



To all of our readers—, your comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please consider sharing family stories, photographs, family recipes and cherished memories. Email: UpchurchRoots@gmail.com

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ConferenceKeeper.org claims to be the most complete genealogy calendar of events anywhere! You may find thousands of genealogy webinars, seminars, conferences, workshops, podcasts and more, from genealogy societies, libraries, and other organizations all around the world. Let us know how you like it.

Cindy Hale

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5 Genealogy Activities for April

Schedule time with family and prepare for the summer months ahead! These five projects will help you connect with relatives and safeguard your research.

1. Plan a Family Reunion or Get-Together

When was the last time you saw your extended family? The summer months are a classic time for families to come together to celebrate significant anniversaries or get some face-to-face time. Start planning reunions/outings this month, before summer calendars fill up.

Survey family members for a weekend that works for most of them. Memorial Day, the Fourth of July, and Labor Day are popular options, which is both beneficial and harmful—many people are off work, but lots of competing activities take place on those weekends.

Next, decide on a venue and activities. Some other factors to keep in mind as you plan your reunion:

Weather: Is your itinerary rain-proof? If not, what is your rainy-weather plan? How will you handle heat and humidity?

Accessibility: Do some family members who have mobility issues? Make sure your venue can accommodate them with (for example) ramps or elevators.

Communication: How will you get the word out about the get-together? These tools can help.

Budget: If possible, keep costs low for both you and attendees.

You'll also want to prepare

the relevant parts of your research for the get-together, if the gathering will have a genealogical element. You might, for example, print a large family tree that includes all attendees, or create reunion souvenirs inspired by family history.

2. Schedule Interviews with Family

Many genealogists first become interested in family history because of stories passed down from relatives. And (though you'll want to verify them) oral histories can be important starting points for research, particularly for families whose ancestors were largely undocumented by records or for whom records have been lost.

Smaller-scale visits or even virtual visits are also a nice alternative to large-scale reunions if such a big gathering is too much effort for you or your relative. This is especially true for relatives who are elderly, live far away from you, or have difficulty traveling outside their homes.

Before approaching your relative, decide on the scope of your questions. (We have suggestions here.) Plan to bring photos or printed copies of records and charts, which can spark memories. And don't forget to record the conversation—with the interviewee's consent, of course.

Remember: Time is of the essence when interviewing relatives and recording their stories. Unless properly documented, a person's memories—including their knowledge of family history—die with them. (Ask nearly any genealogist, and they'll talk about a relative they regret not interviewing sooner.) Prioritize interviewing older or sickly relatives, and extend your interviewee pool to include aunts, uncles, cousins and even local historians.

Be respectful if your ancestor is reluctant to answer certain ques-



UAFA NEWS & INFORMATION

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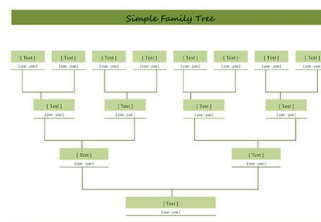
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Upchurches in the News

By Jay Buck

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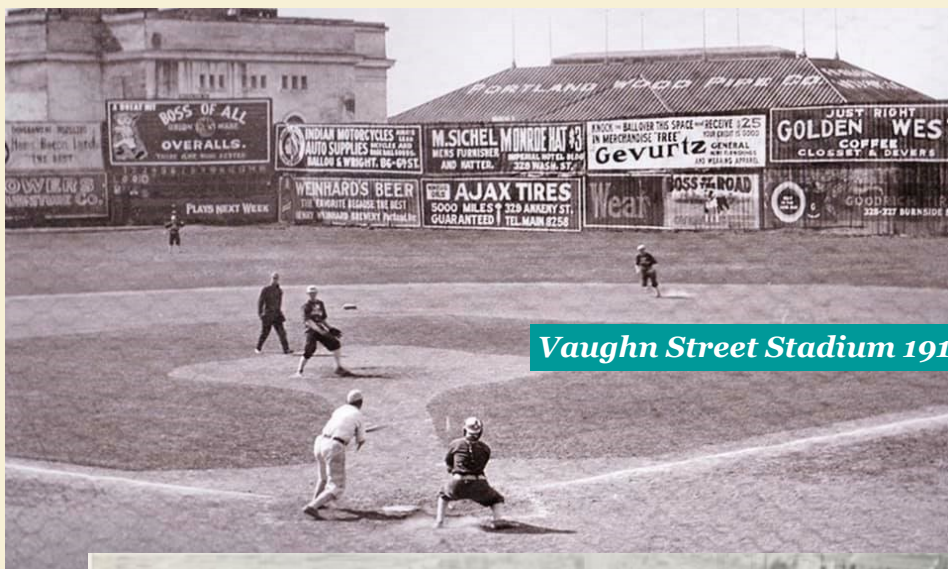
Major League Baseball considers 1900 to be the birth of the modern game. A year later, the American League established itself to compete against the older National League. Two years later, the first World Series was held pitting the champions of the National League against their counterparts in the American League. But Major League Baseball, for many years thereafter only existed east of the Mississippi River. But baseball as a spectator sport was popular throughout the country as seen in this month's edition of Upchurches in the (Sports) News.

One hundred and twenty-five years ago, in 1901, two amateur clubs, Upchurch AOÜW and Fidelity, faced each other in a series of games in Portland, Oregon. The games were played at the newly built Vaughn Field. This ballpark would serve as the host of both amateur and professional teams in the Portland area. One of the most famous, the Portland Beavers minor league team would play at Vaughn Field until 1955.

Although the Upchurch AOÜW and Fidelity teams were amateurs and not professional, interest in the games was high as reflected in the accounts of local newspapers in the area. The Upchurch AOÜW (Ancient Order of United Workmen) obviously took their name from the fraternity that John Jordan Upchurch (1820 – 1887) established in 1868. John Jordan Upchurch, whose accomplishments have been covered in previous newsletters, was a member of the John IV Upchurch clan #12.

Jay

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Vaughn Street Stadium 1910



Vaughn Street Park. Courtesy Oregon Hist. Soc. Research Lib., OrHi54896





Upchurches in the News

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Upchurch Team Wins.

Upchurch Lodge, A. O. U. W., baseball team defeated the Fidelity nine yesterday afternoon by a score of 9 to 8. Fans like Ed Rankin, who umpired, agree it was one of the best amateur games of the season. Interest in the game was intense, and 500 spectators were present. The man that tallied the score narrowly escaped mobbing for marking up four runs instead of three for Upchurch in the fourth inning. The feature of the game was the pitching of McInnis, of Upchurch, who held his opponents down to a goose-egg score after the third inning and struck out 10 men in the game. By fielding errors his team allowed the Fidelity nine to send five men across the plate in the first inning, and it looked like a walk. But his men steadied down, gave him good support, and the game was pulled out in the ninth. Up to that time the score was 8 to 6. With two men out, McInnis walked, and the fireworks then started on the Fidelity side, and three Upchurch men scored.

Zan's catching and Ainslie's work at second base for Upchurch contributed to the victory. For Fidelity, Alstock's catching, Senner's pitching and the creditable work of Newall at shortstop, who played an errorless game, were worthy of note.

Both teams have now won a game, and the final match will be played within a few weeks. Next Sunday a picked nine from the Upchurch and Fidelity teams will play the Woodmen of the World on the Portland baseball grounds.

Following is the score by innings:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Upchurch	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	—9
Fidelity	5	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	—8

UPCHURCH VS. FIDELITY.

Workmen Lodge Nines Will Play Today at 24th and Vaughn.

The third and last game between Upchurch and Fidelity baseball teams will be played today at the Portland baseball park, Twenty-fourth and Vaughn streets. Each team has won a game, this being the game which decides the championship between the East and West Side lodges. Ed Rankin has consented to umpire the game to the satisfaction of the friends of the contesting teams.

The grounds are in good shape and as both teams have been practicing daily, a fast and snappy game is assured. The two previous games were decided each time by a single run.

The teams will line up as follows:

Upchurch.	Position.	Fidelity.
Zan	C	Brown
McInnis	P	Hoyt or Ray
Stutt	1 B	Chas. Geil
Ainslie	2 B	Cal. Geil
Downs	3 B	Gates
Baldwin	S	Newell
Hardie	R F	Alstock
D. Hall	C F	Funk
Esser	L F	Senner



By Jay Buck

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tions. Memories (especially those that were traumatic or involve those who are now deceased) can be painful to re-live, and not everyone will be comfortable discussing sensitive family topics.

3. Prepare for Travel

Whether for family reunions, visits to far-away relatives, destination vacations, or sight-seeing, travel is a summer highlight for many families.

Spend some time now gathering supplies and finalizing your itinerary. In addition to what you'll need for research (printed charts, lists of records to consult, etc.), check for standard travel essentials: comfortable, weather-appropriate clothes and shoes; travel-size toiletries; passports and other ID; local currency; and so on. Consider finding activities for the non-genealogists in your party if you're spending some time doing research.

4. Take a DNA Test—or Revisit Your Results

DNA Day on April 25 commemorates the publication of DNA's double-helix structure in *Nature* journal. And it's a great opportunity to take a DNA test or buy one for someone else, since many companies offer DNA Day discounts. (Not sure which company to test with? Shannon Combs-Bennett compares the five main autosomal DNA tests here.)

DNA Day is also a good excuse to review your DNA results, which may have changed since the last time you saw them. Check for any new matches, updated ethnicity estimates, and new tools that your testing company has made available. You might even consider using a third-party tool such as GEDmatch.

5. Weather-Proof Your Research

Floods, thunderstorms, hurricanes, earthquakes, lightning, forest fires—with warmer temperatures come a whole host of potential natural disasters. You can't control these and all the "April showers" due this month,

but you can take preventative measures to give your research the best chance of surviving calamities.

Evaluate where and how you've stored your family archive. Make sure your family photos, genealogy record, files, and heirlooms are stored:

In a place with consistent, mild temperature and low humidity

Away from direct sunlight, which can cause materials to fade over time

In archival-safe folders and boxes

Up high to avoid possible water damage, preferably in an interior closet

Avoid storage places prone to flooding and temperature changes, including garages and unfinished basements. You'll also want to regularly check for any evidence of pests, from moths to mice to silverfish.

You can mitigate some risk by digitizing your research. The LOCKSS acronym (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) suggests having copies of digital files in multiple formats and on multiples devices. Another guideline is the "3-2-1" principle:

Three distinct copies of files

On two different storage media (e.g., an external hard drive and a web server)

With one medium stored off-site (e.g., a hard drive in a bank's lockbox or stored in the cloud)

Scanning technology and digital storage are much cheaper and more effective now than they were even 10 years ago, making the digitization process more accessible and intuitive.



During the course of his 40+ years researching the history of the Upchurch family in America, Phil Upchurch collected various materials regarding Upchurch Family reunions held throughout the USA. The files below range from simple announce-

ments to those that include photos and stories surrounding the families that gathered together. See if any of the following might include your family!



- Isham Upchurch Reunion - Apex NC
- James David Upchurch Reunion - Scott County AR
- James S Upchurch Reunion - Cleburne County AL
- John Bartlett Upchurch Reunion - TX
- Jubal Upchurch Reunion
- Margaret Julina Upchurch Reunion
- Upchurch Reunions - Carroll County, GA
- Thomas H. Upchurch Family Reunion - GA, FL
- Upchurch - Lampley Reunion - TX
- Upchurch and Kern Reunion - Benton IL
- Upchurch Reunion - Bethany OK
- Upchurch Reunion - Creal Springs, IL
- Upchurch Reunion - Davis OK,
- Upchurch Reunion - High Falls, NC
- Upchurch Reunion - Hollandale, MS
- Upchurch Reunions - Kimberling City, MO
- Upchurch Reunion - Marion IL
- Upchurch Reunion - Oklahoma City OK
- Upchurch Reunion - Perry County MO
- Upchurch Reunion - Raeford NC
- Upchurch Reunions - Brown County IL
- Upchurch Reunions - Rosemont, CO
- Walter Jackson Upchurch Reunion - Atlanta TX
- George and Rachel B Upchurch Family Reunion - KY
- Welch, Zola Upchurch, Ragan, Walls Reunion - Apex, NC

