

Quick & Easy Cousin Bait

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Central New York Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nycnygs/>

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What is Cousin Bait?

Placing family history info on the internet so that a long lost cousin will be able to contact you

(& hopefully they will have a treasure trove to share with you).

If we can't be found, we will never benefit from their knowledge.

Why Cousin Bait?

- Postings in 2 blogs (see next 2 slides) caught my eye and started my interest in cousin bait.
- The techniques described in these posts are not perfect AND you must still do REAL RESEARCH and be SKEPTICAL about the findings.
- The results will typically be "low-hanging fruit," but the resulting hints and connections may advance your research.

Genealogy's Star by James Tanner

- <http://genealogysstar.blogspot.com/2014/11/building-pedigree-from-sources-ultimate.html>
 - “If he is using either MyHeritage.com or Ancestry.com or FamilySearch.org, all he has to do is enter a minimal amount of information about himself and his parents and perhaps a name or two of grandparents. The programs then begin to suggest sources for further information.”

Genea-Musings by Randy Seaver

- <http://www.geneamusings.com/2014/12/my-heritage-introduces-instant.html>
 - “Basically, the feature permits anyone with an email address to create a new family tree on MyHeritage, by inputting their name, their parents and grandparents, and letting MyHeritage find records, and perhaps more ancestors for the grandparents, for free.”
 - “There is a YouTube video of the feature being tested on the streets of New York City in <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQYCO1hFskU>.”

Social Media for Cousin Bait

- Forums & message boards (rootsweb, ancestry, etc)
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Many other sites

- Blogs
- Online trees
 - My experiences with Blogs & Trees follow

Prerequisite

- **Best Practice: Use a “permanent” email address (gmail or yahoo) for all genealogy contacts.**
 - Do NOT use an email address that in the future will be bogus for whatever reason.
 - Do NOT use an email address provided by your ISP (Internet Service Provider) like roadrunner.
 - Do NOT use an email address provided by an employer or other temporary supplier.

Blog

- Who: My parents & my wife's parents, plus their parents & grandparents (28)
- Source: Using my genealogy program, I created a report for each of the 28
- Where: blogger, <https://www.blogger.com> by Google. (Will be indexed by google.)
Created 1 post (cut & paste) for each of the 28 individuals
- If you are interested in creating your own blog, check out www.geneabloggers.com

Blog

- Why my blog is bad: Good blogs are creative, content rich, and constantly developing new content.
- Why my blog is good: It provides an internet home for those 28 ancestors ...And they are FINDABLE.
 - My blog shows up on the first page of results from a google search of *Hogan Nagle Gorham*
 - (2 surnames & location for a set of great grandparents - a fairly common search)

Online Trees

- Wanted to experiment with 5 free sites & 5 pay sites (using their free features)
- Selected from [Top 100 Genealogy Websites](#) by [GenealogyInTime.com](#)

Online Trees

| \$ | site | Top 100 Ranking | Import Type | Tree Type | Non-Subscriber can Search Trees | Non-Subscriber can Search Content | Auto Search | Non-Subscriber can contact you |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| free | worldconnect.rootsweb.ancestry.com | ~1 | gedcom | | Y | Y | N | Y ¹ |
| free | familysearch.org | 3 | no gedcom ² | one tree ³ | Y | Y | Y | Y ⁴ |
| free ⁵ | geneanet.org | 7 | gedcom | | Y-last name | Y-last name | | N |
| free | wikitree.com | 21 | gedcom | one tree | Y | NA | N | Y |
| free | werelate.org | 86 | gedcom | one tree | Y | NA | N | Y |
| pay | ancestry.com | 1 | gedcom | | Y/\$ | Y/\$ | Y | N |
| pay | MyHeritage.com | 4 | gedcom | | Y/\$ | Y/\$ | Y | N |
| pay | geni.com | 5 | no gedcom | one tree ³ | Y/\$ | NA | Y | N |
| pay | findmypast.co.uk/findmypast.ie | 18/80 | gedcom | | N | Y/\$ | Y | N |
| pay | mocavo.com | 28 | gedcom | | Y/\$ | Y/\$ | N | N |

¹ Yes, a non Ancestry subscriber can contact you by using the email image displayed (assuming the email is still good).

A non Ancestry subscriber cannot use the internal messaging system.

² There is a workaround. See presentation slides.

³ familysearch.org & geni.com have 2 types of trees: individual & one tree types

⁴ Yes, if email address has been set as Public. Can always attach a note to the individual.

⁵ Listed as a free site in the Top 100, but really a pay site.

Y/\$ means searches are free, but must subscribe to see content

worldconnect.rootsweb.ancestry.com

- RootsWeb is a free site owned by ancestry.com
- Formerly a go-to site, its usage has probably declined due to social media (it still has wonderful content)
- No automatic hinting or suggestions
- No integration feature for genealogy database programs
- Any user can contact you (given your email is working). There is an internal messaging system which only ancestry.com subscribers can use.

FamilySearch FamilyTree

- Free site
- One Tree concept
 - Goal: each individual has only 1 entry. (Others can modify the content that you submit.)
 - (You can also create a tree in the Pedigree Resource File. This tree **CAN ONLY** be changed by you!)
- Automatic hinting or suggestions
- Integration feature for several genealogy database programs
- Any user can contact you (free registration required)

FamilySearch/GEDCOM

- Family Tree does not accept GEDCOM imports, the standard way to create a tree is to enter each person from scratch.
- Alternative import method:
 - <http://www.ancestryinsider.org/search/label/genealogy%20tree%20managers>
 - Steps are on next page

FamilySearch/GEDCOM

- Create an account if you don't have one
- Click on ***Search*** and ***Genealogies***
- Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on ***Submit Tree*** and follow directions (using your gedcom)
 - This creates a tree in the Pedigree Resource File. This tree **CAN ONLY** be changed by you!
- You are then able to compare & merge your tree in the Pedigree Resource File into the FS Family Tree. (For directions see the link on the previous page.)

FamilySearch

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the FamilySearch logo on the left and links for Volunteer, Get Help, Family Tree, Memories, Search, and Indexing. The user's name, DENNIS HOGAN, is displayed on the right. Below the navigation bar, there is a secondary navigation bar with icons for TREE, PERSON, FIND, LISTS, and WHAT'S NEW. The main content area is a family tree view. At the top of this view, there are controls for VIEW: DESCENDANCY and GENERATIONS: 1 2 3 4. A 'Show' button is also present. The tree shows a central figure, Thaddeus Lawrence (1848-1918, LCQX-Z66), with a blue icon indicating a research suggestion. To his right is a brown icon for record hints. Below him is his spouse, Alice J. Wood (1850-1940, M16Y-LYP), with a red icon indicating a data problem and a blue icon for record hints. To the right of Alice are two brown record hint icons. Below Alice are two children: Estella Lawrence (1871-Deceased, M16Y-LB2) with a red data problem icon and a brown record hint icon; and Walter Lawrence (1874-Deceased, M16Y-NF9) with a blue research suggestion icon and a brown record hint icon. An 'Expand' link is visible at the top left of the tree view.

- Blue icon represents Research Suggestion (No Sources Attached)
- Brown icon represents Record Hints (**must be in Descendancy View**)
- Red icon represents Data Problem
- Click Expand to display previous generations when available

FamilySearch

- When creating your tree, the default setting for your contact email is Private (will NOT be displayed), so change the setting to Public.

FamilySearch - Tree Share Sync

- Several genealogy database programs have been certified by FamilySearch for "Tree Share" synchronization with Family Tree:
- Windows
 - Ancestral Quest, Family Tree Heritage, Legacy Family Tree, MagiTree
 - RootsMagic (also certified for "Record Hinting")
- Mac
 - MacFamilyTree
- See all FamilySearch certifications at:
<https://familysearch.org/products/>

FamilySearch - Tree Share Sync

- Here's an example of the power of the "Tree Share" synchronization with Family Tree using Legacy Family Tree – Select a person & click the Family Search icon

The screenshot displays the Legacy Family Tree software interface. The top menu bar includes File, Edit, Add, View, Reports, Tools, Search, Internet, My Toolbar, Options, and Help. Below the menu is a Shortcut Toolbar with various icons. The 'Family Search' icon, located at the far right of the toolbar, is circled in red. The main window shows a pedigree view for a family. The 'Parents' section lists Michael HOGAN (Abt 1828-1907)+ and Susan NAGLE (Abt 1834-1898). The 'Husband' section is selected, showing a profile for John Francis HOGAN, whose name is circled in red. Below the name, the following details are listed: Born 27 Apr 1853, Middlesex, Yates, New York, United States; Chr; Died 11 Mar 1943, Reed Corners, Ontario, New York, United States; Buried After 13 Mar 1943, Canandaigua, Ontario, New York, United States; DthCau. The bottom of the window features a copyright notice: ©2015, Dennis A. Hogan, www.dennisahogan.com.

FamilySearch - Tree Share Sync

Possible Matches: Using the buttons below, match your Legacy person to a person in the FamilySearch database. If a match is not found, you can add your Legacy person to FamilySearch. [Hide](#)

Selected person: **John Francis Hogan (1853-1943)**
Percentage: 0%
FamilySearch ID: N/A

Reload Unlink person FamilySearch.org Import Tree

Matches Duplicates Share Data Sources Discussions Changes

Possible Matches (6)

| | Name | Birth | Death | Parents | Spouse | FS ID |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| 3 | John Hogan ☆☆☆☆☆ | | | | Mary A. Mrs Hogan | M5DR-3TX |
| 4 | John Hogan ☆☆☆☆☆ | 1853 Massachusetts, United States | | | Marie Hogan | MSKH-5MC |
| 5 | John Hogan ☆☆☆☆☆ | Abt 1853 | | Michael Hogan Susan Hogan | | LVDB-JRD |

This person is the same as mine None of these people are a match Advanced Search Refresh

My Legacy Person
John Francis Hogan [57] (27 Apr 1853 - 11 Mar 1943)

| Fact | Date | Name / Place |
|----------------------|-------------|---|
| Family Relationships | | |
| Father (Bio) | 1828-1907 | Michael /Hogan/ [243] (LVWG-T13) |
| Mother (Bio) | 1834-1898 | Susan /Nagle/ [244] |
| Spouse | 1865-1951 | Mary Agnes /O'Shaughnessy/ [68] |
| Marriage | 11 Jan 1888 | Canandaigua, Ontario, New York, United States |
| Child (F) | 7 Oct 1888 | Frances Catherine /Hogan/ [88] |

Possible match from FamilySearch
[Goto person LVDB-JRD](#)

| Fact | Date | Name / Place |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Family Relationships | | |
| Father (Bio) | 1830-1907 | Michael /Hogan/ (LVDM-42T) |
| Mother (Bio) | 1834-1911 | Susan /McGovern/ (LVDM-4JB) |

geneanet.org

- Essentially unusable as a non-subscriber

wikitree.com

- Free site
- One Tree concept
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- Any user can contact you

werelate.org

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- One Tree concept
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- No integration feature for genealogy database programs
- Any user can contact you

Ancestry Family Trees

- Free to create your family tree
- Automatic hinting or suggestions
- Integration feature for Family Tree Maker (owned by ancestry.com)
- No non-subscriber can contact you. Any subscriber can contact you.

Ancestry Family Trees

- Click on the shaking leaf (hints)

Review Hints for Catherine Elizabeth Allen.

Unreviewed Hints (4)

Ignored Hints (0)

Accepted Hints (0)



United States Obituary Collection

Birth, Marriage & Death

NAME Catherine Lawrence

BIRTH 25 Sep 1914

DEATH 24 Jul 2013 - Age: 98

PUBLICATION 16 Aug 2013 - City, New York, USA

Review

Ignore

- Clicking on Review requires subscription
 - (can take this info on the ancestry collection to a local facility that offers ancestry.com)

MyHeritage.com

- Free to create your family tree
- Automatic hinting or suggestions
- Integration feature for Family Tree Builder (owned by MyHeritage.com)
- No non-subscriber can contact you. Any subscriber can contact you.

MyHeritage.com

All results for **susan nagle** in MyHeritage Family Trees

1 - 20 of 77,670 results



[Susan Hogan \(born Nagle\)](#)



MyHeritage Family Trees

HoganCharles in Hogan Web Site, managed by Dennis Hogan

Birth: Circa 1834 - Place

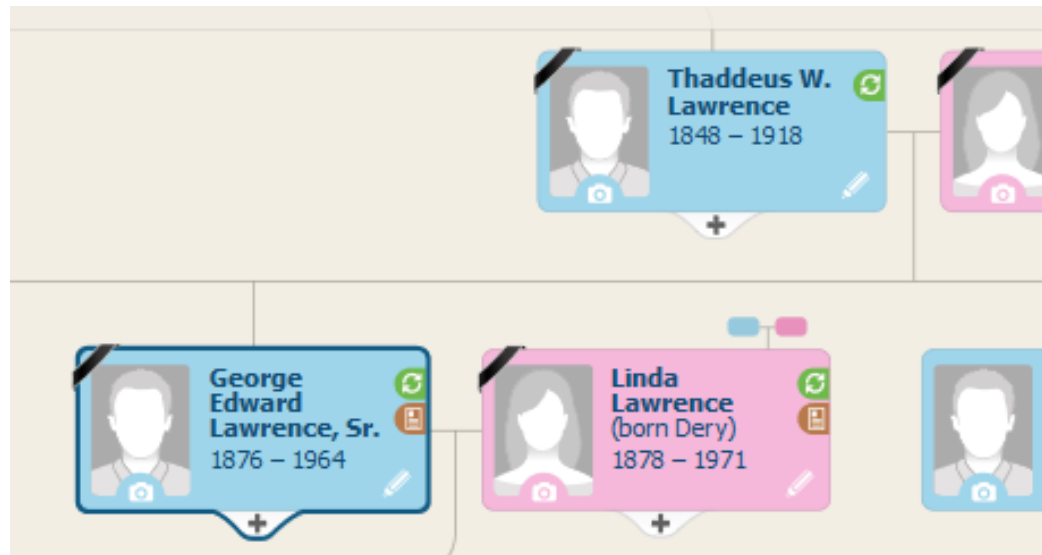
Death: Day Month 1898 - Place

Husband: Name of husband

Children: John Francis Hogan and names of 9 more children

- Seeing tree contents requires subscription

MyHeritage.com







- Green icon is for Smart Matches (matches in trees)
- Brown icon is for Record Matches (matches in non-tree content)

MyHeritage.com

Smart Matches™ > O'Brien Family Tree Web Site \ OBrien Family Tree

[↑ Back to matches](#)

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
|  | Family site: O'Brien Family Tree Web Site Visit Join |  | Site manager:  Meaghan O'Brien  Contact Meaghan |
| | Family tree: OBrien Family Tree | | |
| | People in tree: 190 | | |
| | Last updated: Mar 14 2010 | | |

One Smart Match™ from this site

Pending confirmation (1)

Confirmed (0)

Rejected (0)

One Smart Match™ to confirm [Ignore this tree](#)

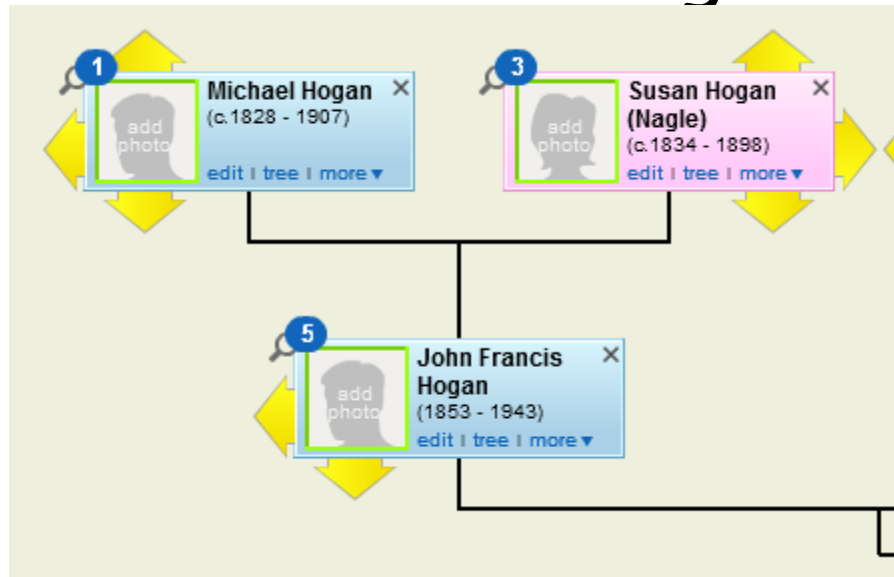
| Quality | Status | In my family tree | In matching family tree | Actions |
|---|--------|--|--|---|
| 1  75% | |  Bertha Dawson (born Hogan)  1880-1926 Husband: Thomas Dawson |  Bertha Hogan  Parents: John Hogan and Mary Hogan (born McNamara) Siblings: <Private>, <Private>, <Private>, <Private>, <Private>, <Private> and <Private> | Review match  Confirm  Reject  More actions |

geni.com World Family Tree

- Free to create your family tree
- One Tree concept
 - Goal: each individual has only 1 entry. (Others can modify the content that you submit.)
 - (You can also create an individual tree which is not part of the World Family Tree. This tree **CAN ONLY** be changed by you!)
- Automatic hinting or suggestions
- No integration feature for a genealogy database program
- No non-subscriber can contact you. Any subscriber can contact you.

geni.com

- Owned by MyHeritage & MyHeritage matches are available on geni.com



- Number in the blue circle indicates total number of geni matches & MyHeritage matches

findmypast.ie

- Free to create your family tree
- Automatic hinting or suggestions
- No integration feature for a genealogy database program
- No non-subscriber can contact you. Any subscriber can contact you.

findmypast.ie

- I don't see any way to search a tree other than your own.
- To see images of hint sources requires subscription, but can access a transcription of hint sources.

mocavo.com

- Free to create your family tree
- No Automatic hinting or suggestions for non-subscribers.
- No integration feature for a genealogy database program
- No non-subscriber can contact you. Any subscriber can contact you.

Conclusions for Online Trees

- Pay Sites
 - Subscribers can contact you, non-subscribers cannot. This minimizes their value as cousin bait, however their hints may help your research and it gives you access to their subscribers.
- Free Sites
 - Everyone can contact you, which provides great value as cousin bait.
- My Favorite
 - FamilySearch FamilyTree is free, provides easy contact, offers hints, syncs with genealogy data base programs, and uses a One Tree concept.