Spotlight: Yale Family Trees

Jenni Whitfield and Christa Anderson ’07 have completed Phase 1 of the Family Trees Project. There are now 25 trees (covering 18 family names) available in the Yale Family Trees folder in Prospects on Herry.

Each tree identifies all Yale alumni, living and deceased, and links to other trees where families are related. You might notice notes in your prospects’ BERT profiles (biography section) or prospect folders letting you know that they appear on completed family trees. Please contact Jenni if you have any additions or corrections, or if you have any questions.

Expect new trees to be added regularly.

C&F Update: Foundation Center 990 Search

Our newly enhanced subscription to FC Online provides even more detailed information on grantmakers and their grants. You can now run customized, keyword searches of 990 filings (over 3,100 hits were found for “Yale University” alone). The upgrade offers extensive funder portfolios, making access to recent foundation news, RFPs, publications and key staff listings more convenient. Comprehensive grant listings are also provided for each organization, along with graphic charts illustrating these grant distributions categorized by subject, recipient type and geographic location.

Check out these new features via the link on the Research Website* or through the Yale Library. Happy searching!

*See www.yale.edu/devresearch/phil.html

Yale Factoids

Reunion books aren’t just for filling your classmates in on what you’ve been up to—one alumus from the 1930’s dedicated space in his 20th reunion book biography to a dating service advertising his daughters: “My three daughters, Helen, 14, Ann, 11, and Ruth, 9, are all beautiful. Yale ‘56 and up please note.”
A Yale residential college is named after an early 1800’s scholar who made his fame analyzing a meteorite that fell in Weston, CT in 1807—the “first documented in the New World.” Who was he?

Click the link below to send us your guess or email us at:
prospectresearch@yale.edu

with “Here’s my guess!” (no quotes) as the subject line. The winner will receive mention in next month’s Short Report and a gift!

Congratulations! to last month’s winner, Tricia Dillon, whose guess of 101 years between when the first women enrolled at Yale (approx. 1873) and when Maya Lin ’81 completed the sculpture, “The Women’s Table” (1993) was closest!

Website Finds

Now that you’ve done your taxes (or not!), here are some fun, useful sites to explore:

www.acronymfinder.com—type in an acronym and it lists matching phrases. You’ll have to pick and choose among the results to find what’s appropriate. For instance, not only does IRS stand for Internal Revenue Service but also for Independent Rear Suspension, Irwin R. Schyster (pro wrestler), Illinois Radiological Society, and 45 other terms.

www.snopes.com is a good source to check out those urban legend emails your receive before forwarding them to everyone in your address book: Need to know whether that email warning that buying mulch from home improvement stores spreads the Formosan subterranean termite is hype or truth? This is your source.

www.spamprimer.com is a nice site for learning how to reduce junk e-mail: these days spammers don’t get your address because you’re on the distribution list of legitimate e-mail publications; the current most-common place to get your address is from web pages. If your e-mail address is listed on a web page anywhere on the ’net, especially if that page is listed in a search engine or directory, spammers will find it, and fairly quickly. Tip: try searching for your own e-mail address in Google. If you can find it there, spammers can too -- easily.

Tip of the Month

EXCEL TIPS EVERYONE CAN USE!

To attach a comment to a particular cell in Excel, simply highlight the cell of interest, then from the pull down menu select Insert and Comment. Then type whatever text you like in the comment box.

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In order to turn text on its side in a given cell, go to Format, Cells, click on the Alignment tab, and set the orientation to 90 degrees.

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Protect Sheet is a way to password protect an Excel spreadsheet containing sensitive data. To activate the feature click on Tools, then, Protection.