

# Family Stories

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1 December 2020

Allen County Public Library

## Why Record Stories?

- Learn about a specific perspective on event, era, or place
- People, places, and events that can be clues to new source materials:
- Interviewed John David Megenhardt
  - Korea
- Interviewed Sandy Moser
  - “On Halloween my mother would make us costumes for the annual Lion’s Club Contest and party”

## Whose Stories Should We Be Collecting?

- EVERYONE
  - Family
    - Children
    - Parents
    - Cousins
    - Aunts/Uncles
    - Nieces/Nephews
    - Grandparents
  - Friends
  - People of interest
    - Famous people
  - Business people
    - How did they start their business?
  - People in the community
    - Everyday stories

## Memories

- Involuntary memory
- Involuntary explicit memory
- Involuntary conscious memory
- Involuntary aware memory
- Involuntary autobiographical memory
  - These bring to mind recollections of the past without conscious effort
  - Proust Phenomenon

## Studies

- Baird, A., Brancatisano, O., Gelding, R., & Thompson, W. F. (2018). Characterization of Music and Photograph Evoked Autobiographical Memories in People with Alzheimer's Disease. *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, (Preprint), 1-14.
- Brown, J. N. (2015). "Once More, With Feeling": Using Haptics to Preserve Tactile Memories. *International Journal of Human-Computer Interaction*, 31(1), 65-71.
- Campen, C. V. (2014). *The Proust effect: The senses as doorways to lost memories*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- de Bruijn, M. J., & Bender, M. (2018). Olfactory Cues are More Effective than Visual Cues in Experimentally Triggering Autobiographical Memories. *Memory*, 26(4), 547-558.
- Fields, H. (2012, April). Fragrant Flashbacks. Retrieved from <https://www.psychologicalscience.org/observer/fragrant-flashbacks>
- Herz R. S. (2016). The Role of Odor-Evoked Memory in Psychological and Physiological Health. *Brain sciences*, 6(3), 22. doi:10.3390/brainsci6030022. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5039451/>
- Miranda, M. (2012). Taste and Odor Recognition Memory: The Emotional Flavor of Life. 23(5-6), pp. 481-499. Retrieved 7 Mar. 2019, from doi:10.1515/revneuro-2012-0064
- Proust, M., & Scott-Moncrieff, C. K. (1934). *Remembrance of Things Past*. New York: Random House.
- Radvansky, G., (2006). *Human Memory*. Boston, MA: Pearson Education Group, Inc.

## How?

- Written
- Recorded

## Written Stories

- Family History
- Memoir
- Short Stories
- Essay
- Journal
- Interview

Campbell, R., & Svensson, C. (2015). *Writing your legacy: The Step-by-Step Guide to Crafting Your Life Story*. Cincinnati, OH: Writers Digest Books.

*Memoir Your Way: Tell Your Story Through Writing, Recipes, Quilts, Graphic Novels, and More*. (2016). New York, NY: Skyhorse Publishing.

Christmas Memories Book: <https://www.amazon.com/Christmas-Memories-Book-Maritime-Anderson/dp/0939510847>

My Mom, Her Story, Her Words: <https://www.amazon.com/My-Mom-Her-Story-Words/dp/1932319638>

A Father's Legacy: Your Life Story in Your Own Words: [https://www.amazon.com/Fathers-Legacy-Your-Story-Words/dp/1404113320/ref=pd\\_lpo\\_sbs\\_14\\_t\\_0?encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=444F3TKTBPMWZ06H4Y2Z](https://www.amazon.com/Fathers-Legacy-Your-Story-Words/dp/1404113320/ref=pd_lpo_sbs_14_t_0?encoding=UTF8&psc=1&refRID=444F3TKTBPMWZ06H4Y2Z)

Family Tree Memory Keeper: Your Workbook for Family History, Stories, and Genealogy: <https://www.amazon.com/Family-Tree-Memory-Keeper-Genealogy/dp/144033062X>

Grandfather Remembers: Memories for My Grandchild: <https://www.amazon.com/Grandfather-Remembers-Memories-My-Grandchild/dp/0060155612>

Twelve Ways You Made a Difference: <https://www.ragandbonebindery.com/collections/12-ways-difference>

Grandmother Remembers: <https://www.amazon.com/Grandmother-Remembers-30th-Anniversary-Judith/dp/1617690325>

Remember That?: A Year-by-Year Chronicle of Fun Facts, Headlines, & Your Memories: [https://www.amazon.com/Remember-That-Year-Year-Chronicle/dp/1440316880/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1524712529&sr=8-3&keywords=remember+that%3F&dpID=51X9zStf5wL&preST= SX258 BO1,204,203,200 QL70 &dpSrc=srch](https://www.amazon.com/Remember-That-Year-Year-Chronicle/dp/1440316880/ref=sr_1_3?ie=UTF8&qid=1524712529&sr=8-3&keywords=remember+that%3F&dpID=51X9zStf5wL&preST= SX258 BO1,204,203,200 QL70 &dpSrc=srch)

### Recorded Stories

- Video recording
  - Huberman, R., & Huberman, L. (2003). How to Create a Video Family History: The Complete Guide to Interviewing and Taping Your Family's Stories & Memories. Margate, NJ: ComteQ Pub.
- Audio recording
  - Ritchie, D. A. (2015). Doing Oral History. New York: Oxford University Press.
- Devices
  - Phones
    - Android: <https://www.scriptosphere.com/5-best-audio-recording-apps-android/>
    - iPhone: <https://www.guidingtech.com/audio-recording-apps-iphone/>
    - Audiobiography: <https://audiobiography.com/home>
  - Tablets
  - Computers
    - PC: <https://blogs.systweak.com/10-best-audio-recording-software-for-pc/>
    - Mac: <https://techwiser.com/best-audio-recording-software-for-mac/>
  - Portable recording devices
    - <https://www.omnicoreagency.com/best-digital-voice-recorders/>
  - Life Stories Center
    - [www.genealogycenter.info/LifeStories](http://www.genealogycenter.info/LifeStories)
- Remember the basics
  - Keep it simple
  - Keep it short

- Keep it painless

### **Researching Stories**

- Newspapers
- Family materials (i.e. letters, diaries, etc.)
- Historical materials for the event or region
- Census
- Vital records
- Court records
- Military records
- Occupational records
- City Directories
- And more!

### **Moving Facts to Stories**

- Case study
  - Adeline Koorsen
    - Born: 16 DEC 1874 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to John Michael Koorsen and Euphemia Viskorf
    - Moved to Ohio in fall of 1892
    - Married to August DePrez on 21 SEPT 1892 in Cleveland, Ohio
    - Birth of Son, Edward Charles DePrey on 9 NOV 1893 in Cleveland, Ohio
    - Birth of Daughter, Euphemia Katherine DePrey on 21 APR 1901 in Fort Wayne, Indiana
    - Death of Mother on 17 SEPT 1902 in Fort Wayne, Indiana
    - Death of Husband on 20 MAR 1903 in Fort Wayne, Indiana
    - Death of Son on 30 APR 1903 in Fort Wayne, Indiana
    - Married to William Carl Kolthoff on 24 NOV 1904 in Fort Wayne, Indiana
    - Death of Father on 24 NOV 1914 in Fort Wayne, Indiana
    - Death on 14 AUG 1953 in Fort Wayne, Indiana

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