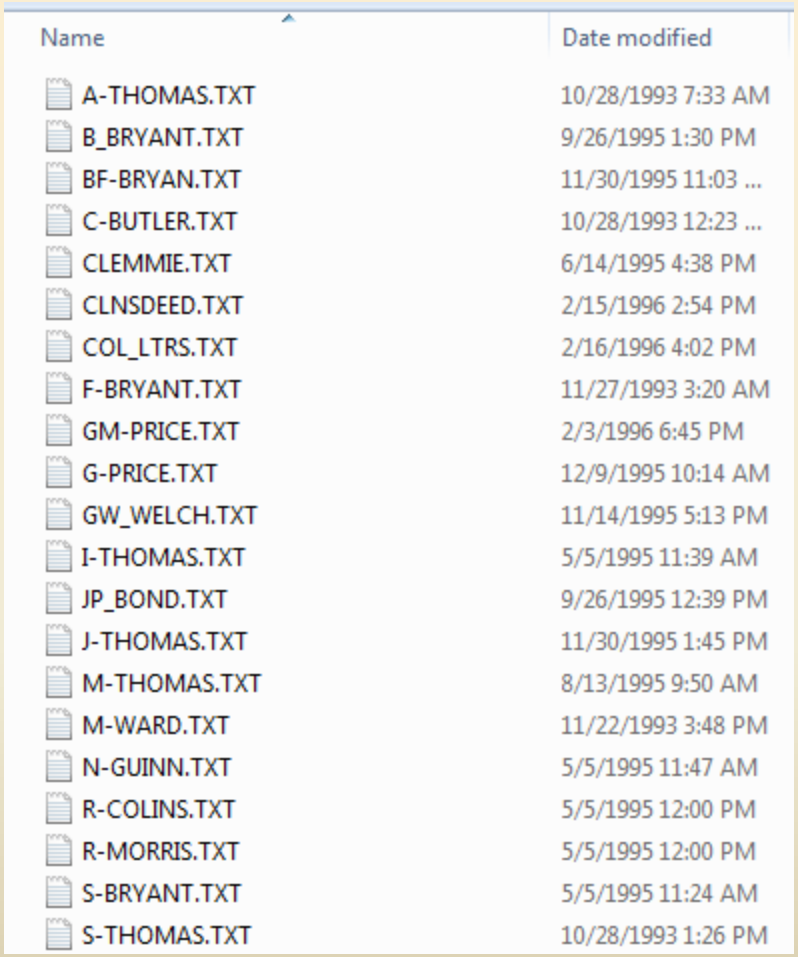
How I Created My Family Book

By Sheri Tiner

Where to Start

- Gather the stories
- Don’t worry about order or perfection
- Find answers to as many questions as possible
- Save them in an easy to locate order



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B_BRYANT.TXT	9/26/1995 1:30 PM
BF-BRYAN.TXT	11/30/1995 11:03 ...
C-BUTLER.TXT	10/28/1993 12:23 ...
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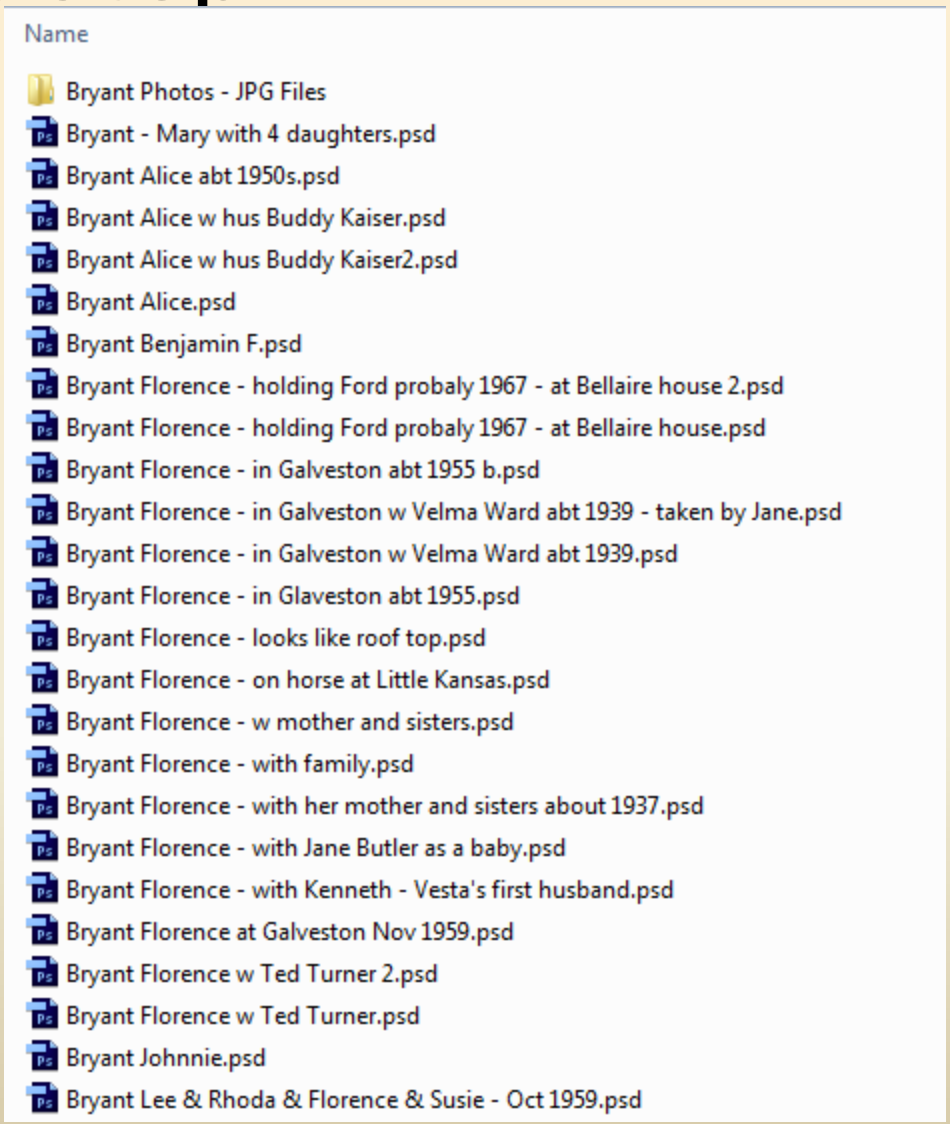
GM-PRICE.TXT	2/3/1996 6:45 PM
G-PRICE.TXT	12/9/1995 10:14 AM
GW_WELCH.TXT	11/14/1995 5:13 PM
I-THOMAS.TXT	5/5/1995 11:39 AM
JP_BOND.TXT	9/26/1995 12:39 PM
J-THOMAS.TXT	11/30/1995 1:45 PM
M-THOMAS.TXT	8/13/1995 9:50 AM
M-WARD.TXT	11/22/1993 3:48 PM
N-GUINN.TXT	5/5/1995 11:47 AM
R-COLINS.TXT	5/5/1995 12:00 PM
R-MORRIS.TXT	5/5/1995 12:00 PM
S-BRYANT.TXT	5/5/1995 11:24 AM
S-THOMAS.TXT	10/28/1993 1:26 PM

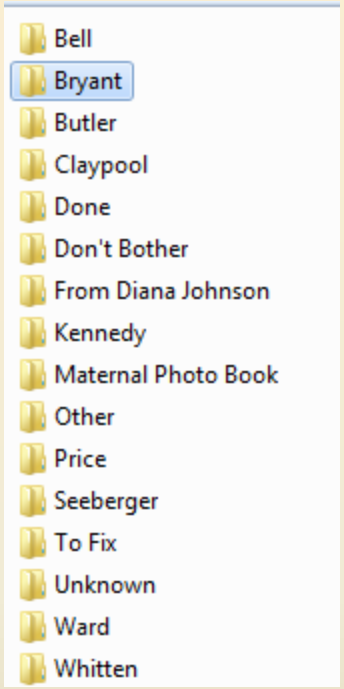
Next Step

- Gather (scan) the photos
- Do any need ‘fixing’?
- Is everyone identified?
- Make notes about the photos
- Save them in an easy to locate order



Organize

- Put everything in one folder
- Label everything for easy identification
- Example:
  - Family Book
    - Smith Family
      - George Smith 1890.tiff
      - George Smith.docx



Refine the Stories

- Review each story and any related photos
- Refine the story (1st edit)
- Start making notes on what order the families/individuals should be placed in the book
- Example: Start with parents and work back OR Start with earliest ancestor and work forward

Compile the Text

- Place the text of each story in one document
- Examine how the stories fit together
- Refine placement or edit for a better fit
- Create an outline for a table of contents
- Write an opening paragraph, dedication, or other beginning text

Assemble the Book

- Begin the book in what ever tool you will be using
- Decide page layout
- Refine text if necessary to fit
- Beg someone to proof read the entire book
- Beg someone else to proof read a second time

(Not kidding!)

Cover and Contents

- Finalize the table of contents
- Decide on a cover style/image
- Decide on your title

Publish

- That’s it, you’re done.
- Well… you’ll be on pins and needles waiting for the finished product to arrive in the mail.