

President's Letter May 23, 2024

Good morning fellow family historians,

How many places have you shared your family tree or family research?

How many cousins are you in contact with to gain or share family information?

I want to tell you about a recent message I got on Ancestry.

I have my full family tree on Ancestry.com and it is visible except for living people. I got a message from someone I had never heard of saying they had a diary from 1948 and asked if I was related to this person and would like her to send me the diary. Uh.....yes please!

She sent me the diary, free of charge, and even went to the library, found a picture of this cousin of mine, made a copy and sent it all to me.

The diary is from my second cousin, once removed. She was a missionary later in her life. The diary is a very interesting look at her everyday life in 1948. She talks about her family and things that are going on in her world. My cousin was sixteen years old in 1948. In her later years she lived in Hawaii. This was a beautiful picture of her life and let me feel like I knew more about her than just her name and dates.

I share this story with you to let you know that it pays to share your information. I have also shared many pictures on Facebook in a private group. I have one group for my Mom's family and one group for my Dad's family. I have gotten many stories, information, and pictures just by creating this group and adding the pictures I have. Many times, cousins will invite other cousins that I wasn't friends with on Facebook, and let me connect with them this way.

Try this yourself and see what happens. You may be pleasantly surprised!

Don't forget to answer the poll question below and check out the June meeting on the events page.

Talk to you soon!

Kim Van Vorst

President, TSGS