

Reunion 14 for the Mac

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You can purchase Reunion at **LeisterPro.com** for \$99 (or \$49.95, if you have a previous version).

You can sync Reunion to Dropbox or iCloud, if you choose. If you do an automatic sync, be sure to keep a spare, updated file somewhere else, as Reunion will automatically save; if you make an error, you may not be able to undo it.

Reunion Touch is an iPad/iPhone app you can purchase that will sync with your master file and make it possible to always have your genealogy with you.

Be sure to backup your Reunion file(s) in multiple ways.

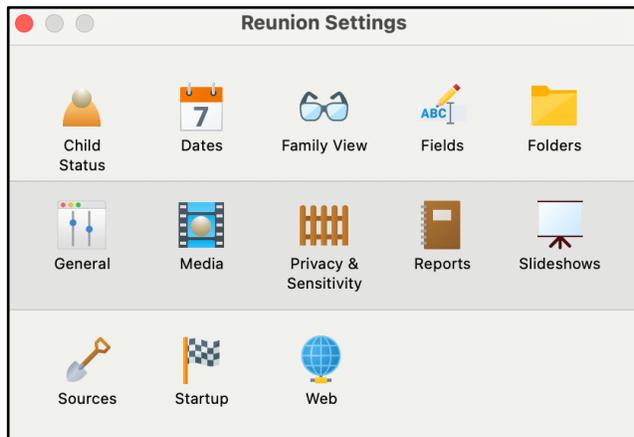
Keep a copy in Dropbox or iCloud.

Keep a copy on an external hard drive.

Keep a copy on a flash/travel drive.

Keep a copy in an automatic backup service, like Backblaze or Carbonite.

Settings:



These were called “preferences” in previous versions and are found in the “File” menu in the top menu bar.

Your old settings should carry over into Reunion 14, but if you want to make changes, it’s easy to do.

If you haven’t taken time to personalize your file, you will want to spend time with the settings.

Family View Cards:

This is your launching pad in Reunion, so take time to become familiar with all its parts. There are sidebars on the left and on the far right in the expanding column that opens and closes.

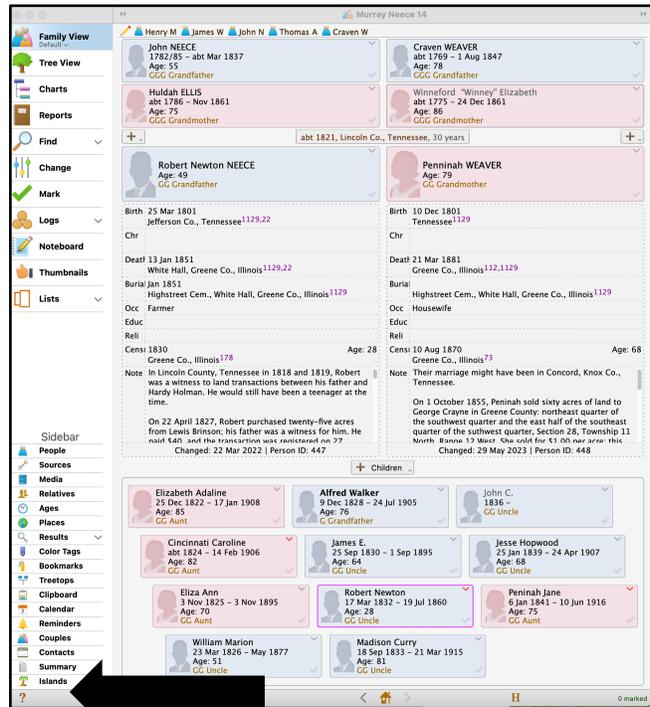
You can use the sidebar buttons or the expanding column to navigate through people, sources, places, etc.

Use the “Quick View” to see summaries and take advantage of the ability to pull some of the lists into separate windows. Any list with the little orange double rectangle at the bottom can be pulled into a window.

Choose what you want in your family view by clicking on the top left button in the sidebar.



You decide what goes in each person's button and how you view it. If you prefer a list, you can make that change in the "Children" section.



Add fields by clicking into the area under a person's name. Here, you can also add media and sources as well as flags to help you track special categories.

Help!

Reunion has many ways to help you as you work. First, in every window is a tiny question mark at the bottom left. (See arrow in the image above.) Clicking on the question mark brings up Reunion's built-in manual.

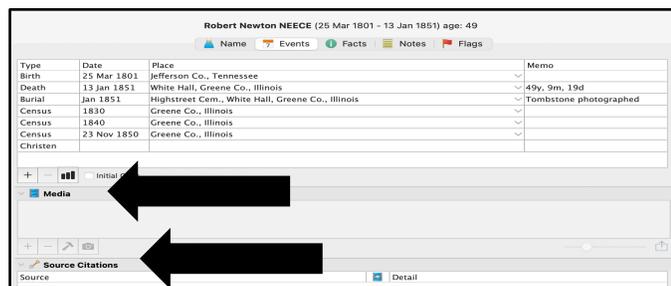
Second, is the Leisterpro.com website, where you can watch tutorials, read FAQs, get assistance with ReunionTouch, and participate in an online group called ReunionTalk where Reunion users help each other with suggestions and answering questions.

Noteboard:

This excellent new feature allows you to view your notes and the Family View card simultaneously. You can also use it to store notes on multiple people. Notes will stay in the noteboard till you delete the contents.

Adding Media and Sources:

Media: Be sure you place your documents and photos in one spot before you connect them so Reunion can find them. One suggestion is to create a folder in your Reunion folder for each of your family surnames and place photos there.



To attach a photo to a Family Card, just drag it into the silhouette in the name button where you want to place it.

To attach a document, open a person's card, choose an event, and go to the "Media" line (top arrow above). Click the + sign. Select your file and then "Choose." You can add multiple files, if you like.

Sources: There are several ways to treat sources; neither is right or wrong.

1. You can create a new source for every event.
2. You can create generic sources and add specific details for each one so they can be used over again.

Add sources as you did media, by using the “Source Citations” bar. Once you have some sources created, you can choose them by number or drag them from the source list. You can use the pre-made list or add new kinds. You can also add or remove fields as needed.

Remember that the StLGS website has a free source citation guide.



Places:

Like with sources, you have some choices on how you will enter them.

1. You can be very specific and have a long list of places.
2. You can be more generic and add the specifics in the “Detail” field.

Islands:

Use this feature to discover disconnected people in your file.

1. If it's accidental, you can move people into the Clipboard and then re-connect them.
2. If people are not related and you want to discard them, move them to the Clipboard and delete them.

Relationships:

To see how your family is related:

1. Identify a source person. Usually that is you, but it can be anyone.
2. In the Family View, drag the person's button into the “Relatives” list in the sidebar on the right.
3. Relationships will remain visible unless Reunion quits by itself, and you can always rebuild the list.

To discover how people are related to each other:

1. Use the “Find” button in the lefthand sidebar.
2. Choose “Find Relationship” and then use the rectangles at the top that say, “drag people here.”
3. Use the list of people to locate the two you want to include and drag them into the rectangles.
4. Look below the names to see the relationships.

Advanced Find:

You can find a long list of facts and details by using the “Advanced Find” feature. There is a list of preset categories and most have a long list of sub-menus.

Reports:

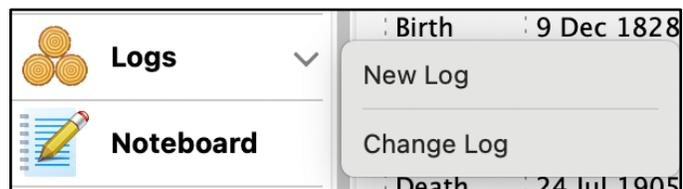
1. Use the button in the left sidebar.
2. Use person sheets for unmarried people.
3. Use family group sheets for families. Most often, you will want to print these.
4. You can create blank forms, register, ancestor/Ahnentafel, and descendant reports as well as obituaries and a few other lists.
5. Reunion can create books, but they just consist of what you have entered. They are a good way to share information with others but probably not what you would want as a “real” book. Save it as a PDF, and then it can be edited if you have software.

Charts:

As with so many features in Reunion, you have a lot of choices. Most unique is the Bowtie, which allows you to see both sides of a family at once. You can also make Fan Charts, which make nice gifts. You can customize fonts and colors in all charts.

Change Log:

This feature allows you to keep track of changes you make as you work. You can make corrections or go back to an entry. Access it via the buttons in the left sidebar.



Updating Reunion:

Reunion can update itself when needed, if you set it to do so, and you do want to do that.

1. Use the Help menu and choose “Check for Updates.”
2. Set your preference at the bottom of the window that opens.
3. You should probably choose to check weekly, although there most likely won’t be updates that often.

Remember that volunteers at St. Louis Genealogical Society are always available to help you as you learn to use this robust software package.