Family History Presentation

Organizing Family Pictures

Lynn C. Anderson & Craig Swan
University of Minnesota Retirees Association
January 13, 2021 10:00 - 11:00 am
How do you eat an elephant?

One bite at a time.
Four Steps

1. Overview

2. Label

3. Organize Hard Copy Pictures

4. Scan, Backup and Organize Digital Pictures
Overview
Label Pictures

The four Ws
Label Pictures

When

Where

What

Who

[Image of a couple standing in front of a building]

Marcia Johnson and Marshall Anderson

Day of their Engagement

If writing on the back of a picture use a pencil or archival pen.
Label Pictures

When  1950 03 29

Where

What

Who  
Marcia Johnson and Marshall Anderson

If writing on the back of a picture use a pencil or archival pen
Label Pictures

When

Where 1950 03 29 in front of Eveleth High School

What

Who Marcia Johnson and Marshall Anderson

If writing on the back of a picture use a pencil or archival pen
Label Pictures

When

Where

What 1950 03 29 in front of Eveleth High School Day of their Engagement

Who
Label Pictures

When       1950 03 29
Where      1950 03 29  in front of Eveleth High School
What        1950 03 29  in front of Eveleth High School
Day of their Engagement
Who                  1950 03 29  in front of Eveleth High School
Marcia Johnson and Marshall Anderson

108 characters and spaces
If writing on the back of a picture use a pencil or archival pen
Family Portrait  Signe and Ralph Johnson with their children
L to R  Signe Amanda Johnson holding Ronald Carl  Ralph William Johnson in chair with Ralph William Jr and Marcia Johnson  ca 1935
Label Pictures

Post-it notes can be useful when sorting and doing initial identification but can become unattached.

185 characters and spaces
Organize Hard Copy Pictures

Many ways to organize. No single best way for all purposes
Organize Hard Copy Pictures

Many ways to organize. No single best way for all purposes

Boxes and/or Albums

Archival materials best
Organize Hard Copy Pictures

Many ways to organize. No single best way for all purposes

Boxes and/or Albums

Organizing Principles

Chronological

Locations - e.g., where we lived

People - e.g., Baby books, grandparents

Activities - e.g., vacations, weddings, holidays
Scan, Backup and Organize Digital Pictures

Why bother to scan?
Scan, Backup and Organize Digital Pictures

Why bother to scan?

Family pictures all in one place

Easy to share

Easy for digital frame

Easy to access if making a Family History Book

Offsite storage of digital files provides extra security

Ability to touch up pictures
Minor Adjustments

1958 04 06   Easter in Santa Cruz Ross  Marion  Jean  Bettie  Beegie  Janet  Dougald  Carl.
Minor Adjustments

1958 04 06  Easter in Santa Cruz Ross  Marion Jean Bettie  Beegie Janet  Dougald  Carl.
More than Minor Adjustments

Henry Diehl
and wife
Mary Lucretia Bane
ca 1891
More than Minor Adjustments

Henry Diehl
and wife
Mary Lucretia Bane
c. 1891
Maternal grandfather
Ralph William Johnson
with his mother
Brita Lisa Karlsdotter Johnson
Maternal grandfather
Ralph William Johnson
with his mother
Brita Lisa Karlsdotter Johnson
Scan, Backup and Organize Digital Pictures

Do it yourself or commercial service?

Tradeoff of time and money may be an important consideration

Flat bed scanners

https://techgearoid.com/scanners/best-flatbed-scanners/

On-line photo and negative scanning

https://www.toptenreviews.com/best-photo-scanning-services
Scan, **Backup** and Organize Digital Pictures

- **Portable hard drives with mega storage capacity** are quite affordable

  Apple Time Machine and Windows 10 Backup run automatically in the background
Scan, **Backup** and Organize Digital Pictures

- Portable hard drives with mega storage capacity are quite affordable
  
  Apple Time Machine and Windows equivalent run automatically in the background

- **Consider off-site automatic backup service**
Scan, Backup and Organize Digital Pictures

Should I organize/store my pictures using a cloud based photo software?
Should I organize/store my pictures using a cloud based photo software?

**Advantages**

- Albums or folders can help bring order
- Keywords can help locate photos
- Facial Recognition can be fun, but you need to help the program learn
Scan, Backup and **Organize Digital Pictures**

...what does it cost?

...what rights does the service have to the use of your photos?

...If you delete a photo on your computer or phone, is your photo saved on the cloud or is it also deleted?

...does the service keep “full resolution” copies of your pictures or does it keep smaller versions?

...what happens to your photos if you decide to stop paying for storage?

...how fast is your internet connection?
You don’t need a fancy system to bring order to your digital photos
You don’t need a fancy system to bring order to your digital photos
You don’t need a fancy system to bring order to your digital photos.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1501 California</td>
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<tr>
<td>1502 Tanzania</td>
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<td>1503 Evanston mostly</td>
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<td>1504 Garden and Mississippi R</td>
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<td>1504 NYC</td>
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<td>1505 Evanston</td>
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<td>1505 Lake of the Isles</td>
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<td>1505 Mac Min serial numbers etc</td>
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<tr>
<td>1505 Prairie Fire and Northern Lights</td>
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<tr>
<td>1506 09 Sunset Lake of the Isles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1506 Garden</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Pictures from 2015
You don’t need a fancy system to bring order to your digital photos

Scanned Slides
You don’t need a fancy system to bring order to your digital photos

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991 08 xx  Janet Craig.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 10 xx  Halloween blizzard1.jpg</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991 10 xx  Janet Alice Halloween Blizzard.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 10 xx  Janet Gene Las Lomas 30th reunion.jpg</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991 10 xx  Janet Las Lomas 30th reunion.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 10 xx  Year of Halloween Blizzard.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 11 xx  Andrew Betsy Bill Kathe...Susan Carl 80th Birthday copy.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 11 xx  Andrew Betsy Bill Katherine Susan Carl 80th Birthday.jpg</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991 11 xx  Andrew Bettie Carl Eliot and Katherine 80th Birthday.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 11 xx  Betsy Craig Katherine Susan 80th Birthday.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 11 xx  Betsy Craig Susan 80th Birthday.jpg</td>
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<td>1991 11 xx  Betsy Craig Susan Eliot 80th Birthday.jpg</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991 11 xx  Betsy Susan 80th birthday.jpg</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991 11 xx  Carl Susan Eliot and Katherine 80th Birthday.jpg</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991 11 xx  Katherine Betsy Susan Eliot 80th birthday.jpg</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
You don’t need a fancy system to bring order to your digital photos
If all else fails...

... you can hire someone.

The Association of Personal Photo Organizers (APPO)

now called The Photo Managers
Thank you

Questions?
Comments?

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