

# **The Web 2.0**

## **By Halvor Moorshead**

### **Web 2.0**

- Term is unofficial
- Refers to the new trend of sharing, community building and networking
- Could be made for genealogists!
- Blogs
- Wikis
- RSS – Really Simple Syndication
- Podcasts

Dick Eastman has summed it up so well that I want to use his words:

In the past 25 years or so, home computers have exploded in use. During that time, almost all programs we have used were obtained on disk or possibly by download, then installed and executed directly on each computer, usually without connection to any other computer system. This has worked well although each home computer operated as an "island," isolated from other computers in the neighborhood and around the world. In the world of genealogy, we have had a wide variety of programs to choose from. Each of us built our own databases on our own hard drives. Indeed, each database was an island unto itself. Maybe 10,000 people recorded their lines of descent from one common Colonial-period ancestor, but each of those 10,000 duplicated the efforts of the other 9,999 genealogists. Each of us recorded whatever we believed was accurate, often without comparison to other researchers' efforts. I sometimes think we collectively had 9,999 errors.

We also beat our heads against "stone walls." Perhaps 9,999 genealogists were frustrated by the same research question: "Who were the parents of this particular person?" What 9,999 of us did not know is that the 10,000th person had solved the puzzle.

### **Shared Bookmarks**

- <http://del.icio.us>
- [www.furl.net](http://www.furl.net)
- <http://myweb.yahoo.com>

### **Photographs**

Flickr

### **What's New and Exciting**

- Podcasts – several genealogy ones
- Roots TV – very impressed
- Online Parish Clerks
- Wikipedia

### **Google Books**

- Google won't say how many they have
- NY Times say it was 1 million as of March

### **Million Book Project (Universal Library)**

- Carnegie Mellon University
- On Target to be reached this year (2007)
- Scanning at 1,200 – 3,000 pages per hour!

### **The Future**

Data storage is no longer a problem

750 GigaByte HD drive now available: \$300

Next will be TeraByte: 1,000 Gigabytes

A Terabyte is the equivalent of 1 million books

The Library of Congress holds about 130 million items with 29 million books =  
17-20 Terabytes

Open Content Alliance (Yahoo/Internet Archive)

### **The Internet Archive** *<http://www.archive.org/>*

- The Internet Archive is working to prevent the Internet - a new medium with major historical significance - and other "born-digital" materials from disappearing into the past. Collaborating with institutions including the [Library of Congress](#) and the [Smithsonian](#), we are working to preserve a record for generations to come.
- Open and free access to literature and other writings has long been considered essential to education and to the maintenance of an open society. Public and philanthropic enterprises have supported it through the ages.

### **The BIG Family Tree**

- There have been attempts to combine all family trees together
- None have been very successful
- Now it is practical and will happen!
- Cooperation DOES seem to work

Articles online for you at

[www.internet-genealogy.com/lectures.htm](http://www.internet-genealogy.com/lectures.htm) or

[www.familychronicle.com/lectures.htm](http://www.familychronicle.com/lectures.htm)