

# Creating a “Family Detail” Screen

Seeing a chronological listing of the events in which an individual took part, whether as principal or witness, can uncover paradoxes, conflicts, clues, and incredible stories. That same listing for all family members expands these possibilities. If you use a “Family Detail” screen frequently, you can add this report to your TMG toolbar.

1. Because so many events are witnessed events, this “screen” is created with a List of Witnesses report
2. The witnesses can logically be limited to single- or multi-generation family groups, with or without spouses.
3. The events can include all events or be limited to those with dates. Because this report can be actively filtered for certain event types, there is no reason to limit it to selected events

## The Filter

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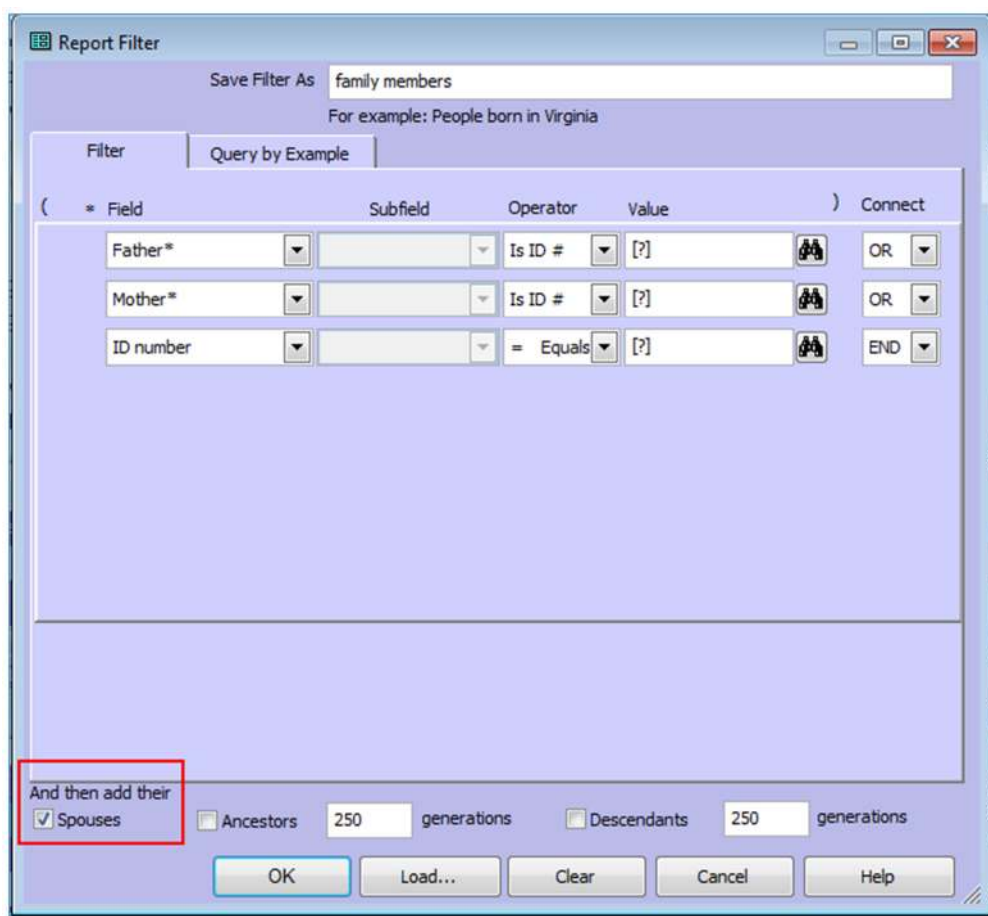
(	* Field	Subfield	Operator	Value	) Connect
	Witness...	Temporary#1	=	Equals	[?] AND
	Date		Is Not Emp		END

Witnesses can be selected based on a number of criteria: flag values, name part values, ID number, role. Unlike List of People report filters, however, witnesses cannot be selected based on relationships. To select family members as the subjects of this report, one must first identify them in a List of People report, set a temporary flag value, and then run this List of Witnesses report with that flag value as one of the criteria. The illustrated filter asks for the temporary flag value input at the time the report is run. It includes only those events in which the date field is not empty. As such, this report does not include sort date only events.

## Selecting the Family Members

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If a single-generation report is wanted, one can run a List of People report using this filter and setting the temporary (or equivalent) flag value in the Secondary Output options tab. This filter selects all children whose father or mother has a stated ID number and it includes that father or mother. If spouses should be include among these witness subjects, check the “And then add their ... Spouses” box.



If I wish a precise selection of multi-generation witnesses for this report, I prefer creating a focus group comprising those witnesses first. The sequence used to create this group is:

1. “Add Individual” and enter the ID number of the progenitor
2. Check “Descendants”, enter the desired number of generations, and then “Add Others”
3. If spouses are to be included, “Select All”, *uncheck* “Descendants”, check “Spouses”, and then “Add Others”.
4. The family focus group is complete.

Now, run a List of People report in which the subjects are the current focus group, changing their temporary flag value in the Secondary Output options tab.

**Focus groups**

Current Group: (new)

Sort by: Surname

Names in group: 1  
Selected names: 1

ROLLINS, Benjamin (1:1673) (1790-1870)

Add Individual...

Add Others

☐ Ancestors  
1 Generations

☒ Descendants  
2 Generations

☐ Spouses

☐ Name variations

Select All

Remove Selected

Remove All

Close Load... Save... Help

**Report Definition Screen - List of People**

Configuration name: focus\_group\_flag\_change

Add Delete Reset Defaults

Subject(s) of the report : ☐ Use the Current Focus Person

☐ One person  
1:4 Susan Irene GOSS (1:4) b. 03 Jun 1951

☐ Filtered group  
point to point

Add Edit Delete

☒ Focus Group  
Current group

☐ Selected people on the Project Explorer

☐ All people in the project

Report Destination : ☒ Screen Preview ☐ Save to :  
File type : Microsoft Excel v5 (XLS)  
File name : C:\Users\Sue\Documents\The Master Genealogist v9\Report...  
☐ Printer

Properties Watermark

1 Copies

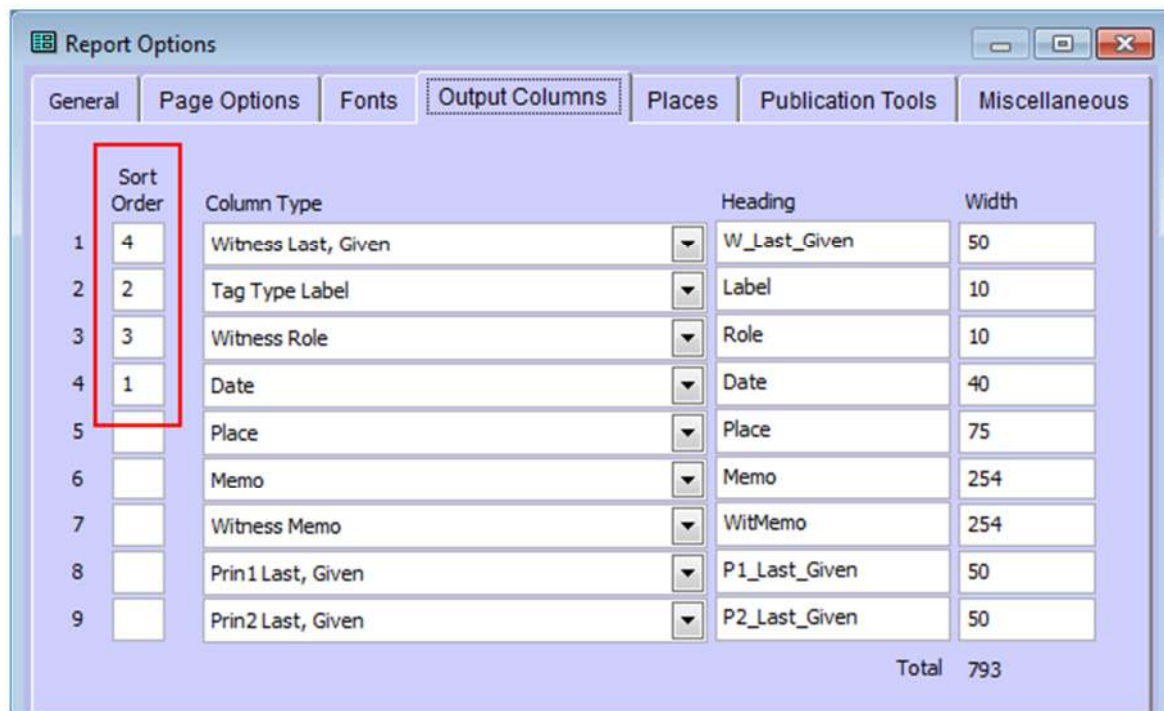
Page number for first page : 1

Print page range : 1 - 32767

Options... Create Report Save Settings Cancel Help

## The Output Columns

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The output columns are sorted in this order: (1) Date, (2) Tag Type Label, (3) Witness Role, and last (4) Witness name. This creates a chronological listing of all selected witness events. It can be filtered by individuals, tag types, role, or place. If it is resorted, though, it's possible that the chronological order will be lost. Pre-1900 TMG dates are not recognized as such by Excel or other spreadsheets (with a few exceptions in specific circumstances).

## Formatting the Report

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TMG outputs dates with lots of extraneous spaces before the information. If desired, remove those extraneous spaces and any non-printing characters with the `TRIM(CLEAN(cell))` formula (see below).

## Excel Tricks

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- Google ***Excel Trim Clean*** for information on usage and syntax. You will need to insert columns for the formula and then paste the formula values into the original date columns. Then, the formula columns can be deleted.
- If you want to preserve the initial chronological sort, insert a column and number the rows in that column sequentially. If necessary, sorting on this inserted column will recreate the initial report's chronological sort.