

Minutes of Our Meeting

By Renee Zamora and Marie Andersen

Held at: Edgemont Stake, “Red Chapel,” at 4000 N. East Timpview Dr. (650 East) Provo, Utah
Saturday, 12 June 2010

The introductory business appears at the end of these minutes.

Introduction of Speaker, Andrea Schnakenburg, by Laurie Castillo

Andrea Schnakenburg is the Training Coordinator at Ohana Software where she organizes and teaches various free webinars (online seminars). After graduating from BYU with a Bachelor of Science degree in 2007, she started work with Ohana Software as a graphic designer. That’s when she really caught the genealogy bug and she has been learning and teaching ever since. She recently returned to Utah after living in Hawaii where she had started her work with Ohana Software. She is the user interface designer for the Ordinance Tracker for Ohana Software’s FamilyInsight. Andrea and her husband do proctor care for teenagers. She is headed for Row Two of the pedigree chart (expecting a baby) in October.

Andrea Schnakenburg – How to Light a Fire Under Your Ward

Understand The Needs of ward members. This can be done by a survey and by talking to the members individually

- Computer Skills
- Pictures and Heirlooms in boxes
- Close Family Member really interested in family history.
- Are they interested in a personal history?
- Do they have a family genealogist?

Survey advantages:

- Quick and Easy
- Comprehensive Info
- Identifies Individuals
- Pinpoints Group Needs

Examples of surveys can be found at: <http://ohanasoftware.com/>

Click on: Community > FHC Ideas > Family History Questionnaires

My mother found out their ward needed basic computer skills. This helped them plant the seed for doing genealogy once they taught these skills.

Take an Interest – speak with ward members about:

- Parents and Grandparents
- Heirlooms
- Family Stories
- Anything

Electricity – Intense, contagious, emotional excitement

What if everyone had that throughout your ward?

Build “supports” to allow your power lines to carry the excitement to the members of your ward.

Then give each member the utilities they need to enjoy the work.
Continue to provide power

Build Supports – hold it off the ground, keep it moving

- Activities
- Classes
- Fliers & Information

Take Your Ancestor to the Temple Day.

- activities for adults, youth and children

Connect Your Power Lines – Stake, High Priest Group, Relief Society, Young Men & Young Women, Primary – Get support of your leadership

- Use them to gather information
- Discuss and customize activities to each group
- Get feedback afterward

Indexathon - Indexing Contest for Young Women

Have every child find a census record

Set Up Personal Utilities – meet one on one

- Meet with individuals to give them the needed knowledge & tools
- “Get My Ancestors” Ohana Software utility – download small starter file off new FamilySearch (nFS)
- PAF
- FamilyInsight, Ancestral Quest, Legacy, RootsMagic – All have a bridge to nFS

Provide Continuous Power

As directors and consultants you are the heartbeat of the work

- help them when they hit a wall in their research

Road Blocks:

- Time
- Men want their wives to do it all
- insecurity
- ‘already done’
- where do you start?
- lack of excitement – they will make time if they have excitement in them

Lack of Excitement - How do we combat it?

1. Focus on one at a time.
2. Be brave. Ask for an appointment to meet with them in their home or at your Family History Center.
3. Get the Joy of Discovery
 - “Get My Ancestors” utility
 - Start with Sources
 - Record Search
 - FamilySearch
 - Principle of Research
4. Everything is Easier with a Buddy – Just ask us. Help keep them engaged in the work.
5. Do some preliminary searching for their family members, then TEACH them a principle of

research and let them search for that person. They should have success because you scouted ahead.

6. Remember! – let them do the driving and make mistakes. If you tell how and where to go, they won't be able to find information without you. The process is half the fun!

Ideas

-Trek – Find a pioneer ancestor to learn more about.

-Indexathon – young and young adults. All-night marathon for young adults doing indexing, (formerly called extraction).

-Weekly “Personal History Questions” or “Genealogy Tip” in the sacrament meeting program

-Relief Society Focus Group – could be used with buddy system – meet once a week and talk about the successes or goals for the week.

-Family Finder Night – everyone in the ward gets a FamilySearch Login, Search Record Search and Download a starter file using Get My Ancestors.

-Your Ancestors sacrificed. Now it's your turn. Have a speaker come and talk about ancestors and temple work. Challenge everyone to sacrifice something for an ancestor. Example: one hour of Date Night to go to the temple. Give up one hour of t.v. to do research.

-Cousin parties – Ward members find out how they are related to each other. Or pedigrees on the interior walls of church building so members see how they may be related

-Digital Roots helps you find how you are related to others using Ancestral File Numbers. BYU's Center for Family History and Genealogy created this software.

[Note: Digital Roots, now called Relative Finder, is about to begin beta testing a new version that uses the ID system in newFamilySearch.. For info, or a tutorial for the current version, see: <http://roots.cs.byu.edu/digroots/>]

-Help members find contributors of information on nFS to collaborate with.

-Set one hour on a Fast Sunday afternoon to work on family history.

Email: andrea@ohanasoftware.com for any additional ideas that can be added to the handout.

This presentation is available on DVD #210 for UVPFUG members to borrow or purchase. The handout (with additional details) is posted online for anyone to access at <http://www.uvpafug.org/classes/index.html> (Listed alphabetically by instructor).

General Business:

Conducting: Laurie Castillo

Opening Prayer: Renee Zamora

A Small Success: Laurie Castillo

My name is Laurie *Werner* Castillo. My Werner ancestors were said to come from Baden- Baden in Baden Germany. I have wondered about them all my life.

I have searched for clues about Gebhard Werner, my second great-grandfather, many times to little result. One day I felt impressed to plug his name in to the Ancestry.com search window once again. To my utter surprise I actually got a hit in the message board section. A man was talking about a Gebhard Werner who had a son named Joseph that joined the military and ended up in Utah. Joseph was my my great-grandfather, and the only known son of the family. I had once been able to find a bit of information about the

family in the records of a defunct Catholic Church in Manhattan. I never could figure out what became of the two sisters Joseph mentioned.

I contacted this gentleman and my wish for a Werner cousin from one of Joseph's siblings came true. My new cousin Paul descends from Joseph's sister Barbara. He asked me where my information on Joseph came from and I said two places: Joseph's military records and the Catholic Church records I located in Manhattan.

He was shocked, as his ancestress Barbara Werner and her husband had been married in the Lutheran Church. Her husband Henry Wuest and his family had always been Lutheran. Joseph and Barbara's sister Anna had married in the same Lutheran Church parish.

Paul had assumed the Werners were Lutheran. He had never been able to locate the baptism of Joseph, Barbara or Anna, or a marriage record for Gebhard and Sophia or burial information for them in any Lutheran records. They are not buried near the family of either daughter. Paul was stumped. I had never been able to figure out what happened to Joseph's sisters. No trace of any marriage or burials for them was found in the Catholic parish where they were baptized. Joseph had married a Catholic girl and all of his children were baptized Catholic. It never occurred to me to check the records of other religious denominations for his sisters.

The coming together of our clues and thought processes made all of the difference. Paul and I hunted through naturalization indexes and dredged out more clues. Things fell in to place in Paul's mind and he knew what area to focus on in Baden. Thanks to our collaboration, he now knew not only which location in Germany to pursue but which denomination. This made all of the difference. Before I even knew it, Paul hired a qualified researcher in Germany who identified our ancestral hometown, Urloffen.

It has been so wonderful to have someone with whom to share this journey. We brainstorm and come up with much more – two heads really are better than one. Paul still lives and works in the NYC area and actually goes on site to test our theories, take pictures and search things only available there. I can access things in the FHL in Salt Lake. This situation is ideal in many ways. He knows things only a native of New York City and a genealogist would know.

This is a big success, really, but it came about simply through two cousins who kept looking for each other and then sharing what we had. I witnessed first hand as the blocks from two brick walls became a bridge to Germany.

Business & Announcements:

-10 July – open

-Following Users Group Meetings – 14 Aug, 11 Sep, 9 Oct, 13 Nov (Mark Your Calendar)

-Next Executive Committee Meeting – 30 Jun, Gerhard Ruf's home – 64 South 1000 East, Orem @ 7:00pm – open to all

- Family History Training Classes at BYU Library – 2nd & 4th Sundays
<http://www.lib.byu.edu/fslab/classes.html>
- Utah South Area Family History Training Center – 1075 S. Geneva Rd, Orem, 356-9114
www.familyhistorytraining.org
- Utah Valley Chapter Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) Meeting – 6pm, Thu, 17 Jun, 360 W 4800 N, Provo – Crista Cowan – Genealogy Games
- BYU Genealogy and Family History Conference – 27 -30 July – <http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen/>
- Riverton FamilySearch Library Open House – 17-19 June – 3740 West Market Center Drive (134th South & Bangerter) 1pm – 8pm Thurs and Fri, 10am-5pm Sat – for details see <http://wiki.familysearch.org/> “Riverton FamilySearch.”
- We will be truncating the minutes in our PAFology and putting them on the website. This will give us more room for articles.
- New series in PAFology “Quality Presentations You May Wish to Review” – video descriptions
- New FamilySearch Beta Test started this week.

Attendance: 96

- Using the NFS Help Center and Sandbox to Solve Problems: Duane Dudley (11)
- The Basics of Photoshop Elements: Barry Ewell (18)
- MAC or PC: The Best of Both Worlds: Larry Hudgins (4)
- FamilyInsight: Separating Incorrectly Combined Individuals: Andrea Schnakenburg (12)
- Personal Help with PAF and NFS: Don Engstrom & Finn Hansen (2)
- Video: Freeware and Shareware for Family History: Don & Diane Snow (0)
- Ancestral Quest 12.1: Merlin Kitchen (10)
- Legacy: 7.4: Dean Bennett (5)
- RootsMagic 4: Sue Maxwell (20)
- Administrative Group: (4)