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Important Civil War artifacts discovered in Jefferson County

by Donahue Bible

Below is the latest chapter in historian Donahue Bible's quest to uncover the complete story of Greene County's Lick Creek bridgeburners. This follows his earlier article on the subject printed in *Tennessee Ancestors*, Volume 21 #2, August 2005. ETHS is pleased that Donahue has chosen to share this story with our readers. As a researcher and historian, Donahue Bible has made priceless contributions to the understanding of East Tennessee history. In 1998 he was recognized by ETHS with a Research Excellence Award for his study of the Greene County bridge-burners. His legacy will be appreciated for years to come through his writings and especially for his generosity in allowing some of these important artifacts to be a part of the ETHS signature exhibit. Donahue Bible is former member of the ETHS Board of Directors and past vice president for Upper East Tennessee. Editor.

A discovery of important pieces of East Tennessee Civil War history has been made in Jefferson County. Descendants of Captain David Fry of Greene County have been located in White Pine, Jefferson County. Captain Fry was once featured in an artist's drawing on the front cover of a nineteenth century national newspaper, as well as in article in the same issue.

The *Harper's Weekly* cover of March 29, 1862, depicted Captain Fry swearing in local Union men at the Greene County home of Jacob Harmon, Jr., on November 9, 1861. Those were the men who burned the Lick Creek Bridge of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad. That act cost the lives of five of Fry's men who were hanged by Confederate authorities. They were hanged in Greeneville and Knoxville.

Captain David Fry was sent back to Greene County from Camp Dick Robinson, Kentucky, in late October of 1861, one of three men who had been chosen to carry out the plans to secretly burn East Tennessee railroad bridges. The plan to burn the bridges had been personally approved by President Abraham Lincoln, in a White House meeting with Reverend W. B. Carter of upper East Tennessee.

The items relating to Captain David Fry were recently found in the possession of his descendants by Donahue Bible a Greene County man who has researched the burning of the Lick Creek bridge for almost fifty years. Only a few persons outside the small group of Fry's descendants knew of the existence of these historical pieces. Ironically, those families seem to have known more about Captain Fry's wife, Catherine Gorley (Gourley) than they did about her more famous husband.

Donahue Bible of Mohawk, discovered the artifacts in the possession of the descendants of Captain David Fry, and his wife Catherine S. Fry Tillet, where they have been preserved for 131 years. Fry's widow brought them to Jefferson County, from Greene County in 1875, when she married William Tillet.

After Captain David Fry's death in Greeneville in September of 1872, Catherine Fry married William Tillet of Jefferson County and brought her youngest daughter, 9 year-old Ida M. Fry, to live there with them.

Catherine S. Gorley (Goreley, Gourley) was born in Carter County, Tennessee on May 5, 1824, the seventh of ten children of Mary (Polly) Patton and James Gourley of Carter County. How she came to Greeneville and how and where she met David Fry are not known.

David Fry, born December 4, 1825, was a young (22 year-old) Tennessee volunteer in the Mexican War. He enlisted as a private in Company G, 5th Tennessee Infantry at Knoxville, on November 10, 1847, and was discharged at Memphis on July 20, 1848. David Fry may have been originally from Jefferson County, but that is not certain. On September 2, 1849, David Fry and Catherine "Goreley," were united in marriage by Rev. John P. Holsinger in Greene County.

David and Catherine S. Fry were living in Greene County in December of 1850 when the census was enumerated. No Fry children were listed, but Eliza G. Dunbar, age 32, and her two children James, age 4, and George,



Colonel David Fry and Catherine Gorley Fry

Important Civil War artifacts discovered in Jefferson County

age 2, were shown living in the Fry household. Eliza Dunbar was the sister of Catherine S. Fry. David Fry's occupation was listed as "tenant," living in the "9th division East District."

In the 1860 Greene County census enumerated in June of that year, David and Catherine Fry were shown with five children—Ann E., age 11, James A., age 8, Edmond N., age 7, Samuel M., age 6, and Sarah A., age 2. Occupation of David Fry was shown as "miller." He owned real estate valued at \$3000 and personal property valued at \$600, and was living in the 2nd district.

In September of 1861, David Fry enlisted in the Union Army as a private at Camp Dick Robinson, Kentucky and was mustered the following month (October) at Camp Wildcat, Kentucky, as captain in command of Company "F" of the 2nd Tennessee Volunteer Infantry.

That unit, after June of 1862, was mounted and known as 2nd Tennessee Mounted Infantry. Captain David Fry spent much of his Union Army service in command of that company, but he was also imprisoned by the Confederates throughout much of the war. According to his military records, he was promoted to "lieutenant colonel of scouts" and transferred in late 1863. His new regiment was not named.

In his pension records there is an official letter which states that "He was only Commissioned and not mustered into the 12th Tenn. Cav. as Lt. Col. But was mustered as Capt. Co F 2nd Tenn. Infy." No date for the lieutenant colonel commission is given in the letter.

It was as commanding officer of Company "F" of the 2nd Tennessee Volunteer Infantry, that Capt. David Fry became well known for leading the local men of "Pottertown" in western Greene County, to burn the Lick Creek Bridge of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad on the night of November 8-9, 1861. His leadership of the East Tennessee bridge-burners was portrayed on the front cover of *Harpers Weekly*, March 29, 1862. He was referred to on the cover, and in the inside article as "Col Fry."

Why he was often referred to as Colonel Fry poses somewhat a mystery. There has been no record found that he held a militia commission prior to the Civil War.

It is possible that he was an officer in the United States army in the time between his Mexican War service and his enlistment at Camp Dick Robinson, Kentucky in the fall of 1861.

There is little doubt that David Fry had once been a full colonel. There is an existing photograph of David and Catherine Fry that has been preserved by the Fry descendants since 1897, when Catherine Fry died in Jefferson County. That photograph clearly shows David Fry in the dress uniform of a full colonel seated beside his wife Catherine. When the photograph was removed from its oval-shaped wooden frame, the wording "Col David Fry and Catherine Gorley Fry" was found clearly written in a bold, beautiful handwriting from the period.

The Civil War exploits, and capture and escape of Captain David Fry and the hardships he endured as a prisoner condemned to death are well-known by

Civil War historians and too numerous to cover in this story. He escaped from the Atlanta Confederate prison on the night of October 14, 1862—the night before he was to be executed.

Catherine Fry, in her own right, became a woman feared and hated by the Confederate authorities. They accused her of spying for the Union, although she was confined to the town of Greeneville by the Confederate authorities after



Mike Woods (great, great grandson of Colonel David Fry) holding Colonel David Fry's Saber

the burning of the Lick Creek Bridge.

She was credited with assisting in the death of Confederate General John Hunt Morgan in that town. She was said to have observed Morgan leaving by the back entrance of the Williams house and alerted nearby Union soldiers to his identity. One of those soldiers is said to have shot Morgan after Catherine Fry pointed him out.

Captain David Fry was mustered out of Union service at Knoxville, Tennessee in 1865, after serving parts of four years—in and out of Confederate prisons. By special order number 137 issued from the War Department, dated March 21, 1865, he was given an honorable discharge, as a paroled prisoner. He returned to Greeneville at that time. He had been badly wounded, and applied for a Union Army veteran's pension in 1866.

By the time of the next census taken in June of 1870, the Fry couple had an additional child named Ida M. Fry, age 4 (Ida M. Fry later married J.W. Woods in

Jefferson County in 1888).

The 1870 census listed David Fry as a "farmer," with \$2300 value in real estate, and personal property valued at \$400. The family was living in the 10th Civil District of Greene County. Either the effects of the war or a general devaluation had taken a toll on their property values.

In early September of 1872, David Fry was injured by a train near the Greeneville Railroad Depot. He was paralyzed from the waist down and lived about three weeks. Realizing that he was nearing death, Fry made a desperate attempt to recover legal papers that he had submitted to the U.S. Government Pension Office in 1866 when his pension claim was reviewed and denied.

Among those papers was his proof of Union Army military service, his discharge, and most importantly, his orders from General George H. Thomas, issued at Camp Dick Robinson, Kentucky, in October, 1861, calling for the burning of the East Tennessee railroad bridges. Although David Fry made personal pleas for the return of those papers on his death-bed and was assisted in his efforts by well-known Greeneville resident Blackstone McDannel, the U.S. Government Pension Commissioner never returned them to him. At least four such requests are found in David Fry's pension records. The first request had been made by Robert McKee of Greeneville.

The bridge-burning incident and the failure of the government to carry out its promise to protect the families of the bridge-burners, had become a source of much embarrassment to the United States Government. Today, it is the opinion of many that the pension authorities were ordered at the highest levels of the government to never return David Fry's copy of the bridge-burning orders.

David Fry died of his injuries on September 19, 1872, and was buried at the old Mt. Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery, at the present-day intersection of Snapps's Ferry Road and Tusculum Boulevard in the town of Greeneville. His grave was once marked by the official grave marker issued by the United States government, but it disappeared sometime between the years of 1937 when it was recorded by the WPA and the 1960s when another listing of the Mt. Bethel graves was made. A new government grave marker has been ordered for his grave.

Catherine S. Fry and her youngest child, Ida M. Fry, continued to live in Greeneville until September of 1875 when Catherine S. Fry married William Tillet of Jefferson County. They were married in Greene County on September 14, 1875. In the 1880 Jefferson County census, Catherine is shown as the wife of

William Tillet living in the 4th Civil district of Jefferson County. Ida Fry, age 13, the youngest child of David and Catherine Fry, was living in the William Tillet household.

Catherine Tillet is next found in the 1890 "Veteran's Census", listed as "Kate" Tillet, "formerly widow of Fry, David, Capt. Co. F., 2nd Tenn. Inf. serving from

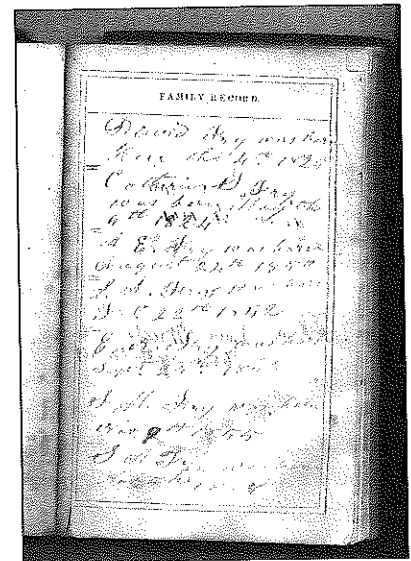
Oct. 1861, until 1865." Efforts to locate her grave in Jefferson County were unsuccessful, and the search was abandoned until early 2006, when time again permitted the search to be renewed.

Through the assistance of Cherel Henderson, director of the East Tennessee Historical Society, and Lura B. Hinchey, director of the Jefferson County Archives, the grave of Catherine S. Fry Tillet, was found in the town of White Pine in Jefferson County. She is buried under the name of "Catherine S. Fry." Her grave is in a row of six family members including her daughters, Ida Fry Woods and her unmarried daughter Sarah Alice Fry.

J.W. Woods who married Ida M. Fry is buried with them. It is not known why Catherine's grave marker lists her name as Fry, because all indications are that she was still married to William Tillet at the time of her death in January, 1897.

William Tillet did not die until 1900. He is buried in Jefferson City with his first wife and a son, both of whom were killed by lightning in the summer of 1838. Jefferson County records show that as late as 1896, Catherine Fry Tillet was still conducting joint business transactions (property transfers) with William Tillet, her husband.

In 1886, Catherine S. Tillet bought a house and lot on Main Street (Dandridge Road) in White Pine, putting it in her name and the names of her two then unmarried daughters, Sarah Alice Fry, and Ida M. Fry. In 1888, Ida M. Fry married J. W. (James Wiley) Woods in Jefferson County. He moved into the White Pine house with his wife, Ida M., her mother Catherine S. Tillet, along with Ida's unmarried sister Sarah Alice Fry (and presumably with William Tillet), although there



Colonel David Fry's family Bible records

has been no proof found that William Tillet lived with them.

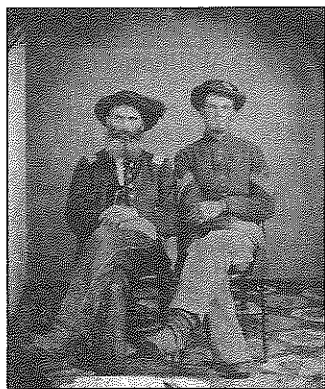
When Catherine S. Tillet died in 1897, her son-in-law J. W. Woods was named in her will as executor of her estate. J. W. Woods' wife, Ida M. Fry Woods, inherited one-half of the White Pine property, and Sarah Alice Fry received the other half. They all continued to live together in the house with the children of J. W. and Ida Fry Woods, until Ida M. Woods died in January of 1901. After that time J. W. Woods and his sister-in-law Sarah Alice Fry continued to live in the house until their deaths. Sarah Alice Fry died in 1934, and James W. Woods died in 1935. A church now sits on the former site of the Catherine S. Fry Tillet home in White Pine.

The small white house directly across the street from the former Tillet-Woods-Fry house was once the Sartain Funeral Home, owned by Gipsy R. Woods Sartain and her husband, Alfred Sartain. It operated as a funeral home from about 1920 to 1940. After about 1940, the house served as the home of the Sartains, after the funeral home practice was discontinued at that location. The saber of Colonel David Fry and the photograph of Colonel Fry and Catherine hung on the wall in that house for many years.

Gipsy R. Woods was the daughter of James W. Woods and Ida M. Fry Woods. She had a sister and a brother. Her sister, Bertie C. Woods Zollars lived in Asheville, North Carolina after her marriage, and her brother David B. "Bee" Woods lived out his life in the White Pine area.

Catherine S. Fry Tillet never forgot her love for and her life with David Fry, and the adventures and hard times that they endured in East Tennessee and beyond during the Civil War. That well may be why her grave marker shows her name as Catherine S. Fry, instead of Tillet, although she was married to William Tillet for over twenty years.

When she came to Jefferson County in 1875, following her marriage to William Tillet, she brought with her the saber that Captain David Fry had carried home from the war, along with their family Bible, and two images of David Fry, one a photograph and the other a tintype



Col. David Fry & Unknown NCO

The second image is a small tintype portraying David Fry in Union

Army uniform wearing what appears to be the rank of captain. Seated alongside Fry is a younger Union Army non-commissioned officer (1st Sergeant), who remains unidentified at this time. These rare historical pieces directly connected to two of the best-known East Tennessee personalities of the Civil War have been treasured and preserved by the descendants of David and Catherine Fry for over one hundred and thirty years, and were not known outside the family until recently.

The family's memories of Colonel David Fry seem to have died with his widow, Catherine S. Fry. The Jefferson County descendants seem to have known only about Catherine S. Fry and very little about Colonel David Fry. That is understandable, as only Ida M. Fry Woods and her sister Sarah Alice Fry, the daughters of Colonel David Fry and Catherine S. Fry, could remember him before his death.

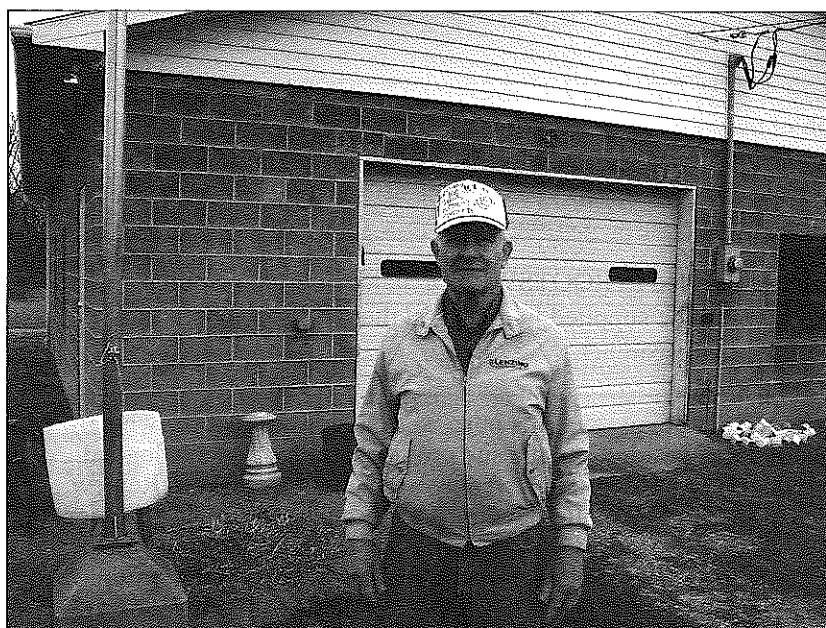
There is one historically significant item still missing from the known Col. David Fry pieces taken to Jefferson County by his widow. Along with the other David Fry pieces, there was a packet of letters written to Catherine by Captain David Fry while in the service of the Union Army, some of them written while he was imprisoned. Their intrinsic value is small but their historical value is priceless.

The former owner of the letters described them as "love-letters" containing poems written by Captain David Fry to Catherine. A few years ago the owner gave them to a distant family member, and they have now been misplaced. Civil War historians can only hope these letters will be found and preserved. The letters have been lost in the past few years, and are believed to be still in the area. The old pictures and the Fry family Bible have recently been acquired for a museum display. All of the pieces mentioned, except the David Fry letters, have now been examined and photographed. It is a truly remarkable collection.

Heartfelt "thanks" from Civil War historians everywhere should go out to all the David Fry and Catherine S. Fry descendants and their widowed spouses for allowing this rich treasure of East Tennessee history to become known outside the family. All the pieces are of great historical importance to the Civil War history of East Tennessee.

A very special "thanks" is due to Mr. Herbert Crittenden of Hamblen County, Tennessee, for his care over the past thirty-five years in preserving the David and Catherine Fry family Bible and the photograph of Col. David Fry and Catherine Gorley Fry, as well as the Captain David Fry tintype.

Those pieces were inherited by Mr. Crittenden's



Herbert Crittenden was married to Alice Woods, the great granddaughter of David Fry. After her death, he preserved the two photographs and the family Bible.

late wife. Alice Woods Crittenden, a great-granddaughter of Col. David Fry. Herbert and Alice Crittenden once lived in the old Gipsy Sartain home, where the saber and the Colonel David Fry and Catherine Gorley Fry picture hung on the wall during the time the house was operated as a funeral home.

Gipsy Woods Sartain, Mrs. Crittenden's aunt, lived there until her death in the 1960s. Mr. and Mrs. Crittenden were the last members of the Woods family to live in the house which sat directly across Main Street from the Catherine S. Fry (Tillet) home, where she lived for the last ten years of her life.

Ida M. Fry Woods and her husband, J.W. Woods, and Ida's unmarried sister, Sarah Alice Fry, continued to live in the house, purchased by Catherine S. Tillet in 1886. They lived there from the time Catherine died in 1897, until Sarah Alice Fry and J. W. Woods both died in the mid-1930s.

Another special "thanks" is due to Mike Woods of Greene County, Tennessee, a great-great grandson of David and Catherine S. Fry, who was the key to locating the David Fry materials.

Mike Woods, now a middle-aged man, recalled that as a young boy, he saw the oval-framed photograph of "Catherine Fry and her husband in uniform" hanging on the wall of the "Alf" and Gipsy Sartain home-funeral home in White Pine. He remembered the picture hanging under an old saber that his family always said belonged to the husband of "Grandma Fry."

With the help of Mike Woods, the old saber was located at the home of another of the Woods descendants, where it was allowed by the owner to be

photographed.

Mike Woods never knew of the Fry family Bible or the Captain David Fry tintype, but those were found in the care of Mr. Crittenden, Mike's uncle by marriage. Mr. Crittenden also had the old framed photograph of Col. David Fry and Catherine Gorley Fry. Mr. Crittenden is the widower of Alice (Woods) Crittenden, a direct Fry descendant, who inherited the pieces. He generously allowed the pieces to be acquired for museum display.

It has been 145 years since Captain David Fry swore the "Pottertown" men into the Union Army to help him burn the Lick Creek Bridge of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad. The discovery of the Colonel David Fry photographs, his family Bible, and saber, must be ranked as some of the most important pieces of East Tennessee Civil War history ever discovered.

All of the Colonel David Fry and Catherine S. Fry pieces, will be placed on display in the East Tennessee Historical Society Museum in Knoxville. The permanent exhibit, *Voices of the Land: The People of East Tennessee*, is scheduled to open in 2007.

Donahue Bible
Mohawk, Tennessee
March 12, 2006

Donahue Bible expresses his sincere appreciation to all the descendants and/or the spouses of descendants of David Blair "Bee" Woods and his wife Phronia B. Woods, who so carefully cared for and preserved for posterity the historic Colonel David Fry and Catherine S. Fry photographs, along with the family Bible and Colonel Fry's saber. Historians everywhere are in their debt.

Bible also requests that anyone in possession of or knowing the whereabouts of the David Fry letters to Catherine Fry, please contact him at (423)586-2791, or Cherel Henderson or Dr. Michael Toomey at the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville, at (865) 215-8824.

Net Notes

by George K. Schweitzer, PhD, ScD

This third column in the Net Notes Series is devoted to ROOTSWEB, a major internet resource for genealogical research. Information for using it will be supplied in a fashion that will serve both the beginning genealogist as well as the seasoned family researcher.

RootsWeb is the oldest free genealogical web site on the internet. Its purpose is to connect people who are searching common ancestors so that they may share data. In addition, the site provides guides to genealogical research, links to other useful sites, a US town and county locator, and a weekly newsletter, RootsWeb Review. Another facility of the site permits previous issues of the RootsWeb Review to be examined. The major contents of RootsWeb are:

- WorldConnect, a database of family trees submitted by RootsWeb participants giving over 380 million ancestor's names along with information.
- RootsWeb Surname List, a list of over 1.2 million surname entries submitted by participants and giving migration patterns, dates, places, and information, including how to contact the submitter.
- US Social Security Death Index, containing over 77 million entries. This is a database of people whose deaths were reported to the Social Security Administration beginning about 1962. A very small number of deaths are listed before 1962. Most entries include both birth and death dates.
- Mailing Lists, over 30 thousand. These are arrangements such that every message that a subscriber submits to the list is automatically sent to all other subscribers. There are mailing lists for surnames, US states and counties, other countries and sub-divisions of them, ethnic groups, military events, and a number of specialized topics.
- Message Boards, over 132 thousand. These are essentially electronic bulletin boards. Anyone can post a message which can be read by any person who calls up the message board. The message boards deal with surnames, locations, and other topics.

The RootsWeb site may be accessed on the internet at RootsWeb.com. When this is done, the Home Page will come up. Across the top will be the following headings:

[Home|Searches|Family Trees|Mailing Lists|Message Boards|Web Sites|Passwords|Help].

Beneath this and to the left is an entry box entitled Search RootsWeb.com.

Search RootsWeb.com		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>
First Name	Last Name	

Then, beneath the entry box will be found some sub-sites, each of which is accompanied by sub-sub-sites. These subsites are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| — Getting Started | — Websites |
| — Search Engines and Databases | — Other Tools and Resources |
| — Family Trees (World Connect) | — Hosted Volunteer Projects |
| — Mailing Lists | — Help |
| — Message Boards | — Buy or Sell |
| — Research Templates | — Contributing to Roots Web |

And at the bottom of the Home Page are accesses to three genealogy newsletters:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| — RootsWeb Review | — Ancestry Daily News | — Product Watch |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|

Now, with the Home Page in front of you, we will first discuss how to access the five major databases which were described in the first paragraph. Later on, detail will be supplied regarding the fifteen sub-sites listed in the second paragraph. Your first effort should be to enter the first and the last name of the ancestor you are seeking in the entry box entitled Search RootsWeb.com. When you do, connections to WorldConnect, RootsWeb Surname List, the Social Security Death Index, and Other Sources will appear. (1) Clicking on World Connect, you will find listings of the name along with data which may include birth and death dates and places, parents, and spouse. There will also be a database reference number. Clicking on the reference number will give you access to the source and/or the submitter. There is a final column entitled Other Matches which refers to records available at Ancestry.com, a fee-charging site. (2) Going to RootsWeb Surname List will give you dates and migration patterns of families bearing the surname you have entered. (3) By calling up the Social Security Death Index, you will find persons whose deaths have been reported to the Social Security Administration since about 1962. (4) In many cases, you will also see some Other Searches, which you may call up.

Next, on the Home page, scroll down to Mailing Lists, and then click on Index. Here you will find several connections to mailing lists dealing with Surnames, US States and Counties, International Locations, and a catch-all category referring to mailing lists concerning types of genealogical records, various ethnic groups, military matters, religion, and numerous research assistance sites. (1) Call up the surname you are interested in, look at the mailing list to see what is on it by Searching the Archives and Browsing the Archives, and then make a judgment as to whether you want to join the list or not. (2) Then click on a state you are concerned with, and under the state, go to a county of your interest. Again, examine the Archives by searching it and browsing through it, and decide if joining would be advantageous to you. (3) Next, survey the numerous sites under the International heading, and investigate those which might pertain to your research. (4) And finally, look at the numerous mailing lists under the Other category. For those that interest you, call them up, see what you find under Search the Archives and Browse the Archives, and notice that you can join if you wish.

Now, on the Home Page, scroll down to Message Boards, then click on Surnames. Then select the first letter of the surname you are seeking, then the pertinent alphabetical sub-lists until you reach a page of surnames. Scroll down to the one you are seeking and click on it. This will produce a display of the

messages on the message board which you may scroll through and examine. You will also find a heading Post New Message near the top of the page which allows you to do just that. Your next move will be to click on Locations, then North America, then United States, then States, then Counties, then a particular county. This will result in a message board relating to that county. Similar chains of clicks will take you to other locations, for example, to arrive at a message board for Bavaria in Germany, follow this sequence: Locations Ø Central Europe Ø Germany Ø Bavaria. Next, from the Home Page and under Message Boards, click on Topics. This action will give you a listing of other topics for which message boards exist. Examples are: Adoptions, DNA Research, Immigration and Emigration, Loyalists, Migration, Military, and Sultana Shipwreck. There are many others, so be sure and look carefully at the listing.

The above considerations will allow you to access the major content of RootsWeb. However, the site provides a number of other useful sub-sites which are available on the Home Page. Under Getting Started are several sub-sub sites which will provide you with further information on the use of RootsWeb. Under Search Engines and Databases is a sub-sub site entitled US Town/County Database which is helpful for locating the counties in which various towns exist. Clicking on the county will then give you some websites relating to that county. A sub-sub site beneath Family Trees lets you submit your family tree and a sub-sub site beneath Message Boards provides for the start-up of a new message board. Under Websites will be found facilities for setting up your own website.

The Soundex code for any surname may be obtained on a sub-sub site beneath Websites. Under Hosted Volunteer Projects is a sub-sub-site entitled Books We Own which allows you to contact persons who will look up information in various genealogical books. If you have compiled a database of genealogical information and you wish to make it available to others, instructions for submitting it to RootsWeb are available under the sub-site entitled Contributing to RootsWeb. Across the bottom of the Home Page are listed three free genealogical newsletters to which you may wish to subscribe. You can also examine previous issues and can submit stories to some of them.

*George K. Schweitzer holds doctorates in history, chemistry, and philosophy and serves as Distinguished Professor at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He is the author of nineteen genealogical guidebooks and has lectured to over 200 historical and genealogical societies. A number of his lectures have dealt with the use of the internet for genealogical research, and he has conducted numerous hands-on internet workshops.