city, and he was excited to provide his children a new-fangled radio that the whole family could quietly gather around to hear a little bit of news about the War, or on the lighter side, to follow the antics of Fibber McGee and Molly.



He proudly invited friends and family in to watch his new television for two or three hours of entertainment each night followed by a test pattern that was broadcast most other times during the day. He did live to see the first manned space flight, and with that, was certain he had seen every advance that was in store for man. If Grandpa could only see us now, almost fifty years later!

True, we did not live through the dramatic change from an agrarian to a space-age economy like grandpa did, but what has recently happened to us in the information-technology age is astounding! What is happening in Family History is astounding!

What we are able to do in Family History today we could not do five years ago, we could not do it one year ago, in fact some things we could not do last week. In developing FamilySearch Family Tree, the LDS Church has done a marvelous thing. They are releasing each new development as it is completed – piece by piece, allowing us to use these new technologies and data bases immediately to help us in

our genealogical search. Each morning we have to check to see what is new!

For those of us that are older, fast moving changes can be intimidating, but take courage and grab ahold. Understanding that it can be a bit disconcerting to find things constantly changing, we have developed a training schedule of over 140 classes each month to help you. Be courageous! Come on down to the FamilySearch Library and you will find two or more classes scheduled for every shift, morning, afternoon or evening. We want you to feel the same excitement we feel and we will take you gently by the hand to make sure you reach your Family History destination. All you need to bring is your desire, a few old family photographs and your recollection of a few good family stories.

We look forward to seeing you here.

Received Your Free Partner Accounts Yet?

All Las Vegas valley LDS Church members should have received, in July, an invitation by e-mail to open their free accounts to **Ancestry.com**, **findmypast.com** and **MyHeritage.com**.

If you have **lost your invitation, or did not receive one**, you can access the invitation by visiting the following website: <http://bit.ly/ldsmemberaccess>. *In order to receive an invitation you must have an active FamilySearch account with a valid e-mail address showing in the account.*

If you have opened accounts with these sites, but are running into **"paywalls"** when you try to use them (requests for you to purchase the information on the sites), that suggests there was an error while you were signing up. You must sign up using the links in the invitation. If you do not go through the links in the e-mail, you will likely receive a commercial or trial version. Try again, using the invitation e-mail. You should not have to pay for any information on these sites.

Please come to the Las Vegas FamilySearch Library for further assistance if you are not able to get signed up following the above procedures.

Helpful Websites *from Sandy Jackson*

<https://treeseek.com/> Visualize your genealogy, easily create many different kinds of charts with you data gathered from FamilySearch.org. AND try out the **Source Tracker**. This website shows you how many sources are on

your individuals, what census years have been attached and has a search feature for missing possible census.

Getting to Know You *by Theresa Timony*

Elder Bob Petersen was born in Clarkston, Utah in 1939, where Martin Harris is buried. He met the love of his life, Carol, in 1981 in Las Vegas, and FINALLY married her in 1992. Between them, they have 8 children, 20 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Missionary work is his passion. He is grateful for the opportunity to serve in the Las Vegas Family Search Library with his wife Carol 4 days a week, and on the Saturday evening shift at the LV Temple. We hope that many people will come here to hear him bear his testimony of the work.



Sister Carol Judd Petersen was born in San Diego, CA. She has earned 2 degrees, nutrition and elementary education. As a single mother of 6 children, she met Bob at a Single's Conference in Las Vegas, in 1981. They dated for 1 ½ years, but she ended up marrying someone else. After 11 years, they met again, and she "punked" him by dressing up like an old, old lady to see how he would react. He passed Carol's test. He kept the promise he had made to her, and followed the prompting he had received 11 years earlier to take Carol to the temple. What a great story for their posterity. We are so glad they keep journals! They have been serving together at the Family Search Library for 3 years. We love them and appreciate all they do.

Genealogy Insights *by Gail Gibbs*



FindMyPast (FMP) - Very different but same old friend. Recently I had the opportunity to review one of our new partner sites, www.findmypast.co.uk, (the U.S. version is www.findmypast.com.) and I discovered some exciting features you might be interested in. **First** off, their records are not just UK. They have a world search which includes India, Ireland, United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, plus newspapers from Copenhagen, Darmstadt, Johannesburg, Kingston, Paris, Shanghai, and Tokyo. **Second**, after 10 years FMP has updated their technology to enable upload of 100 record sets in 100 days. (100 in 100), one set being an Irish Census. **Third**, there are new search features that allow search in any field on its own (such as by maiden name, or address or occupation); search in multiple data bases at the same time, for example UK census, passenger list, and U.S. census records; and use of filters to narrow down results, for example typing in the name of a parish would let you browse and then narrow down to births

and baptisms. **Fourth**, you can watch episodes of WDYTIA from the findmypast.co.uk website by scrolling to the bottom on left. FMP has a new smartphone app coming soon called "Capture". Hope you enjoy this new partner site!

Mark Your Calendars

- **High Priest Group Leader Training** **Wed 27 Aug 2014**
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 7:00 p.m.
- **Family History Consultant Training** **Thurs 28 Aug 2014**
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 6:30 p.m.
- **Las Vegas Family History Jamboree** **Sat 6 Sep 2014**
221 South Lorenzi Las Vegas 8 am to 3:30 pm
- **2014 Family History Conferences**
http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Upcoming_Conferences

LVFSL Training

Las Vegas FamilySearch Library August Classes

<http://www.lvfamilysearchlibrary.org>

The August class schedule is also attached to this email.

Indexing Info *from Tom Jackson*

I know my area is indexing but a conversation I overheard has compelled me to make an observation about the work we do. I was sitting quietly, waiting for Sandy to get out of her last class at the Family History and Genealogy Convention when I saw a woman approach one of the vendors and ask for help with her calling as a Family History Consultant. Evidently she has been unable to get the instruction she needed. The salesman was very patient and talked her through the problem. As she was getting ready to leave she added a remark that saddened me. Indeed it depressed me a bit. As near as I can remember she told the salesman that she dreaded teaching old people how to use FamilySearch and the other programs available as she felt she could do it better and faster on her own as it took so long to get them up to speed.

I think she has missed the point entirely. We do not teach for ourselves. Other than the blessings that come as a result of our willingness to sacrifice our time for the teaching; we do not get much more than satisfaction in knowing we have helped another person learn how to find their ancestors and prepare them for celestial blessings.

The purpose of teaching lies in helping someone, anyone learn to do for themselves. We become facilitators; we become partners in the accomplishments. That is why we must teach anyone, regardless of their age or abilities. We must teach everyone. Sure, it can be frustrating. As it says in the movie "17 Miracles", "It will all be worth it!" We do it because we can; because we should; because we must.