

Recording Your Personal History

As we get up in years, the reality of our own mortality begins to hit. Because most of us have an appreciation for recorded history, we begin to reflect on our own personal history. As we reach a certain age, it begins to occur to us that there are certain parts of our family history and personal lives that only we know about.

Many of our customers have decided to begin recording a brief log dedicated to our families and friends so that we have some record of our lives and our family's history. How would you like to hear a recording of your great grandfather describing his first years in America? In some cases, how comforting would it be to hear your own father describing his early life as a father to you? This kind of family history is so important. Wouldn't it be nice to know that 3 generations from now, your ancestors are listening to your personal recollections of life in the 1900s and 2000s?

Recently we've had customers who contacted us about recording such logs and using the recording mechanisms of DIAMOND CUT to record and store their personal details.

The key to doing this job right is to have a very high quality recording and editing capability. Since you have Diamond Cut and a good sound card, you're almost there already.

But - we strongly suggest that you do not use any old cheap microphone you've got lying around for important recordings. A good, high quality mic is an absolute requirement to get good, high quality recordings of live events - such as you dictating your history, or recording your kids first cello solo.

Up until now, the best type of mic (which is called a studio condenser microphone) has been pretty expensive and it's been something of a pain to get set up. Those days are over.

This month, we'd like to introduce you to the Samson CO1U USB condenser microphone. Now, rather than having to set yourself up with a studio mic, mixer and cables, you simply plug this mic into your USB port and leave the rest up to Diamond Cut and Windows. This cool heavy-duty mic is easily mounted on a swivel stand and gets its phantom power directly from USB. That means that the minute you plug it in, you're ready to begin recording.

This mic is only \$79 and a very good sounding addition to any small home studio. We really like the sound of this mic and are astounded at the price. CDs are cheap, this mic is cheap, but recording your family history could be priceless.

These could be in short supply, so don't wait to get yours. It's great for any type of live recording you do.

Here are some more suggestions for preparing your personal history recording:

A. Key Ingredients: First, compile your list of visual and audio aids! In order to make your personal history an interesting endeavor, think about what pieces of that history you have available. Pictures and recordings are the best stimulants to get that memory going. Also, as we discussed above, any old recordings you may have of relatives now deceased can be wonderfully entertaining and interesting to future listeners and should certainly be included alongside recollections of those individuals from your personal memory.

B. Schedule time: Your best time to remember and compile your life's history is during a relaxed moment. This is not something to do in the car while driving in traffic...rather, when you have some quiet time to reflect and remember. The only way to achieve such time in today's busy world is to schedule it. Perhaps when your spouse is watching a TV show that you hate?

C. A little goes a long way: Don't try and do this entire project in 1 day. It's best to break your life into small chunks and tackle them one at a time. Headings like: "Before I arrived", "My Early Years", "Early School Years", "Later School Years", "The War", etc. You can always go back and revisit an area when you have a specific recollection, but you'll grow weary of this pretty quickly if you try to bite off more than you can chew in one sitting.

D. Add In Popular Events: You can certainly make this more interesting if you add popular events of the times and your personal recollections of them. How did you feel during the first manned mission to the Moon? When JFK was shot? When you saw fire for the first time? (just kidding)

E. Include Friends and Family: Have fun with this. Your ancestors should know the people you called friend and brother. It helps them understand more about you in the process. It also makes it more interesting if you have interviews and comments from those people who are closest to you.

F. Show them the real you: By sharing your favorite jokes, music and personal anecdotes, you'll not only make this a much more fun listen, but also show your future relatives just who you were. Don't be afraid to open up...what have you got to lose?

Can you think of a better Christmas gift for the kids or the grand kids than your personal history? You can't create a better memory for the holidays.

Start With the Mic...click below for more info:

<http://www.tracertek.com/khxc/index.php?app=ccp0&ns=prodshow&ref=USBmic>