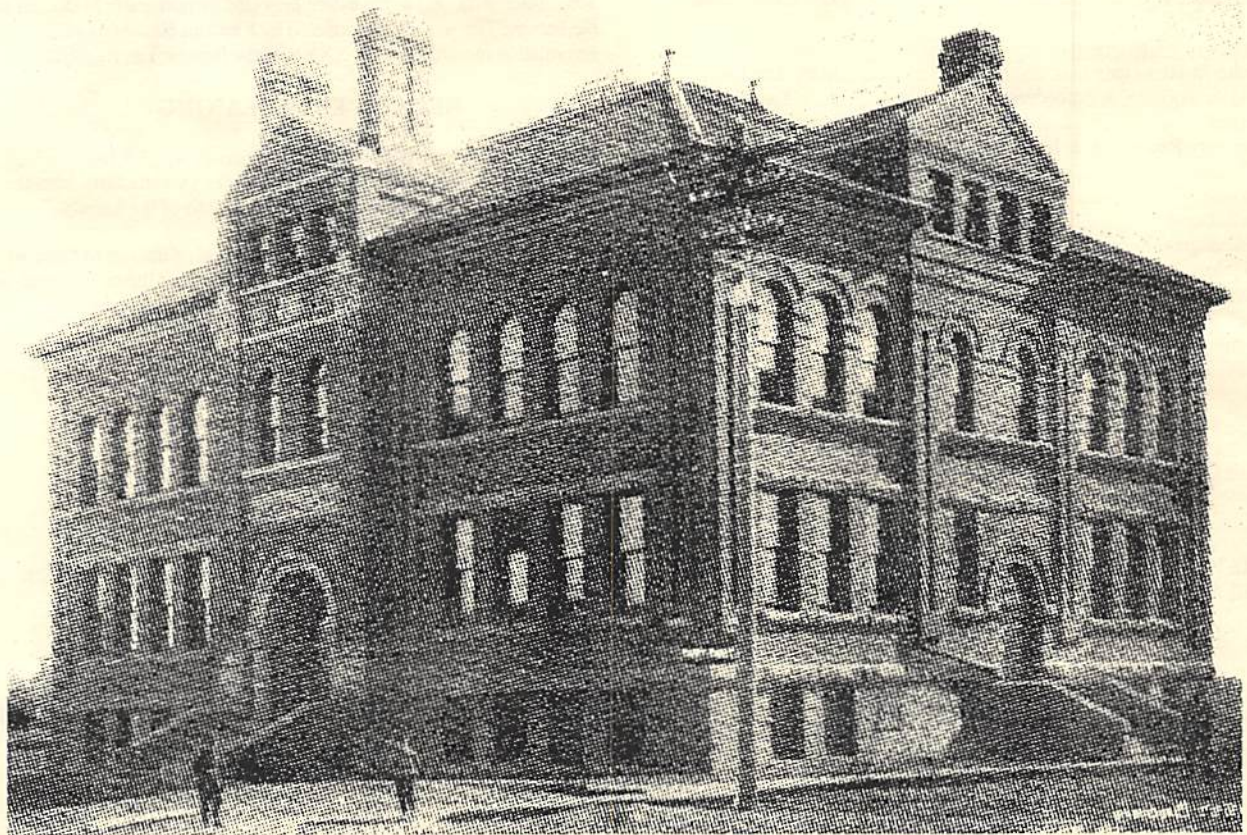


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RELATIVELY SPEAKING

Alberta Genealogical Society



Vol. 27 No. 3

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ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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THE PRODUCTION OF THIS PUBLICATION IS SUPPORTED BY
THE ALBERTA HISTORICAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The business meetings of the Society are held on the 2nd Saturday in the months of September, November, January, March and June, unless otherwise notified. The Library is available to only those members on the Executive Committee attending the meetings. AGS members requesting to be present should contact the President of the Society prior to the meeting specifying their intention to attend.

Mail may be directed to the Executive Committee members listed (with the exception of the Branch Presidents) at the registered address of the Society: Alberta Genealogical Society, Suite #116, 10440 - 108 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5H 3Z9.

REGISTERED CHARITY

"Donations made to Alberta Genealogical Society may be claimed as a deduction by the donors in computing their taxable income, in accordance with, and to the extent provided by paragraph 11Q(1)(a) of the Income Tax Act, if substantiated by a receipt containing all the information required by Part XXXV of the Income Tax Regulations".

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

RELATIVELY SPEAKING is a publication of ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. It is produced by volunteers from the contributions submitted by members and friends of the Society.

We welcome contributions containing material of interest to those who live in Alberta, or to those who are researching in Alberta. Suggestions regarding format and production methods are also welcome.

Please contact: Editor, *Relatively Speaking* - Alberta Genealogical Society, #116, 10440-108 Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T5H 3Z9.

phone: (403) 424-4429

fax: (403) 423-8980

e-mail: agsoffice@compusmart.ab.ca

website: <http://www.compusmart.ab.ca/abgensoc/>

RELATIVELY SPEAKING Editor - Lillian Wight

Many thanks to our production crew!

Printing is efficiently done by Print Services, Edmonton Public School Board.

Publishing Dates

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EDITORIAL POLICY

Final authority re: acceptance or rejection of material for "Relatively Speaking" rests with the editor. Neither the Alberta Genealogical Society nor the Editor assumes responsibility for errors or opinions on the part of contributors.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS re: Release of Personal Data

Sharing information is a primary purpose of the Alberta Genealogical Society and the intent to which members subscribe on joining. Accordingly, the Alberta Genealogical Society makes information provided to it available to all. If a member wishes certain information to be held in confidence, it should not be released to the Alberta Genealogical Society. If it was previously released, the member should now give notice to restrict circulation. It will be assumed that a member has no objection to making his or her information available to the public if the Alberta Genealogical Society has not been informed to the contrary prior to publication.

Table of Contents

President's Message	E. Carol Anderson.....	2
Editor's Message	Lillian Wight.....	3
<u>Genealogical Updates</u>		
AGS Library News/PAA/Translation/FFHS/AFHS/SGNO/SGSR/UCL/FHC		4
Gleanings from Publications	Lillian Wight.....	8
Cover Story.....		9
Conference '99 Report		9
AGS Conference 2000, April 14 & 15		10
Seminar on Teaching Genealogy Course		10
Newspaper Research		11
Writing One's Memoirs.....		11
William Smart, An Interesting Ancestor	Gina McCaslin.....	12
Charles Cosens Obituary	Edna Woloshyn.....	14
Canada Adopted Me.....		15
25 th Anniversary History Book - Now on Sale		16
History, Truly a Family Affair		17
Trace Your Own Genealogy.....		17
Research Group Chairperson.....	Marion Sim.....	18
Relatively Speaking - 25 Years Ago		19
FFHS: Elizabeth Simpson Award Winners		21
Early Days in the AGS	John R. Hughes.....	22
Operation "Diaspora Rochelaise".....		23
New: Old 'Irish Genealogist' Periodicals.....	Claudine Nelson.....	23
Another Scots Crossword.....		24
Clandigger - Edmonton Branch News.....Centre		
Heritage Seekers - Grande Prairie Branch News.....Centre		
Branch Bits		33
Uncle Joe - Found, Lost, and Found.....		36
Clarifying Confusion in English Ancestral Research		37
Merchants of Canada, From 1914 Gazetteer		45
Alberta Strays		46
Another Scots Crossword - Answers.....		47
Parliamentarian Report.....	Jo Nuthack.....	47
Bylaws Committee	Jo Nuthack.....	47
Potpourri.....		48
In Our Mailbox		51
Announcements		53
Queries.....		54
Advertisements		56

PHOTO COVER STORY: MCKAY AVENUE SCHOOL

See page 7 for the article.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

E. Carol Anderson



It only takes a few minutes of conversation and a common interest (genealogy) for a bond of comradery to exist between acquaintances. This is so true, and as representatives of the Alberta Genealogical Society we are always being asked, "Who are we?", "What are we about?" and "What can you do for me?" Most times we go out of our way to promote good public relations when the opportunity arises. Every time I wear a name-tag that identifies our Society I become an advertisement for what and whom I represent. At the "Many Faces of Volunteerism" Vitalize '99, held in Edmonton in June, I had several occasions when the conversation turned to researching ones family history. When the door is open, tactfully jump in.

During the same weekend, I had the pleasure of meeting a new found cousin of Jean Waniandy, President of the Fort McMurray Branch and the opportunity to see a picture of her grandfather, a boat builder, who emigrated from the Orkney Islands. While we were standing in the hallway of the hotel, two ladies happened to pass at the moment of the unveiling. They stopped and asked to look at the portrait of the old gentleman with the white beard, exclaiming that they were 'into genealogy'. We soon discovered that one of the ladies was Betty Thompson, associated with the independent genealogy group in the town of Mayerthorpe, an energetic genealogy research group with whom I have maintained contact over the past year, inviting them to become part of AGS.

I wanted to tell you about these opportunities that have recently arisen for me, times when I have personally been able to inform others about our Society, and I am certain there have been many times when you have done the same. One more incident (never done before) occurred following the Saturday afternoon executive committee meeting, on the front sidewalk of the Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre. Several AGS members gathered round visiting, and why, I can't remember, started singing the song 'SMILE when your heart is aching, SMILE ...' an oldie from Great Britain. One of the wedding guests (who happened to be of British origin) attending the reception at the Armouries, started singing with us, and later asked "What happy group do you belong to?"

I don't believe that I have told too many about the time when our past president Margo Moffat, Brooks Past President Betty Penner and myself ended up presenting an Alberta Genealogical Society Coat of Arms 'lapel pin' to a Romanian guest conductor with the Edmonton Philharmonic Orchestra, back stage at the Jubilee Auditorium. It was an evening of an international gathering, the guest violinist was from Japan and the Ambassador of Finland sat six rows in front of us. I was highly inspired and knew that this was a perfect time for AGS to promote goodwill to at least one of these gentlemen. Without further explanation, never underestimate the personage of Margo Moffat; as a PR person she is the ultimate.

While trying to keep my message on the lighter side, I'll avoid making statements on issues that have previously been mentioned (campaigns for census, provincial archives, etc., but keep up the appeals). Check out the AGS Website for "What's New"! <http://www.compumart.ab.ca/abgensoc>.

On behalf of the AGS Executive Committee, I extend our appreciation and thanks to Norma Wolowyk for accepting the standing committee chair for the AGS Genealogical Research Committee. This is a very, very busy committee having received between the month of April and June 12th 54 research requests.

The research group meets every Friday morning to discuss the requests received during the week, and disperse the letters amongst the committee members who will actively deal with them by checking the five basic sources in the Edmonton Branch and AGS libraries. The group extends a warm welcome to other AGS members interested in helping to answer the queries, which come from virtually all over the world, are varied in scope, and present a challenge to their investigative skills.

The standing committee position of Cemetery Chairperson continues to remain vacant. Please consider this position and volunteer your time. A very hard working committee who awaits your leadership.

Margo Moffat, Past President and Public Relations Chair has agreed to incorporate into her position, PR Coordinator for 'AGS Speakers'.

Requests have recently come in to the AGS office for a list of 'speakers' from the membership who would present a workshop or seminar on certain genealogical research topics.

To date we do not have a member speakers list of AGS members indicating that they are willing and able to travel to other organizations or societies as guest speakers. Contact Margo Moffat if you wish to have your name and topic added to a referral list.

Once again, I wish to extend appreciation and thanks to our society members; Pat Pettitt, Marion Rex, Terry Gregory and Tom Trace for their volunteer time, organization and expertise in presenting the first AGS Educational Instructor's Beginner's Course. AGS branch representatives and two guests from the Mayerthorpe genealogy group were among the twenty attendees at the workshop held in June. From all reports it was an excellent workshop and requests were made for more of the same in the future.

Hopefully, everyone has had a very enjoyable summer with time away from the routine commitments that seemly, tend to consume our lives for the remainder of the year. We need to take time to revitalize, have fun, relax and travel down new roads, even for the short time this season allows us to enjoy. I am looking forward once again to seeing the many friends that I've met over the years in AGS, at the executive committee meetings and with other members throughout the year as I work toward the completion of my two year term as President. ■

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Lillian Wight, AGS #2668

The gremlins are at it again! My trusty pocket Oxford is missing! So I'm looking in Webster's New World dictionary (much more cumbersome to handle) to see what it says about gremlins. It was as I thought...they are imaginary small creatures humorously blamed for the faulty operation of airplanes or the disruption of any procedure.

And they did just that in the May issue of *Relatively Speaking*. Ryan Taylor's article 'What's In A Name' was listed in the 'Table of Contents' by his column title "Cowboy Logic", and mistakenly credited to yours truly! Ryan's family gave us permission to reprint his article and we apologize for not acknowledging this kind gesture as well.

Those gremlins also invaded the queries column so June Bennett's inquiry about the Baker family was printed minus the photographs mentioned. We'll do a re-run in this issue, complete with pictures. Hopefully the gremlins will now go elsewhere to do their mischief!

I really appreciate the articles being contributed for publication. Do keep them coming. I would also like to maintain the tradition of a cover story complete with photograph for each issue but I need your help for that. Three months go by very quickly.

Do you find the Gleanings column of value? Is there a member who would like to prepare that column for us? It gives you the opportunity to be the first to browse the new publications as they come into the library and read in its entirety any article that takes your fancy. Please let me know if you are interested.

I hope you are having an enjoyable summer. It will be especially satisfying for those of you able to add to your genealogical research. Good luck and happy hunting. ■

AGS VACANT POSITION: CEMETERY RECORDING AND INDEXING

Please consider volunteering for the following chairperson position. It is essential that we proceed with all work that is in progress under the leadership of a chairperson.

Job Description for Cemetery Recording and Indexing (subject to revision):

Chairperson: 1. Member of the AGS Executive Committee; attends or sends an alternate committee representative to the regular society meetings held five times yearly; a committee report is submitted at each meeting; 2. Co-member of the Publications Committee; 3. Attends Finance Committee meetings, submitting funding requests for special projects; 4. To encourage the cemetery committee chairperson in all branches and individual members to facilitate communication with the AGS Cemetery Recording and Indexing Chairperson; 5. To promote the recording and indexing of all cemeteries within Alberta; 6. To index, tabulate and collate all gathered materials, disseminate and make the information available to others; 7. To encourage excellence in records acquisition; 8. To maintain a facility where files and equipment will be stored and accessed as required. ■

WHAT'S NEW IN THE AGS LIBRARY

by Norma Wolowyk

Phone: 488-1418

e-mail: nwolowyk@compusmart.ab.ca

AGS e-mail: agsoffice@compusmart.ab.ca

Members of the AGS are entitled to borrow from the library by mail or in person. The library is located in Suite 116, the Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre, 10440-108 Avenue, Edmonton, phone (780) 424-4429. The library is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm and the third Saturday of each month from 9:00 am to 12 noon.

To borrow materials please send your requests by e-mail to agsoffice@compusmart.ab.ca or by regular mail to Alberta Genealogical Society, Room 116, 10440-108 Avenue, Edmonton AB T5H 3Z9. If you have any questions regarding the library please phone me at (780) 488-1418.

Please remember when requesting materials written about in this column that there may be some delay due to the rush on borrowing.

Please let me know, by letter, phone or e-mail, if there are any books you would like put on the library wish list. Try to give me as much information as possible as to title, author, publisher and date of publication.

CANADA-ONTARIO-LOCAL HISTORIES

971.233 BEV Memories-yours and mine: a history of Beveridge Lake, Eastview, Garrett, Hesketh, Kirby, Lennox, Marne, Webbs school districts. 1972.

971.233 ORK Orkney 1907-1982. 1982.

971.233 ROS Akokiniskway by the river of many roses... (Rosebud, Redland and Beynon). ca1980.

971.233 RUM Pioneer days, book two: Rumsey-Rowley. 1982.

971.233 STA Danaview to Standard. 1979.

971.233 VER Memories of Verdant Valley, Cassell Hill, Livingston, Rainbow. 1966.

971.233 WIL Scouting trails in Wildrose. 1981.

971.234 CAR Trails to the Bow: Carseland and Cheadle Chronicles. 1971.

971.234 HUS The Hussar heritage. 1967.

971.234 LAN Langdon through the years: the story of Langdon and area. 1987.

971.234 ROC Where we crossed the creek and settled - Rockyford. ca1970.

CANADA-ONTARIO-GENEALOGY MANUALS

929.1113 WAR 1998 Tracing your ancestors in Bruce and Grey. Revised 1998.

CANADA-ONTARIO-VITAL RECORDS

These books contain complete abstracts of the marriage registration records.

929.371322 HUR v.2 Huron County Marriages: Marriage Registrations for Huron County, Ontario from 1869-1873. 1998.

929.371323 PER Perth County Marriages: Marriage Registrations for Perth County, Ontario from 1869-1873. 1998.

U.S.-GENEALOGY MANUALS

929.113 HAN 1999 The handybook for genealogists. 1999. ■

AMEN

A mother was teaching her three year-old the Lord's Prayer. For several evenings at bedtime she repeated it after her mother.

One night she said she was ready to solo. The mother listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word . . . right up to the end.

"Lead us not into temptation but deliver us some e-mail. Amen."

*Abbotsford Genealogical Society
February 1999, Vol. IV, Issue 1 ■*

PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA

Pat Pettitt AGS #2342

Over the years, a great deal of family history material has been deposited at the archives. The following accessions are found in the Main Entry Catalogue (MEC). Further details can be obtained from patp@connect.ab.ca or the Provincial Archives of Alberta, 12845-102 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5N 0M6.

71.190 Adams family photographs (N. Battleford)

72.460 Algar family - manuscript by Effie Algar Whitford; biography of Frederic Edward Agar, Ponoka merchant; etc.

97.480 Allan family photographs and family history

97.278 Allan family papers (James Alexander Allan)

70.298 Allchin (Alchin) family bible 1889-1895

76.533 Soderstrom family diaries by Carl S Soderstrom of Armena 1938-1962

97.110 Armstrong, Ralph Conrad autobiography

76.326 Arndt, Harry - reminiscences of his experience in the Klondike (1900-1907) ■

TRANSLATION COORDINATOR

Sue Philips, AGS #1660

I have received a few requests for translations from non-members. I have tried to refer these requests to outside services or to the Internet. Since in most cases the volunteers I have are members helping members, I do not feel that their good graces should be taken advantage of unduly. The Translation service is for members of AGS as a benefit of membership.

A problem arose recently whereby a member from out-of-town left some papers for translation at the AGS Library. The papers were not addressed to me and almost got lost. It was a couple of weeks before the member was in touch again asking what had happened.

Fortunately the papers were found and taken care of, and all the library volunteers have been made aware

of the problem so hopefully there should be no reoccurrence of this. Please let your members know that anything for translation should be addressed to me or labelled "Translation Coordinator". ■

FEDERATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

Sue Philips, AGS #1660

The submission form for the British Isles Genealogical Register (BIG R) have been distributed with the last issue of *Relatively Speaking*. Deadline for submissions in 1st November 1999.

The latest batch of booklets from the FFHS have been received and passed on to the AGS Library. Titles included are:

- ❖ British Genealogical Books in Print by Stuart Raymond
- ❖ British Genealogical Microfiche by Stuart Raymond
- ❖ Basic Approach to ... Making Contact with Relatives by Peter C. Amsden
- ❖ Basic Approach to ... Keeping Your Family Records, 2nd edition by Iain Swinnerton
- ❖ Basic Facts About ... Using Wills After 1858 and First Avenue House by Audrey Collins
- ❖ Basic Facts About ... Using Death & Burial Records for Family Historians, 2nd edition by Lillian Gibbons
- ❖ An Introduction to ... Tracing Your German Ancestors by Peter Towey
- ❖ The Location of British Army Records 1918 - 1918, 4th edition by Norman Holding and Iain Swinnerton

Also included is a copy of a booklet covering "1881 Census Project: Reported Mistakes". This is the first of a series of updates planned, to be published as individuals find and report errors in the massive 1881 census index done by the Genealogical Society of Utah. In an undertaking of this size, mistakes are to be expected, no matter how much care is taken with proofreading. These booklets will be a valuable asset to researchers, although it must always be remembered that this is a secondary source and the original records should always be checked. ■

The Morgan Society is a new One-Name Society. For more information, please contact reserachrecord@tesco.net. ■



Alberta Family Histories Society

The Society is a non-profit organization formed in 1980 to promote and encourage an interest in family history research. Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month (second Monday if first is a holiday) at Southminster United Church, 3818 - 14A. Street S.W., Calgary, phone (403) 214-1447. The library is housed at this location. Beginner classes are at 6:45 p.m. and general meetings starts at 7:30 p.m. ■



La Societe Genealogique du Nord-Ouest

Researching Your

French-Canadian Ancestors

Research Library: phone: (403) 424-2476

200, 10008 - 109 Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 1M4

Hours: Mon., Tues., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

By Appointment: Thurs., 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., and
Second Saturday on the month: noon to 4 p.m. ■



La Societe Historique et Genealogique de Smoky River

Denise LaFleur

Our personnel is bilingual and we make it our pleasure to serve our clients in both French and English.

Hours of operation: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon. to Fri.

Address:

Societe Historique et Genealogique de Smoky River
C.P. 224, Donnelly, Alberta, T0H 1G0

phone: (403) 925-3801 fax: (403) 925-2203

e-mail address: genealfa@agt.net ■

*You've got to do your own growing, no matter how
tall your grandfather was!*

old Irish proverb



The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Edmonton Branch

National e-mail uela@npiec.on.ca

Web page

www.npiec.on.ca/~uela/uelal.htm

Edmonton web page

<http://www.gocities.com/heartland/estates/9030>

Submitted by Frances E. Losie U.E., AGS #2796

85th NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN EDMONTON A SUCCESS

Almost 100 delegates from across Canada, representing 26 of the 29 Branches attended the U.E.L. 85th Annual Conference at the Coast Terrace Inn, Edmonton, June 3-6, 1999. The Theme was "Loyalist Heritage from East to West". The Mayor of Edmonton proclaimed May 30 to June 6 as "United Empire Loyalist Week" in Edmonton.

Twenty Edmonton U.E.L. Branch members attended the full conference: six others attended the AGM only. There were about 145 people total at the Saturday Banquet. All the Edmonton U.E.L. Branch members who helped, even if they were not able to attend, should feel very proud of the results.

At the Thursday Evening Reception, U.E. Certificates were presented by Dominion President Ed Scott U.E. to four people: The Rev. Dr. Lloyd Fourney (minister at our Sunday Service); Mrs. Halcrow (Chilliwack) who grew up in Edmonton; and the two daughters of Mary McSparron U.E. a past Edmonton U.E.L. Branch President, and Bill McSparron. One daughter, Laurie De Grace was from Oakville and one, Penny Bruce, from Edmonton.

NOTE: Susan McKeen, Wilma McKinnon, Fran Losie and the Dominion Genealogist Elizabeth Hancocks U.E., had worked very hard to get the certification papers together and approved in time for the conference. After the ceremony, Lloyd's wife carefully put his precious certificate in the front cover of his binder, and someone else picked up the binder! Who has it?

In honour of the 85th Anniversary of the Association, and commemorating the 216th Anniversary of the Loyalist migration to Canada, Dominion Historian Elizabeth Richardson U.E. gave a short talk and cut a specially made cake.

Sunny Friday afternoon tours to the Museum, Archives and Lieutenant Governors' building as well as to Fort Edmonton and West Edmonton Mall, along with a guided bus tour, were well received.

At the Friday night barbeque, the seven Calgary members in their western garb, greeted at the door and led the dancing when the lively Harmonikat Rascals entertained. They also sponsored the Friday morning coffee break. All Alberta Members are very pleased that **James Stewart U.E. of Calgary Branch is the new Dominion Councillor for the Prairie Region.**

The children of Pam Robillard U.E. and Jeff Robillard (Victoria - age 3, and James - age 1 of St. Albert) were presented with their U.E. certificates Friday evening, through the efforts of Robert Rogers U.E. and Dorothy, the proud grandparents. James is probably presently the youngest member in the Association.

The draw for 1,000 Air Miles, donated by Edmonton member **Grant McKinnon U.E.**, Vice President of Good Year Canada, Western Division was held at the Friday Barbeque, and was won by **Carol Davy, U.E.** past President of Kingston Branch and last year's conference convenor.

In keeping with the emphasis on Education and Membership at the conference there was participation by students. A student from Parkview School had a display from the Edmonton May Heritage Fair, about the making of the Canadian flag. For the Friday barbeque, Grade 5 students from Sweet Grass Elementary School made placemats depicting scenes from Loyalist history. Each student wrote a question on their placemat so that the delegate receiving it could answer with a story about their Loyalist family. The letters from delegates are to be sent to (student's first name) c/o Mrs. Wallace, Sweet Grass Elementary School, 11351 - 31 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T6J 4T6, as soon as possible. Some letters have already been happily received by the students even before the end of school, others will be distributed in September.

At both the Saturday Banquet and at the Church service Sunday, many members dressed in period costume (1776-83). Some local members also wore them during the conference adding flavour to the sessions, and helping delegates identify Edmonton people if they needed directions. A costume parade

led by a Scottish piper added spice to the Saturday Banquet.

Immediately following the Sunday Church Service at First Presbyterian Church, a jointly sponsored luncheon was held for the members of the congregation and the conference delegates. A warm friendly interchange was enjoyed by all. A tour, extra to the conference, went to the Ukrainian Village Sunday afternoon.

A common theme by all speakers at the conference seemed to emerge. It was the importance of personalizing our Loyalist history, starting with the present and linking to the past and thereby restoring it to National consciousness. It became clear that it is imperative that **all members** be involved in education and membership if the association is to survive. As Veronica Strong-Boag of U.B.C. has said, "If we cannot share our stories, then it is very difficult to contemplate a shared future."

Loyalists from East to West renewed their commitment to the Heritage and growth of the Association. They returned home after an enjoyable conference, looking forward to meeting in Niagara Falls on May 4-7, 2000.



Edmonton EUL members receive proclamation from Councillor Brian Anderson, declaring May 30 - June 6, 1999 United Empire Loyalists' week for National Conference. Left to right: Betty Fladager, U.E., Lois Cummings, U.E., Councillor Brian Anderson, Robert Rogers, U.E., Fran Losie, U.E., Vera Chisholm, Cal Chisholm, U.E. ■

GLEANINGS FROM PUBLICATIONS

by Lillian Wight, AGS #2668

* **Genealogists' Magazine Vol 26 No 5 March 1999**
Tracing nineteenth century criminals, by Stuart Tamblin, pp. 165 - 168

- describes resources available and demonstrates how his work can assist

* **Family History News and Digest Vol 12 No 1 April 1999**

New Products from the Family History Department, Salt Lake City, Utah, pp. 26 - 28
 - update on the 1851 British Census, Vital Records index and upcoming British 1881 Census

* **Family Tree Magazine April 1999**

John Tittford's guide to printed sources for family historians: Printed Parish Registers, pp.25 - 27
 - early transcriptions, the golden age of the 1890's and attempts to list parish register transcripts

* **Family Tree Magazine May 1999**

Some non-London records at the London Metropolitan Archives, by Anthony Camp, pp. 10,11.

-names estate records, country foundlings, insurance records, wills, Jewish records, etc.

* **National Genealogical Society Newsletter May/June 1999**

Reunion 6 for Mac, by Bill Mumford, pp. 137 - 141

- a comprehensive software review

* **Family Chronicle May/June 1999**

Searching the Census Without Using the Soundex, by Robert W. Marlin, pp. 38 - 40

- an alternative to locating ancestors when their street or town location is known

Research Techniques that can Produce Results! by Ron Wild, pp. 9 - 11

- twelve suggestions to help overcome that 'brick wall' situation

* **The Irish At Home and Abroad Vol 6 No 1 1999**

Finding Irish Estate Papers, by Kyle J. Betit, pp. 14 - 18

- cites general strategies for accessing, lists many sources and includes an extensive bibliography

* **Black Hills Nuggets Vol XXXII No 2 May 1999**

Preservation in Case of a Flood, pp. 15, 16

- deals with paper, books, paintings, diskettes, video recordings, prints, etc.

* **Kingston Relations Vol 26 No 1 Jan/Feb 1999**

Quaker History and Records, by David Holden, pp. 5, 6

- describes origin, history in Canada and lists some genealogical sources

* **Chinook: The Journal of the Alberta Family Histories Society, Vol 19 No 3 Spring 1999**

Using maps in your family history, by John Becker, pp. 84 - 87

- practical steps for preparing good maps for your family history

* **Chinook: The Journal of the Alberta Family Histories Society Vol 19 No 4 Summer 1999**

Ellis Island's Myths and Misconceptions, by J. Roberts, M.L.S., A.G., pp. 101, 104 - 118

- provides insight into the immigration process of the millions who came to the New World via New York

* **Ottawa Branch News March/April 1999**

More on the 1911 Census, by Lyn Winters, pp. 44 - 46

- useful background information to assist in addressing this issue

* **Yesterday's Footprints Vol 16 No 2 April 1999**

inGeneas Database Update as of March 25, 1999, pp. 9, 10

- includes descriptions of the records added, e.g., passenger, Grosse Isle, Selkirk Settlers, etc.

* **German Genealogical Digest, Winter 1998**

Surnames, Sources & Places, by Laraine K. Ferguson, pp. 99, 100

- describes sources on the Internet helpful to German genealogical researchers ■

COVER STORY:

McKAY AVENUE SCHOOL

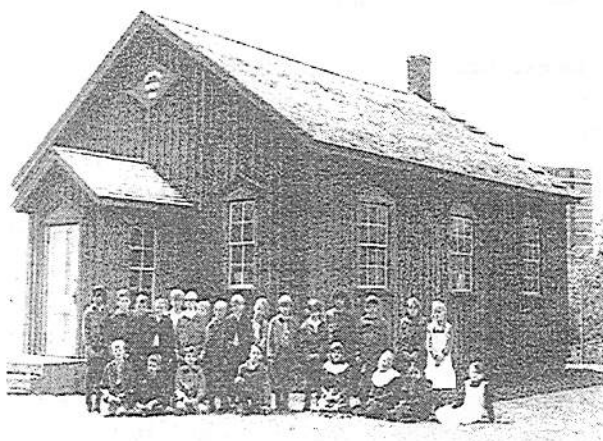
Built in 1904 and expanded in 1912, McKay Avenue School is Edmonton's oldest standing brick school. This facility was the site of the 1906 and 1907 sittings of the Alberta Legislature. Many original furnishings are featured in the restored Legislative Chamber.

The school was designated a Provincial Historic Resource in 1976. The archives and reading room are open to students and the general public for research purposes. They contain thousands of photographs, textbooks, readers, school registers, and student and staff records.

Edmonton's oldest schoolhouse is located on the grounds and tours can be arranged to visit the 1881, frame-lumber building that served as the first public school in Alberta. It was also used as a courthouse and meeting hall until 1904. This facility is an authentically restored nineteenth century classroom.

Now known as Edmonton Public Schools Archives and Museum, McKay Avenue School and the 1881 schoolhouse, are located at 10425 - 99 Avenue, Edmonton, on the Heritage Trail. Admission is free. Public hours are Tuesday through Friday, 12:30 to 4pm. For more information call 1-780-422-1970.

Excerpts from ARTA News and Views, Summer 1999.



1881 Schoolhouse ■

CONFERENCE '99 REPORT

Respectfully submitted by
Florence M. Woodward, Co-chair
Conference '99 Committee

The 26th Annual Conference of the AGS held April 16-17, 1999 was an overwhelming success. Claudine Nelson, President, volunteered the Edmonton Branch to organize and coordinate the conference as a 25th anniversary project. The organizing committee started meeting in July, 1998 with meetings held regularly on a monthly basis. Edmonton Branch members volunteered in many capacities - speakers, chairpersons, ticket-takers, manning display tables or phones, and in any way they could be of help. Grande Prairie Branch members volunteered to help with registration, banquet centerpieces and putting conference information on the Internet.

A total registration of 225 included two-day registrants, one-day registrants and a few who came for single sessions. A breakdown of registrants from out of province shows two from the United States, three from British Columbia, one from England and one from Quebec. Of the remaining registrants 136 were from Edmonton and the rest mostly from the Edmonton area. Registrations of delegates from the branches show six from Grande Prairie, two from Fort McMurray, five from Red Deer, two from Drayton Valley, two from Lethbridge and one from Brooks.

One hundred tickets were sold for the Friday night banquet with about 95-96 actually attending. Bruce Ibsen, City of Edmonton Archivist, was well received as after dinner speaker.

Eighty-seven evaluations were returned. Responses have been tabulated and comments recorded. The summary will be placed in the Conference '99 file in the AGS office. Comments were very favourable regarding organization, location, registration, displays and speakers. Speakers and topics were suggested for future conferences.

This conference was a success financially. When all the bills are paid we will have realized a profit of over \$2,000. Thank you to all the committee members and all the other volunteers who contributed to this most successful conference by sharing your time, talents and expertise, and by creating a warm, welcoming and friendly conference atmosphere for sharing and learning. ■

AGS CONFERENCE 2000

APRIL 14 & 15

By E. Carol Anderson, President, AGS

We have celebrated at the last two AGS Conferences milestone anniversaries in our Society. In the year 2000, we will be celebrating a BIG milestone in history. Let us, in the AGS, also celebrate our moment of history with another great conference, possibly breaking the attendance record of this past year. WOW!

What are AGS Conferences all about? Well, for two days ALL of our members are given an opportunity to come together to attend workshops of a genealogical nature. Workshops are presented by guest speakers of varying expertise. The conference is a learning time, a social time (FUN), and an annual event. The Alberta Genealogical Society has subscribed to being beneficial for its members in their quest of genealogical research, as well as extending an open door to the general public to attend.

A decision had to be made several years back to hold the annual conference in Edmonton, specifically for financial reasons. The convenience of acquiring guest speakers, their travel and accommodation accessibility, and the availability in obtaining a broad spectrum of commercial exhibitors to attend for the two day event were important considerations.

We have held many successful conferences in past years, never missing a year for over twenty-five (25) years. WHAT A RECORD!

Now to the crunch of the matter! WE NEED A COMMITTEE TO HEAD AGS CONFERENCE 2000. I appeal to all of our members and members-at-large across the province, PLEASE help! Planning and organizational meetings must start in September 1999 (the sooner the better). Unfortunately, a committee was not struck before now, but the challenge was presented to the branch presidents and other executive committee members at the June meeting.

Here is your chance to get in on the preliminary planning and present your suggestions for workshop topics and guest speakers. If you have said in the past, "there is nothing there for me", well get to it and join the committee. There is work that can be done from your home as an individual, and branch involvement by way of all of today's easy

telecommunication systems. Committee meetings are necessary for the initial planning and review of progress up until conference time.

Identified needs: general organization of the two day event, invitations to guest speakers, host and hostesses, coordinator for booking facilities and equipment, registration team, coordinator for commercial exhibitors, meal planning and banquet provision, graphics person for design of brochures and posters, to name a few. WILL YOU HELP?

Please contact the AGS President, Carol Anderson via the AGS Office Coordinator, Kathy MacRae at: phone (780) 424-4429, fax (780) 423-8980 or e-mail abgensoc@compusmart.ab.ca.

I thank you very much and appreciate your response in our appeal to you, who are the Alberta Genealogical Society. ■

Don't be afraid, cemetery ghosts are only genealogists with lanterns.

JC McSouviens, Vol. 21 #2 Autumn 1998 ■

SEMINAR ON TEACHING GENEALOGY COURSE

By Tom Trace

On Saturday, June 5, 1999 an eight hours Educational Course for 18 members took place in Edmonton.

The excellent instruction from Terry Gregory, Pat Pettitt, and Marion Rex presented numerous sessions on how to set up a Beginners Genealogy Course.

The members who attended requested that other courses for Library, Newsletters, etc., be presented in the same fashion. These requests will be presented to the AGS Executive Committee Meeting for consideration.

Thank you to all those involved and to Pamela Farmer for setting up the lunch and coffee breaks. ■

NEWSPAPER RESEARCH

Found in Halton - Peel News letter, April, 1997

Early newspapers are archived all across the country, some are easily available on microfilm. Amazingly, they are under-used as a genealogical research resource. Think of these things:

- Until the late 1800's, most papers are weeklies, so by scanning only 52 issues, you can cover a whole year of activity in the area where your ancestors lived and died.
- You need no more than an approximate date to quickly find your event. Then, as now, marriages and deaths were chronicled in the same part of the paper in each issue. If you must hurry through, you can scan the records in very little time. When you find your event, you find more than the date. Even in the sketchiest of marriage records, you are likely to find the names of witnesses, as well as the pastor who married the couple.
- Information given in the obituaries varies greatly. It may be a single line, or a startling headline with detail of a very active life.
- You will quickly see that straight-line research is a waste of time when reading newspapers. Researching ALL children of a descendant yields exponential results. You never know who might have the fanciest obituary! It may be the meekest, loneliest unmarried sister who died in a slow news week. So, make a list of all the events for the entire family in date order.
- Early newspapermen were real journalists who often left more complete records than are available anywhere else. If your ancestor ran for office, started businesses and failed or prospered, went to war, or was active in Community affairs, they will be mentioned in the newspaper

(A modified version of a Roots-L posting by Pat Hardin.) ■

WRITING ONE'S MEMOIRS

(and why that's a good thing to do)

Found in Lines of Descent, Vol. 21, Issue 1

There may be some active archivists, historians and story/tellers among the readership of the ACA (Alberta Council on Aging) News, and others who may have the potential to be such. For those in this category, the following newspaper article is for you. Written by my niece, Sandra Devlin, it appeared in a number of newspapers throughout the Maritimes some weeks ago.

"Surviving memoirs, letters or journals from our ancestors are all too rare. Lucky are the folks who have had recorded for them stories, fact and lore beyond the sterile statistics of birth, death and marriage. How many times have you wished for a time machine to travel back, if only for a day, to learn more intimate details of the daily lives of your forebears? Regardless of your age, you have the opportunity to change all that for your descendants."

"Writing memoirs can be quite easy really. Pick an imaginary descendant who will be living 100 years from now, a great-great-great grandson or daughter in 2098 - and write that person a long, detailed letter describing everything about you: your life, your appearance, your habits, your hobbies, your first kiss, your clubs, your relatives, your pet peeves, your job, your successes, your failures, your home, your education, your reactions to current events, your political beliefs, your religious affiliations, your friends and your memories. Teen or senior, male or female - no one but you can write your story. Do it".....

My readers, you have the authority to make decisions about certain matters regarding your future. In these, be sure that the legacy of your life's story lives on for your descendants in documents, in photographs, and yes, in your memoirs. ■

HERE'S A DIFFERENT IDEA

Ever thought of making a collection of ancestral signatures? It would be a unique memento to be left for future generations. Signatures can be located on old wills, land records, certificates of various types - and don't forget the family Bible.

*Seattle Genealogical Society Bulletin
Winter 1999 ■*

WILLIAM SMART AN INTERESTING ANCESTOR

Written by Gina McCaslin, March 1999

Submitted by Muriel Jones

I never knew my Grandfather, William Smart, as he had died many years before I came on the scene. He was born in Calne, Wiltshire, the 8th of 12 children born to John and Mary Smart.

William moved to London about 1862. Why he went, I am not sure - perhaps to make his fortune, or maybe just to get away from home. In London, he found employment as a porter, employed by Mr. Duncan Smith of Middle Row, Holborne. He worked there for 6 months and was discharged 24 February 1863. He then applied to join the London City Police Force. He was 21 years, 3 months, 5 feet 11 inches tall with blue eyes, light hair and fair complexion.

As Police Constable 638, William witnessed 27 executions which took place in front of the Old Bailey. He was also on duty when the Prince of Wales laid the foundation stone of Black Friars Bridge.

On 31 October 1867, he resigned voluntarily from the police force, and apparently went into business for himself before moving to Hungerford, Berkshire. By this time he was married and had one child.

AFTER THREE YEARS' SERVICE HE ACCEPTED THE POSITION OF TOWN SERVANT

Once in Berkshire, he again joined the police force and served from 14 April 1869 in Reading, Newbury and Hungerford. It must have been quite a change from the crime scenes of London.

After three years' service he accepted the position of Town Servant in the hamlet of Hungerford. In this position he performed the duties of Hall-keeper, Town Crier, Clerk to the Market and was also in charge of the Fire Brigade. It was his duty to annually blow the Tithing and Tutty horn for the inhabitants to assemble for the Hocktide Court. Part of this annual ritual was for the "Tithing and Tuttymen" who were officers of the Town, to visit the "Common Right" houses and kiss every woman and girl who, in return, were given an orange.

In 1875, William moved his wife and family, now numbering four children, to Birmingham, and once again sought employment with the police force. He commenced with them 30 November 1875, posted to 1st Division and identified as William Smart. P.C. 100 Warrant number 5034. His age was given as 31.

His service with the Birmingham City Police seems to be as colourful as when he served in London. He was promoted to 2nd class P.C. in June 1876 and to 1st class P.C. in December 1876. However, his conduct was not always as it should have been and he received cautions and demotions over the next few years.

HIS GOOD BEHAVIOUR MUST HAVE BEEN TOO MUCH FOR HIM

One of these was for demanding beer from Mr. Smith, Prince of Wales Beer House, Cambridge Street on two occasions. Again in 1877 he was cautioned. This time for being 8 minutes late for duty. Later in the same year he was "To do one day's extra duty" for being inattentive when giving evidence before the justices.

1878 didn't seem to be an improvement as he was again cautioned. This time for being "Absent from one part of his beat for 40 minutes." Another demand at The Prince of Wales perhaps?

By the end of 1881, his conduct had improved and he was promoted to 2nd class P.C. with new rate of 28/per week. 1884 saw another promotion to 1st class P.C. at 30/per week on recommendation of the Justices for his efficiency in Court duties.

His good behaviour must have been too much for him as he went through a rough patch which shows that in July 1891 he was cautioned for "being under the influence of drink when on "Reserved Duty" at the Sub Station, Small Heath at 2:20 p.m. 12 July, and also improper conduct by speaking through the telephone to P.S. in an improper manner in reference to a lost child at 3:30 p.m. of 14 July. For these misdemeanours he was reduced in class to 2nd class with a pay cut.

Three more children had been born in Birmingham, and in July of 1891 his wife Louise died leaving him with a couple of young children to raise.

In September 1894, William married my Grandmother, Ellen Brown. Maybe it was her influence that kept William on the right path as he was reinstated to 1st Class P.C. with 30/per week wage in 1895 and again in 1897 he was promoted to 2nd class Long Service at 32/per week.

1898 William was transferred to the Market Police R Division to do duty in the Markets - The Bull Ring. William resigned from the police force 31 December 1900.

According to my father, my grandmother would have to walk to the police station to report his absence due to illness. I have a sneaking suspicion I know what his illness was.

***IN 1897 HE WAS PROMOTED TO 2ND CLASS
LONG SERVICE AT 32/PER WEEK***

My father also told me that his father would walk the beat and if he saw a chimney on fire he would knock at the door of the offending house and take out his note book. Upon enquiry as to name of occupant, he would then inform them that the fine would cost 7/6 in court, but if they wanted him to appear on their behalf he could do that for 5/-. There is no need to explain where the 5/- went.

Another story was that my grandfather took my grandmother to Winson Green Jail. He showed her the cells, then locked her in one and left her there. Again, my father also told me that his father was shot in the arm after cornering a crook in an alleyway or backyard. This caused his hair to turn white overnight. I have not found confirmation of this, and I am not sure if this was to have occurred in London or Birmingham.

During his Birmingham service he discovered an illicit Still following which three men were arrested and received heavy fines. One of these was prevented by my Grandfather from escaping to America from Winson Green Goal. He was highly complemented and received "A handsome honorarium from the Inland Revenue." I believe this was in the form of a silver knobbed walking stick.

At the time William served in the Birmingham City police force, the policemen were required to live within the area of their beat and as near to the station as possible.

Constables were required to be familiar with all streets and corners on their beat and get to know all inhabitants by sight and readily recognize the local villains and keep an eye on their whereabouts and activities.

Each shift consisted of 12 hours. He would either report at 6:45 a.m. for parade and inspection and not return home until at least 4 p.m. If on night shift, he would report at 6:45 p.m. and work until 7 the next morning.

Officers patrolled a fixed beat and were required to be at certain places at certain times. A beat card recorded the times and the shift inspector had three systems from which he chose so that the local criminals would not get used to the officer being at the same place at the same time each day. In some area, beats were arranged so that officers were always in sight of one another.

If a police officer saw someone committing an offence, he had to either deal with the situation himself or use his rattle or whistle to summon help. He would tell the prisoner of his offense and listen to any statement given by the accused. He would have to try and remember the prisoner's account for his report. If necessary, he would handcuff the prisoner and walk him to the police station - which may have been some distance away. He would have to appear in court the next day together with the prisoner and any witnesses.

The beat was patrolled at a set rate and officers were directed to patrol at a steady walking speed of two and a half miles per hour. During a typical shift, an officer might walk as far as 25 miles every day or night.

***I FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO FIND A BIRTH
CERTIFICATE FOR WILLIAM***

William did not seek promotions. He preferred, he said, to be "A rough dog in the forest rather than a chained hound in the palace."

By the time William retired he had two more daughters, Ellen Amelia and Rachel Emma. My father, George Edward and his brother William Frank were born later, in 1901 and 1904 respectively.

I found it difficult at first to find a birth certificate for William as every time I found a reference to him he was a different age. Finally I did succeed, but this was a shock to my father as he hadn't known that his father was 5 years older than anyone knew. When he died in 1917 he was age 75, not 70 years as stated on his death certificate.

The night my father was born - 18 December 1901, there were riots in the City of Birmingham due to the public appearance of Lloyd George. It is possible that William was called on duty as they needed reinforcements of police to control the riots. Lloyd George was finally escorted out of the City Hall dressed in a police constable's uniform. Because of this occasion, my grandfather wanted my father named Lloyd George. My grandmother put her foot down, but did agree to him being christened George Edward.

In his younger days, my grandfather was quite athletic and won several prizes at the Police Sports Days. At one time he was the champion walker in the Birmingham Force.

I would have loved to have known my grandfather as I think he was a colourful character and would have had such exciting stories to tell. Instead, I have to be thankful that enough records have survived for me to at least be able to conjure up an image of him.



William Smart, 27 Dec 1842 - 15 July 1917 ■

CHARLES COSENS OBITUARY AS IT APPEARED IN THE CHRISTIAN GUARDIAN, MARCH 1898

Submitted by Edna Woloshyn, AGS #3595 for her great great grandfather. He emigrated to Upper Canada in 1832 from the village of Dorking. Passage was paid by the parish because the family was very large and had been on relief.

COSSENS - Charles Cosens, Sen., who was one of our oldest, worthiest and most highly respected citizens, and whose name was a household word on the Fordwich Circuit, has passed to the land where every song is victory, and where no shadow ever falls. On March 26, 1898, his redeemed spirit was crowned with glory, honor, immortality and eternal life. He was born in the county of Hampshire, England, September 23, 1812, and came to Canada in 1832 and settled in the township of Waterloo. He moved to the township of Wallace in 1861, where he resided until his death. He was hopefully converted to God in 1839 and joined the Methodist Church. He was ardently attached to the church of his choice, yet was broadminded and truly catholic. As long as he was able he was a regular and interested attendant upon the means of grace. Nearly half a century ago he was appointed class leader which position he held until by death he was translated from the church militant to the church triumphant. The best things about Father Cosens can not be written. He was a man of sterling worth; a lofty ideal was ever before him, he was loving and lovable, he was a pure man, a man of clean lips, clean life and has left a clean record behind. His religious life was humble, penitent, believing and progressive. His hearty responses in the sanctuary were an inspiration to the minister and a benediction in the congregation. He was a cheerful, joyous Christian, but if the face shone it was because he had been on the mount and talked with God. His last days were full of Beulah land experience. His last testimony was, "It is light in the valley. I am going home to Jesus". And then he sweetly, peacefully and triumphantly fell asleep in death. The memory of the departed is embalmed in the hearts of his bereaved wife, children, grand children and great-grand children. T.W.C. (Thomas Wesley Cosens). ■

Only a genealogist regards a step backwards as progress!

*Tree Tracer
Prince George Genealogical Society
Volume 20, #1, March, 1999*

CANADA ADOPTED ME

From The Citizen, Kipling, Saskatchewan
June 16, 1983
Submitted by Frank Easton

One morning I awakened feeling terrible. My throat ached...my jaw ached...I hurt all over. "I don't feel good," I said to the lady of the family. She looked at me closely. "It's not surprising," she said. "You've got the mumps." Go out by the side of the house and sit in the sun. You'll get over them."

So I went out to sit in the sun and get over the mumps. Nobody called a doctor. It was too far. Besides, children get over the mumps. I drank milk and soup and sat in the sun. I got over the mumps and went back to work.

God, I'm sure, knows how I survived those years. I don't. The workhorses on the farm were only half-broken and dangerous enough for a man to drive, let alone a child. Runaways were commonplace and harnessing the teams most hazardous. I still bear scars on my forehead and am minus a part of a kneecap from a runaway while driving a disc harrow. I was thrown from the seat and the machine ran over me. Just as the discs reached me the traces broke, the tongue jammed into the ground levering the discs high enough to clear most of my body.

'I DON'T FEEL GOOD', I SAID TO THE LADY OF THE FAMILY.

Summer haying was hard, hot work. Sometimes we worked close to home. Sometimes far afield. One day we drove twelve miles to harvest a crop. The only water was seepage in a drying slough, live with wigglers. I put my hat into the water to strain it through the straw in order to drink without swallowing some of them. At night we pulled the wagon close to the haystack, wrapped our blankets around us and slept under the load of hay.

My wages were nothing for the first two years. After I was thirteen I was paid from \$125 to \$175 a year. I saved as much of this as I could for I knew that as soon as I was old enough, I would leave this unfair family and go out on my own. Many of the other Barnardo boys that came over with me went to families that became as their own but I was not so fortunate.

My family consisted of a man and his wife with their two grown sons and two grown daughters. There was little love lost in the house and none of it on me. I was a work animal, to be fed and housed, not educated nor favored in any way, but worked to the fullest extent of my ability. Later I learned that they had even intercepted mail from my sister. During the last two years with them, I was permitted to sing in the choir at the Church of England with practices one hour every Friday night after school closed for the others.

THERE ARE HOMESTEADS OPEN IN SASKATOON

"As soon as I'm eighteen, I'm leaving here," I told her. "Homesteads are open to those who apply. I'll have a home of my own and we'll see each other again."

"There are homesteads open in Saskatoon," I was told when I turned eighteen.

I boarded a train and headed out. We got there late in the afternoon and I hurried down to the land office. It was closed. I had arrived on a Dominion holiday. I booked a room at the hotel for \$1.50 and had breakfast for 25 cents. I was at the office bright and early the next morning.

"Sorry," the man in charge said, "All the homesteads in this area have been taken up. But I hear there's a tract opening up south of Moose Jaw. Maybe you can get in on that one."

I caught the next train for Moose Jaw, booked in at the hotel, had breakfast and asked directions to the Land Title's Office. A large crowd of men surrounded the building when I arrived. I joined them in waiting. After a while a man came out.

"There's an awful lot of you men waiting to file," he said, "and I know some of you have been waiting as much as two days. Now we want this to be fair and square. We're going to give each of you a number. You will file for your homestead in that order. Remember, you have to be here when your number is reached in order to file."

I was number twenty. I waited it out. I paid my \$10.00 and filed on a half section eighty miles from town. Two other lads filed for homesteads in the same area.

"Look," said one of them... "I know a chap here who will drive us out. He has a team and democrat. It will cost us \$20.00 a piece." We met the next morning at nine. The roads were rough and our driver was rougher.

"Here," he said, pulling a bottle from his coat. "Man can't stand this land without some help. Have a drink. I got lots more." I looked at the other lads. We shook our heads. None of us wanted a drink. "We'll get along," we said.

He took a long swig, lashed out at the horse with the lines and we were off, rollicking over the uneven road. He pulled roughly at the lines and the horses swerved as the bit caught at his mouth. We clung tightly to the seats on the democrat and jounced along. A wheel hit a large rock and the driver continued to pull at his bottle until he slid down on the seat. The democrat began to wobble. The horse slowed and stopped. We got out and checked the wheels. One was badly dished from the bad driving.

LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO DO THIS OURSELVES

"Looks like we'll have to do this ourselves," said my friend. We eased the driver to the floor of the democrat and tucked him in to sleep it off. The rest of the night we took turns driving. There was no place to turn off so we couldn't get lost. At morning we came into Willowbunch. We found a blacksmith to repair the wheel. We stayed there through the next night and by that morning the driver was sober and the wheel fixed and we went on.

The claim was much to my liking, three hundred and twenty acres of raw prairie ... just clumps of grass, no trees and two miles to the nearest neighbor. I went back to my family and finished out my time until the spring crops were in and spent the days dreaming of my own place and how to go about setting it up.

I dearly wanted to have a team of horses but they were four or five hundred dollars and I had nowhere near that much. Someone told me of a German farmer who had a pair of big steers, longhorns, for sale at \$25.00 each. I went to see them. They weren't horses but they were strong and could break the land and do the work. I bought them and led them back to the farm where the family let me house them in the barn.

Now I began to study the Family Bible of the Homesteader ... Eaton's catalogue. I read and reread the ads for harness and yoke for oxen. The one that most caught my eye read ... "Ox collars ... hook at bottom, traces of chain covered with leather. \$10.50 F.O.B." The more I read it the more I became convinced. I would teach my oxen to drive, not yoke them to be led. I ordered halter, bits and driving lines. Every spare moment I practiced with my team ... around and around the yard.

I BECAME CONVINCED I WOULD TEACH MY OXEN TO DRIVE

At an auction sale I bought a wagon with doubledecker box and a spring seat. I hitched my ox team to it for a practice run. They headed for the barn and no matter how hard I pulled on the lines they still headed for the barn. Now I knew what the old timers meant when they said an ox has a tough mouth. Straight into the barn they went ... only the barn door was closed and the tongue jabbed right into the door. I backed them off, turned them around and down the road we went. I was driving my own oxen. ■

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"When a society or a civilization perishes, one condition can always be found. They forgot where they came from."

*Carol Sandburg
Seattle Genealogical Society Bulletin
Winter, 99 ■*

25th ANNIVERSARY HISTORY BOOK - NOW ON SALE

The 25th Anniversary History Book is now on sale. Send your order along with your pre-payment to AGS for this one time only printing **BEFORE October 30, 1999**. The cost of the book is \$15.00 plus shipping and handling charges of \$5.00. Please make cheques payable to "Alberta Genealogical Society/Anniversary Book". ■

HISTORY, TRULY A FAMILY AFFAIR

From Red Deer LIFE

By Harley Richards

Submitted by Gordon Becker

Kurt and Lila Nagel have a basement that would make a lot of librarians envious. Never mind the three computers, two microfilm and microfiche readers and photocopier the couple maintains in the lower level of their Innisfail-area home. The space is jammed with a wealth of historical books dating as far back as several hundred years. This mix of high tech equipment and ancient writings are the tools of the Nagels' leisure time trade - genealogy.

A past president of the Red Deer Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society, Kurt has been fascinated with tracing family roots since he was a youngster. That enthusiasm blossomed in 1956 he, while in his mid-20s, he traveled to Europe and began investigating his family's Danish history.

Lila began climbing family trees two decades ago, given a boost by her husband's appetite for genealogy. "I wouldn't have done it on my own," she acknowledges.

The Nagels have traced their families' roots back hundreds of years. Kurt discovered one of his ancestors, Johann Meiger, was a Catholic priest who was persuaded by Martin Luther to convert to Lutheranism. Lila has been able to connect her lineage to Danish King Christian V, who ruled the Scandinavian country from 1670 to 1699.

YOU DON'T THINK THIS IS AN ALL CONSUMING AFFAIR?" ASKS KURT

In 1979 the Nagels began compiling their findings into book form - an undertaking that ended two years ago with an eight volume family history entitled *From Vikings to Wheatfields*. The books, which Kurt bound himself, each contain more than 450 pages of text and photos.

The Nagels have produced 38 sets of *From Vikings to Wheatfields*, many of which they've distributed to their children and grandchildren.

In addition to uncovering their own families' past, the couple are active members of the Red Deer Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society. They often share their expertise with groups and families, and this week began a four week genealogical course at the Golden Circle.

A BIRTH CERTIFICATE MIGHT SHOW THAT YOU WERE BORN, BUT A HISTORY WILL SHOW THAT YOU LIVED

"You don't think this is an all consuming affair?" asks Kurt, gesturing to the array of books, displays and other reference materials crowding his basement. Among these is a two volume history of Denmark published in 1652, and a collection of Martin Luther's sermons compiled in 1564.

"We spend a lot of time in old bookstores," says Kurt, adding some of their books are among only a handful ever produced.

But despite the time, expense and frustration that goes hand in hand with genealogical digging, Kurt insists the end result is well worth it. "A birth certificate might show that you were born, but a history will show that you lived." ■

Another related story.....

TRACE YOUR OWN GENEALOGY

From Red Deer LIFE

By Harley Richards

Submitted by Gordon Becker

So you're interested in digging up your roots but aren't sure where to plant your shovel. "You start with yourself," suggest Lila Nagel, a genealogy enthusiast who conducts courses on the subject with her husband Kurt.

That means recording details of your birth and marriage, and then extending the process to your parents, grandparents and so on. "One step leads to the other, but you've got to go step by step."

Living relatives should be interviewed early in the process, but eventually you'll need to resort to written records: newspaper clippings, obituaries, military records, old letters (including envelopes), census records, family Bibles, diplomas, and church

burial and marriage records. In this regard, Kurt says museum archives are fertile places to harvest information about your ancestors.

Also worth considering is the National Archives of Canada, where materials like immigration records can be obtained through inter-library loans. The International Genealogical Index and Ancestral File, which are maintained by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, contain information about millions of people and can be accessed through the LDS Family History Library in Red Deer.

At some point, says Kurt, it may be necessary to travel to your family's country of origin. But he cautions there's no guarantee in-person inquiries will give you better access to historic records than those made long distance.

The Nagels' practice has been to request copies of all of a community's records for the relevant period, and then sift through these for gems of information. They say this is a less expensive alternative to searching for specific names or events.

Locally, the Red Deer Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society is an excellent resource for those interested in performing a little family tree detective work. Members are happy to share their knowledge with newcomers: offering research tips and swapping success stories.

Kurt says searching family histories has become easier in recent years with technological advances like the Internet and better access to records in former Soviet Bloc countries. In Alberta, cemetery records are now computerized, making it a simple matter to locate a deceased relative. ■

RESEARCH GROUP CHAIRPERSON

By Marion Sim

At the time of the AGS Elections, the position of Research Chair was vacant, and I agreed to carry on as "Caretaker" until the position could be filled. Norma Wolowyk has agreed to fill the position as Spokesperson for the AGS Research Group.

With the advent of e-mails, the job of Research Chair has grown enormously and can no longer be handled by one person. The AGS/Edmonton Branch received 280+ research requests from April 1998 to April 1999. Thus far, in the current year, 54 requests have been received. Some are brief and simple, others more complex. All require an answer and this takes time. First the information must be gathered and then a reply must be drafted, whether by e-mail or regular post.

With this change in the volume of correspondence a new group has been formed which will meet on Friday mornings. In addition to discussing the requests received, the letters will be dispersed amongst the Group members who will actively deal with them by checking the five basic sources in the Edmonton Branch/AGS Library and addressing any specific requests which may be made, then drafting a reply. The basic sources are as follows:

1. Alberta Cemetery Database
2. Proof of Age
3. Charles Denney Edmonton Journal Clipping File.
4. 1901 Census
5. Alberta Index to Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths - 1870-1905.

The Group extends a warm welcome to members interested in helping to answer the queries, which come from virtually all over the world, are varied in scope, and present a challenge to our investigative skills.

As well, a Database has been developed, extracting the names/submitters from the requests received by the Research Group. To date there are over 600 names. This Database also acts as a log for all incoming requests and a coding system has been included so that statistics may be kept.

The Research Group plays an important role in the Genealogical Society, they are the link which helps someone, somewhere, "go that one step further" in climbing the genealogical tree. ■

The moment of victory is much too short to live for that and nothing else.

Martina Navratilova ■

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

25 YEARS AGO

THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS

By Douglas Slater Wright, U.E.

Submitted by Vivian Etty

Their Story

The United Empire Loyalists were those persons who remained loyal to the British Crown during and after the Revolutionary War in America, 1775 to 1783.

During - and more especially - at the close of that War, these people were the object of such revengeful acts and intolerance that many thousands were forced to leave their homes and possessions to seek shelter in Canada and elsewhere. The American Patriots' principal method of raising funds was through the confiscation of the Loyalists' property, which method was practiced in each of the thirteen colonies.

In 1783, at the close of the war, the banishment and extermination of the Loyalists was a foregone conclusion; indeed, the bitterest words that George Washington was said to have used were, "I can see nothing better for (the Loyalists) than to recommend suicide"!

The last part of the new "United States" to be evacuated by the British troops - and by those Loyalists who still were determined to leave - was New York City, on 25 November 1783.

This emigration of Loyalists had begun in March 1776, with the removal of Loyalists from cities bordering the Atlantic, by sea to Nova Scotia (which then included the present province of New Brunswick). But Nova Scotia was not the only destination; England, Scotland, Newfoundland, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Florida and Jamaica received many of them.

The largest number of Loyalists to sail for Nova Scotia went as formed "companies" under British officers, having hired their own ships; Sir Guy Carleton provided the shipping for those unable to supply their own, from New York. On 26 April 1783, twenty vessels sailed from New York as a fleet with 4000 Loyalists, and on 18 May 1783 they landed at the mouth of the Saint John River. This was the "Spring Fleet of 1783". The "June Fleet", with 2000 Loyalists arrived there on 28 June 1783, and the "Fall Fleet" arrived with 400 more in September 1783 - mostly soldiers of loyal Provincial Regiments, with their wives and children. In all, over 10,000 destitute Loyalists arrived in Nova Scotia during 1783 and January 1784.

In addition to those who had gone to Nova Scotia in September 1783, a "company" of Loyalists under Peter Van Alstine - called "Associated" or "Incorporated" Loyalists - carried on to Fort Frontenac, where they arrived in June 1784, after having spent the previous winter under canvas at Sorel, Quebec.

The Loyalists from the northern and western parts of New York Province were cut off from the Atlantic seaboard and were forced to take the overland routes to either present-day Quebec or Ontario. They were joined by Loyalists from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Vermont. Most of them followed the two military "highways" that led either to Ogdensburg (on the St. Lawrence River opposite Prescott, Ontario), or to Oswego on the south side of Lake Ontario due south of Kingston, Ontario. Others used the Lake Champlain water route to Sorel; these Loyalists remained in Quebec.

Some of the New York Loyalists came to Canada all the way on foot, and those from Pennsylvania and even North Carolina, traveled laboriously for months along woodland trails with such household possessions that had escaped confiscation, in two-horse (or oxen) wagons, driving before them their cattle, if any.

Voluntary exiles, loyal Provincial troops, and those driven away by persecution, went, during the War, to Quebec, Montreal, and to the Niagara Peninsula area.

Kingston, Ontario became the "official" town and the centre of the new (post-War) surveys to accommodate the new Loyalist settlers. These "township" surveys were westward up the lakeshore and eastward down the St. Lawrence River to the border of the French Canadian seignorial system of land-holdings near the junction of the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers. There were eight townships to the west, and five to the east, of Kingston.

Those Loyalists who had arrived in Canada after the 1798 cut-off date for the awarding of the honour of the "U.E.", were termed "late Loyalists".

Their Descendants

On 28 February 1896, a committee was formed to draft a constitution for the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Ontario, in Toronto. The purpose of this committee was to organize means of preserving and gathering together in one place, the then-existing records of United Empire Loyalists' histories, individual experiences, and the circumstances of their settlement in Canada. Such material as had been preserved was widely distributed, un-indexed, and not available for research. Other provinces formed their own Societies, following the lead of Ontario.

In 1913 the system of provincial Loyalists' Societies was found to be not strong enough to meet their objectives. On 27 May 1914 the Dominion Parliament passed an Act that created the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada and provided for the operation of the Association in all provinces and territories of Canada, and of its control in its Central Council.

The aims of the Association, as set out in the Act, were:

1. To unite, regardless of creed or political party, the descendants of those families who, during the War of 1775 to 1783, had sacrificed their homes in retaining their loyalty to the British Crown; and to perpetuate this spirit of loyalty to the Empire.
2. To preserve the history and traditions of that important epoch in Canadian history by rescuing from oblivion the history and traditions of the Loyalist families, before it became too late.
3. To collect together, in a suitable place, the portraits, relics, and documents relating to the United Empire Loyalists, which were by then scattered throughout the Dominion.
4. To publish an historical and genealogical journal.

On 9 April 1931, and again since then, the By-laws of the Association have been revised as required. Each member of the United Empire Loyalists' Association must be a member of some Branch of the Association; Branches are located in all Canadian provinces. It is not necessary for a member to belong to the Branch having jurisdiction in the district in which he lives.

There are three classes of membership:

1. U.E. Membership may be granted to an applicant who can provide proof of lineal descent from the ancestor from whom eligibility is claimed, and proof that the ancestor is entitled to be considered a U.E. Loyalist. An applicant for U.E. Membership must owe allegiance to the Crown.
2. Affiliate Membership may be granted to an applicant who can provide proof of lineal descent from a U.E. Loyalist, but who cannot claim allegiance to the Crown.
3. Associate Membership may be granted to a spouse of a U.E. or Affiliate Member.

An applicant for U.E. Membership must make his application to some Branch of the Association. Usually the application is made to the Branch nearest to his place of residence, but this is not mandatory. Each Branch has its own application forms, which may be obtained from the Secretary of that Branch. The application must be proposed and seconded by two U.E. Members of that Branch, and must show the applicant's descent from a United Empire Loyalist. The required "initiation" fee should accompany the application.

Names of all Branches, and the names and addresses of their Secretaries, are available through the Secretary of the Dominion Headquarters, 23 Prince Arthur Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5R 1B2.*

As with any other Association or Society, the question "what may I do for the Association?" should be uppermost in the mind of the applicant. There are several advantages to U.E. Membership, not least of which is the pride in knowing that one belongs to one of the most exclusive Clubs in Canada; there are less than 1700 members in all!

Another source of satisfaction is the knowledge that one can impart to his fellow members concerning the ancestors that provided them with the necessary qualifications for Association Regular membership. ■

* Current address: Dominion Headquarters, The George Brown House, 50 Baldwin Street, Suite 202, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5T 1L4 e-mail: vela@npier.on.ca



U.E.L. Conference participants
from left to right:
Fran Losie, Betty Fladager, Vivian Eddy,
David Ellsworth, Marie Ablett

FFHS: ELIZABETH SIMPSON AWARD WINNERS

By David Hawgood, FFHS e-mail list administrator

The winners and commended journals for the Elizabeth Simpson Award for 1998 were announced by Richard Ratcliffe, chairman of the judges, at the AGM of FFHS at Winchester on 10th April. They are:

Joint 1st: The Australian Institute of Genealogical Studies (The Genealogist) & The New Zealand Society of Genealogists (The New Zealand Genealogist).

2nd: East of London FHS (The Cockney Ancestor)

Joint 3rd: Buckingham FHS (Origins) & Powys FHS (Chronicle).

Highly Commended: (in alphabetical order)
Bedfordshire FHS, Bristol and Avon FHS, Coventry FHS, Gloucestershire FHS, Huntingdonshire FHS, Lincolnshire FHS, North Cheshire FHS, North of Ireland FHS, Somerset & Dorset FHS, Braund ONS and Stockill FHS.

(FHS - Family History Society)
ONS - One Name (Family History) Society

Editor's Note: We didn't win! We are hoping to receive a personal critique soon. ■

CAUTION!
*You have now entered
the Genealogy Zone*

EARLY DAYS IN THE AGS

John R. Hughes, AGS #104

Although I am very proud to be one of the founding members of the AGS and the first Editor of Publications, I attained those positions quite by accident. My dad's father was very interested in family history, as were several cousins on my mother's side, and I was bitten by the genealogy bug while still quite young.

In the early 1970s I started digging up information on the family, building on work already done by my grandfather and others. Eventually I landed up at the Provincial Archives, asking questions and generally being a pest, I'm sure. Probably in hopes of getting rid of me, one of the archives staff suggested I contact a fellow named Charles Denny, who knew lots about genealogy. So I phoned Mr. Denny, told him how I got his name and number, and was promptly invited to a "small gathering" at his apartment a few days later.

As it turned out, at that meeting (March 15, 1973) the bylaws for the Society were approved by the other founding members, who had done all the work of drawing up the bylaws, etc., and myself, a definite latecomer. Mr. Denny was elected President, Frank Easton - Vice President, Donna Schaufele - Secretary, Darcy Hande - Treasurer, and Pearl Greenslade - Membership Secretary. I have to admit I have no recollection of the events of that summer, but sometime in late summer, Volume 1, No. 1 of our as-yet-unnamed Society newsletter was published under the editorship of Frank Easton.

It was rather thin, at just six pages, printed on one side only, but contained the dates for the next year's worth of meetings, information on our Society and the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society, and a membership form; what more could we ask for?

And for those of you who think that computers only invaded the genealogical field after the invention of Bill Gates, the November 22, 1973 meeting was on 'Computers and Genealogy'. We were nothing if not ahead of our time!

By early 1974 I had taken over as Editor (I probably opened my big mouth to tell Frank how he ought to produce a newsletter, or made some similar subtle remark), and the name 'Relatively Speaking' was at the top of the masthead of Volume 2, No. 1. Where did the name come from? Well, at that time I was

quite involved with Walterdale Theatre, and they staged a production of an English comedy called 'Relatively Speaking', just as we were in search of a name for our journal. Being basically lazy, and also a great fan of puns, I simply pinched the name!

As I recall, at the meeting where I announced it, Mr. Denny objected somewhat, favouring a more restrained title, something more suitable for a serious group of researchers. Fortunately, Frank Easton put forth what must have been some very persuasive arguments in favour of the proposed name, and it was accepted.

IN THOSE DAYS WE PRODUCED RELATIVELY SPEAKING ON A GESTETNER IN THE BASEMENT...

That first issue of Relatively Speaking was quite impressive, considering the size of the Society in early 1974. It had 51 pages of material, printed on both sides, on five different colours of paper, plus a cover on heavier paper. Our original intent was to split the publication into five sections (Articles, Queries, Library, Cemeteries, and Membership/Names Being Researched, each on its own colour of paper), but this was phased out after about four years.

One tradition that was initiated with that issue and continues to this day, was the use of photographs and documents on the front cover. As the Editor, I chose one of my own family photos for our first issue, showing my paternal grandmother, father, and two uncles, taken at Saddle Lake, Alberta, at Christmas, 1918. Several more Hughes family photos and documents showed up on subsequent issues.

In those days we produced Relatively Speaking on a Gestetner in the basement of Frank Easton's house in Sherwood Park. (How many of you remember Gestetners?) This particular one was not an electric machine, it had to be cranked by hand. It took a bit of practice to switch hands in mid-crank without changing the speed. One memorable Saturday evening we ran out of ink, and Frank had the audacity to phone the manager of Gestetner Ltd., and ask if we could purchase a tube of ink - right away!

Fortunately for us, Gestetner really believed in service, and we were able to continue printing. The production crew usually consisted of Frank, Mae

Deans, Bill Drew, my wife Pat, and myself. Many other members helped out as needed on the dozens of tasks involved in putting out a quarterly journal, and if I were to name them all here, it would probably include half of the membership. My thanks to all of them for helping create a truly fine publication! I'm pleased to see the quality has not diminished over the last 25 years. ■

OPERATION "DIASPORA ROCHELAISE"

Submitted by Marie-Hlne LUC
Office of the Mayor, City Hall
17086 La Rochelle cedex 2

THe city of La Rochelle, France wishes to make contact with past residents of the city living around the world. Operation "Diaspora Rochelaise" wants to get a true picture of the La Rochelle family. Any previous resident may participate. We ask you to send some information about yourself.
Please contact Marie-Hlne LUC at (0033) 05 46 51 11 17, fax (0033) 05 46 51 53 24, or access our web site.

In addition, we hope to publish a booklet "Residents of La Rochelle". It will discuss life in La Rochelle but also talk of compatriots worldwide.

We are also searching for descendants of Mathieu Da Costa. He is well known as the first black farmer in Canada. He was a navigator for Samuel de Champlain and also a translator of the Micmac language. He left La Rochelle 13th May 1606 on board the "Jonas" destined for Acadia.

Can you help us? Please spread the message around.

To be published in the annual "Rochelaise of the World" please send your name, address, internet address (if applicable), approximate connection with La Rochelle (resident, descendant of resident, resident by adoption), occupation, and any remarks or suggestions. ■

NEW: OLD 'IRISH GENEALOGIST' PERIODICALS

(in the AGS Edmonton Branch Library)
Submitted by Claudine Nelson AGS #2592

Vol. 1 No. 1 - published in 1937, to Vol. 3 No. 10 published in 1965. This almost complete set was donated by Meryl Hazel.

My grandfather came from Ireland in 1891 and left me records dating back into the 1600's. For me to try to resurrect where he found his information is virtually impossible because of the 1922 burning of Irish records in Dublin.

The Irish Genealogical Society in London, England, set out to locate records that individuals had personally kept, and then make these available to people interested in searching their Irish heritage.

This collection of periodicals is a must for anyone researching in Ireland. There are directories listing names, trades and addresses; Catholic registers of marriages and baptisms - some go back to the 1300's; manuscripts and book titles; 'Some Irish Families and Their Influence in Newfoundland', and probated wills. Within a probated will of a person whose name meant nothing, I found information of how my ancestor, in 1660, acquired land in County Westmeath. Further into the will it states that my ancestor was to let one of his daughters marry this deceased person's eldest son, but I don't think that this ever took place.

Is this your ancestor found in Vol. 3 No. 9 October 1964?

... a newspaper announcement culled from the 'Southern Reporter' of 7 May 1832 which, even if not true, is certainly a happy ending. 'Married at Bath, Stephen County, America on 11.7.1832 Mr. Moses Alexander aged 98 to Mrs. Frances Tomkins aged 105!! They were taken out of bed dead the following morning.' ■

Another SCOTS

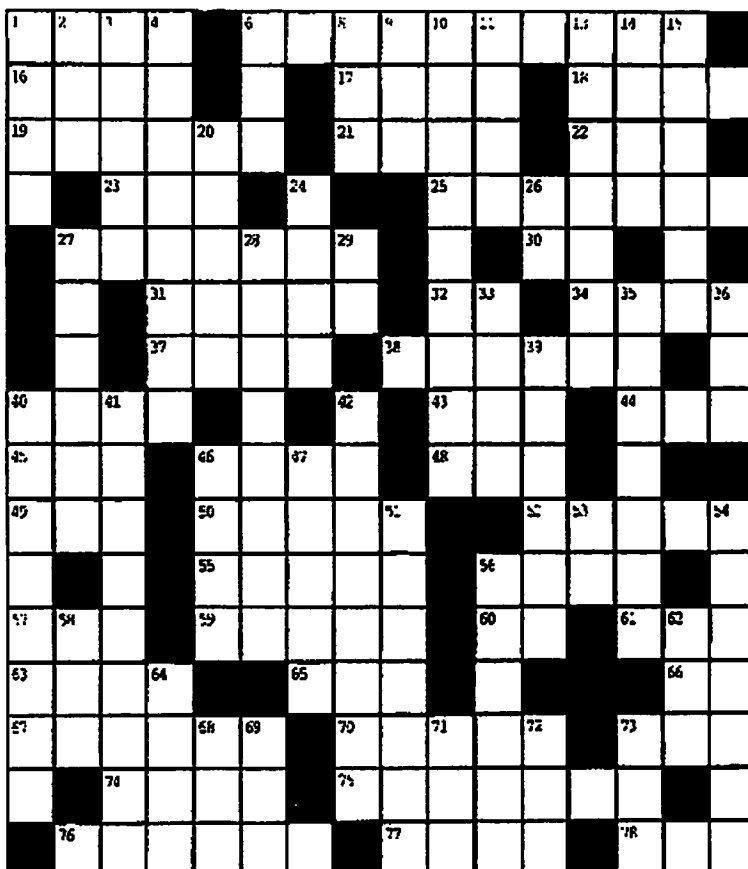
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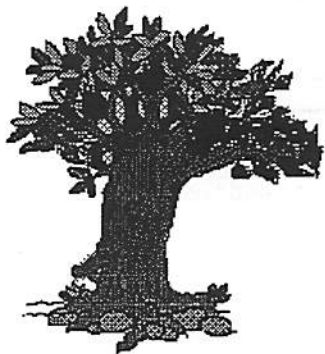
DOWN

1. White supremacist group
2. Roman trio
3. Not an antique - but left over anyway
4. Isabel Jack's well into this
6. Not wee
8. Scottish agreement
9. 69 finishes this off
10. Very fanciful
11. Not there
13. One of D'Artagnan's buddies
14. Nora (anagram)
15. Edinburgh Castle's musical revue
20. A running knot
24. Song for one - plus one
26. Doesn't really apply
27. Ampit
28. Mid-morning break for Scots schoolchildren
29. Francis of Assisi was one
33. Stane wa'
35. Female offspring
36. Tote - or organ
39. "Fair fa your honest ____"
40. Move alternately
41. Recipient
42. Oppressively hot
46. Thrust
47. Suggest
51. Fate
53. A egg - no, ____ egg
54. Changes back
56. Straight on
58. My ____ folk
62. Local highway helpers
64. Send out
68. Airport info
69. Hawaiian floral welcome
71. Sports peg
72. Downhill slide
73. Fruit drink

ACROSS

1. Church of Scotland
6. Mel Gibson in blueface
16. Legal restraint
17. College - or lock
18. Harry Lauder's terminal goal
19. Sickening
21. Reverse cost
22. Explosive letters
23. Japan's wartime leader - lacks 'h'
25. Under
27. Many fingered fishy thing
30. Before lunch
31. Small land mass
32. Similar to Ave.
34. Object of worship
37. Some drink Scotch ____
38. Because I "____"!
40. A noble beast
43. Right out
44. A small part in the big picture
45. Cornish game ____
46. Comics - in reverse
48. Twa guid ____
49. Coffee container
50. ____ trials...for a record
52. Lecherous man
55. No, not fat, but...
56. Not the correct term in a 'greasy spoon'
57. "____ pei" - Chinese big chief
59. Means of support
60. Such as
61. 'Chap' on the door
63. Not fat
65. Alternatively
66. Egotist
67. Skin of your teeth
70. Ceremonies
73. U.S. traffic organization
74. American evening
75. Scots way of having shut the door
76. Obtain
77. Abominable snowman
78. Printer's measure





August 1999

Volume 20 / Issue 3

Clandigger

Upcoming Dates

Regular meetings of the Edmonton Branch are held on the 4th Thursday of each month (excluding July, August and December) at the Prince of Wales Armouries - Governor's Room, 10440 - 108 Avenue, Edmonton.
Time: 7 p.m. (for 7:30) until about 10 p.m.

September 14 - November 16, 1999
Tracing Your Family Tree beginner's course. Contact the Edmonton Branch Library for more information at 424-4429.

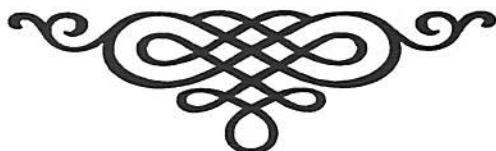
September 23, 1999 - To be Announced.
Genetics in Genealogy

October 28, 1999 - Keltie Hobbs
Deciphering old English Handwriting and Wills, lettering and abbreviations.

November 25, 1999 - Andriy Nahachewsky
Ukrainian Folklore Program, U of A
How it can be a source for genealogists and what some of the past and present research projects are of the program.

An apology is extended to Ron Whistance-Smith, the speaker at our April meeting, for omitting him from the list of speakers for our general meetings.

CLANDIGGER is published four times yearly within *Relatively Speaking* (February, May, August and November) by the Edmonton Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society, #116, 10440-108 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5H 3Z9
☎ (403) 424-4429 fax: (403) 423-8980, email: agsedm@compusmart.ab.ca



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EDMONTON PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Susan McKeen

Hi Everybody.

Salt Lake is fast approaching. The group has already had their organizational meeting at the Family History Center. Enjoy Marion's poem in the next column and seriously consider joining us for a week of research and FUN. We don't spend all of our time in the library, although some of us try to. There are still a few seats left on the plane. Do you want to know more? Phone Pat or Norma at the numbers listed under Trip '99.

In June, AGS offered a Saturday workshop to two members from each of the Branches and two guests from the independent Mayerthorpe group. Everyone came prepared to work, and work they did. But with a lot of laughter and interaction, the day simply flew by. By the end of the day, even the skeptical commented on how much they had learned.

Learning from each other is fun and is one of the best ways to interact. In talking with others, you never know when you will meet a distant cousin who has material that you don't have. Names change as dramatically and people move as never before.

The United Empire Loyalists held their National Convention here in Edmonton at the beginning of June. It was well attended, again giving a great opportunity for interaction.

The more you learn, the better chance you have of tracing those elusive ancestors. You need to know what records are available, where they are housed, what historic events affected your ancestors' choices. All these things are critical components of how successful your research will be. Meat on the bones. Your ancestors come alive—not just names and dates and places. The life then becomes the important part; the desire to know more becomes the impetus to further research, a never-ending cycle.

Again, Salt Lake is the perfect opportunity to further your research. If you get the wrong film, replace it and pull another. It's FUN! ■

SALT LAKE CITY TRIP

by Marion Rex, Edmonton Branch

S is for the AGS trip down to Salt Lake City

A is for all the flowers there. My, they are so pretty!

L is for the research log they said we all should keep.

T is for the times we didn't. Soon you'll hear us weep.

L is for the laughter we'll have along the way.

A is for all the finds we'll make, every night and day.

K is for the knowledge we'll reap, within the microfiche.

E is for every bite we'll eat of Best Western's quiche.

C is for the call numbers of films found row on row.

I is for the information we'll bring home in tow.

T is for the trip we'll take, come September's date.

Y is for the reason why? To find our family's fate!

It's not too late to join us as we prepare to leave,
Come learn with us, come laugh with us or be the ones to grieve.

Come join our group, and come with us down to Salt Lake City,

Or be one of the folks at home ... now isn't that a pity! ■

TRIP '99

Submitted by Marion Rex

Come join the 37 people bound to Salt Lake City on September 26th and returning October 3rd. To date, the group has had an orientation and get-together at the LDS library on June 17th. September 17th will find them picking up their tickets and finalizing last minute details. For more information, call Pat Woodman at 455-2933 or Norma Wolowyk at 488-1418. Then pack your bags for a real treat ... I know I can hardly wait. ■

Recording and Indexing

Submitted by Wilma McKinnon, AGS #3212

The cemetery recorders have been hard at work recording all the data from the headstones at Beechmount Cemetery. Hopefully by the time this newsletter is in your hands the recorders will have moved on to St. Michael's Cemetery. Various other areas are being 'tidied' up, hopefully all these new names will appear on the Surname database in the not too distant future.

On behalf of Edmonton Branch I would like to thank Barbara Roth and all those involved with the completion of Mount Pleasant Cemetery. A fine job done by all.

Don't forget our Pot Luck evening on September 18, 1999. All those who have been involved with recording and indexing are invited (including spouses or significant others). Remember your \$5 (per person) is to be paid to Jean Klohn, Wilma McKinnon or Pat Pettitt by September 11.

Admission to the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre is restricted on the evening of the 18th so we must know beforehand who will be at our Pot Luck. This will be an informal/social evening with a few members receiving 'special' appreciation awards. If you require more information call Wilma at 460-3986 or e-mail jgmck@telusplanet.net. ■

Library News

The Edmonton Branch AGS Library
located at:
Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre
Room 116, 10440 - 108 Avenue, Edmonton, AB
Phone: (403) 424-4429
Fax: (403) 423-8980
e-mail: agsedm@compusmart.ab.ca

Library Hours

Tues., Wed., Thurs.	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
2nd & 4th Wed. evenings	7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
3rd Saturday	9 a.m. - noon

Although some of our library patrons may not realize it or think about it, there is a lot of behind-the-scenes work necessary to keep our library functioning smoothly. Since my last column, many items have been processed by our intrepid cataloguer Shirley Machan, assisted by Gail Cockwill, Ruby Chaffey, Vivian Etty and Elsie Yaroshuk. A display was set up in May at the AGS Edmonton Branch meeting to highlight our recently catalogued items. Now, most

of the items from the Jim Farnel collection have been processed as well. I'm sure the Farnel family would be pleased to hear that Jim's collection will be used by our patrons for many years to come.

Colourful laminated bookmarks have been inserted into the book pockets of newly catalogued items so that library volunteer staff will be able to identify them and return them to the display shelf. Eventually, the bookmarks will be removed and the items will be placed on the regular shelves.

For a change of pace, at the last library volunteer staff meeting before the summer break (June 21st), we ended the evening with goodies and had a chance to socialize a bit. There was a good turnout of 20 volunteers (out of a possible 30). Congratulations to Bernice Ward, who won the door prize of the computer version of *Once Upon a Lifetime* by Patricia A. Williams. We're hoping Bernice will find inspiration in the program to complete her family history. Bernice enjoys her shift on the reference desk but also pre-sorts donations in preparation for the donations committee meeting.

Please remember, our library remains open as usual during the summertime for your convenience. This is possible due to the willingness of our volunteers to cover the desk even during the summer.

*****A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR
LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS***** ■

Special Interest Groups

England + Wales Research Group

When: Next Meeting - September 2, 1999 (first Thursday of each month with the exception of July & August).

Time: Come at 7:15 as we begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Where: 116, Prince of Wales Armouries, 10440 - 108 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta. Anyone with research in England or Wales is most welcome to attend! We attempt to challenge, educate, inform and assist each other in our research.

For information, or to add your name to our phone list, please call Muriel Jones at 447-3592. ■

Irish Special Interest Group



The next meeting of the Irish Special Interest Group will be **SEPTEMBER 13th**. Allan Ronaghan will speak on the Griffiths Evaluation and its uses and limitations. We have a CD ROM in our Library for you to check out. Please bring a pedigree chart and problems which we will hope to help you solve. Check the Irish Reference Book in the Library for new additions. Speaker for the **NOVEMBER 8th** meeting will be announced later. We welcome new members. For more information: Call Pat - 454-4408 or Margaret - 922.3050. ■

Scottish Research Group (SRG)



Come join us, wear your Tartan or Celtic jewellery - please don't scare us away wear other pieces of clothing as well!!! The Scottish Research Interest Group continues to meet every other month (opposite month to the Irish Research Interest Group) our next meeting being Tuesday, June 1, 1999 at 7:30 p.m.

Check out our new web site at
<http://www.geocities.com/~srg/scottish.htm> ■

East European Research Group

Our next meeting will be held on September 1, 1999 at the AGS library, in the Prince of Wales Armouries. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. The main topics include "Researching out of Galicia" and "Family History Books versus Other Options".

We also have numerous resource binders available in the reference section of the library. Our website is at <http://www.genweb.net/east-european/>.

EERG meetings are held about every two months (except July, August and December) on the first Wednesday. For further information on our group or to suggest topics/guest speakers for future meetings, please contact Elaine Kalynchuk from Edmonton at (780) 439-9315 or send an e-mail to eerg@compusmart.ab.ca. ■

German Interest Group

The next German Interest Group will be held on September 15th at 7:30 p.m. at the Edmonton Branch Library. ■

Compugene Special Interest Group

Submitted by Ivy Trumpour

A new Special Interest Group within the Edmonton Branch was started in January of 1999. This group is for those interested in using their computers to help with their genealogy, and it was named the Compugene Group. The group is led by Terry Gregory, with help from Lynda Sallis, Tony Locock, Philip Lane and Ivy Trumpour. The first meeting was held in January, and at that time it was decided to hold meetings every second month, on the third Thursday evening. Meetings were held in March and May, with the next ones planned for September 16 and November 18. They are held in the AGS Library. Approximately 40 people have attended each meeting, and we have varying levels of computer experience and equipment.

Some of the topics that have been presented are: Net Etiquette, Usenet and newsgroups, Generations Grande Suite, Genealogy Computing magazine, Excel, WordPerfect, millennium bug, GEDCOM plus tips on using the Internet. At the May meeting we broke into smaller groups to discuss the feasibility of this format, and it was felt by some that this would be useful for people having the same genealogy program, for example. Helping each other within the group is encouraged and this has been happening via e-mail communications and "practicing" with each other before making fools of ourselves to the world!

A binder of information is located in the Library along with the other Special Interest Group binders. All branch members are welcome to attend, whether you have a computer or are just thinking about using one for your genealogy. The next meeting will be held on September 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the AGS Library. If you wish to be on the e-mail notification list, send a message to jtwells@compusmart.ab.ca. ■

Whoever said "seek and you shall find" wasn't a genealogist.

JC McSouviens, Vol. 21 #2 Autumn 1998



Heritage Seekers

Extracts from the June, 1999 Newsletter of the
Grande Prairie & District Branch, Alberta Genealogical Society



President's Message

By Margaret Kay

I am honoured to find myself as President of the Grande Prairie Branch but I'm still not quite sure how it happened! I had hoped that it would inspire me to return to my research but in fact I seem to have even less free time than I had before! A welcome to all new members and to this year's Board Members who are wonderful to work with.

Recent programs have been well attended and enjoyed by all. Our March meeting took place at the Grande Prairie Museum as the library was closed for renovations. Fran Moore presented an exciting overview of the Museums of the Peace and showed us the excellent video that was made recently. We were able to stroll around the museum during our coffee break, which was an 'extra' for our meeting. In April, Laura Turnbull shared her genealogical trip to England with research tips, pamphlets and photos galore. Leita Askew gave us a fine detailed insight, full of valuable tips that she has learned the hard way, into researching Ontario records in May. The June meeting will be a relaxing evening with presentations from the Scottish and Ukrainian dance groups.

The library "Genies" continue their popular sessions at the Public Library. However, not all our materials are available as some are boxed and some have not yet returned from their safe storage spot where they were housed during the library renovations. We have applied for a grant from the Community Lottery Board to help fund additional shelving and a microfilm cabinet to store the 1881, 1891 and 1901 census films.

In March many of our members worked hard to support the Friends of the Library group with their Spring Fling fundraiser. Money was raised towards

the purchase of a microfilm reader. Three of our members, Laura Turnbull, Debby Was and Paulette Hrychiw presented a 'Beginning Genealogy' class in Beaverlodge which was well received by that community. A creative workbee was spearheaded by Debby Was to make table centres for the annual conference in Edmonton - I wonder how she got them there safely! With all this activity it is not surprising that the first quarter of 1999 saw us log an all-time record 551 volunteer hours!

The arrival of the CD of cemetery recordings from AGS, The Cemetery Browser, has been a welcome addition to our research tools. Now we need an IBM computer so that all our members can access the records. We have been donated an old DOS based computer so if there any members who can figure out how it works please let us know. Meanwhile, the cemetery CD is at my home. Give me a call at 538-0009 and come on over anytime to search its contents.

A happy-hunting summer to you all!

Grande Prairie & District Branch, AGS Study Group

This study group first met on Wednesday, June 9th in the Spencer Room of the Grande Prairie Public Library.

It is planned to meet on the second Wednesday of each month (**including** July and August). This group is for AGS members to come together to share research ideas and help one another with roadblocks and problems in genealogical research.

If you would like more information about this group, please contact Judy at 539-3837.

We hope to see you at our next meeting on Wednesday, July 14th. Check our notice board in the Isabel Campbell Room for more meeting details.

Spirit of the Peace Museums Network

By Fran Moore

Ten years have gone by since Grande Prairie hosted the Alberta Museums Association's Annual Conference (1989). The conference preparation caused ideas and thoughts to expand into some very special projects. One project was an historic calendar, a pictorial history of the Peace Country along with a perpetual calendar for the 1990's. This book is for sale and proceeds go to the museums of the Peace.

In putting this book together, the committee searched for a proper title and it developed into "Spirit of the Peace: An Invitation to Our Museums". Neighboring museums helped in the production of this booklet, the conference museums fair and a travelling display. After the conference, organizers felt we should keep this working-together attitude going, so the title and the network were born.

The purposes of the informal association are for the museums of the Peace to meet and work together, do joint projects, discuss mutual problems and solutions, promote our museums to the public, and in the process learn more about our own area history.

Our Peace Country Museums

The growing concern for saving our heritage has prompted the communities of the Peace, like those in other areas, to form historic societies, write history books and start museums. This process started in the 1960s and is still going on. Each community has its own unique structure, both in organization and in facility, and each museum has its own unique character.

We have 37 listings of historic organizations, of which 20 are societies, 20 are museums and five are historic sites. Of these, 23 have an Alberta Museums Association affiliation.

We also include the "BC Block" of the Peace in our tours and in our newsletter mailout and hope for their participation in the future. There are seven museums in that area, with the same diversity as in the Alberta Peace.

The museums, as a whole, are doing a good job of collecting the artifacts of our young pioneer history. The degree of museum professionalism is as wide ranging as the subject matter, but all museums are doing the best they can with the resources available. All museums would like to upgrade and make improvements each year - volunteers and dollars allowing.

Our association hopes to encourage this upgrading of standards in all areas of expertise. What makes these museums what they are, however, is the people. Hundreds of dedicated volunteers and faithful staff give their creative talents to this whole process. The community spirit is heartening and refreshing. Collections, displays and public activities have a special local flair, which shows their Peace pioneer pride.

Progress

Our meetings, our projects, our purpose for coming together are becoming what we had hoped they would. We do not claim to be able to solve all our area museums' problems, but by working together we help one another and get to know our history.

Meetings

We have been meeting at different museums around the Peace every three months since December 1989.

Museum participation and attendance has grown over the years so that usually there are from 10 to 11 museums represented, with about 25 - 30 people. We ask all museums to become active and we ask for a \$25.00 yearly membership fee to cover the cost of mailing out the newsletters.

Volunteers and staff from museums across the Peace are involved in the committees of the association. Meetings are chaired by the host museum. The secretary/treasurer at this time is also the newsletter editor.

Newsletter

After each quarterly meeting a newsletter is put together and is sent to all museums and historic societies in the Peace, whether they are participating or not. These newsletters are the minutes or record of the meetings, plus items of interest such as reports on

projects and listings of upcoming events at area museums.

The newsletter also includes special awards to museums or their volunteers and staff, personality profiles, and area historic happenings (e.g., 1992 with the Alaska Highway 50th Anniversary, and the bicentennial of Mackenzie).

Projects

Joint projects of the association are conceived, a committee is formed and a host museum takes on the financial responsibility of seeing it through (e.g., the Pioneer Museum of Grande hosted the tours, and the Town of Peace River sponsored the brochure). This method has been used because our association has not become a registered society and is, therefore, unable to apply for grants.

Our committees reflect the joint projects the association has initiated: bus tours, a brochure, highway signage, displays and passports.

Of these early initiatives the bus tours and the passport program are no longer being done. However, we have done many new and exciting projects with the help of Museums Alberta Regional Grants:

1. 1994-95 - The Peace Region: Advancing Museum Standards (13 museums took advantage of a resource person - Duke Covey)
2. 1995-96 - A study - "A Historical Overview and Study of Communities and Museums in the Peace River Country", also an "Annotated Bibliography: The Peace River Country" (done by Roberta Hursey and titled "A Sense of the Peace")
3. 1997-98 - Making of a Promotional Video titled "Discover the Spirit of the Peace" (produced by Aquilla Productions)
4. 1998-99 - (a double project)
 - Treaty #8 Display (ready for June 1999 and supervised and researched by David Leonard)
 - Production and Printing of a new promotional 'booklet'. (22 museums included, printer Martin-Weiss)

Conclusion

The concept of a regional association of museums was presented to the museums of the Peace. Individuals from those museums took action and the results are starting to come in - we think the results will be worth the effort.

Having a regional association besides our local duties and our provincial affiliation does mean extra work, but we feel it is necessary and worthwhile in our area, especially with the distance for travel to other Alberta points.

Not all areas would wish to have a "middle association", yet we think it is beneficial for us. The enthusiasm of those involved has brought new friendships and new understanding of museum activities and responsibilities. It has been a learning experience for us in the Peace Country and we do still "have the Spirit".

Library News A Little of This and That By Debby Was

Guess What! The first 36 reels of the 1881 Canadian census for Ontario are catalogued and in the filing cabinet with the rest of the 1881 films. Please note that the films for Ontario are all negative copies. This means that when you look at them the writing is white on a black background. To make copies you will have to put the negative ink cartridge in the microfilm printer. A librarian will help you with this, if needed. So far:

1881 census purchased 1881 census still on order

PEI C13162-C13165	ON C13263-C13282
NS C13166-C13176	MB C13283-C13286
NB C13177-C13186	
PQ C13187-C13226	
ON C13227-C13262	

The 3-volume set of books, The Central Canadians 1600-1900 has been available in the Isabel Campbell room since mid April. Hopefully, everyone got a chance to look at them. Margaret Kay will be taking them back to the AGS office in mid June. We will borrow another set in September.

Barb Moreau has informed me that the Friends of the Library and our branch made approximately \$6000.00 at the Spring Gala and silent auction. Well done! The library has ordered the new microfilm

reader/printer. You can still make contributions by purchasing "a balloon" for \$5.00 at our next branch meeting. All prizes are guaranteed to be worth a minimum of \$5.00.

While at the AGS Conference '99, I talked with Penny Christensen and made arrangements with her to purchase one copy of each of the books published by "Heritage Productions". These books will be on display at our June and September meetings. If anyone is interested, we will be taking orders. When we have enough orders, we will send in a bulk order to save on shipping charges. Price lists are available and we will collect the money when we receive the books.

Some of the new items in our library collection during the past year are:

- A Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants to Canada Before Confederation: vol. 2
- Alberta Genealogical Society: Celebrating 25 Years 1973-1998
- Genealogical Research Directory: National & International 1999
- Grande Prairie Municipal Cemetery: Index to Grave Markers and Burial Records
- Grimshaw, Manning, Paddle Prairie area, 19 Cemeteries: Index of Grave Markers and Burial Records
- Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia (Updated version)
- Historical Scrap Book Grande Prairie & District Branch, Alberta Genealogical Society (copy)
- Index to the 1891 census District of Alberta

The "Genies in the Library" program is now on summer break. Many thanks to my faithful partners, Paulette Hrychiw and Jane Littleton. If you need help over the summer, you can make an appointment with Paulette or myself. We will be back in the library in October.

Have a great summer.

Branch Meetings

are held at the
Grande Prairie Public Library
Meeting Room, 9910 - 99 Avenue,
Grande Prairie, Alberta
on the
Third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
except for July, August, and December

Contact Information

Grande Prairie & District Branch
Alberta Genealogical Society
Box 1257
Grande Prairie, Alberta
T8V 4Z1

Email:
agsgp@canada.com

Website:
<http://www.telusplanet.net/public/tumbl/ags/gpbranch.html>

Executive

President: Margaret Kay
Vice President: Debby Was
Secretary: Marian Ledger
Treasurer: Dorothy McDonald
Past President: Allen Meyer

Committees

Cemeteries: vacant
Historian: Fran Moore
Library: Deborah Was
Membership: Laura Turnbull
Obituaries: Laura Turnbull
Obituaries: Alfred & Gwen Richards
Phoning: Nancy Timanson
Phoning: Evelyn Stark
Publications: Judith Bradley
Publicity: Leita Askew
Researchers: Paulette Hrychiw
Researchers: Joan Bowman
Volunteer Coordinator: Catherine Ledger

Newsletter "Heritage Seekers"

Editor: Judith Bradley
Layout & Copying: Laura Turnbull
Distribution: Dorothy McDonald

"Heritage Seekers" is published four times a year by the Grande Prairie & District Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society in March, June, September and December.

All members receive "Heritage Seekers" as part of their membership. Memberships are available at a cost of \$7.00 per year (all members must belong to the Alberta Genealogical Society).

Subscriptions are available at a cost of \$10.00 per year.

BRANCH BITS

BROOKS AND DISTRICT

The current membership for the Brooks Branch is 43.

Our March meeting was conducted by our new program chairman, Nestor Martinez. This meeting was an evening of sharing enjoyed by all. Nestor also had prepared a questionnaire to give him a better idea of where members interests lie and the strengths within the branch. Our April meeting featured a presentation by Nestor on his recent trip to Salt Lake City. This presentation showed us what is available at the LDS Church's Family History Library including their new web site and all the new material that is available at the library. Our May meeting was a night at the Brooks Campus of the Medicine Hat College. Nestor showed us how to use the internet for genealogy research. There are so many places to search on the Internet that it makes it easier to have someone who can show you the shortcuts.

Our annual garage sale in May put an additional \$349.25 into our branch account.

Planned upcoming events are our annual June wind-up dinner. This is planned at the Legion with socializing after the supper. We will again be located at the one day Museum Days in Brooks on August 7, 1999.

Respectfully submitted by Betty Penner
President, Brooks and District Branch ■

COCHRANE AND DISTRICT

Since our first meeting in January 1999 we have grown to 20 members and have outgrown our living rooms and basements. This is good! We did not expect to be in this position so soon.

Our meetings after fall will be held in the local United Church hall, God and the AGS willing.

Our last meeting was held at Sheila Eddy's home. We had a pot luck supper and a good deal of chatter about what we remembered about the respective countries that we came from or are researching. It was a very enjoyable evening.

On Wednesday, June 9th we will hold our regular meeting and will be planning what will happen in the next year of this Branch of the AGS. We are going to develop a plan of action for the next year.

In July and/or August we will make a start on the cemetery recording of Mitford and Cochrane, neither of which has been done. Mitford was the original town so there is a cemetery that is now very overgrown. We fully intend to make this a day out, picnic and all.

In 2003 the town of Cochrane will celebrate its 100th birthday and we hope to be hosting the Alberta Genealogical Conference. To whom do we make formal application? As there are many descendants of the original settlers still in the area and living in the same homes we will have a good deal of support from the town, as soon as we get the go-ahead from the powers that be within the AGS. From Scotland to the Prairies, what a title for the Conference!!!

We look forward to next year and meeting any fellow family historians that happen to come this way.

Respectfully submitted by Anne Richardson
President, Cochrane and District Branch ■

DRAYTON VALLEY

Unfortunately, the seminar that Judy Schultz was going to do for our group had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. We are hoping to be able to hold a seminar in the fall on this subject.

Colleen Andersen and Doreen Neilley represented the Drayton Valley Branch at the course in Edmonton on the 5th of June. They reported a good session and will be putting together a Beginners' Course to be presented to our group before the end of the year.

Members are presently spending a great deal of time on our Millenium Project, which is indexing the births, marriages, and deaths from our local newspaper. As the information is gathered, a member is putting the information into her computer and will do a printed copy in due course.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth F. Smyth
President, Drayton Valley Branch ■

EDMONTON

Please see Clandigger. ■

FT. MCMURRAY

Potential members have made a lot of visits to the library this spring. Many have come to see the new books and CDs we have received.

We are again looking forward to Heritage Days this year again, it's always good to get our material out in the park with people coming and going as they all stop to see what we have to show them.

The President's Award this year was given to Art Avery for all the time and hours he has put in as the bingo chairperson and our mailman. He has done this for quite some time and it was time he was recognized for his work.

We will keep the library open over the summer again, as films from the National Archives were received and this will give us time to read them.

Respectfully submitted by Jean Waniandy
President, Fort McMurray Branch ■

GRANDE PRAIRIE AND DISTRICT

Please see Heritage Seekers. ■

LETHBRIDGE AND DISTRICT

Since March our Branch has been very busy. We set up manned displays in 2 malls: Homestead Village in March and Park Place in May. We also held a garage sale in May and have begun work on a Millennium project. Our volunteer hours illustrate our increased activity.

The speaker at our March meeting was Dolores Fellger, one of our members involved in the travel industry who talked about planning a trip to London and Salt Lake City to do family research. After our meeting in April we discussed the AGS Conference. Three members from our Branch had attended the Conference. In May our local MP Rick Casson came to talk about the census issue.

We have continued the 1-hour workshops prior to the regular monthly meetings. They have been well attended and will continue in the fall.

In April we had Paul Deleske, editor of the Sun Times (a weekly newspaper that is distributed to all households free of charge) introduce our members to a Millennium project to be undertaken by the newspaper and our Branch. It will involve publishing a tabloid of family history stories. Our organization will help in gathering the information which should be along the lines of colorful stories and anecdotes rather than dry data charts. We will also provide information on the different religious and ethnic groups in Southern Alberta to ensure that we get a wide range of stories. The size of the stories will be about 500 - 1000 words.

Our indexers Muriel and Ray Jolliffe have completed the indexing of the Lethbridge Herald obituaries for 1995, 1996 & 1997. They are now proofreading the 1998 & 1994 obits. Births for 1991 & 1992 are complete. Their aim is to have the obits for the 1990's completed by the end of 1999.

The Lottery Grant Committee received permission from the membership to purchase a new computer system complete with CD-ROM and zip drive along with Microsoft Office Pro software.

We held a garage sale on Saturday May 15, 1999. Considering the weather we did very well in our first fundraiser in over six years. The day was dreadful with rain, heavy winds and low temperatures (5 degree C). We had to operate out of a single car garage which really made for a cozy environment.

The membership was actively involved in collecting items, pricing and then volunteering on the day of the sale.

Our cemetery chairperson, Winnifred Evans has been busy organizing cemetery information. She has been in contact with Janet Morgan from the Alberta Family Histories Society in Calgary. They are

working together to coordinate and prevent duplication of work.

As of May 31 our membership is 46. Volunteer hours from March 1 to May 31, 1999 total 901 hours.

Respectfully submitted by Phyllis Burnett
President, Lethbridge Branch ■

MEDICINE HAT AND DISTRICT

The April meeting was held at the Medicine Hat Museum's Archives where a tour and lecture was given on its holdings. Mention was made of a new museum that will be built in the future.

Melba Baker and Norma Bosman from the Lethbridge Family History Centre were our guest speakers in May. Their topic was "Using the British Vital Record Indexes." They gave a clear and informative lecture on how best to use this resource.

In June we had a workshop on Ontario research, led by Betty Padfield. We had a good time sharing our experiences, tips, joys and sorrows.

We will be a partner with the Medicine Hat Museum for a "Genealogical Fair" on Saturday, November 16. There will be two guest speakers, a genealogist and a paper conservator. Our AGS President has also been invited.

Our volunteers have 17 cemeteries to transcribe, and our database of obituaries from the Medicine Hat News is our ongoing project. Our membership is currently 41.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Phillips
President, Medicine Hat Branch ■

RED DEER AND DISTRICT

At the March and April meetings of the Red Deer Branch, Janet Coatham presented a discussion on wills. She mainly focused on Canada, the USA and England, describing how to search for wills in different jurisdictions and what different terms pertaining to wills mean.

The microfilm reader-printer which we purchased with our own money, lottery money and money from the Red Deer Archives is in place at the Red Deer Archives. We signed a joint ownership agreement with the City of Red Deer, and the city had agreed to

look after maintenance of the machine. We are charging 35 cents per copy to print pages from the microfilm.

Many of our members attended the annual AGS Conference in April in Edmonton. Those who attended were very pleased with the conference as a whole and the caliber of speakers. Edmonton Branch did an excellent job of organizing the conference. Also congratulations to Evelyn Fairbrother who has taken on the AGS position as standing committee chairman for Inventory and Property.

For the May meeting of our branch, the program was very light and fun. We discussed the topic "My Ancestor Can Beat Your Ancestor" and members participated in a very lively discussion. Also in May we held our annual garage sale. Final figures are not in yet, but it appears that it was very successful.

Three of our members will be taking the course in Edmonton on June 5 on how to present a beginner genealogy course. June 12 is the date set for the annual cemetery recording day organized by Gordon Becker, and our annual pot luck dinner and barbeque will be at the home of member Joanne Allen. Many thanks to Lila and Kurt Nagel for hosting this event in previous years.

The Red Deer Branch has been approached by the Alberta Family Histories Society to cooperate and coordinate with cemetery recordings which both groups might be working on as they fall on the southern edge of the Central Alberta boundary. We have readily agreed to do this as we want to avoid any duplication in cemetery recordings.

Just as a reminder, at our November 25, 1998 meeting we approved an increase in our annual branch fees from \$7.00 to \$10.00 effective January 1, 2000.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Joan Cornett,
President, Red Deer and District ■

* * *

UNCLE JOE - FOUND, LOST, AND FOUND

Submitted by Marie Bruner, AGS #2183

The following story is true.

When I began researching my family twelve years ago, it took a while to sort out my maternal grandfather's brothers -- all nine of them. I found out that my grandfather, Godfroy Mailhiot, his oldest brother, Joseph, and the youngest brother, Stanislaus, had all gone from Montreal to look for GOLD in Montana. The rest of the brothers all remained in Quebec. I began my search for some of the family in southern Montana. Along the way I found my great grandfather and his second wife there, too. My mother had spoken a lot about Uncle Joe and his name really stuck in my memory so I wanted to find all I could about him. There were not too many records in Montana so I had to hunt also in Quebec. I found that Uncle Joe had married a widow with one child and he and his wife had two children of their own. Uncle Joe worked at mining a bit and also on a ranch. Well and good. My grandfather and his family had come to Alberta in 1910 - the only one of the Mailhiots to do so.

Searching revealed that the great-parents had gone back to Quebec where they died. A family story had Uncle Stanislaus being run out of Montana for rustling. (So far he may still be running as I haven't found a clue about him but I am not deterred in my quest.) And Uncle Joe - had he gone back to Quebec or died in Montana? I searched through several counties in Montana, and some in Colorado as the story went on to say that Uncle Stand had gone there, and I thought Uncle Joe may have gone there, too. Censuses and cemetery lists were combed and mining papers and water rights and leases were all looked at - no Uncle Joe. Well, he had to be buried somewhere, didn't he?

When talking to one of my aunts one time she told me that Uncle Joe had come to see his brother, my grandfather, near Legal, Alberta. Great! Maybe he had settled in the area and died either in Legal or Busby, and somehow I hadn't retained that bit of family information. I got out all the cemetery records on those places, and surrounding areas, but no Uncle Joe was found.

Time went on and in the intervals when I wasn't otherwise busy writing letters trying to find Uncle Joe (and other relatives), I began helping the AGS with the cemetery work of indexing the provincial burying grounds. That means a lot of typing and a lot of deciphering cemetery recordings written by dedicated people who go out sometimes in nasty weather to get these cemeteries recorded. Entering the data into a computer is a breeze when compared to the types of weather these folks go out into, to record their findings.

One day when I was busy typing names that had been recorded from St. Joachim's cemetery in Edmonton I ran across the name Joseph Mailhiot. Could that be my Uncle Joe? No, it couldn't. No one had mentioned any other Mailhiot family than my grandfather's coming to Alberta. Well, I gave the matter some thought, figured out dates and so on and decided the dates could be Uncle Joe's. I sent away for the death certificate. I had the date of birth and of death from the recordings so I risked twenty-five dollars for what the certificate would reveal. Well, yes, you guessed it.

I had found Uncle Joe. From the certificate, his father's name was my great grandfather's name and Uncle Joe had died in Edmonton after having resided in Busby for only two weeks. And then other bits of information I had heard and found clicked into place to make the identity even better. I remembered I had found that Uncle Joe's step daughter had married a man named Rochon and I knew when quite young, I had been at the Rochon place near Legal or Busby and that Rochon's were "sort of cousins but not really cousins". Figure that one out!

So what I am trying to put across with my woeful story about finding Uncle Joe, is that members of our society ought to volunteer to do some work for the group - no matter what sort, just anything that needs doing, and you never know, maybe some of you might find your own Uncle Joe, the way I did. ■

From a local parish magazine...

"R. S. has asked me to draw your attention to the raffle tickets on sale in aid of the Unmarried Mothers Society, for whom he is directly responsible..."

Clarifying Confusion in English Ancestral Research

by Kenneth G. Aitken © 1999¹

The purpose of this article is to summarize some of the research lessons I have learned, or should have learned, in the twenty years I have been researching English ancestry. The underlying principles of research strategy, and sources in English research I first learned through the works of David Gardiner and Frank Smith. Their three volume set, *Genealogical Research in England and Wales*² has been a favourite reference work of mine for 20 years. . The thirteen concepts reviewed in this article are drawn from this work. The reader will note references to "we" numerous times in the article. "We" refers to a group of my Hambrook cousins who were learning together the pitfalls of English research.

This articles assumes the reader has some familiarity with concepts like primary and secondary sources" and direct and indirect evidence. For those who need to brush up on these thing see my article "Evaluating Genealogical Evidence"³. References will be made in examples to parish registers, bishop's transcripts, censuses, probate records and other sources of English genealogical and historical data. Those not familiar with these should consult basic genealogical resource guides for England.

Genealogical and family history research seldom results in absolute proof in pedigree. Researchers devote much of their effort to sifting sorting and organizing a variety of primary and secondary source information about their ancestor. The following thirteen procedures are useful in strengthening or eliminating the acceptance of evidence, and clarifying what is truly a factual record of part of an ancestor's life

1. Confirm the calculated or stated year of birth and birthplace from the clue document in at least two censuses.

Lets say that you have found a memorial card for your ancestor that was distributed at his funeral in 1924. From this you discover that he died at the grand old age of 88 years. You realize that this is indirect circumstantial evidence of a birth because there was unlikely to be anyone

¹ Kenneth G. Aitken has been Prairic History Librarian at Regina Public Library, Regina, Saskatchewan for 15 years. He has been researching family history for the past 20 years, the last three as a professional genealogist.

² Gardner, David E. and Frank Smith

Genealogical Research in England and Wales

Salt Lake City: Bookcraft, 1958 - 1966 (Revised edition)

A three- volume classic in English genealogy. Volume 3 is particularly useful for this subject.

³ Kenneth G. Aitken . "Evaluating genealogical evidence", Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Bulletin, Vol. 30, No. 1 (March 1999) pp. 3-11

present at the death that had a perfect remembrance of his birth. But you have a clue. You do the math. 1924 minus 88, and come up with a birth year of about 1836, the year before civil registration begins in England. Can you confirm that 1836 is the year? A review of the census returns for 1841 through 1891 would prove most useful here. (Though the 1841 Census for England rounds the ages to the nearest multiple of 5, which will skew dates, it does not round off the ages for those under 15 years, a useful fact in this case) The several census returns will also help narrow down the possible birth places.

2. Check the census of the stated place of birth in the clue document to determine where there are others of the same name, age and birthplace living there who might be confused with the likely candidate.

Among my Hambrook ancestors there is a problem with Richards: there seem to be one in every family, and they clog up the 1851 to 1881 censuses of Kent. Usually by gathering all of the Richard Hambrooks in the ancestral parish, and the contiguous parishes, I have been able to sort them out. Once in a parish in Kent, however, there were two Richard Hambrooks born less than a year apart, appearing on the census with the same age. I, of course, chose the wrong one, without accounting for all of the census returns. Thus I proposed a line of descent from a boy who died at age 11, and was found in a nonconformist church burial ground. Proceed with caution.

3. Consider ages given in as many dated events as possible to see if they agree as to the year of birth of the ancestor. In cases of wide variation, the earliest is likely to be the more accurate.

When there is a potential for confusion of identities, and there always is to some extent, we need to widen our search to examine not just census returns but monumental inscriptions, baptism, marriage and burial records, and any other records that can clarify birth dates. In my Richard Hambrook error mentioned above, if I had lined up all the monumental inscriptions for Richard Hambrooks in the parish, including those in the nonconformist churchyards, I may have spotted my error. Get the ducks lined up in a row chronologically, and value those records created earliest more than the later ones. That is to say, let later dated information be the support for the earliest data, and be hesitant to accept more precise dates that run counter to the early documented dates. From the Bible comes the notion we use in law even today; *in the mouths of two or three witnesses shall the truth be known* .

4. Search for birth or christening records from 5 years before the calculated birth year to the year of marriage looking for others of the same name and birthplace who might be confused with the likely candidate.

This may puzzle the researcher, so let me explain. Lets assume you have discovered the marriage of a James Atkins in a parish register in Warwickshire in 1821. The entry says he is a bachelor, but the age is simple, "of full age", meaning he is not a minor. You want to find his christening date. In cases like this I assume the person was married at age 26 plus or minus 5 years. Thus placing his birth date between 1790 and 1800. However as we are looking for a christening date we need to allow for the fact that he may have slipped through the cracks and was christened as a young adult, or was a precocious young man who married a tad early. Consequently we will widen the search beginning in 1790 and continuing to the actual marriage date in 1821.

I find this the hardest procedure to follow because there is a tendency to think that when we have found someone in the record being searched that fits our need, that we cry, "Eureka!" and stop looking. Over the years I have found it best to continue plowing through the record, extracting and rounding up all the likely suspects. There can be some real surprises. While researching a family in Warwickshire last year I found a christening in a Church of England parish register that fit perfectly the profile I was looking for. However, further down the page, about 13 months later, I found another one. Now I had two James Atkins with the same parents, that fit in the same time frame I was looking for. I continued on. I continued on. Another possible James Atkins appeared a few years later. He too fit the profile. I added him to the list of suspects. I now had three

5. Burial records must be searched to determine whether any person found in a birth or christening entry had died as an infant or child. Search all local and neighboring parish burial records of all churches.

This is what someone once referred to as "killing off the impostors". I now had three James Atkins in the parish my James was supposed to be in. A search of the burial records of the parish church eliminated the first James I found. A search for burials in the nearest non-conformist church registers, as well as the registers of the contiguous parishes would be the next step here. In the present problem reduced the suspects to 2 possible entries. I had a favourite, but could not eliminate the other so far.

6. Searches should be made for alternative births or christenings in the records of all adjoining or surrounding parishes within a five mile radius for a period of five years before and the calculated birth year to the year of marriage looking for others of the same name and birthplace who might be confused with the likely candidate..

I have found that the care use of maps is most productive in solving these sorts of problems. I have a small collection of Ordnance Survey maps for the county of Kent where most of my research is done, but even the small scale maps in *The Phillimore Atlas and Index to Parish Registers*⁴ can be used. Simply copy the relevant county map, and using a compass (

⁴ Cecil Humphrey-Smith (ed.) *The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers*. Chichester, West Sussex: Phillimore & Co., 1995

do you remember those from your ninth grade geometry class?) and measure off 5 miles. Then find the parish where you expected to find your ancestor, and scribe a 5 mile radius circle using that parish as the centre. When you do this with the parish boundary maps you can quickly see the parishes you should be searching. Map study may reveal natural constrictions to, or channels of movement like wide rivers, or mountains which may modify this strategy.

Ancestral connections to military installations may require an extension to the five mile radius. I have found that Kitzmiller's book, *In Search of the Forlorn Hope*,⁵ to be a useful place to start to identify military camps in England.

Parishes or towns associated with a particular occupation should be included in a search if the occupation is known. A mine worker will most likely move to a place where there are mines; a stone mason to where there are construction projects. One genealogist couldn't find his stone mason in Devon, but learned from his research of other masons in Devonshire working in the Channel Islands, and searching there found his ancestor at a port down where a harbour was being built.

7. In large, heavily populated industrialized parishes, check all the churches in the parish, not just the main parish church, and check the adjoining parishes.

In a search for members of the Hambrook family who moved from east Kent to Middlesex, I searched the records of the main parish church in Islington, but without success. Another genealogist found the family by searching through the all the daughter churches in the rapidly urbanized parish. I felt rather foolish. The challenge in larger urban areas where there are numerous churches is to figure out the most logical places to search first. Here again map work helps. Careful use of city directories can also be most helpful. I have found the best listing of British directories is Shaw and Tipper's *British Directories*⁶

8. The economic conditions of the time and place should be considered. The collapse of older factories, mines, mills, local agriculture etc. may cause out migration. A booming economy in a neighbouring centre may do the same.

⁵ John M. Kitzmiller. *In Search of the Forlorn Hope: A Comprehensive Guide to Locating British Regiments and their Records 1640-W.W.I.* Salt Lake City, : Manuscript Publishing Foundation, 1988

⁶ Gareth Shaw and Allison Tipper. *British Directories: A Bibliography and Guide to Directories Published in England and Wales 1850-1950, Scotland 1773-1950.* London: Mansell Publishing, 1997

I am presently in a rather frustrating search for a Henry Augustus Thompson, a house painter who, though born in Bilton in Warwickshire, was attracted to neighbouring Rugby, then nearby villages, then to Birmingham in search of larger markets for his "have paint, will smear" business. His children were born along the way and may even have been born in an adjoining county. The need to expand the search horizon is there in most research puzzles, but the impact of mobility in the latter half of the 19th century is a real challenge.

9. Check the marriage registers of the candidate's stated place of birth to see if a person of that name might be "married off" to someone other than the known spouse. This check should extend from 15 years after the birth or christening to 40 years after.

In the problem of the two James Atkins mentioned earlier, I found that a review of the parish registers in the region revealed several marriages that might account for one of the two men. This search coupled with a search for the christenings of the wives in the parishes assisted in eliminating one of the James. As Sherlock Holmes put it, after you eliminate the impossible, what is left, no matter how improbable is the truth.

10. In the case of a male ancestor, careful watch should be kept for the possibility of a person with the same name and surname having children born or christened in the same or adjoining parishes. These conflicting possibilities need to be resolved.

Over the past 20 years of doing research I have run into this problem many times. The problem can be complicated when the spouses name is unknown or very common. In the very early 17th century I was searching for a Richard the son of Richard Hambrook and found three possible suspects in the 5 mile radius. Two were married to Elizabeths! All three families were gathered from the various records, and marriage records, christening, burials, tax rolls and probate records were examined. Eventually we sorted through and accounted for all, creating three family groups, establishing relationships between numerous people. and discovering two of the elder Richards were cousins, and the other with an as yet unknown relationship. The puzzle took years, and many wills and probate records sorted out but we are more confident ours was the Richard the son of Richard and Margaret.

11. No matter what religious denomination of your ancestor, check the records of all churches in the area: E.G. Church of England, Methodists, Baptists, Quakers, Roman Catholic. Be aware that the areas served by nonconformist chapels and Quaker meeting houses were larger than the traditional Church of England parishes.

As you read this remember my proposed pedigree that was devastated by the discovery of the an eleven year old Richard Hambrook who was buried in the Methodist Church yard, thus preventing him from becoming the father of a large family of grocers!

12. When Bishops Transcripts are searched, missing and illegible entries need to be searched in the Parish Registers.

In my most recent researches I have been even more conservative in my faith in parish registers and bishop's transcripts. I read both in their entirety. I have found that in some cases the Bishops transcript is the original, and the parish register, the copy, the reverse of what one would expect. There may be errors and omissions in each.

13. When a search for a birth of christening record fails, consider the possibility that the child was born out of wedlock, and took his mother's surname, most likely totally unknown to you. Such a situation calls for listing all entries with the same given name, then matching these names against marriage and death or burial records to determine who might fit.

There was a certain James Hambrook who owned an inn during the mid 19th century in one of the parishes along the Thames estuary. After his own wife had passed on, and his children grown and moved, James seduced the barmaid (or at least I suspect he did). Miss Moore came to live with him and bore him children. The children are listed in the 1851 census as Hambrooks, along with James and his common-law wife. Based on the ages of the children in 1851 a search was made in the parish registers and the Bishop's transcripts without success. Next a search was made of the index to civil registrations for these children under the surname Hambrook. The search was again unsuccessful. At this point in the search someone started to use their head and went looking for the marriage of Miss Moore to James Hambrook and when one was not found, the search began again assuming the children were christened or registered under the surname Moore. In the civil registration of that particular corner of Kent we found the children, most with the second given name of Hambrook, and the surname of Moore. Some of the children married as Moores, some as Hambrooks and one as a Hambrook-Moore. All credit for the discovery and the sound reasoning behind it go to my research colleague. I was the learner.

14. Although naming customs among the English are generally undetectable, odd given names may be clues. One needs to become familiar with the range of names commonly found in a county or area before you can determine whether a name is uncommon enough to be a significant clue. Occasionally surnames appear as given names, and this may help identify parents or grandparents.

Among my Hambrook ancestors and the vast local cousinage of Hambrooks that populate eastern Kent county in England names like Richard, James,

John, Elizabeth, and Mary abound. However, from time to time I have found the truly odd name, Oddin Hambrook of Dover, Kent was one such oddly named ancestor. A group of us were collaborating on gathering all 19th century Hambrooks and sorting them into families, a real challenge. Oddin, however, despite three or four marriages, numerous moves, and changes in religious faith, social status etc., was relatively easy to find -at least until he named a son Oddin!

15. When other conflicting birth or christening records are found in other records in the prescribed area, one needs to follow these individuals forward in time through marriage and burial records to eliminate possibilities. Probate records are also useful: check for wills of all fathers of these individuals. If the conflicting individual is found outside the parish of your first candidate, then the searches for marriage and burial information must be made within a five mile radius of the new parish..

Many readers will be horrified at the amount of work that is suggested by these procedures and especially this last one. There is indeed a lot of work involved. I am reminded of an account of the work of a well known professional genealogist, now long deceased, who when he ran out of the easily located records, made up the "facts" necessary to complete his project. His clients would find everything in order until they reviewed the critical link, and then they would not find the record. Many of his fraudulent pedigrees were only discovered years later. Some are still surviving. If your ancestral research is worth doing, it's worth doing right.

Concerning probate records, it has been my experience that if a family has resided in an area for some time, it is fruitful to gather not just the wills of all fathers of the suspects you have rounded up, but all those in that part of the county with the same surname, or if the name is an uncommon one, all wills and inventories, etc. in the county or adjoining counties.

There were two Richard Hambrooks with wives named Elizabeth who lived in adjoining parishes, each having a son called Richard. (Readers will have noted that Hambrooks had very imaginative naming patterns). And these sons were born within a year of each other. The problem was finding which was the Richard who married my known ancestor. We knew that our Richard the younger was residing in a particular parish several miles away. In the census was a clue to his birthplace. We extracted all Hambrook baptism, marriage and burial records from the contiguous parishes to those the senior Richards lived in, and established burial dates. All the wills for Richard Hambrooks Hambrooks probated around the times of the burials were examined. Only one of the two suspect senior Richards had a will. His Richard junior was mentioned as residing in another location than our Richard junior was known to reside in at the time. The evidence was not conclusive, but sufficient enough that we felt comfortable declaring for one and not the other christening and parentage.

I have found from my experience messing up on my own research that there is a real value in extracting all instances of the surname you are searching for in the records you search, particularly if the name is not common. For example, when researching members of the Atkins family in Newbold on Avon, Warwickshire, I would extract all the Atkins from the beginning of the register to the end, not just those in the decade of the event of the sought after ancestor. Similarly, when examining the census, I would extract all Atkins in surrounding parishes on the same reel of microfilm as the census for Newbold. Many times this has made it possible when I find the missing link in the immediate puzzle, to push back one or two or three generations without returning to the same microfilmed record later. For a detailed discussion to this approach researchers should seek out another older book, **Family History for Fun and Profit**⁷

⁷ Vincent L. Jones, Arlene H. Eakle and Mildred H Christensen. *Family History for Fun and Profit*. The Salt Lake City: Publishers Press for Genealogical Institute, 1972. This book outlines a jurisdictional approach to family history research, and was an important influence in my work.

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ERICKSON, J. Erik, Death, 1977 MAY 25, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1977 May 27, p1

FRASER, Russell, Funeral, 1981 SEP 28, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News, Dawson Creek, BC, 1981 Oct 14, pA3

GARDNER, Hazel Mae, Death, 1997 MAR 23, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1997 Apr 08, p5

GASHER (TROTER), Isabella Mary, Death 1997 AUG 26, Cochrane, ON. Source: "Toronto Star", 1997 Aug 28, pD29

GELLINGS, Paul Frederick, Death, 1980 MAR 19, Rolla, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1980 Mar 28, pA3

GHOSTKEEPER, Annie Florence, Death, 1978 AUG 08, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", 1978 Aug 16, p19

GILMOUR, Clyde, Death, 1997 NOV 07, Toronto, ON. Source: "Toronto Star", 1997 Nov 08, pD29

GIRVIN, John Denis, Death, 1993 MAY 28, Victoria, BC. Source: "Victoria Times Colonist", Victoria, BC.

GREEN, William Henry, Death, 1997 OCT 28, Doe River, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1997 Nov 12, p9

GRONER, Mildred Evelyn, Death, 1977 FEB 06, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1977 Feb 16, p19

GUSCOE (SHAPKA), Marjorie, Death, 1997 JUL 12, Saint John, NB. Source: "T- Globe", Saint John NB, 1997 Jul 14

HALL, Kenneth Arnold, Death, 1997 OCT 18, Chetwynd, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1997 Oct 28, p9

HALL, Robert Gerald, Funeral, 1979 JUL 25, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1979 Jul 27, pA3

HARKE, Alfred Harvey, Funeral, 1997 AUG 22, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1997 Sep 23, p5

HASTINGS, Donald (MD), of Winnipeg, Death, 1994 JUL 09. Source: Newspaper Obituary, no date

HAWRYLUK, Olha (female), Burial, 1997 SEP 20, Groundbirch, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1997 Oct 07, p9

HOLLIES, Edward Gardiner, Dr, Death, 1977 APR 24, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News," Dawson Creek, BC, 1977 Apr 29 p1

HOMAN (OR STRONG), Ann Pearl, Death, 1997 MAY 27, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1997 Jun 17, p9

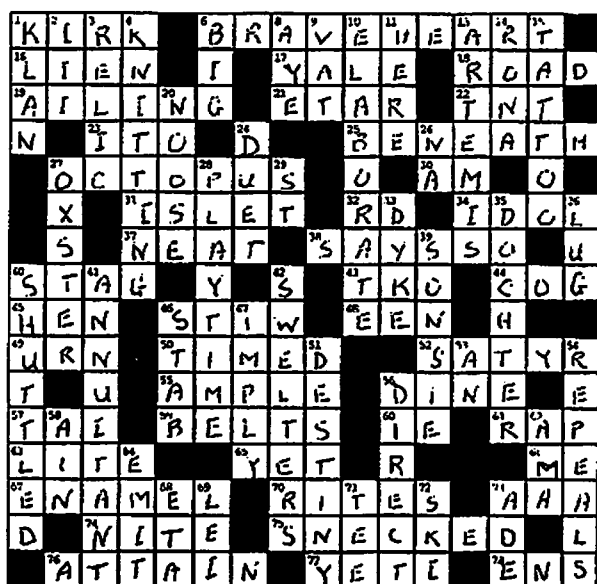
HUNTER, Lawrence Elliott, Death, 1997 JUL 21, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1997 Jul 28, p3

JAMES, John Charles, Death, 1978 SEP 14, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", 1978 Sep 22, p3

JENSEN, Earl Albert, Death, 1978 MAR 07, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", 1978Mar08, p1 and 1978 Mar 19, p19

JENSEN, Kristen Michelle Dawn, Death, 1994 AUG 02, Dawson Creek, BC. Source: "The Peace River Block News", Dawson Creek, BC, 1994 Aug 12, p11

****Be sure to look in future issues for the continued list of Alberta Strays.** ■**



BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Submitted by Jo Nuthack, AGS #305
Chairman, Bylaws Committee

As reported at our last Provincial Executive Committee it is my intention to better familiarize the members with the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures of our Society. With this in mind I have contacted most branches asking them to inform me firstly whether they are in possession of a current set of Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Manual. Secondly, I asked for a name of a person within each Branch who may want to peruse the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Manual to suggest improvements. ■

PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT

Submitted by Jo Nuthack, AGS #305

The only thing to report during these days of summer is that members of executive at all levels try their best to stay within the Society's Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Manual.

This is not always an easy task because misunderstanding of a mere phrase or word can cloud one's judgement or even create bad feelings. A case in point is the term "ex officio" as used in our Bylaws under clause #7a which threatened to upset one or two people.

The clause refers to the President being an "ex officio" member of all committees. The "Gage Canadian Dictionary" gives the explanation as: "because of one's office", meaning that because a person holds the office of president (in our Society's case), he or she is automatically a member of all committees under his or her jurisdiction. "Robert's Rules of Order" widen this to say that the "ex officio" member of a committee has full voting rights as any other member of the committee. It appears any other interpretation is based on erroneous assumptions.

Enjoy what's left of our summer. ■

OF INTEREST

In old Scotland, seaport women of the night wore what the Scots called a "cutty sark." Dictionaries now define it as "short shirt." But back then, it had special meaning - fast. Such was what inspired the captain to name the world's fastest clipper ship - with its figure-head of a woman in scanty wrap - the Cutty Sark. (With thanks to Dona Madill.)

In Salt Lake City, Utah, everyone is into researching their family tree. Even the big department stores sell genealogy supplies. A newcomer to Salt Lake City, and a non-researcher got a job as a clerk at one of the big department stores. She received her introduction to genealogy one day when a customer came into the store and asked, "Where do I find the Family Group Sheets?" "All we carry are the King, Queen, double and twin size sheets." replied the clerk.

*From Clark County Genealogical Society Newsletter
Vancouver, WA
February 1999, Volume XXXII, No. 1
Black Hills Nuggets ■*

POTPOURRI

A LAIRDSHIP LOST:

The Mowats of Balquholly, 1309-1736
Diane Baptie

This is an account of how a family in the North East of Scotland, dogged by misfortune, lost their lands at the beginning of the eighteenth century. They were not unique. But what makes the Mowats of Balquholly stand out was their pride in their Norman ancestry, their family unity and their endurance. Based almost entirely on original sources, *A Lairdship Lost* is very much a family history, with a wealth of detail about travel, family interactions and money matters in relation to land and buildings, and to debt. A corollary to this is the prominence of the legal profession, the incidence of 'good' Mowat marriages in attempts to repair family fortunes, and the frequency of their business ventures - as merchants, keepers of hostleries, etc. - at home and abroad. Nobody can say the Mowats didn't try.

ISBN 1 86232 052 7, May 1999, 206 pages

Illustrated Paperback £14.99.

Overseas postage add 10%.

(Some members may have used the services of Diane Baptie for research in the SRO).

Tess Campbell, Winnipeg, Manitoba



TUCKWELL PRESS
The Mill House,
Phantassie, East Linton,
East Lothian
EH40 3DG Scotland

Telephone and Fax:
01620 860 164



Microfiche of Somerset Parish Registers

The Somerset Record Office holds parish records for almost the whole of the historic county, including thousands of registers of baptisms, marriages and burials.

Ninety percent of these registers have now been filmed, and where this is the case, the Record Office can supply diazo duplicate 16 mm microfiche to organizations and individuals.

In addition to parish registers, copy fiche are in many cases also available of:

- ❖ Churchwardens' and overseers' accounts.
- ❖ Bishops' transcripts.
- ❖ Land Tax returns.
- ❖ Electoral registers, 1832-1900.
- ❖ Dr. Campbell's index of baptisms and marriages (by surname; covers West Somerset).

Diazo Duplicate 16 mm Microfiche

Fiche	£1.50 each
Order Charge	£9.00
P&P (UK)	£0.70 per batch of up to 50 fiche
P&P (overseas)	£2.00 per batch of up to 50 fiche

- ❖ Some 90% of Somerset parish registers have now been filmed up to either 1885 or 1900.
- ❖ Duplicate fiche can only be supplied of whole items, e.g., an entire register, not selected sections from it.
- ❖ The legibility of early registers may be poor.
- ❖ Some fiche masters were made in 'cine' mode and will appear sideways on fiche machines not equipped with image rotation or a square fiche carriage.
- ❖ Once we have details of the parishes and dates you are interested in, we will send you an order form and the relevant catalogue pages.

- ❖ Payment is required in advance and may be made in one of two ways:
 1. CHEQUE - to be made payable to Somerset County Council.
 2. CREDIT CARD - Access, Visa, Eurocard or Mastercard (NOT American Express or Diner's Card). Please tell us the name on the card, the card number and it's expiry date.
- ❖ Please indicate on the order form the fiche you require, sign and date the form and return it with your remittance.
- ❖ We do not keep diazo fiche in stock. Fiche for every order have to be sent away for copying and, therefore, customer delivery will take up to three weeks.

If you have any other questions I would be pleased to answer them. Please direct enquiries to:

Peter Collings
 Reprographics Manager
 Somerset Archive and Record Service
 Somerset Record Office
 Obridge Road
 TAUNTON
 TA2 7PU
 Tel: 01823 278805
 Fax: 01823 325402
 email: Somerset_Archives@compuserve.com
 Internet: www.somerset.gov.uk ■

Family Search Internet Genealogy Service has a website at www.familysearch.org. FamilySearch Internet is receiving so many visits that users are temporarily being given access on a rotation basis for short periods of time. ■

The launch of the new National Archives of Canada's Web site and of *ArchiviaNet*, the on-line research tool of the National Archives. ArchiviaNet is an automated research tool that allows you to access a vast amount of information from various databases and automated systems. This new website can be found at: www.archives.ca. ■

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA PRESERVATION CENTRE

Found in Bruce & Grey, OGS
 BGOGS Volume 29, #2, May 1999-07-09

The National Archives of Canada Preservation Centre in Gatineau, on the Quebec side of the Ottawa River officially opened it's doors to the public on June 4th, 1997. The building is a state-of-the-art storage and preservation facility and it's opening culminates years of planning to ensure the long-term protection of Canada's archives. This is a "building within a building" - 48 concrete vaults in the centre (to store archival records) surrounded by a shell of steel and glass which creates a buffer zone to neutralize external changes in temperature and humidity. This building is huge (32,000 sq. metres) - large enough to accommodate two Boeing 747's or two football fields.

Prior to this move to Gatineau, Quebec, the National Archives of Canada was located at 395 Wellington Street in Ottawa (since 1967) sharing the building with the National Library of Canada.

(Excerpts from The Archivist, magazine of the National Archives of Canada, No. 113, 1997) ■

FFHS: UK PHONE NUMBER CHANGES

Submitted by David Hawgood

Some UK phone numbers are changing - those in London, Portsmouth, Southampton, Coventry and Northern Ireland. New area codes are available now, the old ones will work until 14 October 2000. If making a local call within one of those areas, the old numbers will work until 22 April 2000, only the new ones will work from then. There are also some changes to mobile and other "find me anywhere" numbers (all will start 07) and free/special rate numbers (all will start 08).

London 0171 becomes 020 7
 London 0181 becomes 020 8
 Portsmouth 01705 becomes 023 92
 Southampton 01703 becomes 023 80
 Coventry 01203 becomes 024 76
 Northern Ireland - new area code 028, there are thirty-eight different local conversions.

As an example, if phoning the Society of Genealogists from outside central London: 020 7251 8799.

There are details of all the changes on Website www.numberchange.org. ■

LOYALIST CULTURAL CENTRE

From Kingston Relations, Volume 256, Number 1
January/February 1999

A list of the family genealogy records by surname located at the Adolphustown Loyalist Cultural Centre is available on their website:

www.freeyellow.com/members6/loyal-ists/

Kathy Staples, RR2, Napanee, Ontario, K7R 3K7.

e-mail: staples@ihorizons.net

Fax: (613) 373-0043

Northern New York genealogy resources, St.

Lawrence County, New York message boards, chat,

links:

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Park/7147/Ogden.html>

Includes an invitation to join a Northern New York Genealogy Club for FREE! The club offers links, message boards and chat rooms ... All you have to do is think of a user name and password - it's THAT EASY!

LDS WEB SITE

The LDS database is now on line. Some 400 million names are available and millions more are to be added later. It is well worth visiting the site at <http://www.familysearch.org>. ■

SCOTTISH RECORD OFFICE, CHANGE OF TITLE

Earlier this year the Scottish Record Office became the National Archives of Scotland. The SRO was a title of convenience adopted after the second World War when responsibility for the registers and records of Scotland were divided. This title is not used anywhere in statute, and its meaning is not always clear. Therefore it was decided to give NAS a name, which is more readily understood by the public in general, and is a more accurate statement of what they actually do. The address for any enquiries is: *National Archives of Scotland, HM General Register House, Edinburgh EH13YY, Tel. 0131 535 1314. For enquiries relating to historical research Tel. 0131 535 1334, Fax 0131 535 1360.*

From The Scottish Genealogist
Volume XLVI, No. 2, June 1999 ■

ULSTER HISTORICAL FOUNDATION, FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE 1999

The Foundation conference entitled "Searching for that Elusive Irish Ancestor: A Millennium of Migration" is the ninth conference in the series, and is designed for anyone with an interest in Irish Family History. This conference is designed specifically for hands on research for beginners or seasoned genealogists in some of the most important archives in Ireland. There will be more than twenty speakers covering the many aspects of theme. The conference will commence in Belfast on Tuesday 31st August 1999 and will finish on Tuesday 7th September. For full details of costs, accommodation and booking form *Tel. 01232 332288, Fax 01232 239885 or write to Ulster Historical Foundation, 12 College Square East, Belfast BT1 6DD.*

From The Scottish Genealogist
Volume XLVI, No. 2, June 1999 ■

FFHS: MEMBERSHIP OF THE MORGAN SOCIETY

Submitted by Norma Wolowyk

Many thanks and greetings to all Societies who have responded to our request for new members. The Morgan Society, formed five years ago, now has some 150 members throughout the world in England & Wales; Ireland; Scotland and Australia with vast support through "Morgan Migrations" an American publication. But it is such a well founded name, with many famous connections, we feel we ought to have better support. We produce a quarterly journal "Clann Morgainn" named after the mention in The Book of Deer from Scotland, perhaps the oldest surviving British manuscript? The name is as widespread in Scotland, where there is a Morgan Tartan, as it is in Wales and we have a theory we come from the Celtic Tribe, the Cornovii. The contact is little old me - David Morgan, 11 Arden Drive, Dorridge, Solihull, West Midlands, B93 8LP. I would be delighted to hear from anyone with Morgan connections. Sincerely David Morgan.

IN OUR MAILBOX

from Robert Wilshire
P.O. Box 57
Avoca Beach NSW 2251
Australia
19th April 1999

Re: England - Surrey - Parish Records and Wills Index

I lived in Canada many years ago and would like to share with your members the benefit of my collection of Surrey records.

I hold fully indexed transcripts of these 82 parish registers in Surrey and I will be happy to search for burials and data without charge. Unless otherwise stated the transcripts go up to 1840, but many do not include marriages.

I also hold the Surrey probate indexes of Wills from 1660 to 1858.

Abinger, Albury, Alfold, Ash, Ashstead, Banstead, Beddington, Betchworth, Bisley, Gt Bookham, Lt Bookham, Byfleet, Capel, Chertsey, Chiddingfold, Chipstead, Chobham, West Clandon, East Clandon, Compton, Cranleigh, Crowhurst, Long Ditton, Thames Ditton, Dorking, Dunsfold, Effingham, Egham, Esher, Ewhurst, Fetcham, Frensham, Frimley, Godalming, Godstone, Guildford St Nicholas, Guildford Holy Trinity and St Mary (1813-1840), Hambledon, Hascombe, Haslemere, Headley, Horne, Horsell, West Horsley, East Horsley, Kew, Kingston upon Thames (to 1665), Leatherhead, Malden, Merton, Mickleham, West Molesey, East Molesey, Morden, Mortlake, Newdigate, Nutfield, Oakwood, Ockham, Ockley, Oxted, Peper Harrow, Pirbright, Putney (1813-1837), Pyrford, St Martha's, Sanderstead, Shalford, Stoke near Guildford, Stoke Dabernon, Tandridge, Walton on the Hill, Walton on Thames, Wanborough, Wimbledon, Windlesham and Bagshot, Wisley, Witley, Wonersh, Wotton, Worplesdon.

When requesting a search, please make reference to surname and parish, and enclose a reply envelope and a postal reply coupon.

Yours faithfully, Robert Wilshire. ■

from the Corporation of London
40 Northampton Road
London EC1R 0HB

Dear Mrs. Hewitt:

Thank you for your letter of 2 April. I regret that we are unable to assist you as we do not hold the records of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. I would advise you to write to The Trust Archivist, Archives Department, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, West Smithfield, London, EC1A 7BE, who may be able to help you. ■

from David W. Dole

Friend:

Genealogists of any ilk - from Alberta or elsewhere - should have interest, both passive and active, in the struggles of one octogenarian trying to help genealogists, researchers and librarians everywhere solve an age-old problem: That of the "clipped" obituary!

You know, that little bit of newsprint, sent to your mother by a cousin perhaps 20 years ago from somewhere in Wisconsin in the United States, which reads: "Susie Smith died at her lake home on Friday. Burial from Christ Church on Wednesday" and here you are today trying to use the information in your genealogical efforts.

But you have no idea WHAT lake or WHERE in Wisconsin! Nor, for that matter, how many "Christ" churches there may be in the state! If you only had a clue ... what's this? Down in the corner appears - in 4-point type so you almost missed it - some sort of a code - 15 characters long. Off you go to a reference librarian or a genealogist asking "What is it?" And the first one says, "Oh, that's the PGCS - Publishers Genealogical Coding Service. Here, look on their website at www.obituarycoding.com. Check the first seven characters of that code ... the Database on the Website tells you the name and location of the newspaper from which the obit was clipped! The last eight characters ARE the publication date!"

Now, isn't that worth knowing about and worth doing something about yourself - to help hurry it up? YOUR HELP is NEEDED! Go to the website www.obituarycoding.com and register, identifying yourself and the newspaper to which you subscribe

and its editor. PGCS will send you a cover letter about PGCS and a letter from YOU to the paper's Editor (ready to sign and send) plus an explanatory page about the coding and an Application form for the paper to use in starting the coding! What could be simpler!

And there's no cost to you - except perhaps for a few stamps and copies. And the newspaper has but one, small, one-time charge for the licence to their unique identity 7-character code. Let's give this all the help we can. Talk it up with your fellow genealogists and register. If enough of us do it, surely our paper will start using PGCS.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,
PGCS, Inc & David W. Dole
8102 Highwood Dr. Apt. B125
Bloomington, MN 55438-1046
Phone: (612) 830-9552
e-mail: dwdole@fishnet.com
Internet: www.obituarycoding.com ■

A committee working on the Canada-wide campaign to effect release of the Post-1901 Canadian census records for our research, hopes you will forward or make available to your members the following URL: <http://www.globalgenealogy.com/census/index.htm>.

This site contains much interesting data, list of all elected Members of Parliament and their view toward census release, Hansard quotes, letters and much more.

We will need many signatures as we are anticipating Private Member's Bills in both Senate and House of Commons in October. Instructions are given -- only Canadian citizens/residents may sign this petition.

Residents of other countries with Canadian roots are invited to contact me directly.

We look forward to many petitions and many signatures -- these will be presented as ONE petition when the Bill is brought to the House/Senate.

Muriel M. Davidson, Committee Member
e-mail: Farquhar@netcom.ca. ■

GRANDMA'S RECIPE FOR DOING THE FAMILY WASH

Boomtown's Fourth Edition of the Women's Auxiliary of the Western Development Museum Cookbook

“This is an authentic washday recipe in its original spelling as it was written out for a bride four (now five or six) generations ago:

1. Build a fire in back yard to heat kettle of rain water.
2. Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. Shave one hole cake lye soap in bilin water.
4. Sort things, make three piles. 1 pile white, 1 pile cullard, 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. Stur flour in cold water to smooth, then thin down with billing water.
6. Rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, then bile, rub collord, but don't bile - just rench and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with broom stick handle, then rench, blew and starch.
8. Spred tee towels on grass.
9. Hang old rags on fence.
10. Pore rench water on flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. Turn tubs upside down.
13. Go put on cleen dress - smooth hair with side combs - brew cup of tee - set and rest and rock a spell and count blessings. Mrs. G. Lebsack, Loveland, Colorado. Colony Frank" ■

To a genealogist, everything is relative and a relative is everything.

JC McSouviens
Vol. 21 #2 Autumn 1998

ANNOUNCEMENTS

British Isles Family History Society Conference

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSCO) conference on British Isles Family History is to be held on September 24-26, 1999 at the National Library of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa. The focus of this year's conference is "The Irish" with the keynote speaker being Mr. Kyle Betit, Co-Editor of the IRISH AT Home and Abroad. For more information, please write to:

BIFHSGO
P.O. Box 38026
Ottawa, Ontario K2C 3Y7
Phone: (613) 224-9868
e-mail: bifhsgo@cyberus.ca
Home Page: <http://www.cyberus.ca/~bifhsgo>

From the SGS Bulletin, Volume 30, No. 2, June 1999

■

MORE GOOD STUFF SEMINAR

Saturday, October 23rd
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn West
2520 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba

See Generations: Manitoba G.S., Volume 24, No. 2, June/99 for more details. ■

SASKATCHEWAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SEMINAR:

TREASURE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY
Past, Present and Future
October 22 - 24, 1999
Heritage Inn - 1590 Main Street North
Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan

See Volume 30, #2, June/99, Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Bulletin for more details. ■

British Ancestors

New photographic service, ideal for personal records or as a gift. An individually tailored service, providing a photographic record of where your members' ancestors lived, went to school, worshipped, worked, married, the street they live in or their headstone (grave marker).

Members can e-mail their requirements to me on peter@calmnet.com and I'll get back to them with full details, or, the Society can request special rates for orders from three or more members.

Individual orders from \$35.00 including postage and packing. Society rate upon request (can be paid as a refund to the Society.) ■

IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is expressed to all of the following families:

Merna and Lorne Nelson - Lorne's brother, Morley Elwin Nelson passed away on January 24, 1999 in Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Alfred and Gwen Richard - Alfred's sister, Isabell Jean (Richards) Head passed away on April 6, 1999 in Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Alland and Elsie Locke - Allan's mother, Olive Clare (Goldsmith) Lock passed away on April 17, 1999 in Hythe, Alberta

Trace and Thom Kirouac - Thom's mother, Dianne (Lovett) Kirouac passed away on May 29, 1999 in Toronto, Ontario.

Paulette and Colin Hrychiw - Paulette's mother, Jeanne (Marcil) Pivert passed away on June 1, 1999 in Grande Prairie, Alberta. ■

? ? ? ? **QUERIES** ? ? ? ?

Queries are accepted free of charge from members and non-members. To purchase a copy of *Relatively Speaking*, in which the query appears, non-members should send \$5.50 per copy with their query. Cheque to be made payable to the Alberta Genealogical Society. Please forward your queries, **typewritten if possible, otherwise printed plainly**, to:

Editor, *Relatively Speaking*, #116, 10440 - 108 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T6H 3Z9

Phone: (403) 424-4429

Fax: (403) 423-8980

website: <http://www.compusmart.ab.ca/abgensoc>

e-mail: agsoffice@compusmart.ab.ca

BENNETT, June - 106 Bishops Mansions, Bishops Park Rd., London, England SW6 6DY

BAKER

Thomas Charles Scott Baker b.20 Apr 1887 Crewkerne Somerset was the son of Thomas Edward Baker M.R.C.V.S. and Matilda Baker nee JOY. His father, born in Torquay 24 Nov 1861 was the Vet in Crewkerne and died of pneumonia 21 Jun 1909. His mother, Matilda, died 12 Jan 1918. Charlie as known by his sisters was not in England at the time of his father's death. We believe the photo was taken prior to Charlie going to Canada, likely between 1906 and 1909. My mother, Dorothy Gladys, the child at her mother's side and her sister Florence standing behind her mother married BENNETT brothers. Florence went to be married in China in 1919 and Dorothy to Ascension Island in 1924. Both men worked for the Far Eastern and Eastern Telegraph Co., now known as Cable and Wireless. The third daughter, Matilda May, remained single and became Millinery Buyer at Griffith and Spalding in Nottingham. She kept in touch with Charlie and his children, who may have been as many as 10. Matilda, known as May, died in Nov.1955 and all her correspondence was destroyed. We believe Thomas Charles Baker came back to fight in World War I, perhaps in Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (P.P.C.L.I.), but draw a blank from all enquiries. Although he never trained as a vet he was good with horses so may have been with a Horse Regiment.

Has anyone seen these photographs or met someone connected to the family? I would love to find any members from this family.



WEARING, Dr. Joseph - 38 Walmsley Ave. Toronto ON M4V 1X6, e-mail: jwearing@interlog.com

BRADSHAW Ashley Cooper, born Oct 1870 at Strathroy, ON. School teacher. Moved to AB. Taught at Airdrie and Entwistle. Possibly died 1944 - 1954. Any information.

**FORSTER, Lydia - 1 Thorpe Bulmer Cottage, Hart Village, Hartlepool, England, TS27 3AU,
Tel: 01429 261271**

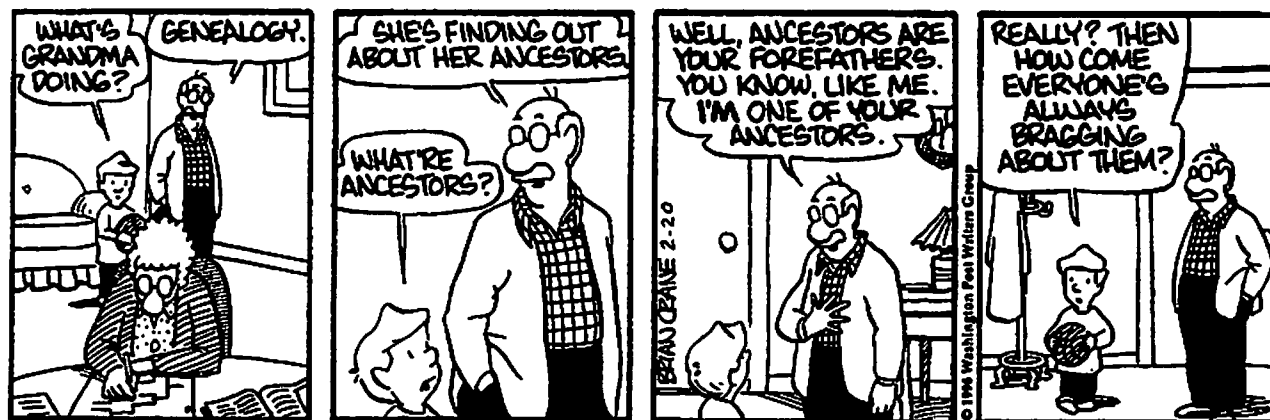
PRINGLE William L.(or T.?), born approx. 1887. Family came from north east of England/Scotland. Letter dated 17th June 1906 from William who had just arrived in Canada aged 19 yrs. Address was 144 Logan Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, and it suggests he was working as a Farm Servant. My grandmother (his cousin) said his sisters Maggie and Christina followed William to Alberta. All three of them married and settled. I was told William had four sons. It is these sons and family I am trying to trace. This is a request from my grandmother who is 100 years old this year.

MacKAY, Mary I. - R.R. #2, Dobbinton, Ontario, Canada N0H 1L0

GORDON Looking for any descendants of Jennie Snell (d. 27 Mar 1950) and SNELL, Thomas Gordon (d. 09 Nov 1934) buried in Edmonton South Cemetery.

CASTERTON, Joyce - 57 Cavendish Ave., Allestree, Derby DE22 2AS England

**GIBBON
SMITH** William Richard Gibbon, my great uncle, and wife Eliza both died in Edmonton, Alberta in 1919 and 1925 respectively. William Richard was born in 1855 in North Yorkshire England, Eliza (nee Burton) in 1858 in Nottinghamshire, England. Their daughter Gertrude Helen also born in Nottingham in 1880. Sometime before 1891 the family left Nottingham and I have no more information until William's death in 1919 in Edmonton, Alberta. In 1919 Gertrude Helen was living in Winnipeg, married to Joseph Smith and with a son Alexander Richard Smith. By 1925 this family appear to be resident in Edmonton. Can anyone help me with any information about this family's life in Canada please? ■



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ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any person wherever resident. {Bylaw 2.f(A)a}. Individual members are entitled to receive, without charge, one copy of each issue of "Relatively Speaking", the regular publication of the Society. {Bylaw 2, f(A)c}.

Family members: Provision may be made for the payment of annual fees on a family or household basis where more than one individual member resides in a single household. The household will receive one copy of each issue of the publications provided to an individual member, addressed to the member whose name appears first on a current alphabetical membership list. {Bylaw 2 f(B)}.

Memberships run from 01 January to 31 December. Memberships which are paid before 30 September will receive all issues of *Relatively Speaking* for that year. Memberships which are paid after 30 September will be applied to the next year unless the current year is requested.

Alberta Genealogical Society Fees

Regular membership(s)

Individual \$25
Family (Individual rate plus) \$5

Senior Citizens (65 yrs and older) \$20
Family (Individual rate plus) \$4

Subscription only \$25
(for institutions, libraries, museums, etc.)

U.S.A. Members \$30
Foreign Members \$35

Branch Fees

Branch membership is open to any member of Alberta Genealogical Society. You are invited to join one or more Branches.

Brooks \$10
Cochrane \$10
Drayton Valley \$10
Edmonton \$10
Ft. McMurray \$7
Grande Prairie \$7
Lethbridge \$10
Medicine Hat \$10
Red Deer \$7

Cheques should be made payable to:

Alberta Genealogical Society
Room 116, 10440-108 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5H 3Z9
Phone: (403) 424-4429
Fax: (403) 423-8980

website: <http://www.compusmart.ab.ca/abgensoc>
e-mail: agsoffice@compusmart.ab.ca

OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

We, the undersigned, hereby declare that we desire to form a society under the Societies Act, R. S. A., 1970 and that:

1. The name of the society is:

Alberta Genealogical Society.

2. The objects of the society are:

a) To promote the study of genealogy and genealogical research within the province of Alberta;

b) To encourage adherence to accuracy and thoroughness in research;

c) To encourage and instruct members in the ethical principles, scientific methods and effective techniques of genealogical research and to defend the standards of genealogy from incompetent and disreputable persons;

d) To assemble a library of genealogical guides, handbooks, reference sources, family and local histories, and other books and materials which may assist the members, all of which will be available to the members;

e) From time to time to publish such bulletins, booklets, books, pamphlets, or other documents as may be found desirable and expedient by the Executive of the society and to make the same available to the members and others as such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Executive;

f) To establish friendly relations with other genealogical societies for exchange of ideas and informalities and the promotion of common interests;

g) To enter into arrangements with other genealogical societies for the publication of bulletins, booklets, books, pamphlets, or other documents, on such terms and conditions as may be found desirable and expedient, by the Executive;

h) To promote seminars and workshops on genealogical research and methodology and such other studies as may seem helpful to members;

i) To provide a centre and suitable meeting place for the various activities of the Society and its members by rent or purchase or otherwise;

j) To encourage the establishment of Branches of the Society under such terms and conditions as the bylaws of the Society, from time to time, provide;

k) To achieve the foregoing objects, funds may be raised and donations, gifts, legacies and bequests accepted.

l) The operations of the Society are to be carried out chiefly in the Province of Alberta.

Dated in Edmonton, Alberta, this 15th day of March, 1973.

ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre, Room 116, 10440-108 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5H 3Z9

Phone: (403) 424-4429 / Fax: (403) 423-8980 / e-mail: agsoffice@compusmart.ab.ca

Internet Home Page: <http://www.compusmart.ab.ca/abgensoc/>

BRANCHES

Brooks & District Branch

President: Betty Penner

P.O. Box 1538

Brooks, AB T1R 1C4

Meets 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

327 Third Street West

Basement, W. Entrance, Room #4

Phone: (403) 362-4608

Edmonton Branch

President: Susan McKeen

#116, 10440 - 108 Avenue

Edmonton, AB T5H 3Z9

Meets 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

Prince of Wales Armouries,

Governor's Room

10440 - 108 Ave., Edmonton

Phone: (780) 424-4429

Fax: (780) 423-8980

e-mail: agsedm@compusmart.ab.ca

Lethbridge & District Branch

President: Phyllis Burnett

128: 909 - 3rd Ave. N.

Lethbridge, AB T1H 0H5

Meets 3rd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

Provincial Administration Bldg.

909 - 3rd Ave. N., Lethbridge

Phone: (403) 328-9564

Cochrane & District Branch

President: Anne Richardson

54 McDougall Road West

Cochrane, AB T0L 0W4

Ft. McMurray Branch

President: Jean Waniandy

P.O. Box 6253

Ft. McMurray, AB T9H 4W1

Meets 2nd Wed., 7:00 p.m.

Phone: (780) 791-5663

e-mail: fmgenes@tnc.com

Medicine Hat & District Branch

President: Deb Phillips

P.O. Box 971

Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7G8

Meets 1st Wed., 7:30 p.m.

Multi-Cultural Folk Arts Centre

533 - 1st Street S.E.

(across from City Hall)

Phone: (403) 526-0802

Drayton Valley Branch

President: Betty Smyth

5138 - 52 Avenue, boardroom

Drayton Valley, AB

Meets 3rd Thurs., 7:00 p.m.

55 Plus Recreation Centre

4238 - 50 Avenue

Phone: (780) 542-4628

e-mail: rasmyth@telusplanet.net

Grande Prairie & District Branch

President: Margaret Kay

P.O. Box 1257

Grande Prairie, AB T8V 4Z1

Meets 3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m.

Grande Prairie Public Library

9910 - 99 Avenue

Phone: (780) 538-0009

e-mail: agsgp@canada.com

Red Deer & District Branch

President: Mary-Joan Cornett

P.O. Box 922

Red Deer, AB T4N 5H3

Meets 4th Wed., 7:00 p.m.

Red Deer Museum

4525 - 47A. Ave

Phone: (403) 346-3886



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