# **Website Accessibility**

by Kimm Antell

### What is ADA?

- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Created in 1990
- Has been amended through the years to adjust with technology

## Why is it important to my site?

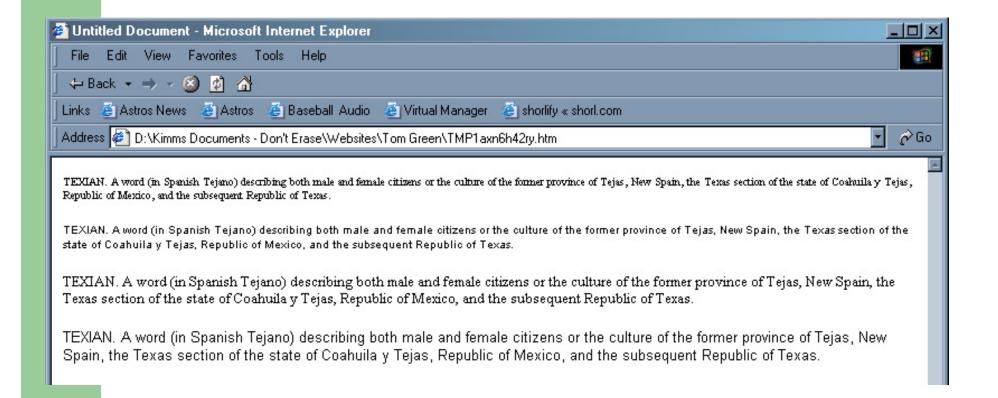
- Consider the average visitor to TXGenWeb
  - Older
  - Failing eyesight
  - Out of date computers
- Visitors are there to see the content, not to view animation and listen to music

### **ADA Software**

- There is software, called readers, that assists people with vision problems
- HTML offers ways to use basic code to assist people who use these readers

### **Fonts**

- Fonts need to be clear and easy to read
  - Type serif fonts like Times are hard to read for some
    - Arial
    - Helvetica
    - Verdana
  - Size
    - The minimum size should be −2
    - Don't use whole numbers



### **Color Schemes**

- Color schemes need to be consistent on every page
  - This helps to ensure that your visitor doesn't think they have left your site; expectations
- Foreground and background offer sufficient contrast
  - Insufficient contrast will offers problems for those who are color blind or have basic monitors
  - The color of the text and the background should not be similar

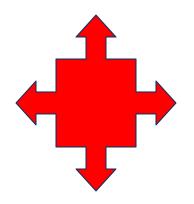
## Which is easier to read?

The TXGenWeb Project

The TXGenWeb Project

The TXGenWeb Project

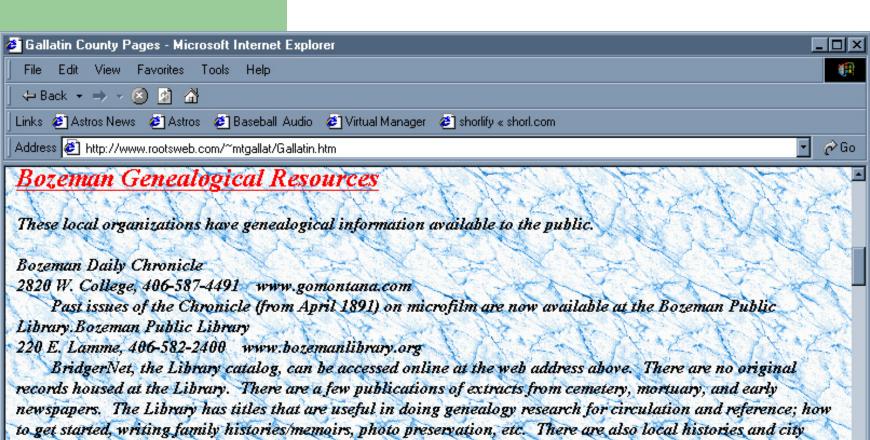
The TXGenWeb Project



The TXGenWeb Project

## Color Schemes (con't.)

- Color should never be relied upon to convey information
- PC and Mac colors will appear slightly different
- Some backgrounds will cause readability issues
- Light text on a dark background is not printable



directories. There is a selected bibliography, "Genealogical Resources at Bozeman Public Library," available at the Information Desk.

"Genealogy Web Sites" is a binder at the reference desk with examples of useful genealogy web sites. The Library offers "Genealogy on the Internet" classes twice a year. Please call for further information.

InterLibrary Loan. The Library offers a loan service for titles that are not in the Library collection but available for loan from other libraries. For further information please call the Information Desk.

Bozeman Stake Family History Center

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, South Third and Henderson 406-586-3880, ext. 15 Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### **Load Time**

- Pages should load 15 seconds or less on a 28.8 modem
  - WSYWYGs, NetMechanic and me (oh my)
- Most common problems: animations, music, uncompressed photos, too many graphics, too much content and counters
- Solutions



### TOM GREEN COUNTY, TX

Bibles

Census

Contacts Site Map

Need a lookup? Go to the lookups page.

About
Photos
<u>Maps</u>
Neighboring Counties
Cities
Books
What's New
Markers
_andmarks
Unle

Lookups Online Where to Start

#### Local Info

SAGHS EPHA Historic San Angelo Government Museums Libraries Funeral Homes <u>Accommodations</u>

#### Records Births Land Marriages Tax Postmasters Divorces Deaths Biographies Death Certificates Military Cemeteries Newspapers Obituaries Media

#### **Online Searches**

Schools

Ellis Island Genealogy Family Search Everton Search Systems Cyndi's List Family Group Sheets Ancestry

#### Contacts

Webmaster Lookups SAGHS

Mailing List Links









Find!

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#### Search the Tom Green Archives:

Search



April 2003

### Music

- Music not only causes problems with load time, but, most importantly, it battles with the readers
- Might also get someone fired
  - Remove all music and sounds

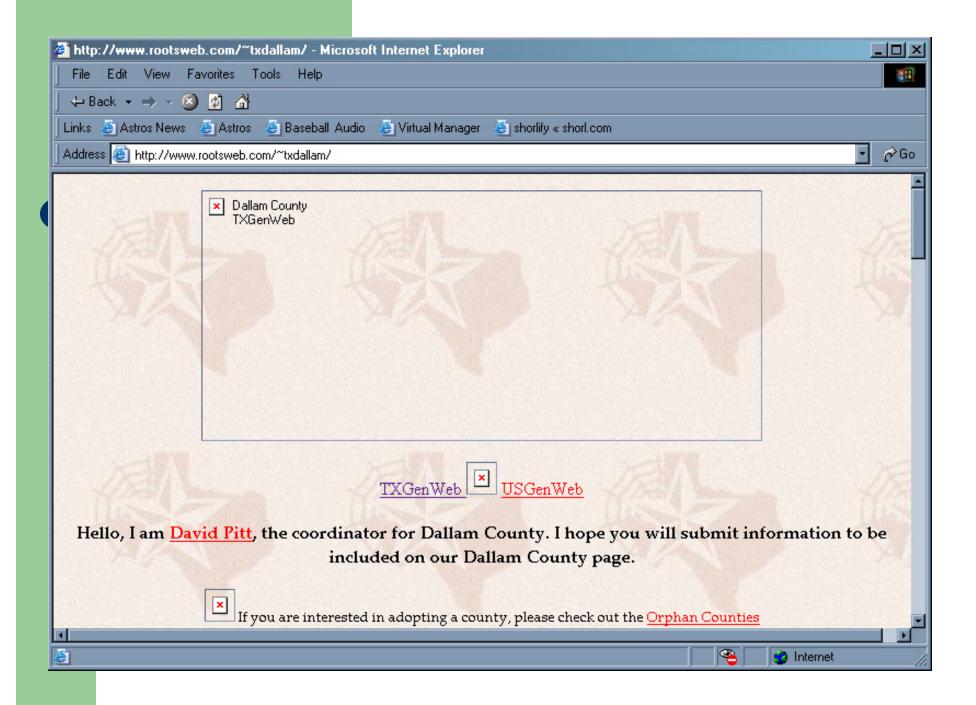
## **ALT Tags**

- Every image on your site has to have an ALT tag
- Correctly describe the picture
- If the picture has an action, describe the picture and the action
  - Example: <img src="girlbook.jpg" alt="Girl studying her ancestry will take you to the Records Section">

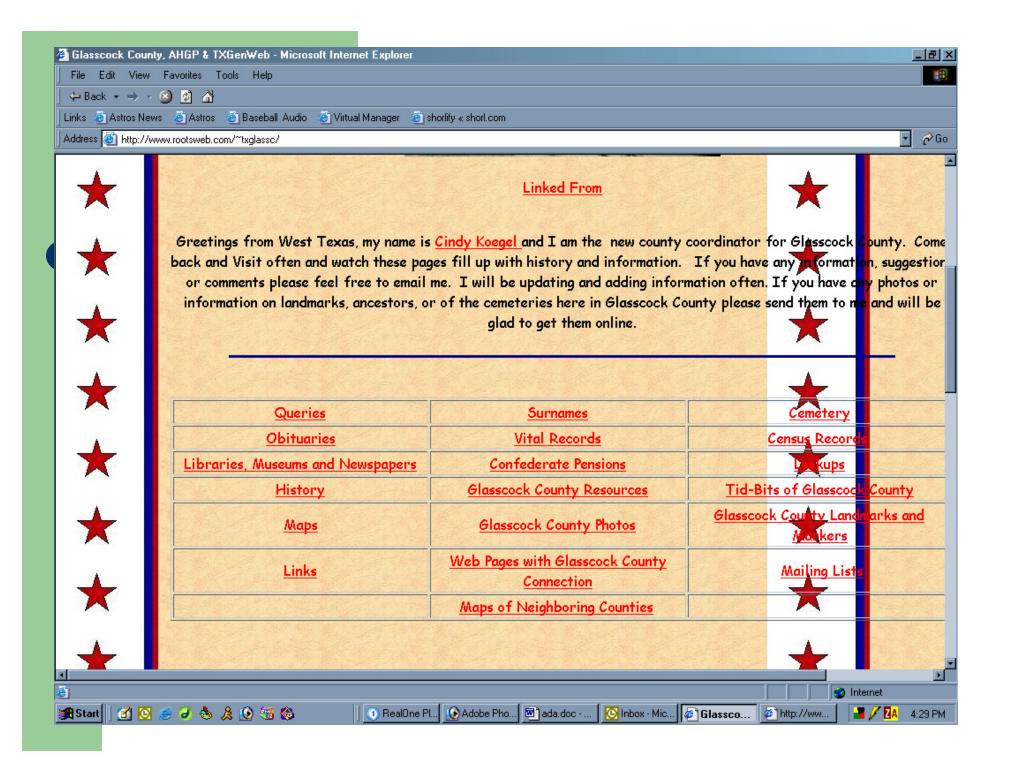
## **Browser Compatibility**

- No 2 browsers handle HTML the same
- Try to design for the browser that is the least flexible
- Check your site on both IE and Netscape
- If you have friends who use AOL or WebTV or have PC or Mac, ask them to check your site and send you a screenshot
- Check resolution

Windows													
browsers		frames	tables				java script	style sheets	gif89	dhtml	I- Frames	Table color	
Explorer 6.0		×	×	×	×	×	X	×	×	×	×	×	×
Explorer 5.5		×	×	×	×	×	Х	×	×	Х	×	X	Х
Explorer 5.0		×	×	×	×	×	Х	×	×	Х	×	X	s
Explorer 4.0		×	Х	×	Х	×	Х	×	×	Х	×	×	
Explorer 3.0		×	Х	×	×	×	Х	×	×		×	Х	
Explorer 2.0			Х		×	×							
Explorer 1.0			Χ		×	×							
Netscape 7.0		×	Х	×	Х	×	X	×	×	Х	×	×	Х
Netscape 6.1		×	Х	×	Х	×	X	×	×	Х	×	×	Х
Netscape 6.0		×	Х	×	×	×	Х	×	×	Х	X	Х	Х
Navigator 4.7		×	Х	×	Х	×	Х	×	×	Х		×	
Navigator 4.5		×	Х	×	×	×	Х	×	×	Х		×	
Navigator 3.0		×	Х	×	×	×	Х		×			×	
Navigator 2.0		×	Х	×	×	×	S		×				
Navigator 1.1			X		Х								
Mosaic 3.0		×	×		Х								
Mosaic 1.0													
Mozilla 1.31		×	Х	Х	Х	×	×	×	×	X	×	×	Х
Mozilla 1.0		×	×	×	×	×	Х	×	×	Х	×	Х	Х

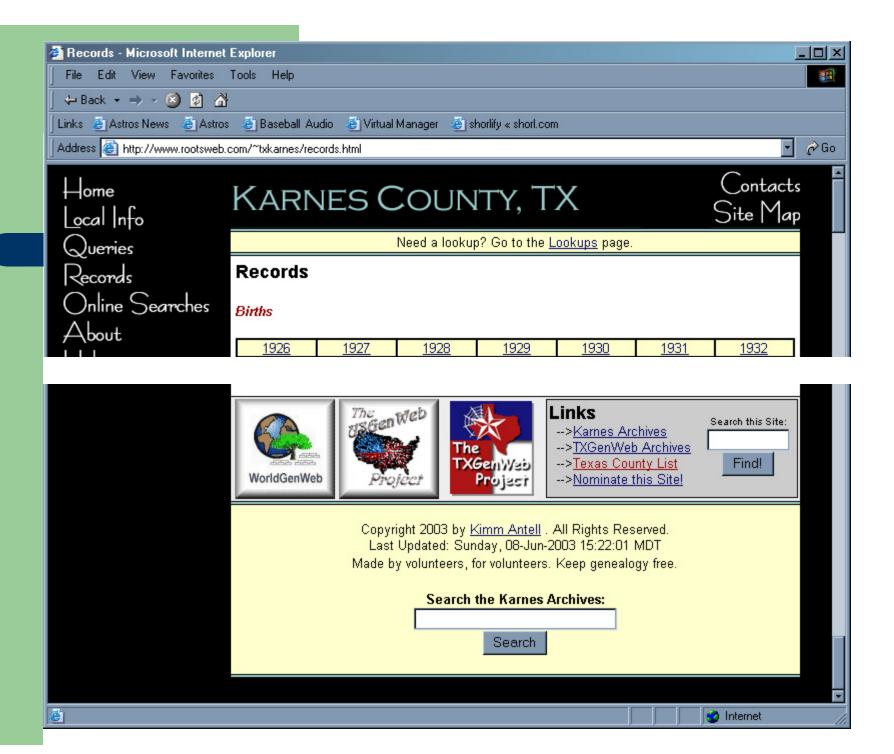






### **Consistent Menus**

- Having a consistent menu on every page in the same place helps your user to easily navigate your site and also keeps them from getting lost
  - Include a Home button
  - Do not use JAVA menus
  - Site maps are good to have
  - Don't forget Headings



### Links

- Use text that makes sense when read out of context
- Include a link to your e-mail so that errors can be reported
- Outside links open in a new window argument
- Link color contrast with background

## **Helpful Links**

#### NetMechanic:

http://shorl.com/humadrufrunube (Checks links, html, browser compatibility, load time and spelling)

• **Website Viewer:** http://www.anybrowser.com/siteviewer.html (View your own site as your visitors do. Images may show up broken. That is normal.)

#### Link Check:

http://www.anybrowser.com/linkchecker.html (Check the validity of links in any static webpage.)

#### WebMonkey Browser Chart:

http://shorl.com/dydrafepegegi

(Checklist of what works on what browsers. Includes links for other formats such as Mac.)

### Bobby:

http://shorl.com/hakybabotreka

(This free service will allow you to test web pages and help expose and repair barriers to accessibility and encourage compliance with existing accessibility guidelines, such as Section 508 and the W3C's WCAG.)

### • JAWS 4.51:

http://shorl.com/gekorovubuke

(This is a reader that you can use to read your site for compatibility. This will be a Demo.)

#### • Statistics:

http://www.thecounter.com/stats/

(This page will give you global statistics about web page information such as resolution and browser use by month.)

## **Final Word**

- Test your site immediately after uploading
- Create a blank template
- You will find and hear contradicting ADA compliance opinions

# **Questions**

