

Computer Guide #6

Sharing Your Genealogy

Before You Share Your Pedigree:

Clean up your file. Assure that Names, Dates, and Places are written correctly.
Make a GEDCOM file.

Pedigree Resource File (PRF).

Permanently preserve your family history and share it with others. A copy of your files will be preserved in the Granite Mountain Records Vault near Salt Lake City. Pedigree information will be shared on compact disk and on the Internet. Note: Do not submit names of living relatives without their permission.

1. Go to www.familysearch.org.
2. Click on the "Share" tab.
3. Sign On.
4. You may read the information under the areas on the left. Just click and read.
5. Click on "I am Ready to Submit".
6. Read the instructions and click "I Accept".
7. Click "Browse" to locate your GEDCOM file on your computer. If you have it on a floppy disk, then make sure it is in the drive.
8. Type a brief description of your GEDCOM file.
9. If you have a Web Site you wish to link to this file, then type the address in the box provided. The Site will be viewed and O.K.'d.
10. Click on "Submit" at the bottom of the page and wait for a response from Familysearch. At the end of a successful upload, you will see a screen with your submission number verifying that they have received your GEDCOM file. Print the screen or write the number down for future reference. Your file will appear in a future PRF disk.

RootsWeb WorldConnect: a GEDCOM hosting service.

Advantage: You may revise and re-upload your file at any time.

1. Go to www.rootsweb.com.
2. Click on the "Family Trees" tab at the top of the page.
3. Under "Submit Your Family Tree to WorldConnect", click Start here. (You can also edit an existing file here.)
4. Type a User Code (such as your name), which will become part of the URL of the family tree, and a Password of your choice, which will remain private.
5. Choose standard or advanced setup.
6. Check the information on the "User Setup/Edit" screen. Add any information that is needed and check the options you wish to have connected to your family. (You may change your options at any time without having to resubmit your family tree.)
7. "Owner Information" will appear automatically from the information you entered on the preliminary submission page.
8. "Display Options"—You will need to add a Title. It will appear on every page within your family tree. The header and footer areas appear in smaller print. If you want the program to change your surnames to all uppercase (capital) letters, select Yes.

9. GEDCOM download options: “Yes” will allow others to download a maximum of six generations from any individual in your family tree. “No” means no one will be able to download any part of your file.
10. “Upload Options”—Type in the path to your GEDCOM. You will not be able to upload multiple disks for the same family tree.
11. RootsWeb will either Clean or Remove any living persons in your file. Clean means it will clean it using the options you specify. You can have first names replaced with the word “Living” or remove notes and sources on living persons. Remove means they will remove any living people from your file and process the rest using the options you specify.
12. After selecting “Options”, click Upload/Update.
13. You will receive confirmation when RootsWeb has downloaded the file. The confirmation will recap what was uploaded and provide a link to your family tree. Submitted information will be on RootsWeb WorldConnect within 24 hours. However, submitted or updated information may be viewed immediately by you to make sure the options are what you intended.
14. To your file, submit a new GEDCOM that will replace the old.

Note: It is not necessary to submit your information both to RootsWeb and Ancestry. They combine their databases.

Message Boards

GenForum—Find people who are looking for the same people for whom you are looking.

1. Go to www.genforum.com.
2. Choose a forum type—Surname, State, Countries, Wars, etc.
3. Queries are listed by date, newest first. Look for use Find (Ctrl F) to seek for what might be of interest.
4. Click on queries and follow-ups of interest.
5. To reply, Click here to post a follow-up message. Login. (Registration is required).
6. Type your question or reply.
7. To post a query, click “Post New Message” and login. Give your query a descriptive name. Type your query. Click to post your query.

RootsWeb or Ancestry: Find people who are looking for the same people for whom you are looking.

1. Go to www.rootsweb.com or www.ancestry.com.
2. Click on Message Boards.
3. Choose a surname, place, or topic.
4. Similar to GenForum.

Family Reunions

For reunion ideas, see www.family-reunion.com

Create a Web Page

Planting Your Family Tree Online: How to Create Your Own Family History Web Site, Cyndi Howells, available through www.amazon.com.