



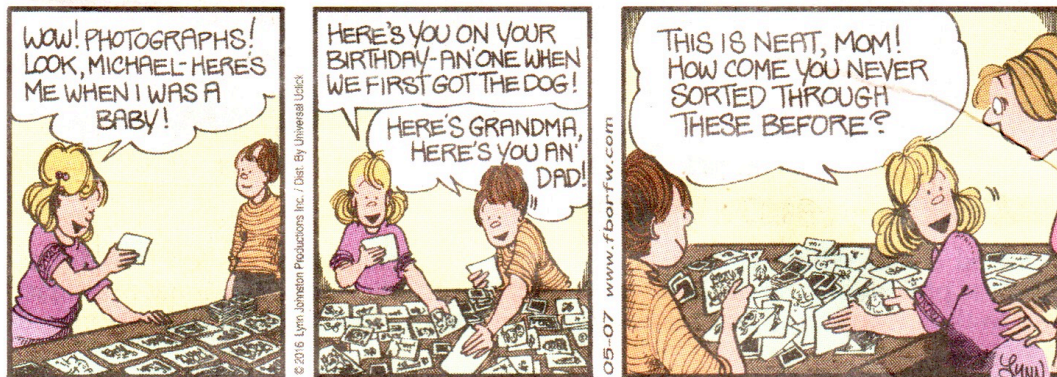
*April 2020*

**It's a New Normal**-It used to be "so many books, so little time"-now I'm finding "so much time, so little done." Strange indeed. When I retired, I remember wondering how come I seem to get less done than when I was working. **Now** we have all this time on our hands, let's not waste it. Here are some ideas for working on your genealogy::

## PHOTOS:

Label, or weed those photos which have piled up. This might include scanning and sending some to family, asking for help labeling them. It may require putting them in some kind of

### FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

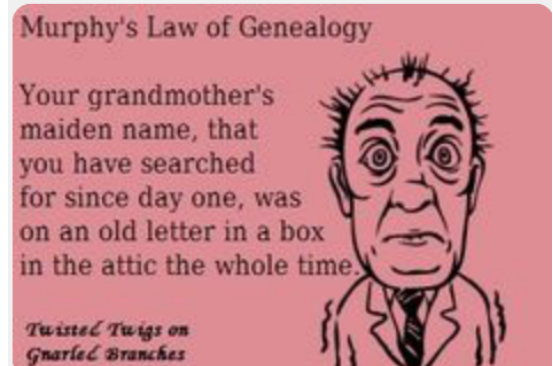


chronological order to help with the labeling. You also want to get archival pens, to label them and maybe archival folders or plastic sleeves for storing them. It would also be a good idea to scan at least some for

preservation and possibly to include them in a family history book or scrap book some day..

## PAPERS:

If you're like me, you have lots of papers: in notebooks, in folders or just piles in various places. Get some folders and using a large flat surface (floor maybe) begin organizing the papers in piles or folders to give a semblance of order. Start with broad categories: family surnames, states, countries and/or type of record (vital, other). Then, if time permits, refine the piles into specific families, states, countries or categories





### BRICK WALLS:

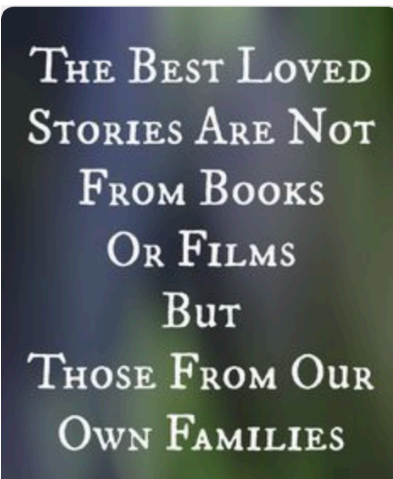
Almost each of us has a brick wall: a person, event or place we just can't seem to find. Try [familysearch.com](http://familysearch.com) (free) or other genealogy databases you may have and "play" with a variety of terms to find clues. Also, contact family, and review the papers and documents you have for clues. Try not to get sidetracked.

### CHRONOLOGIES:

Choose a relative and begin organizing his/her papers,

documents, information, in a rough time order, and, with a spreadsheet (or word processor, if it's easier), begin making a time line for that person. Repeat for another ancestor/descendant. This may also help with the brick wall problem or even help labeling some photos

### STORIES:



What a great time to reminisce. Find a photo, incident, place or relative and begin writing what you remember about that photo, event person or place. As your story pile grows (or not), these become a great treasure for your family. Share what you're doing, and some of the stories, with family; maybe they will be encouraged to do the same.

You may think of other possibilities (read/review old genealogy magazines, genealogy books, family history or other resources you have, etc.), but try to develop

a plan and set aside time. I'm finding I'm such a "multi-tasker" that I get little of a lot done; I'm going to see if I can change that and get a lot of a little done.

When we have meetings again, hopefully in September, maybe we can share our "COVID-19 Genealogy"

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**Genealogy Club Membership:** Dues for 2020-2021 are \$10 for WV residents; \$15 for Lancaster County Residents. Please use a check and make it out to *Willow Valley Genealogy Club* and mail it to Jim Robinson (Vistas 409)

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**Looking forward to 2020-2021** I'm looking for a few of you who may have time on your hands ☺ to contact me



### Willow Valley Genealogy Club Board

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and, through emails, begin planning our next 9 Genealogy programs. Some areas we might consider: Searching Female Ancestors (*Family Chronicles* May/June 2002 or *Family Tree Magazine* January 2008 have articles on finding female ancestors?), Searching for your Pennsylvania (or NY NJ) ancestors, Searching German (or UK, Scandinavian) ancestors. Are any of these of interest to you? Or do you have other topics in mind, Let me know (george@nettletons.net or 717-397-0439 or 0439 on the WV phone system).

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**Genealogy EXPO 2020:** This is temporarily on hold,

a little levity from a recent *Fishwrapper*:

Wrinkles are genetic,  
We get them from our children.