Ancestry's Updates & New Pro Tools December 2023

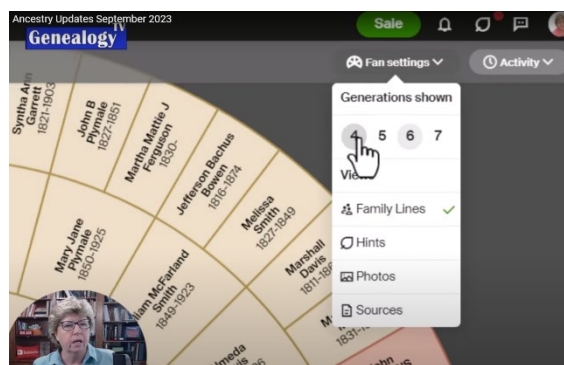VIDEO LINK

Ancestry has some new features & tools rolling out. Some are part of your subscription and others are under a new subscription Add-On called **Ancestry's Pro Tools**. Some of these tools will be out by the time you read this and some later in December 2023.
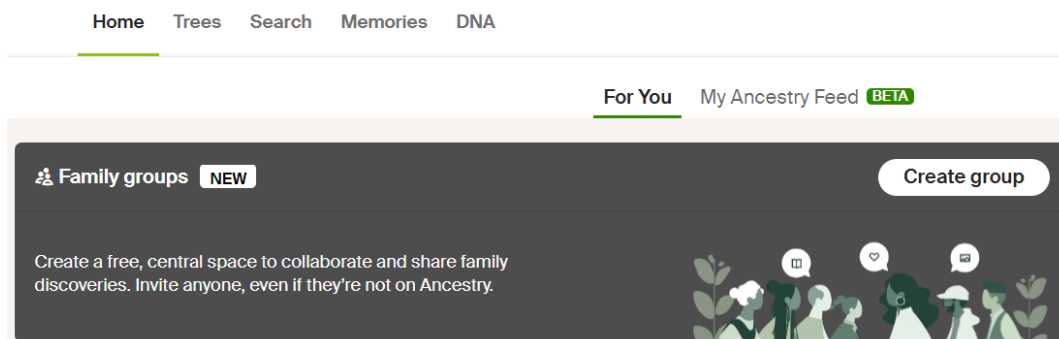
New Features as Part of Your Subscription

FAN Chart (Tree View)

In a previous episode on Genealogy TV, I demonstrated the new Fan Chart on Ancestry. Shortly after that episode aired, they took down the part of the tree where you could expand the generations. As of this writing, I do not know when it will return.
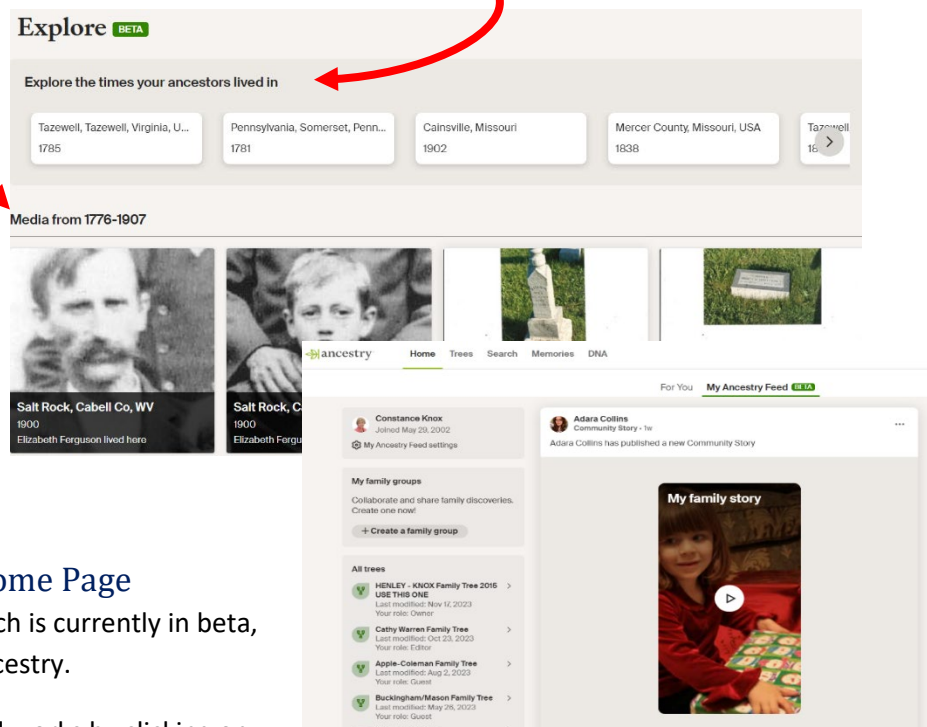
Family Groups Added to Home Page

Currently at the top of the home screen you will find a new section called **Family Groups** where they are inviting you to create a group so you can share your family tree with others, even if they are not ancestry members. This is an opportunity for you to collaborate with other family members. This also creates a group within the messaging system where you can have a private discussion amongst the group.

GenealogyTV.org   YouTube.com/GenealogyTV

Explore in the Profile View

From the profile view on ancestry there is a new tab called **Explore**. At the top of the screen, you will find some historical context. In the area in which your ancestor lived.

In the next section you will find photographs from other member trees in and around that are identified with places in which your ancestor lived. Be forewarned that these are not your ancestors, these are just images that have a similar place. This can be confusing but some of the images such as maps and historic photographs may be of interest to you.

My Ancestry Feed from Home Page

The new **My Ancestry feed**, which is currently in beta, is like a social media feed on Ancestry.

You can customize how this feed works by clicking on the gear icon in the upper left corner right under your name. Here you can select Ask the Community. Family, History, Memories, and Stories.

In order to create a Community Story on Ancestry, it has to be done from the Ancestry mobile app.

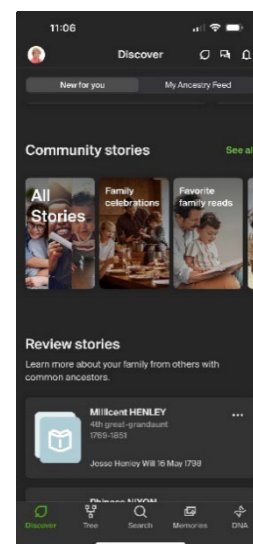## Creating a Community Story (Ancestry's Mobile App)

Here are the steps from Ancestry help page.

"Community stories are stories about **various subjects** (like family vacations and famous ancestors) that are shared with everyone on Ancestry. Once published, your community stories are automatically saved to your tree's gallery.

Your community stories are featured for 24 hours in your story feed, located at the top of the discover tab, alongside stories from other members of the ancestry community.

Browsing community stories may spark ideas for other family stories you can create, share, and preserve for future generations. To discover community stories from other Ancestry members:

1. Open the Ancestry app and sign in.
2. Go to the **Discover tab**.

3.   Scroll down to the *Community stories* section.
4.   Select a **subject category** from the list, or tap **See all**.
5.   Tap a **story** to view it."

New Pro Tools (Add-On Subscription)

As of this writing (November 2023) the cost of the new Pro Tools will be an additional $9.99 per month and available in the U.S. only.
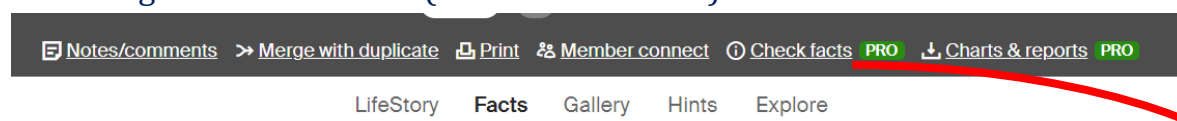
Ancestry says the new tools include:

- **"Tree Checker:** Enhance the accuracy of your family tree using the Tree Checker which identifies and suggests corrections for potential errors, refining and improving your family tree.
- **Map Views:** Gain deeper insights into your family's heritage with maps that show where ancestors came from and the social and geographical forces that shaped their lives and community. (Coming Soon)
- **Insights:** Simplify family tree research with user-friendly tools, offering over twenty-five filters and search options, like Military, Occupation, Immigration, and more, to swiftly locate your ancestors and gain meaningful insights into your family's history. (Coming January '24)
- **Reports & Charts:** Deepen your understanding of your family's history with reports, facts, and visuals, including various tree views like Registry, Ahnentafel, Descendancy, and more."

Let us explore these tools.

Tree Checker (aka Fact Checker)

While you would think this would be available in the tree view, it is only available in the profile view. I suspect they are going to change the name from Tree Checker to Fact Checker.
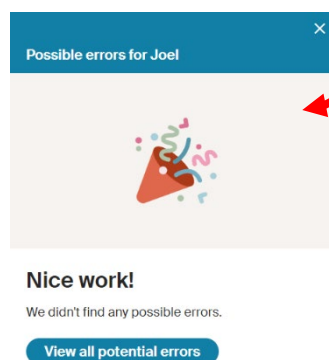
Accessing the Tree Checker (a.k.a. Fact Checker)

You can find it two ways in the **Profile view**.

- **Tools Icon** - Under the wrench icon in the upper right corner, then drop down to Check Facts.
- In the Research Tools Menu. If you are not seeing the **Research Tools** Menu, you can turn it on by going to the **Tools (wrench) icon**, drop down to **Show Research Tools**. Here you will see the Check Facts link.

Clicking the **Check Facts** link will open up a side menu showing a potential error. In this screen shot there are no errors.

You will also see an ❗near the top of the profile allowing another way to open the Fact Checker. If it has a dot on it (shown) that means, there are potential errors. Clicking that icon will also open up the side panel.

No dot = no errors.

Seeing All Potential Errors

The only way I found to see all potential errors, as of this writing, is to open a side panel in a profile view that does not have any errors as shown below. Then clicking on the **View All Potential Errors** button

will open a list of ancestors with possible errors.

I recommend right clicking the ❗icon to open each of them in a new tab, so you can preserve the list of potential errors. (Shown on the next page.)

When you click through the ! icon it will open the profile for that person along with the side panel with possible errors. In this case a child was born after mother died. More investigation is needed here.

Reports and Charts

From the **Profile View** on Ancestry, you will see another new **Pro Tool**. It is called the **Charts & Reports** tool.

Clicking the **Charts & Reports** tool allows for four reports to be created in two different document styles and the option to go from two generations up to seven generations.

You can choose from the **Ahnentafel** (Ancestors) report, **Descendancy** (Descendants of Selected Persons), **Register** (Modified Narrative), or the **Family Group Sheet** (Husband, Wife, and Children with Birth, Marriage, and Death Details). You can also change the focus person from the side panel. The focus person will be automatically set from the Profile ancestors you started from when clicking into the Charts & Reports.

Ahnentafel

The Ahnentafel report is shown below with three generations.

Descendancy

Here is what the Descendancy report looks like.

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Descendancy

1. Charles Booth b: 1774. d: 24 Oct 1821 in West Virginia, USA; age: 47.
+ Elizabeth Ferguson b: 3 March 1785 in Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, USA. m: 19 Feb 1798 in Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, USA. d: 11 Aug 1862 in Wayne Co; age: 77.
   2. Ferguson Booth b: 10 Oct 1799 in Tazewell, Virginia, USA. d: 14 Feb 1876 in Point Pleasant, Warren, Illinois, USA; age: 76.
   + Lucinda Perdue b: 10 Sep 1804. m: 23 Jan 1820 in Cabell County, West Virginia. d: 21 Mar 1890 in Warren, Illinois, USA; age: 85.
   2. Jane Booth b: 1801 in Wayne, Augusta, Virginia, USA. d: Jan 1826; age: 25.
   2. Polly Booth b: 1803 in Tazewell, Virginia, USA. d: 1844 in Knox, Knox, Illinois, USA; age: 41.
   2. Jonathan Booth b: 11 Dec 1805 in Montgomery County, Virginia, USA. d: 09 Feb 1887 in Burlington Junction, Nodaway, Missouri, USA; age: 81.
   + Celia WALKER b: 1809. m: 06 Mar 1828. d: 12 Mar 1864 in Cainsville, Harrison, Missouri, USA; age: 55.
      3. Anderville Booth b: 20 Dec 1828. d: 25 Jan 1904 in Cainsville, Harrison, Missouri, USA; age: 75.
      3. Serilda Booth b: 1830 in Virginia, USA. d: Deceased.
      3. Zerilda Hamm b: 1830. d: Deceased.
      3. Evermont Booth b: 25 Mar 1833. d: 31 Dec 1897 in Cainsville, Harrison, Missouri, USA; age: 64.
      3. Sarah E Booth b: 1835. d: 1888; age: 53.
      3. America Booth b: 04 Oct 1838 in Campbell, Tennessee, USA. d: 1888; age: 49.
   + Margaret Mary Ann Robertson b: 15 Mar 1831. m: 1864. d: 28 Apr 1902 in Cainsville, Harrison, Missouri, USA; age: 71.
   + Harriet Hunt m: 1864. d: Deceased.
      3. George Washington Booth b: 1849 in Decatur City, Decatur, Iowa, USA. d: 1896 in Mercer, Missouri, USA; age: 47.
   2. Thomas Booth b: 1808. d: 1887 in Mercer, Mercer, Missouri, USA; age: 79.
   2. Samuel Booth b: 1810. d: 1889 in Wayne, Augusta, Virginia, USA; age: 79.
   2. Elizabeth Booth b: 19 Jan 1812. d: 1854 in Knox, Knox, Illinois, USA; age: 41.
   + Unknown
      3. Martha Ann Booton b: 1 Apr 1834 in Cabell, Virginia, USA. d: 4 Sep 1907 in Concord, Massachusetts, USA; age: 73.
   2. George Washington Booth b: 1814. d: 1880 in Decatur City, Decatur, Iowa, USA; age: 66.
   2. Jefferson Booth b: 24 Nov 1815. d: 11 Nov 1896 in Wayne, West Virginia, USA; age: 80.

Register (Reads more like a narrative)

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Register

Register, Generation 1

Charles Booth was born in 1774 and died on 24 Oct 1821 in West Virginia, USA. He was the child of Charles Booth and Jane Whitby.

Charles Booth married Elizabeth Ferguson on 19 Feb 1798 in Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, USA. Elizabeth Ferguson was born on 3 March 1785 in Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, USA and died on 11 Aug 1862 in Wayne Co. She was the child of Samuel Ferguson and Mary Jameson.

Charles Booth married Elizabeth Ferguson in 1802 in Tazewell, Virginia, USA. Elizabeth Ferguson was born on 3 March 1785 in Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, USA and died on 11 Aug 1862 in Wayne Co. She was the child of Samuel Ferguson and Mary Jameson.

Children of Charles Booth and Elizabeth Ferguson are:
  1. Ferguson Booth was born on 10 Oct 1799 in Tazewell, Virginia, USA and died on 14 Feb 1876 in Point Pleasant, Warren, Illinois, USA.

  2. Jane Booth was born in 1801 in Wayne, Augusta, Virginia, USA and died in Jan 1826.

  3. Polly Booth was born in 1803 in Tazewell, Virginia, USA and died in 1844 in Knox, Knox, Illinois, USA.

  4. Jonathan Booth was born on 11 Dec 1805 in Montgomery County, Virginia, USA and died on 09 Feb 1887 in Burlington Junction, Nodaway, Missouri, USA.

  5. Thomas Booth was born in 1808 and died in 1887 in Mercer, Mercer, Missouri, USA.

  6. Samuel Booth was born in 1810 and died in 1889 in Wayne, Augusta, Virginia, USA.

  7. Elizabeth Booth was born on 19 Jan 1812 and died in 1854 in Knox, Knox, Illinois, USA.

  8. George Washington Booth was born in 1814 and died in 1880 in Decatur City, Decatur, Iowa, USA.

Family Group Sheet

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Family Group Sheet

Name: Charles Booth
Birth: 1774.
Spouse: Elizabeth Ferguson
Death: 24 Oct 1821 in West Virginia, USA; age: 47.
Burial: 1821.
Father: Charles Booth
Mother: Jane Whitby

Spouse: Elizabeth Ferguson
Birth: 3 March 1785 in Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, USA.
Marriage: 19 Feb 1798 in Tazewell, Tazewell, Virginia, USA.
Death: 11 Aug 1862 in Wayne Co; age: 77.
Father: Samuel Ferguson
Mother: Mary Jameson

Children of Charles Booth and Elizabeth Ferguson: 12

Name: Ferguson Booth
Birth: 10 Oct 1799 in Tazewell, Virginia, USA.
Spouse: Lucinda Perdue   Marriage: 23 Jan 1820 in Cabell County, West Virginia.
Death: 14 Feb 1876 in Point Pleasant, Warren, Illinois, USA; age: 76.

Name: Jane Booth
Birth: 1801 in Wayne, Augusta, Virginia, USA.
Death: Jan 1826; age: 25.

Name: Polly Booth
Birth: 1803 in Tazewell, Virginia, USA.
Death: 1844 in Knox, Knox, Illinois, USA; age: 41.

Name: Jonathan Booth
Birth: 11 Dec 1805 in Montgomery County, Virginia, USA.
Spouses: Celia WALKER   Marriage: 06 Mar 1828.
Margaret Mary Ann Robertson   Marriage: 1864.

Workflow

Consider your workflow if you are presenting these reports in a book.

- Start by clearing any potential errors.
- Research all hints
- Search for more records in the card catalog by place, date, and subject.
- Research all other locations for records. There are tons of other places to look, if needed.
- Once your research is completed, you are now ready to publish a completed report.

There are **more tools coming to Ancestry in the coming weeks**. Make sure you are subscribed to the Genealogy TV YouTube channel, so you can get the latest updates.

Make sure you are subscribed to the Genealogy TV YouTube channel (Free) so you can stay up to date on the latest with Ancestry.