

Projects That Will Captivate the Non-Genealogist in Your Life

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If we only collect data on our ancestors and don't creatively share it, we are missing out on half of the joy of genealogy. Here are four projects that will honor your ancestors and captivate the non-genealogists in your life.

Decoupage Plate

Supply List:

- ☐ Clear glass plate with a smooth finish.
- ☐ Sponge craft brush
- ☐ Decoupage glue
- ☐ Fine paper cutting scissors. (Cuticle scissors work well.)
- ☐ Small bottle of acrylic craft paint in a color you would like for the back.
- ☐ A flat paintbrush
- ☐ Brush-on clear acrylic varnish for a glossy finish on the back of the plate
- ☐ A selection of photos. You can also use other images that compliment the photos.



Assembling Your Plate:

1. Lay out your design to fit the plate
2. Add words if desired. You can draw directly on the copy or print it out and cut it to fit.
3. Put an even coat of glue on the front of each photo.
4. Apply the photos working in reverse. The first images placed on the plate will be in the foreground of the design. Apply the photos to the back of the plate. Glue the edges firmly. Turn the plate over to check the placement of images. Smooth using the craft brush.
5. Brush glue over the back of each photo.
6. Turn the plate around so you can see the image from the front and work out the air bubbles.
7. Continue to place the images until the entire plate is covered. Let it dry 24 hours.
8. Paint the back and let dry. Apply a second coat. Let dry.
9. Apply an acrylic varnish for a glossy finish on the back.

Family History Christmas Wreath

Listen to Genealogy Gems Podcast Episode #32 at <http://www.GenealogyGems.com>

View the four part instructional video series at the Genealogy Gems YouTube channel at <http://www.YouTube.com/GenealogyGems>



Family History Wall Displays

Instructions for Picket Fence Display:

1. Purchase a pre-built section of fence.
2. Add wood shelves to the top and bottom.
3. Paint it the color of your choice.
4. Use thumbtacks to attach items to the fence.
5. Place items until you find a balanced and pleasing arrangement.

Sweet Memories Candy Bars

Supply List:

- ☐ A 3.67 oz approximately sized Chocolate Bar wrapped in foil with a paper wrapper.
- ☐ A couple of sheets of high bright white printer paper.
(I use hp Premium Choice ink jet paper 98 brightness, 32 lb weight.)
- ☐ Computer & Printer
- ☐ Microsoft Publisher, or Word using the text box feature.
- ☐ Double sided tape
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Scanned Family Photos.
- ☐ Template (attached)

Assembly Instructions:

1. Scan the photos you want to include on the label.
2. Open a new page in Microsoft Publisher (or other program)
3. Use the page margins to create an approximate 7 3/4" high and 5 3/4" wide rectangle with the Rectangle Tool.
4. For the background image you can scan a piece of scrapbook paper that you like or any other image. Whatever image you choose, from the menu use the INSERT IMAGE function to get it onto your page. Resize it to fit just over the rectangle that you created.
5. The other option for the background is to select the rectangle and use the FORMAT FILL COLOR function to color the box with the color of your choice.
6. Use INSERT IMAGE to add your photos and resize them to fit. For the front side image, I measured down approximately two inches from the top of the label, and that is where the top of the photo was placed. I set it 1/4" from the left edge. Both photos are about 2" x 2".
7. The backside photo begins 5" from the top of the label and is set 1/4" from the left edge. You may also want to include a small text box that states the date and location of the photos and the names of the people.
8. Insert the text boxes. Both the "Sweet Memories" text box and the "Ingredients" text box are about 3" wide and 1 1/4" high. You can format them with the borders and colors that you want.



9. Add an “Ingredient” label, such as: Love, Family, Attention, Politeness, Smiles, Caring and Time. Feel free to reflect your own family values in the list.
10. Once you’ve got everything laid out on the screen the way you want it, it’s time to print. From the menu, click FILE then PRINT and then click the PROPERTIES button. Select “high resolution paper” or “high brightness” as the media type, and select HIGH for the print quality to make sure you get the best, most professional looking label. Print the label onto your high brightness 98 paper, then carefully cut it out.
11. Follow the folding guidelines shown on the attached template, although your candy bar is going to dictate your actual fold lines. The first fold line is 1 ½” from the top of the label and the second fold line is 4 ¼” from the top of the label.
12. Use a small piece of double sided tape to stick the label to itself on the backside snugly. Make the labels now while you have the time and buy the candy closer to the holiday to ensure the candy’s freshness.

(See Sweet Memories Wrapper Template at end.)

Google Earth Family History Tour

Download Google Earth free from <http://www.google.com/earth>

Record a Family History Tour that includes:

- Old Family Photos
- Videos
- Old Historic Maps
- Old Postcards and Ephemera
- Genealogical Documents

TIP: Focus on telling one specific story.

Shape Collage

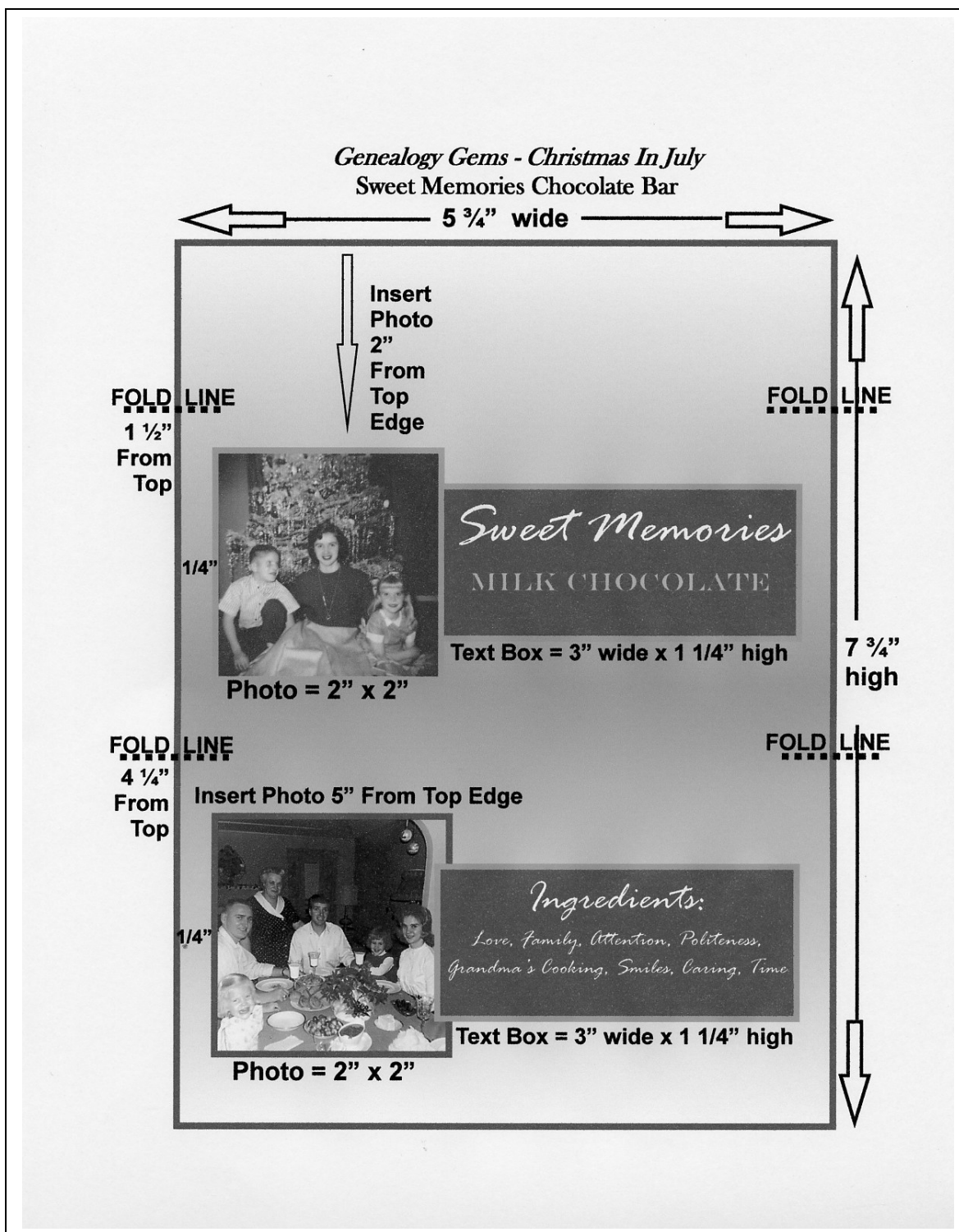
Free download at www.ShapeCollage.com

This free software programs can grab your family history photos and assemble the instantly into fascinating shapes, designs and even words. Focus on family photos, or expand the statement you make with other digitized documents, postcards and images!

You can adjust the collage size, the number of photos you use, photo spacing, backgrounds and borders. Save your collage as JPEG, PNG or Photoshop PSD.

Post on your website, blog, turn into a frames piece of art, a greeting card, family newsletter, creative addition to a family history book, etc.





Bibliography

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