

Did You Know?

DID YOU KNOW that there are two versions of the Picklist?

The Simple Picklist is the default and will come up when you click on the binoculars in the main toolbar (or press F2). It provides a quick-and-dirty alphabetical list of everyone in the project. But there is another choice. The Expanded Picklist offers even more information, including an "Event Mode" with which you can view a miniature version of the Person View for each person as you move within the list. The Expanded Picklist also has the distinct advantage of supporting the Accent feature. Because of its higher workload, the Expanded Picklist can be slower and is not recommended for users with very old computers or extremely large projects. To choose between the Simple and Expanded Picklists, access File > Preferences > Program Options > Lists.

DID YOU KNOW that you can distinguish between the source of the date and the source of the place?

The surety fields in TMG provide you a way to specify which elements of the event came from which source(s). You can independently cite the source(s) for the identity of the two principals, the date, place, and memo (i.e., "1 2 D P M"). In this way, you can also document that the date is more reliable than the place, for instance. Among other uses of the surety fields, you can specify when generating a report that it should include only data which meets a certain threshold of reliability. So reports that are intended for your own use at the library/courthouse might include all of the speculative evidence while reports that are intended for public view (e-mail, published articles, web pages) can include only the most reliable data.

DID YOU KNOW that The Master Genealogist (TMG) is free to certified genealogists?

Tell your friends! Any researcher holding a current certification from the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) can get a free copy of TMG v5 Gold Edition by simply writing to freetmg@whollygenes.com. Any BCG certification (i.e., CG, CGI, CGL, CGRS, CLS) will do. (Sorry, no other certification or professional experience qualifies at this time). This offer comes to you from Wholly Genes Software, which is not affiliated with the Board for Certification of Genealogists.

DID YOU KNOW that you can allocate more than one line for each tag in the Person View so that you can see long memos as wrapped text?

Right click on the list of events and choose "Display more rows per tag." You can also set this option manually from Preferences > Program Options > Tag Box.

DID YOU KNOW that you can activate a column on the Person View that will display the age of the focus person at the time that each of his events occurred?

The option is accessible from Preferences > Program Options > Tag Box.

DID YOU KNOW that the two preceding features are saved as part of your screen layout?

That is, if you want the Age column to be preserved between sessions, you should click on the "Save Custom Layout" toolbar button.

*DID YOU KNOW that you can **change the order of the items in the "Other info" window** (in the top-right of the Person View)?*

Right click on that small window and choose "Customize 'Other info' box...". Then highlight an item in the list and choose <Move Up> or <Move Down>.

*DID YOU KNOW that you can **open the Exhibit Log** by double-clicking on the Image Window?*

*DID YOU KNOW that you can **turn off those annoying messages about sureties, updating the sort date, etc.?***

The "Prompts" page on the Preferences screen includes options to turn off a variety of such warning messages.

*DID YOU KNOW that you can **create a backup configuration that specifies which files you want to include (data, layouts, toolbars, colour schemes, etc.)?***

You can select one of the pre-configured backup types, of course, but you can also design your own. Give the new backup configuration a new name on Step 1 of the Backup Wizard. Thereafter, you can run it again by selecting it by name. You might even want to design more than one custom backup configuration for different purposes (e.g., archiving, transferring data to a laptop, etc.)

*DID YOU KNOW that you can **perform a backup with just two clicks in the Backup Wizard?***

From Step 1, click on Next (the backup type that you used last time is already highlighted). On Step 2, click on <Finish> and you're done! That is, you don't have to navigate through all of the steps of the wizard in order to start the backup. Note that the backup file destination is determined by an option in Preferences > Program Options > Advanced. Set that option to your liking so that you don't have to do so for each backup. Ah, but you say that two clicks is too many....?

*DID YOU KNOW that you can **perform a backup with just ONE click?***

You can add a button to the custom toolbar which performs a backup without stopping to ask you any questions. On the Custom Toolbar Manager (View > Toolbars > Customize), go to the end of the right-hand list and find "Run a backup of a specific name." Highlight it and click on "<<Add" to create the new toolbar button. Then select the type of backup that should be run when the new toolbar button is clicked. Also be sure to check the box to "Bypass the setup options and run the specified configuration without changes." Now, when you click on <OK>, the custom toolbar button will be created. Now you can back up with one click!

*DID YOU KNOW that the **capitalization of the field names on the Source Definition screen is significant?***

For instance, if a data-entry field is labelled "Date", then it means that a date value is required by one or more of the output templates for that source. (In that case, failing to enter a date will produce "an unknown date" in the output). If the field is labelled "date" (lower case) then it means that the field is not referenced by any template. In that case, you can enter a date value but it won't appear in the output unless you change the template. A field that is labelled "< Date >" (i.e., with conditional brackets) means that it is referenced but not required by the template(s). That is, it is conditional.

DID YOU KNOW that there are four helpful toolbars that are not visible by default?

Access the View menu and choose Toolbars to select the Easy Search, Bookmark, Reporting, and/or Text Editing toolbars. There is also a custom toolbar to which you can assign shortcut buttons for the features that you use most.

DID YOU KNOW that you can control the effect of the "Individual Narrative Preview" button on the Reporting toolbar?

This button executes a specific report definition. Access the Report menu, choose Individual Narrative, and then select "Individual Narrative Preview" from the list of configuration names. If you make any option changes now and click on Save (or Print and Save), then those customizations will apply when you next click on the toolbar button. There are similar matching report definitions for the two other "preview" buttons on the Reporting toolbar.

DID YOU KNOW that you can cause long lines on the Person View to wrap to the next line instead of being truncated?

Right-click on the list of events and choose "Display more rows per tag." Choose the same option multiple times to add more lines. You can also control this setting from File > Preferences > Program Options > Tag Box.

DID YOU KNOW that you can also wrap long values on the Project Explorer?

Right-click on the Project Explorer and choose "Multiline text on Project Explorer." Names that can't be displayed in the available space will be wrapped to the next line.

DID YOU KNOW that there is a link to a chart printing service right on the Reports menu?

You can design a large chart in TMG and use this convenient feature to upload it directly to the chart printing service, Chartform Delivery. Family tree charts are very popular at family reunions, they make great gifts, and the printing process couldn't be easier than with this built-in feature.