

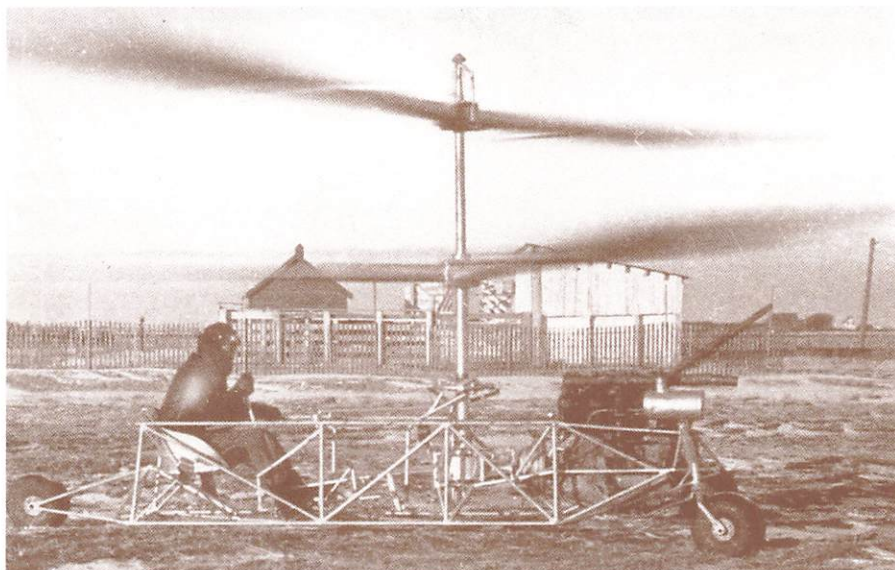


Alberta Family Histories Society

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Froebe Helicopter

Chinook

IN THIS ISSUE

Froebe Helicopter	
by Gloria Moore	Page 5
The Good old Days in Jolly England	
by Judith Doyle	Page 6
In Memory - Wes Johnston and Ruth Bailey	
	Page 8
Library Donations and Acquisitions	
by Lorna Stewart	Page 15
Upper Canada Land Surveyor	
by Adrienne Horne	Page 27
and more ...	

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Articles should be typewritten, (double spaced with wide margins) or submitted in text format from a word processor program. Typeface should be Times Roman at 12 point. The publication assumes no responsibility for errors, omissions or opinions of the authors. Materials submitted to the editors will be returned only if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope of the appropriate size, unless previous arrangements have been made.

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A.F.H.S. Program Schedule 2003

Main Program

DATE	TOPIC	PROPOSED SPEAKER
January 5, 2004	History of Calgary	Harry Sanders
Sat., Feb 7, 2004	East European Ancestry	Xenia Stanford
March 1, 2004	Icelandic Genealogy	Nelson Gerrard
April 5, 2004	Diseases and illnesses	
May 3, 2004	British Night	
June 7, 2004	Volunteer Appreciation Night	SIG Presentations

Basics Program

DATE	TOPIC	PROPOSED SPEAKER
January 5, 2004	Genealogical Resources in Newspapers	Norma Marr
Sat., Feb 7, 2004	Sites to Excite: Online Research	Alan Cassley
March 1, 2004	Calgary Based Research	Catherine Mayhood
April 5, 2004	Online Archives in Canada	Ronna Byam
May 3, 2004	Preserving Photos	Irene Oickle
June 7, 2004	Getting Ready for Summer Research Projects	Kay Clarke

Picture on Front Cover

Froebe Helicopter at Homewood, Manitoba c. 1938-39. The Froebe brothers built and tested one of the first experimental helicopters in North America about one year before the Sikorsky Helicopter. On display at the Western Canada Aviation Museum.

Picture from *The Nostalgia Series* by Western Canada Pictorial Index Inc.



Chairman's Message

Many thanks to Vice Chair Gordon Lane for preparing the message from the Chair for the September Chinook while I was still enjoying the Summer vacation. I can't think of a good excuse this time so here goes.

By the time you read this 2003 will have ended and we will be well started on 2004. The past year has been one of significant change for the Society. A year ago we had been informed our lease for the space occupied by our Library would not be renewed and we must look for new quarters. A preliminary assessment was not encouraging and it looked for a while as though we might have to choose between closing our Library or discontinuing the Chinook. But the Genealogy Bureau, a local business specializing in genealogical research offered us attractive space at a price we could afford without sacrificing member services.

The Library closed at the end of May to be packed and moved by our volunteers under the able leadership of Helen Backhouse. On Saturday, September 6 the Library was formally opened by Senator Milne in our new location at 712 16th Avenue, NW. At our first monthly meeting of the new season on September 8, the Senator presented some interesting perspectives on the release of the historical Canadian census.

We did not present a repeat of the highly successful Family Roots 2002 seminar in 2003, but plans are well underway to present Family Roots 2004 on October 16th 2004. Preliminary discussions have been held with the Alberta Genealogical Society about the possibility of jointly presenting a Province wide genealogical conference in 2005 in conjunction with the Alberta centennial that year.

In November we were delighted to be able to announce the creation of the Brian W. Hutchison Genealogical Scholarship. Brian is a long time member of our Society and professional genealogist who has recently moved to Nanaimo, BC. He has generously endowed a scholarship which will be awarded annually to a Canadian applicant to pay a year's tuition in a recognized professional genealogical course. Details are being worked on, and it is hoped to award the first scholarship in the Fall of 2004. To our knowledge this offering will be unique in Canadian genealogy.

Recruitment of volunteers continues to be a problem. We have many able and hard working people providing services to our members, but few seem willing to step up to leadership positions in the Society. Certainly leadership brings greater demands for a person's time, and as someone once said, "the leaders are the ones with the arrows in their chests". But leadership also has its rewards in helping to create something for the future that others will value. We are currently looking for people for the Program Committee, the Projects Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee and to work on our website. Very soon we will be looking for Board members for the term 2004-2005. Extensive prior experience is not necessary - there are many who can help, advise and train people who are willing to learn and work. Think about giving us a hand with this important work.

At its December meeting the Board of Directors approved in principle the holding of a casino to raise funds. Approval in principle does not mean we will necessarily hold such an event, but permits preliminary work to be done to obtain necessary permits and explore arrangements with the authorities and obtain approvals for our potential use of funds. It will also permit the Board to hear what the membership feels about the idea. That is likely to take at least two years. Before we finally commit to hold a casino, the Board must review and approve the event.

I am aware that some of our members will not be pleased with this idea. I am personally not very keen on gambling and its social implications, but I believe this to be a necessary step for the Society. Without substantial funds additional to membership fees, we will eventually be faced with a choice of several unpleasant alternatives. We will likely have to curtail membership services. We will face regularly increasing membership fees, with each increase causing membership to decline thereby necessitating further fee increases, until we either

have to close up shop or become an exclusive club for the well-to-do. We will likely have to choose to either print and mail four issues of the Chinook each year or to acquire new material for the Library. We will be unable to do both. When the current lease for our Library space runs out in four years we may be unable to obtain space at our current costs, which are well below market price.

We live in a society where a substantial number of people wish to gamble. Our government controls and regulates this activity to ensure it operates fairly and that a proportion of the profits flow back into the community for worthy social purposes. I believe that, aside from the fact it is beyond our mandate, our Society is completely powerless to affect the desire of people to gamble or the intent of the government to manage it. Gambling has become an voluntary tax levy which, while not always fair and equitable, most individuals are free to forego.

I believe strongly that providing facilities such as research materials, computer services, courses, seminars and working space for the gathering, recording and preserving of family histories is every bit as worthy a use of these profits as the purchase of sports team sweaters, the furnishing of sports facilities and support of the theatre and the arts in our communities and the other things for which these funds are now spent. For that reason I believe we must attempt to acquire a share of the funds available in our community from this source.

I, and the other members of the Board will be pleased to hear your feedback on this subject over the coming months before we come to a final decision. Feel free to write, email, telephone or just speak to any of us at any meeting. If there is sufficient interest we could even hold a public forum to hear presentations on the subject.

Best wishes to you all for 2004.

George Lake
Chairman

ANNOUNCEMENT

Brian W. Hutchison Genealogical Scholarship

The Alberta Family Histories Society is pleased to announce the availability of the Brian W. Hutchison Genealogical Scholarship. The Scholarship is made available through the generous endowment of Brian W. Hutchison, professional genealogist, founder and proprietor of Gen-Find Research Associates of Nanaimo, BC and a long time member of AFHS.

The Brian W. Hutchison Genealogical Scholarship will be offered annually to a candidate undertaking formal study toward accreditation as a professional genealogist. The scholarship will pay tuition or registration fees up to a maximum of \$500 for a qualified candidate.

Please direct any enquiries to:

Brian W. Hutchison Genealogical Scholarship Committee
Alberta Family Histories Society
712 16th Avenue, NW
Calgary, AB, T2M 0J8

or: scholarship@afhs.ab.ca

Details of eligibility conditions and procedures for application will be published soon.

The Froebe Helicopter

by Gloria Moore

The Froebe Brothers, Nicholas “Nic” (1910-1959), Douglas “Doug” (1912-1994), and Theodore “Deed” (1914-1943), moved to Homewood, Manitoba in 1920 with their family from Chatsworth, Illinois. In Illinois they lived close to an airport and were mesmerized by the new flying machines. The Wright Brothers had only taken flight in 1903 and flying was in its infancy. The Froebe Brothers were busy building various powered snow machines and other ground apparatus when they decided in 1927 to send for blueprints of a “Heath Parasol” airplane that was available from Chicago. They assembled it with the help and tutelage of their trusty “Mechanix Illustrated” magazine. They spent some time learning the fine points of engine torque and balancing of the aircraft. It was a little under-powered and ended up piled into a fence.



In 1931, they went to Brandon and bought a “Barling” airplane that had been burned. After it was rebuilt they took it into Winnipeg to the Winnipeg Flying Club and took lessons on how to fly it. However, before they got to fly it too much a chap came out from Winnipeg and “cracked” it up in February 1933. This got them thinking seriously in terms of a helicopter.

At this point in time there were still those who swore that vertical flight was impossible. Undaunted they sat down, developed and built Canada’s first helicopter to get off the ground. As there was very little money around during the depression in the 30’s, they scavenged as many parts as they could. The rudder pedals were Model T Ford accelerator pedals. The collective control was a Model T tire jack. The engine, a D. H. Gypsy #737, which was acquired from Charles Babb of Los Angeles, California in January 1938, with 14.25 hours on it, for \$100.00. It was connected to a transmission constructed of crown gears and a pinion from a Chevrolet.

Counter-rotating rotor-blades, one above the other, were used to resolve the issue of torque. This they had realized during their airplane testing, would be a considerable problem. Collective pitch control by use of a hand crank changed the pitch of both rotors. Cyclic control was used on the lower rotor. Directional control was achieved by the control of **torque, increasing the pitch on the top and decreasing the bottom pitch with foot pedals.**

Canada’s first helicopter

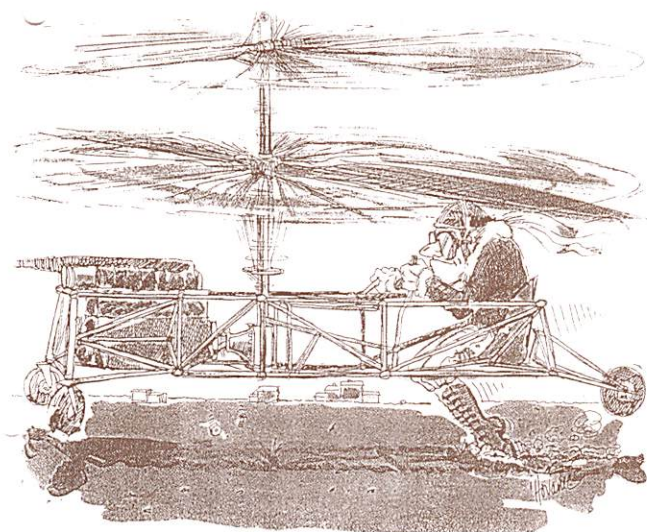


Illustration based on contemporary pictures accurately depict the shape, and performance, of the Froebe helicopter. The pre-Sikorsky experiments by the Froebe brothers are, unfortunately, a little known chapter in Canadian aviation history

From Canadian Aviation magazine September 1970.

On December 20th, 1938, the helicopter rose shakily above the ground with all three wheels off the ground at once. It reached a height of three feet. Very little maneuvering was accomplished. Their makeshift parts and inability to balance the rotors resulted in excessive vibration which made it difficult to control, and unsafe for the pilot. Many attempts were made to refine the craft to a suitable level of flight. Due to money constraints and ultimate discouragement, they returned to fixed-wing aircraft.

Deed died in a crash of an airplane while attempting aerobatics in 1943.

Nic was killed in an airplane accident while crop spraying in 1959.

Doug lived out his life and passed away in 1994.

“The Good old Days in Jolly Old England”

by Judith Doyle

During the Industrial Revolution, the population of England more than doubled. Men, women and children unable to find work on farms moved to towns and cities to seek work in factories, mills, mines and shops. Working conditions and crowded unsanitary housing took a terrible toll on the workers who toiled long hours, being poorly fed, poorly housed, and poorly paid. (Women and boys working in cotton mills in dreadful conditions were paid 2 shillings to 2 shillings and sixpence, a pittance, per week.) Working conditions were dangerous, accidents were rife, and workers were afflicted by industrial disease. Long shifts of 12 hours or more led to chronic fatigue that caused terrible accidents, especially for tired children working around machines with no guard rails.

Little was done to improve the lot of these unfortunate people as it was commonly held that the “masses” were less intelligent and inferior, due to heredity, than the “best stocks” found in the upper strata of society. From 1871 to 1880, life expectancy in Great Britain was 41 for males and 44 for females. These low figures were caused by high numbers of still births, deaths of newborns, and failure to survive common childhood diseases such as diphtheria, scarlet fever, whooping cough and diarrhea. Those who survived childhood, diseases, accidents and giving birth, might live to their 60s, 70s, and even 80s.

Industrial diseases arose in the mills. Mule spinners suffered cancer of the skin from constant contact with crude lubricating oils. Severe eczema was brought on by working with mineral oil and toiling with flax straw to produce linen thread. Cotton bale dust impaired lungs, bringing on asthma. The deadly *Bacillus anthracis* of ten present in bales of wool from Asia and Asia Minor could kill in one day! Phossy jaw was a nasty form of gangrene caused by working with white phosphorus, once used to make matches. Bakers developed itching blisters from the daily kneading of bread dough, and asthma from the flour dust.

Plumbers and painters suffered lead poisoning along with those who worked in white lead production and chinaware glazing, and file cutters and enamellers, developed anemia leading to abdominal pain (painters’ colic), sickness, defective vision, dropped wrist and paralysis of the hands. It was not until 1926 that The Lead Paint Act was passed to improve working conditions.

In quarries, flint dust rendered the lungs hard and in-elastic (silicosis), which easily led to tuberculosis. Miners not only suffered a high degree of accidents from cave-ins, caused by firedamp (methane) explosions or careless propping practices, they often developed black lung from inhaling coal dust from a young age. Mine working conditions were so abominable that in 1842, employment of women and girls in mines was prohibited. After that, only males over 10 years of age were allowed to work underground, the youngest hurrying carts of coal up low tunnels that forced them to work bent over, or crawl for 12 hours a day.

In 1897 a number of Workmen’s Compensation Acts were passed. Safety devices were installed in mills and mines, and safety regulations were supposed to be enforced. In 1901 the Factory and Workshop Act required notice of all cases of anthrax, arsenic, lead, phosphorus and mercury poisoning so that sufferers and their dependents could be compensated for contracting such diseases.

Rheumatism and tuberculosis were scourges for people weakened by malnutrition and deficiencies, cold and filth, and parasites such as fleas and lice. The leading cause of death was diarrhea or dysentery, followed by

tuberculosis and influenza. Despite the discovery of cowpox inoculation, smallpox was still a feared killer. Cholera and typhoid were spread by contaminated water in the public water fountains that were the sole source of household water for many thousands of people living in crowded streets. Sewage disposal was primitive and not improved in some areas until the last century.

Childhood diseases were often fatal for children on poor diets. Famine was not unknown and adequate quantities of nutritious food were beyond the means of most workers, who often existed on tea, bread, and cheap jam, stew made from meat bones, cabbage and potatoes. On a diet such as this children with severely bowed legs (rickets) were a common sight. They suffered chilblains, gumboils, toothache, earache, skin diseases, head lice, frequent colds and bronchitis.

To add to the misery large families of children were the rule, a new mouth to feed being born every two to three years on average. Most women bore 8 to 10 children, some even more, and it was common to lose one or more; one of my families lost 5 out of 7 infants. Children were put to work as soon as they were able, to bring more money into the household. They wore homemade and handed-down clothes, and handmedown shoes if they were lucky, or went barefoot. Children listed as scholars on censuses often stayed home to tend smaller sisters and brothers, or were put to work, sometimes as young as three! Men, women and children worked their guts out and died no better off than when they were born. They were hard times, as Dickens related.

Toward the end of the 19th century came the dawn of public health, public education, and more humane treatment of the workforce, yet most children continued to leave school at 12 to work long shifts for meager pay. Children as young as 20 drove carts and did manual work in rural areas.

It was not until 1876 that Benjamin Disraeli's government passed a law introducing universal compulsory attendance at the elementary day schools. By 1880, attendance reached the 4 million mark. No child was excluded for want of ability to pay. No longer would people "make their mark": they would be able to sign their names and read newspapers. Free secondary schools were still to come. In 1918 nursery schools were established, and the school leaving age was raised to 14. Even in 1930 my mother left school the age of 14 to work full time weaving cloth in a woollen mill to help support her family, a common practice among all working class families. Only when their children were out working could parents save for their old age.

In the good old days, families were responsible for their old people. Most sick people were nursed at home and died at home. Births still took place at home as late as the 1930s and 1940s, often with only a midwife. The destitute depended upon the parish, or as a last resort, had to subsist in the workhouse

Improvements in housing for the working classes were slow to come. In the 1940s, many workers were still living in ancient sidebyside, backtoback, two-room, stonefloored, terraced houses with no heating other than a small open fire, and no indoor plumbing, except in some cases, a cold water tap. They had to share an outside toilet or privy with one or more families. These homes were almost universally rented from a landlord, often a mill owner.

There was a silver lining to all this gloom for the bright, the strong and the healthy, lucky enough to be in work in smaller towns and villages. Shops and places of employment were within easy walking distance, so people got plenty of exercise, and in semirural areas, fresh air. Most people were in the same boat, practicing extreme thrift with great skill, skill passed on from mothers and fathers to their children. Friends, neighbours and relatives saw each other on a daily basis as they went about their lives. Shopkeepers, publicans and tradesmen lived and worked among the working families and were familiar faces to all. Few people lived alone.

Many people managed some comforts. Some rented garden allotments, if they had no garden behind the house, to grow vegetables and keep a few hens,. They kept their homes clean inside and out, dressed their children in clean clothes, struggled to pay their bills (including the doctor's), and went to church. In the West Riding of Yorkshire, there was, close by, much beautiful countryside for walks and picnics on summer weekends, and this is where the young smitten lads and lasses went walking together. Along the country lanes, women and children picked nuts, and blackberries and other fruit to make jam. Just as today, all hoped not to be struck down by accident or ill health, and many were not, living to a ripe old age in spite of many an adversity.

For the less fortunate, the widowed, orphaned or old, those out of work or sick or injured, or those living in squalid tenements in large cities, the outlook was bleak only for the healthy and rich were there "good old days".

In Memory

JOHNSTON Charles Wesley (Wes) 1928 - 2003

After a long and valiant struggle with cancer, Wes completed his earthly journey on Wednesday, December 10, 2003. He is honoured and lovingly remembered by his best friend and wife of fifty-two years, Sheila; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Jim and Sue of Chilliwack, BC, Russell of Victoria, BC; and a daughter and son-in-law, Louise Johnston and Wolf Leonhardt of Calgary; seven grandchildren, Cheryl Holm and Michael Johnston, Allison and David Leonhardt, Jessica, Becky and Bobby LeBrun; and four Godchildren, Tom Liknes, Bill Kay, Marlene Caskey and Don Jacquest. He is also survived by three brothers and two sisters-in-law, Vernon and Helen of Cereal, AB, Don and Mary of Calgary, and Duncan of Nelson, BC; two sisters-in-law, June Johnston of Nelson, BC and Margaret (Bruce) Jacquest of Westeros, AB; two aunts, Hazel Sommerville of Carstairs, AB and Betty Carson of Sacramento, CA; and one uncle Russell Vogel of Calgary, AB. He was predeceased by his son David in 1977, his parents Russell and Louise Vogel Johnston, by Sheila's parents Jim and Bertha Moore and by several aunts and uncles. He will also be lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews, cousins, other family members, neighbours and friends.

Wes was born September 30, 1928 on the family farm at Helmsdale, AB. He was a 1950 graduate in Electrical Engineering from the University of Alberta, and spent his entire thirty-eight year professional career with Calgary Power, later TransAlta Utilities, mainly in the communications and telecontrol field. He was a life member of APEGGA and a past section chairman of IEEE. Upon retiring in 1988, he was able to pursue his other interests, including archaeology and genealogy, the latter combined with the love of computers. Wes and Sheila spent some time in their beloved Kananaskis, did some traveling and combined that travel with genealogy whenever possible.

Wes lent his technical expertise to keep computer, audio and other equipment running at the Historical Society of Alberta, the Alberta Families History Society, and Northminster United Church. He was also a Trustee of Northminster United Church. His long and dedicated service to the Calgary Centre (chapter) of the Archaeological Society of Alberta was recognized earlier this year when their annual student award was named "The Wes Johnston Award in Archaeology". His retirement also included many years of support to both his own and Sheila's parents during their declining years. He was a man of strong, staunch, and upright character, who valued honesty, fairness and forthrightness throughout his life. He set us all a fine example of leadership and quiet support for the causes he believed in.

We would like to express a special word of appreciation and thanks to Bev Rinehart and her dedicated staff at Sarcee Hospice who made Wes' final months as comfortable as possible; and to Drs. Avis Boyer, Maurice Saunders, and David Falk. Thanks also to Dr. Harold Lau, the staff of ICU and Respiratory Departments, and those of the staff of Unit 47 at Foothills Hospital who supported and cared for and about Wes last year. We would also like to express our gratitude to the minister, secretary and our fellow members of the Northminster congregation for their wonderful support during the past fourteen months, especially those who saw that Sheila daily got safely to and from Glenmore and also Sarcee, regardless of the weather.

If friends so desire, in lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made directly to
Northminster United Church Commemorative Fund,
3311 Centre Street N.W.,
Calgary, AB
T2E 2X7

or to

“The Wes Johnston Award in Archaeology”,
c/o The Development Office, Craigie Hall (Sixth Floor),
University of Calgary,
2500 University Drive N.W.,
Calgary, AB
T2N 1N4,

or to the charity of the donor’s choice.

A Memorial Service will be held at

Northminster United Church

3311 Centre Street North on Tuesday, December 16, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. with the Rev. Linda Benson officiating.

To forward condolences go to www.mcinnisandholloway.com.

*One or the other must leave,
One or the other must stay.
One or the other must grieve That is forever the way.
That is the vow that was sworn, Faithful till death do us part.
Braving what had to be borne, Hiding the ache in the heart.
One, howsoever adored, First must be summoned away.
That is the will of the Lord, One or the other must stay.*

In living memory of Wes Johnston, a tree will be planted at Nose Creek Valley by
McINNIS & HOLLOWAY FUNERAL HOMES, Chapel of the Bells,
2720 CENTRE STREET NORTH,
CALGARY.
Telephone: 403-276-2296. 187586

In Memory

BAILEY Georgia Ruth 1921 - 2003

Having fought the battle against cancer with courage and dignity, Georgia Ruth Bailey (nee Depue) of Calgary passed away peacefully at home on October 18, 2003, at the age of 82 years. She had just spent a wonderful summer at Christina Lake surrounded by family and friends. Sorrowfully survived by her husband of sixty years, Ralph Francis Bailey of Calgary; daughter and son-in-law, Jo Anne and John Beer, and their children, Angela and Jonathan of Madoc, ON; daughter and son-in-law, Barbara June and Jacques Boizeau, and their children, Caroline and Christelle of St. Leu-la-Forêt, France; brother Norman Richard Depue of Cochrane, AB; three nephews and their families, Mike of Calgary, Tim of Victoria, BC, and Steve of Calgary; sister-in-law Dorothy and her husband Gil Hirst of Calgary. Georgia was predeceased by her father George L. Depue, mother Ida Blanche (nee Reynolds) Depue, brother George Albert Depue, sister-in-law Marj (nee Hayes) Depue, brother-in-law Herbert Bailey, and niece Dorothy Lorraine Wood.

Until the onset of her cancer, Georgia was active in golf and square-dancing, and even though she suffered from macular degeneration, Georgia continued to play duplicate bridge at Silver Springs Golf and Country Club and the North Ladies Bridge Club, and share some time with the "Lunch Bunch".

She enjoyed genealogy and traveling and creating picture albums for these activities and for their very precious "gang" reunions. She inspired love, devotion and admiration in everyone she touched. At Georgia's request, the family will celebrate her life at Christina Lake in the summer of 2004.

*Do not stand at my grave and weep.
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow;
I am the diamond glints on the snow;
I am the sunlight on ripened grain;
I am the gentle autumn's rain.
When you waken in the morning's hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush of quiet birds in circled flight,
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there,
I did not die.*

A special thanks to her care-giver angels, Annemarie and Jane, and her many, many supportive and loving friends. If friends so desire, as a thank you for the marvelous care and concern of the palliative team, especially Lindy Lou, memorial tributes may be made directly to:

"Georgia Bailey Fund" for the Palliative Home Care Program,
c/o Calgary Health Trust,
10101 Southport Road S.W.,
Calgary, AB
T2W 3N2.

To forward condolences go to www.mcinnisandholloway.com .

In living memory of Georgia Bailey, a tree will be planted at Fish Creek Provincial Park by
McINNIS & HOLLOWAY FUNERAL HOMES,
Crowfoot Chapel,
2 CROWFOOT CIRCLE N.W.,
CALGARY.

“Tete”

by Suddie Bill Mumford

We called him “tete”*. A stocky powerful man, barely five feet six inches tall, but over two hundred pounds of bone and muscle developed from years of hard physical labour. His bearing was that of a military man, the result of his time as a soldier. His hair was clipped short in the Teutonic fashion of the day and he affected a walrus moustache which hid an almost perpetual smile. He had deep set blue eyes and a voice which could be as soft and gentle as a summer breeze or as strong and commanding as that of a regimental sergeant major.

He was born Vincus Barkauskus in Grishkabudis kaima, Lithuania in 1870. The only son of his father's third wife he was fussed over and pampered by his elder half sisters. The family was not wealthy and even though Vincus was a favorite at the age of four he was sent to the fields to mind the sheep. In later years he would recount the terrors, both real and imagined, he faced during those lonely nights in the fields and how he often cried himself to sleep. He would remain a shepherd for seventeen years.

On his twenty first birthday he reported to the officials in Grishkabudis for compulsory service in the armies of the Russian Tsar. Illiterate and uneducated, he was assigned to guard duty at a detention camp in Siberia. Quick to learn when the opportunities arose Vincus studied the languages of many of the inmates and was soon fluent in German, Russian, Ukrainian, Polish as well as his native Lithuanian. This ability came to the attention of the camp commander and Vincus was given a warm and comfortable post in the commander's office as a translator.

Completing his army service Vincus returned to Lithuania and obtained a position as a bishop's valet. The bishop recognized Vincus' native intelligence and undertook to remedy his lack of a formal education. After a number of years in the bishop's service, his imagination whetted by his studies, Vincus determined to see the world and made the first of seven voyages across the Atlantic.

His third voyage deposited him in Montreal where he sought employment with the Canadian Pacific Railway. His English, in spite of a heavy accent, was acceptable but otherwise he had few qualifications beyond a strong back. The CPR, in need of just that quality, assigned him to a section crew in Western Canada. The company's employment officer, unable to spell or translate his name, simply informed him from that day forth he would be known as “Bill Baron”. Some years later he would apply for

Canadian citizenship and be told that he could not use the name Baron as that was a title. For the sum of one dollar, they would be happy to legally change it to the more acceptable “Barron”.

The year 1900 found Bill, or Vilhelm as he was known to his fellow workers, working in the Crowsnest Pass. On April 29th 1903, Turtle Mountain tumbled down on the sleeping town of Frank. Vilhelm was member of one of the first rescue crews. A frugal man, by 1905 he had saved enough money that he felt he could now afford a bride. A Canadian girl was not acceptable so he returned to his native Lithuania to carry out his quest.

The search did not go as well as he had hoped. When he finally found an acceptable woman, she rejected his suit on learning of his peasant background. Months later, while attending church in Sintautai, he noticed two choirgirls, sisters of seventeen and nineteen. Either would do nicely. Bearing in mind the lessons of the past, he presented himself to their father, Yuazas Adomiatis, as a well to do Canadian. A few well-spent rubles clinched the deal. He could marry the elder daughter, Petroneli.

Vincus and Petroneli married a few months later after all the proper prenuptial observances had been made. Time was running short however and Vincus' leave of absence from the railway would soon expire.

His new wife, now pregnant and wishing to have her first child at home, would remain behind. Four years would pass before Vincus could return.

When Vincus returned in 1910 he met his daughter, my mother, for the first time. Petroneli was now 23 and had come into her birthright. Under Lithuanian laws of the day, she was now the head of the family and had title to the family farm. Yuazas had built a prosperous thoroughbred stable and this was now Petroneli's. She was not going to leave it to come to Canada. Vilhelm was heartsick. He tried for months to convince her to no avail. His leave of absence had now expired and he had to return to Canada, again leaving a pregnant wife behind.

On his return, he discovered, to his dismay, that while he still had his job as section foreman he had lost his pension benefits and as he was now over forty could not reapply. Somehow, he managed, by letter, to convince Petroneli she should at least visit Canada. She consented. Under the rule of the Tsar, it was very difficult to obtain the papers required to exit Russian ter-

ritory. It took several years and by the time the papers were obtained Petroneli's second child had been born. The papers were now useless as they listed only one child. Nevertheless, Petroneli, a strong forceful woman, decided to leave regardless. Using a substitute set of papers she managed to cross the border, leaving some very unhappy Russian border guards who noticed, moments too late, the deception.

The tale of this woman's flight to Canada with her two children is, in itself, an interesting story. They had now missed their ship connection in Bremen and the ship on which their passage had been booked, sank. Arriving in Winnipeg some weeks later, they found their rail passes had lapsed and they missed their train connection. That train derailed with the loss of some life. Taking the next available train they headed west to Crowfoot Crossing where Vilhelm was waiting, hoping against hope that his family had survived the wreck. The train passed through the station, which was only a whistle stop, without stopping. Vilhelm turned to leave, certain his family was gone. To his amazement, the train stopped, backed into the station and his wife and children alighted.

Petroneli, unable to either read or write English, had learned how to spell Crowfoot Crossing. Throughout the trip, she watched every station looking for those letters. When she saw them and the train failed to stop she simply pulled the emergency cord. While this upset the conductor more than little it did enable her to join her husband.

Vilhelm did not have to convince his wife to remain in Canada. World War I did that. Letters from home soon convinced Petroneli life in Canada would be preferable to that in Lithuania under the Bolsheviks. The family continued to grow with the addition of two more daughters and a like number of sons. By 1918 Vilhelm had been transferred to Langdon and assigned a company house. He would remain in Langdon until his death.

As a father Vilhelm left the disciplining of the children to his wife. Having endured a lonely and difficult childhood himself he devoted himself to his children and grandchildren spending countless hours playing games with them, telling stories, and making toys for their pleasure. He was widely respected in the community and by the men of his crew. His ability to speak their languages being a great plus. Although I spent a great amount of time with him during the War years of 1939 to 1945 I saw him angry only once. While milking, the cow flicked her tail, which had been tied to a brick to prevent such foolishness. The brick hit him on the side of the head. He rose from his milking stool, grabbed a pitchfork, and proceeded to break it in three pieces over the cow's back, all the while cursing her in Lithuanian.

Vilhelm retired from the CPR in 1936 after close to forty years of service sans pension. He had built a retirement house across the road from his CPR section house. Here, on several acres of land he kept several thousand chickens, hundreds of turkeys, a couple of cows, a horse, and a pig, which was slaughtered every year. He maintained a large garden with over an acre in potatoes alone. He cured his own hams, made his own sausage, and even had an icehouse. He chopped old railroad ties for firewood and hauled all his water from one of his two wells. His children and grandchildren would help as time and their physical ability permitted but for the last ten years of his life he managed on his own.

I last visited Vilhelm in the fall of 1950. I was sitting in the kitchen as he entered from the back shed. He had just finished his chores and stood, clinging to the kitchen door frame, as he tried to recover his breath. He was now over eighty but still stood erect and, to my eyes, unchanged from my memories of earlier years. We discussed many things that night, including the price of chicken feed. His observation, "chicken feed doesn't cost chicken feed". Six months later he would collapse in his kitchen while Petroneli, ironically, was in Calgary visiting her doctor. Two days later, in the Holy Cross Hospital, Vilhelm would breathe his last. His great heart had finally failed.

Throughout his life, Petroneli, whenever she was angry with him, would belittle him by referring to him as "piemenis" or shepherd. While she intended this as a slight he was indeed a good shepherd. Throughout his life he cared deeply for his flock, which was why we called him "tete", the Lithuanian familiar form of father.

* Pronounced as two syllables. The first "te" as "tay", the second "te" as "teh"

MORGAN - Alberta

Looking to make contact with a Morgan family of Alberta that had 4 daughters who were active in sports and cadets. The girls were born from 1962 - 1966.

Welsh/Dutch family, of Anglican faith

J. Duncan - jduncan2@telus.net

**M a r r s ,
Melinda**

Born about
1865 in
Ontario to
parents

William Marris and Margaret Elliot. Married 12 Oct. 1892 to John Kennedy in Bruce Twp, Bruce Co., Ontario

John Kennedy's parents were William Kennedy and Margaret Lawrence and John was

born about 1860 in Ontario.

What happened to Melinda Marris and her husband John Kennedy? At the time of their marriage, John was living in Michigan, USA.

Looking for anyone connected to this Marris/Kennedy family.

Linda Murray - misunism@telus.net
204 Riverside Mews S.E.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2C 3Y8

The following articles were submitted by Doug Stobbs and carries no official endorsement from the Alberta Family Histories Society.

On a personal note I have used their service from England and have had nothing to complain about. One of their archive CD's is currently on loan to the A.F.H.S. Library.

Gordon Lane

It gives me an immense amount of pleasure to announce that

Archive CD Books USA is now OPEN!

<http://www.archivedbooks.us/>

The International Archive CD Books Project (a not for profit organisation) exists to make reproductions of old books, documents and maps available on CD to genealogists and historians, and to co-operate with libraries, museums and record offices in providing money to renovate old books in their collection, and to donate books to their collections, where they will be preserved for future generations.

The Archive CD Books Project started in England in March 2000, and has grown in leaps and bounds. Because everyone wins!

- * The County Record Offices gain
- * The Libraries gain
- * The Museums gain
- * The Family History Societies gain
- * Book dealers gain
- * We, the genealogists and historians gain access to these old and rare primary sources of data in their original form, faithfully reproduced on CD.

No-one loses, everyone gains.

The Project is all about making CDs of old and rare books available to genealogists and historians at a reasonable price. It is a "user supported" project, and is intended to be non profit making.

By popular demand, during the summer of 2003 we expanded to open up Archive CD Books Australia, and now.... Archive CD Books USA.

The principal people running the Archive CD Books USA project, which is based in San Antonio, Texas, are Herb Hornung, Joe Bissett and Rod Neep. Together with Charlotte (order processing), Amanda (packing and shipping), and Melinda, who is the Book

Production Supervisor and trains the other employees on scanning books and all the related computer processing. Ellen, Taylor and Kay work part time sharing much of the scanning and CD mastering load.

We currently have amassed over 300 old and rare books relating to the USA, with more arriving daily. We encourage you to review the "Books in Progress" section of our Archive CD Books USA web site. <http://www.archivecdbooks.us/>

In the USA, our schedule is to produce 5 new CD Books per week through the Holidays, with an increase to 10 CD Books per week beginning in 2004. Twelve CD Books are already finished and in production, and these are all priced (for a limited period) at just \$12 as an opening special.

(Note: special offers from Archive CD Books USA are not applicable to other Archive CD Books branches, or vice versa - each has its own special offers and promotions with its own CDs).

In addition to the old and rare USA Books on CD, the Archive CD Books USA site also contains *ALL* of the *complete* range of Archive CD Books CDs. Currently around 1,300 different CDs of old books from all over the world! So if you live in the USA, then you can order any of them direct from within your own country for faster delivery. (All CDs are made locally at Archive CD Books USA). By nature, the very latest releases from Archive CD Books in Britain will take a little while (about a week) to appear on the shopping cart in the USA, whilst the masters are transferred. We have a system set up to supply masters of all CDs between the different country branches of Archive CD Books. (At present, Britain, Australia and USA, although Canada and the Netherlands branches will be coming on-line very soon, and more will follow).

As with our British counterpart, all of the books that we acquire will be donated, free of charge, to a Genealogical Society, a history association, a library, or to another source that provides help to researchers. If necessary, these books will be renovated before donation, at our expense.

If you have a particular organization in mind that has helped your research, we would be pleased if you nominated that organization to receive one of our books.

Finally, if you have a book that you would like to have reproduced on CD, we will be happy to do so. We will pay shipping and insurance costs both ways. We will produce the CD and acknowledge your generosity on an opening fly leaf in the CD Book. We will provide you with a free copy of the CD, and give you a 25% discount on any 10 US produced books you might care

to purchase over the next year. Please bear in mind that we can NOT reproduce any book that is still in copyright status, without specific permission from the copyright holder. Generally speaking, any book published in 1922, or earlier, is out of copyright. (70 years since the death of the author). We will cover any questions you might have in a personal e-mail exchange.

To contact us directly at Archive CD Books USA, please use:
E-Mail: enquiries@archivecdbooks.us

And for the new Archive CD Books USA web site and shopping cart: <http://www.archivecdbooks.us/>

Rod Neep - Founder of the Archive CD Books Project

Archive CD Books : <http://www.archivecdbooks.org>

British-Genealogy: <http://www.british-genealogy.com>
CDBooks-news mailing list:
CDBooks-news@british-genealogy.com

<http://www.british-genealogy.com/mailman/listinfo/cdbooks-news>

There are self help guides for researching in BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba online at the Cloverdale library in PDF form. It is listed under Genealogy Resources/Holdings

<http://www.spl.surrey.bc.ca/Programs+and+Services/Genealogy/default.htm>.

They can be accessed directly at this link

<http://www.spl.surrey.bc.ca/Programs+and+Services/Genealogy/Genealogy+Resources+and+Holdings/default.htm>

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Alternative Email: avidgenie@hotmail.com

Library Donations and Acquisitions

Nov. 2003

submitted by Lorna Stewart

LIBRARY DONATIONS

Federation of Family History Societies

- ♦ *Directory of Speakers* 5th ed compiled by Peter B. Park
- ♦ *The Family Historian's Pocket Dictionary*, Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *War Memorials on the Web*, part 1 - Southern England, The Marches and Wales, Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *War Memorials on the Web*, part 2 - The Midlands, Northern England and East Anglia, Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *Monumental Inscriptions on the Web*, Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *Births, Marriages and Deaths on the Web*, part 1 – General, Southern England, The Marches and Wales, Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *Births, Marriages and Deaths on the Web*, part 2 – The Midlands, Northern England and East Anglia, Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *Family History on the Web an Internet Directory*
- ♦ *Genealogical Resources within the Jewish home and family*
- ♦ *Scottish Family History on the Web*
- ♦ *Lunatics in England and Wales for Family Historians*
- ♦ *Local Newspapers 1750-1920 England, Wales, Channel Islands, Isle of Man*
- ♦ *Probate Jurisdictions: where to look for Wills*, 5th ed.
- ♦ *Record offices: how to find them*, 9th ed.
- ♦ *Family Feuds – an introduction to Chancery Proceedings*
- ♦ *Researching Brewery and Publican Ancestors*
- ♦ *History's Midwives (including a c17th and c18th Yorkshire Midwives Nominations Index)*
- ♦ *Tracing Your Twentieth Century Family History*
- ♦ *First Name Variants* 3rd edition
- ♦ *Current Publications on Microfiche by Member Societies*, 5th edition – by John P. Perkins
- ♦ CD, same as above
- ♦ *Surnames and Genealogy, a New Approach*, by George Redmonds
- ♦ *Was your Grandfather a Railwayman?* 4th edition by Tom Richards
- ♦ *Basic facts about Descendant Tracing* by Tom Wood
- ♦ *Using Computers for Genealogy*, 3rd edition by David Hawgood

- ♦ *Information Sources for Surrey and Sussex Genealogists History, Archives, Journals, etc.* by Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *Surrey and Sussex Lists of Names* by Stuart A. Raymond
- ♦ *Administrative Records for Surrey and Sussex Genealogists. Government, Ecclesiastical, Estate* by Stuart A. Raymond

Atlantic SIG

- ♦ *Rawdon and Douglas Two Loyalist Townships in Nova Scotia* – John V. Duncanson
- ♦ *Falmouth a New England Township in Nova Scotia* – John V. Duncanson
- ♦ *Newport, Nova Scotia a Rhode Island Township* – John V. Duncanson

Norma Lendrum

- ♦ *The Stephenson Story and Genealogy* by Gladys Mary Rowell and Norma (Stephenson) Lendrum

Nancy Carson

- ♦ *Finding the Places of Origin for English Ancestors*, tape by Arlene H. Eackle
- ♦ *Who are the Scots-Irish*, tape by Arlene H. Eackle
- ♦ *Grave Matters – epitaphs* by E.R. Shusham
- ♦ *With Heart and Hands and Voices: histories of Protestant Churches of Brome, Missisquoi, Shefford and surrounding area* by Phyllis Hamilton
- ♦ *The Cemetery Book* by Tom Weil
- ♦ *Henderson's Northwest Brand Book*, 3rd Edition 1894, by Henderson Directory Co.

Stanislaw Swianiewicz

- ♦ *In the Shadow of Katyn* by Stanislaw Swainiewicz

John Doyle

- ♦ *Maps Alberta Catalogue 1993-94 Gov't of Alberta*

Helen Backhouse

- ♦ *"Fast Sailing and Copper-Bottomed"* by Lucille H. Campey

Gordon Williams

- ♦ *Quin Kola* by Alice V. Payne

Phil Thorpe

- ♦ *Some Descendants of Simon Newton Porter and Elizabeth Porter* by Phillip P. Thorpe CG (C)
- ♦ *Some descendents of Daniel Hunlley and Susannah Beckwith, New England Planters, Kings County, N.S.*
- ♦ *Some Descendants of Simon Porter and Jane Power*
- ♦ *Thorpe Hamlets – some descendents of Oliver Thorpe and Hannah Edgerton, New England Planters, Kings County, N.S., vers.3*

Frank Morrow

- ♦ *Cadagan Guides Ireland* by Catherina Day

Lorna Laughton – Ontario

- ◆ Munster Union Cemetery, West ½ of lot 11, Concession VI, Goulbourn Township, (Carleton County), Ontario
- ◆ St Patrick's Roman Catholic Cemetery, Lots 22-23, Concession 5, Nepean Township, Carleton County, Ontario
- ◆ Cemeteries of Colchester South Township, Essex County, Ontario
- ◆ St. Peter Celastine Roman Catholic Cemetery, "Indian-Hill", Lot 6, Concession 9, Pakenham Township, (Lanark County), Ontario
- ◆ Clyde Forks Cemetery, Lavant Township, Lanark County: Lot 17, Concession 5, Clyde Forks, Ontario
- ◆ St. George's Cemetery, Lot 16, Concession 1, North Section, Ramsay Township, Lanark County, Ontario
- ◆ Highland Line Cemetery, Dalhousie Township, Lanark County, Ontario: Lot 6 Concession 9
- ◆ Cedar Hill Cemetery, Pakenham Township, Concession 8 Lanark County, Ontario
- ◆ Robertson Cemetery, Ramsay Township, Lanark County, Ontario: Concession 1
- ◆ Middleville Church Cemetery, Lanark Township, Lanark County, Ontario: Lot 14, Concession 6
- ◆ Rosetta Cemetery, Lanark Township, Lanark County, Ontario: Concession 9
- ◆ McDonald Cemetery, Ramsay Township, near Blakeney, Lanark County, Ontario: 10th Line
- ◆ Tannant Cemetery, Lot 8, Concession 9, Lanark Township, Lanark, Ontario
- ◆ Cemeteries in the Niagara Region, Ontario. (Lincoln County and Welland County)
- ◆ Arnprior Albert Street Cemetery, Arnprior, McNab Township, Renfrew County, Ontario

Lorna Laughton – Quebec

- ◆ St. James Anglican Cemetery, Hull, Quebec, Volume 3 Gravestone Inscriptions
- ◆ St. Mary's Anglican Church Cemetery Recording, Como, Quebec
- ◆ Norway Bay United Cemetery, Lots 9 and 10, Range 1, and Norway Bay Anglican Cemetery, Lot 10, Range 2, Bristol Township, Pontiac County, Quebec
- ◆ St. James Anglican Church Cemetery, Hudson, Vaudreuil County, Quebec, Part 1 – the Original "old" Cemetery

Bill Allen

- ◆ Rose Roots Family History

Murray Boyce

- ◆ Hometown Verden (Manitoba) Pioneers and Progress by Verden Millennium History Book Committee
- ◆ The City Beyond a History of Nepean, Birthplace of Canada's Capital 1792-1990 (Ontario) by Bruce S. Elliott

- ◆ John and Rosalie Nelkenbrecher by Redginald North and Rosale Werner
- ◆ Kuehn Family by Felix G. Kuehn
- ◆ A Dodds Genealogy by Larry Dodds
- ◆ Wandering Volhynians – Germans from Vohlynia and Poland Vol 2 #2 July 1989 – Vol 4 #2 June 1991

William H. Blue

- ◆ Descendants of John (Blaw) Blue, d. 1757, Somerset Co. N.J. CD

Myrna Waldroff

- ◆ Ireland, A.R. Orme
- ◆ Old Map of Somerset 1610
- ◆ In the Days of the Canada Company

Phyllis Hunphreys

- ◆ The Heritage Gazette of the Trent Valley, Vol 1 #3, Vol 2 #2 and 3
- ◆ O.G.S. Directory of Surnames, 1991 edition
- ◆ Ghost Towns of Ontario Vol 1
- ◆ The Early Settlement of Peterborough County
- ◆ Remember Me As You Pass By
- ◆ Make History

Donna Kirkwood

- ◆ Largs and North Ayrshire Journal(s)

Percy A. Osborne

- ◆ Gladys and Dinton Through the Years by Dinton
- ◆ Women's Institute and Gladys Women's Institute
- ◆ Graves Family Story by Bertha (Osborne) Rohl
- ◆ My Memories by Percy A. Osborne

Jack Cox

- ◆ Province of Alberta Department of Lands and Forests 1959

Gordon Lane

- ◆ Splintered Dreams Sikhs in Southern Alberta
- ◆ Inis Beag Isle of Ireland
- ◆ Ancestry Magazine 1994-1999 CD
- ◆ English Parish Records: London CD

Ann Williams

- ◆ Guild of One-Name Studies Register 2002

Bill Leflar

- ◆ The Van Valkenburg Family in America, Vol 1 and Vol 2

Mary Arthur

- ◆ Henderson's Calgary Street Directory 1982

Ingeborg Leavell

- ◆ Maps Associated with Lunenburg County Family History

Lois Sparling

- ♦ 500 Brickwall Solutions to Genealogy Problems
- ♦ Historical Directory of Saskatchewan Newspapers 1878-1983

Bob Fyvie

- ♦ Fyvie Family History 2003 CD

Ellen Kinghorn

- ♦ What you need to Know to Research French Records

Helen Arthur

- ♦ To Their Heirs Forever

Velma Lake

- ♦ Down Memory Lane – Welcome to Simpson

Linda Haldaway

- ♦ Beckoning Hills Revisited. Ours is a goodly heritage, Morton-Boissevain 1881-1981

Alana Brown

- ♦ United We Stand – A History of Winnipeg's Civic Workers

Edgar Scott

- ♦ The Copeland Family by Frederick Bell
- ♦ Origin of the McKennas by Anthony Mathews
- ♦ Origin of the O'Dohertys by Anthony Mathews
- ♦ Roland and Myrtle (Manitoba) Family Histories by Roland 4H
- ♦ This Morden and District by the 80th Anniversary & Reunion Organization
- ♦ Dauphin Valley Spans the Years by Dauphin Historical Society
- ♦ Heraldry, Ancestry and Titles, Questions and Answers by L.G. Pine
- ♦ Clan Map of Scotland by Johnston & Bacon
- ♦ Gravestone Inscriptions, Vol 10 Co. Down, Barony of Mourne by R.S.J. Clarke
- ♦ Tracing Your Swedish Ancestry by Nils William Olsson
- ♦ The Ancestor Trail in Ireland by Donal F. Begley
- ♦ The North American Indian by Edward S. Curtis
- ♦ Sources for Genealogical Research in Northern Ireland by Ulster Historical Foundation
- ♦ Symbols of Heraldry Explained by Heraldic Artists Ltd.
- ♦ Handbook on Irish Genealogy by Heraldic Artists Ltd.
- ♦ Between Mountain and Lake, History of Ochre River Municipality 1885-1970, (Manitoba)
- ♦ Discovering Your Scottish Roots by Alwyn James
- ♦ Irish Genealogy a Record Finder by Donal F. Begley
- ♦ Historical Sketch of the Bounty of Carleton (Ontario) originally published in 1879
- ♦ In Search of Your Roots by Angus Baxter

- ♦ Homestead Records in the Provincial Archives of Alberta by Esther Kreisel

- ♦ Notes on German Research
- ♦ The Ancestor Trail in Ireland by Donal F. Begley
- ♦ Place Names of Manitoba by Penny Ham
- ♦ Living Gold – a history of the Rural Municipality of Roland, Manitoba 1876-1976 by Evelyn Mullin
- ♦ Genealogical and Historical Map of Ireland ♦ Shewing the five Kingdoms of the Pentarchy Meath, Ulster, Connaught, Leinster and Munster

Florence Denning

- ♦ The family history of Archibald “Ardare” McKellar from Scotland to Canada by Florence (McKellar) Denning

Clare Westbury

- ♦ CD Gloucestershire, Bristol and Eastern Somerset 1851 Census
- ♦ CD The 1851 Census Reports of Gloucestershire and Southern Warwickshire

Sharon Dyer

- ♦ Barton Family Lineages by Sharon Dyer nee Barton

In Honor of Bob Westbury

- vAncestral Trails by Mark D. Herber

Bunny Warner

- ♦ Roughing it in the Bush by Susanna Moodie
- ♦ The Treaties of Canada with the Indians by Alexander Morris

Jeanne Bentley

- ♦ Lafayette Genealogical Society, Vol 7, 1993

Ken Oram

- ♦ Hawthorn-Dale Cemetery, Pointe aux Trembles, Montreal, P.Q.
- ♦ Sutton, Quebec Area Cemeteries

NEW TO THE LIBRARY

- ♦ Genealogical Research Directory 2003
- ♦ Province of Ontario Immigration Records An Overview by Fawne Stratford – Devai
- ♦ Canadian Family History in the 21st Century Lessons, Links & Resources by Fawne Stratford-Devai
- ♦ Compendium of Early Mohawk Valley Families Vol 1 and 2, by Maryly B. Penrose
- ♦ Index to the Upper Canada Land Books Volume 5 January 1821 to December 1826
- ♦ Index to the 1901 Census District of Assiniboia West (No. 204)
- ♦ Index to the 1901 Census Unorganized Territories No. 206a Athabasca

- ◆ Emigrants and Expats, a guide to sources on UK emigration and residents overseas – Roger Kershaw
- ◆ Scottish Place-names – David Ross
- ◆ A Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants to Canada Before Confederation, Vol 3 – Donald Whyte
- ◆ Strathclyde Sources, A guide for Family Historians – Susan Miller
- ◆ Canadians in the U.S. Federal Census 1870 CD-ROM
- ◆ Genealogy In Ontario, Searching the Records, 3rd edition – Brenda Dougall Merriman
- ◆ The Sash Canada Wore, a Historical Geography of the Orange Order in Canada – Cecil J. Houston
- ◆ Routs to Roots, a Collection of Genealogical Columns – Ryan Taylor
- ◆ Books you need to do Genealogy in Ontario, an annotated bibliography – Ryan Taylor
- ◆ Nuts and Bolts: family history problem solving through family reconstitution techniques by Andrew Todd
- ◆ Scottish Ancestry by Sherry Irvine, 2nd edition
- ◆ AFHS Digital Library - Garden of Peace Cemetery, Municipal District of Rockyview, Alberta
- ◆ AFHS Digital Library, Volume II – The Garden Road Cemeteries, Calgary, Alberta
- ◆ Toronto Township, Peel County, Ontario, Springcreek Cemetery
- ◆ Brown's Toronto City and Home District Directory 1846-47
- ◆ Cameron Cemetery, Euphemia Township, Lambton County, Ontario
- ◆ Lambton County [Ontario] Owner/Occupancy Index of Rural Township Lots 1924
- ◆ Lambton County [Ontario] Cemeteries – Hillsdale
- ◆ Lambton County, [Ontario] Cemeteries (Lakeview, Sarnia)
- ◆ Lambton County [Ontario] Census 1881 – Sarnia Twp.
- ◆ Lambton County [Ontario] Census 1881 – Enniskillen Twp.
- ◆ Lambton County [Ontario] Census 1881 – Sarnia City
- ◆ Lambton County [Ontario] Census 1881 – Plympton Twp.
- ◆ St. Paul's Anglican Cemetery, Warwick Township, Lambton County, Ontario
- ◆ Watford Pioneer Cemetery, Lambton County, Watford, Ontario
- ◆ 1861 Census London Township, Middlesex County, Ontario, Surnames A-L
- ◆ 1861 Census London Township, Middlesex County, Ontario, Surnames M-Z
- ◆ Some Sketches of the Early Highland Pioneers of the County of Middlesex [Ontario]
- ◆ Westminster Township, South-east of the Thames [Middlesex County, Ontario]
- ◆ Adjala [Adjala Township, Simcoe County, Ontario]
- ◆ Cemetery Inscriptions: Tecumseth and West Gwillimbury Townships, Simcoe County, Ontario
- ◆ Kent County [Ontario] Census 1871 – Town of Chatham
- ◆ Wesleyan Methodist Baptism Registers of Kent County, Ontario 1842-1896
- ◆ Wesleyan Methodist Baptismal Records [Home District, Ontario] 1840-1880 and Newcastle District, Ontario Vol 1
- ◆ Wesleyan Methodist Baptismal Records [Home District, Ontario] 1840-1880 and Newcastle District, Ontario Vol 2
- ◆ Wesleyan Methodist Baptism Registers of Hastings County, Ontario 1840-1902
- ◆ Methodist Church Baptismal Records 1843-1876 Madoc Township, Hastings County, Ontario
- ◆ Way Back in Hastings [Hastings County, Ontario] Madoc, Elzevir, Tudor and Marmora Townships from the 1851 and 1861 Censuses
- ◆ The Missing Marriages of Hastings County [Ontario] 1850-1861 [Victoria District, Ontario] Stirling Cemetery, Lots 16 and 26, Part Lot 10, Con. 1, and Anglican Burying Ground, Rawdon Township, Hastings County
- ◆ Marriages, Hungerford Township [Hastings County, Ontario] 1876-1926

During the move of the Library Fran Tanner donated the following books

- ◆ Index to the 1901 Census District of Alberta
- ◆ In Search of Scottish Ancestry
- ◆ In Search of Your Canadian Roots 1989
- ◆ In Search of Your Roots, Revised and reprinted 1984, reprinted 1986
- ◆ In search of Your British and Irish Roots, reprinted with revisions 1986
- ◆ Genealogical Research Directory 1999
- ◆ Genealogical Research Directory 2000
- ◆ Genealogical Research Directory 2001
- ◆ Index to the Upper Canada Land Books, Vol 3
- ◆ Index of Passengers who emigrated to Canada between 1817-1849
- ◆ Peter Robinson's Settlers
- ◆ Midland Genealogical Directory 1996 (Birmingham and Midland, England)
- ◆ The People's Railway: A History of Canadian National
- ◆ Old Berkshire Tales
- ◆ The Parish of Long Wittenham 1800-1920 [Berkshire, England]
- ◆ Methodist Baptisms in Whitchurch, York County, Ontario 1843-1899
- ◆ Methodist Baptisms in Markham 1843-1899 [York County, Ontario]
- ◆ Markham, Ontario, Census Indexes 1851-1881
- ◆ Index to Directories and Census 1837-1891 and Index to 1901 Census for Whitchurch and Stouffville, York County, Ontario

- ♦ Victoria and St. James Anglican Cemeteries, Tweed, Hungerford Township, Hastings County, Ontario
- ♦ Thomasburg Cemetery, Part Lot 11, Con. 4, Hungerford Township, Hastings County, Ontario
- ♦ Wood Family Plot, Lot 3, Con. 8, Hungerford Township, Hastings County, Ontario
- ♦ Surname Index "Armstrong's 1872 Directory of Elgin County
- ♦ St. Thomas Cemetery Mausoleum, 67 West Avenue, St. Thomas, Elgin County, Ontario "H"
- ♦ Census Index to 1851 St. Thomas, Elgin County [Ontario]
- ♦ Census Index to 1861 St. Thomas, Elgin County [Ontario]
- ♦ Census Index to 1842 Southwold Township, Elgin County
- ♦ Census Index to 1851, Southwold Township, Elgin County
- ♦ Census Index to 1861, Southwold Township, Elgin County
- ♦ Southwold Township [Elgin County, Ontario] Assessment 1852
- ♦ Southwold Township [Elgin County, Ontario] Assessment 1848
- ♦ Southwold Township [Elgin County, Ontario] Assessment 1839
- ♦ Index to 1852 Assessment Roll: Southwold Township, Elgin County, Ontario
- ♦ Index to 1848 Assessment Roll: Southwold Township, Elgin County, Ontario
- ♦ Index to 1856 Assessment Roll for Yarmouth Township, Elgin County, Ontario
- ♦ Christ Church Cemetery, Port Stanley, Yarmouth Township, Elgin County [Ontario]
- ♦ Port Stanley, [Elgin County, Ontario]: 1901 Index to Census
- ♦ Port Stanley, [Elgin County, Ontario]: 1891 Index to Census
- ♦ Port Stanley, [Elgin County, Ontario]: 1881 Index to Census
- ♦ The Church at the Bend of the River 1845-1995 [Port Stanley, Elgin County, Ontario]
- ♦ Register of Marriages, County of Elgin [Ontario] 1853-1857
- ♦ Deaths in Elgin County [Ontario] Book 1 1869-1879
- ♦ Deaths in Elgin County [Ontario] Book 2 1880-1890
- ♦ Deaths in Elgin County [Ontario] Book 3 1891-1900
- ♦ Sims' History of Elgin County [Ontario] Vol 1
- ♦ Sims' History of Elgin County [Ontario] Vol 2
- ♦ Sims' History of Elgin County [Ontario] Vol 3
- ♦ Tyrconnell United Church Cemetery, Dunwich Township, Elgin County [Ontario]
- ♦ St. Peter's Church Cemetery, Dunwich Township, Elgin County [Ontario]
- ♦ Quinte Area [Ontario] Residents over the Age of 80 Years in 1893
- ♦ The Beacon, Quinte Branch OGS 1998 #1
- ♦ The Beacon, Quinte Branch OGS 1999 #2
- ♦ The Beacon, Quinte Branch OGS 2000 #3
- ♦ The Beacon, Quinte Branch OGS 2001 #4
- ♦ The Beacon, Quinte Branch OGS 2002 #5
- ♦ 1800-1841 Presbyterian register of Rev. Robert James McDowall, Missionary to Upper Canada [Quinte Area, Ontario]
- ♦ Peterborough [Ontario] Newspapers 1837-1856 Births, Marriages, Deaths
- ♦ Peterborough [Ontario] Review [Newspaper] 1854-1868 Births, Marriages, Deaths
- ♦ Peterborough Examiner [Newspaper] 1858-1875 Births, Marriages, Deaths [Victoria County, Ontario]
- ♦ Canadian Post [Newspaper] 1861-1867, 1874-1876 and Victoria Warder [Newspaper] 1870-1873, 1876-1882 [Victoria County, Ontario]
- ♦ Hillside Community Cemetery, Lakefield, Lot 19, Con. 7, Douro Township, Peterborough County, [Ontario]
- ♦ Index to "Historical Glimpses of Lennox and Addington" 1964
- ♦ Six Cemeteries of Sheffield Township, Lennox and Addington County, Ontario
- ♦ Births, Marriages and Deaths from the Napanee Beaver [Newspaper] Vol 1 1870-1896 [Lennox and Addington County, Ontario]
- ♦ Births, Marriages and Deaths from the Napanee Beaver [Newspaper] Vol 2 1897-1899 [Lennox and Addington County, Ontario]
- ♦ Births, Marriages and Deaths from the Napanee Beaver [Newspaper] Vol 3 1900-1904 [Lennox and Addington County, Ontario]
- ♦ Index "History of Brant County 1883"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "A"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "B"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "C"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "I, J, K"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "M"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "S"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "T,U,V"
- ♦ Brant County Cemeteries: Greenwood Cemetery, Brantford, Surnames "W,X,Y,Z"
- ♦ Brant County Cemetery Records [listing] [Brant County, Ontario]
- ♦ Brant County Directories Business 1885 [Brant County, Ontario]
- ♦ Mount Hope Cemetery, Brantford, Ontario [Brant County] Surnames beginning with "S"
- ♦ Farmers' Directory for the County of Brant c.1891 Brantford Township

- ◆ 1901 Census of Canada: Brantford Township, Brant County, Ontario
- ◆ Methodist Church Baptismal Records 1841-1888 Prince Edward County, Ontario
- ◆ Jerseyville Cemetery, Ancaster Township, [Wentworth County] Ontario
- ◆ Envelope of Ontario County Maps:
 - Lambton, north portion
 - Lambton, south portion
 - Elgin, west portion
 - Elgin, east portion
 - Middlesex, east portion
 - Middlesex, west portion
 - Hastings, middle portion
 - Hastings, south portion
 - Prince Edward
 - Perth, north portion
 - Perth, south portion
 - Lennox and Addington, north portion
 - Lennox and Addington, south portion
- ◆ London, England, City Plan Map
- ◆ Touring Map of Scotland
- ◆ Map of Scotland III, Orkneys, Shetlands and Hebrides
- ◆ Historical Maps of Ireland
- ◆ Maps of Victoria County [Ontario] circa 1878-1881
- ◆ Reprint of the first one-inch survey of England and Wales: Daventry and Coventry (Sheet 52) Warwickshire, Northamptonshire

Ferguson, John Bacon

Born 1881 in USA, possibly West Virginia

He was my great grandfather and shortly after my grandfather was born (mid 1920's), John Bacon left the Coutts area and headed north in Alberta. The only known information is what was supplied on my grandfathers birth certificate. We been told that he may have been involved in a shooting and that he may have died as a result. I am just trying to find an obituary, or any other record of him. Anything would be appreciated.

John Bacon Ferguson was married to Martha Harris of Coutts, Alberta. He was born in the USA but he came from Norway. When he was in the Coutts area, he worked as a hired hand on many farms and ranches.

Tammy Clark - taminator40@hotmail.com
 3611 - 2nd St SW
 Calgary, Alberta
 T2S 1T7

HANDLEY, Frederick William, born in Eng. in 1871, emigrated to Canada in 1885, married Edith Emma Wildman in Virden, MB on April 12, 1897 and had 2 sons - Frederick William and George William.

I have been unable to find this family on the 1906 census. I do know that Edith died when the boys were very young as they were raised by my Grandparents. MB Vital Stats shows no record of Edith's death so I am assuming she died in SK.

I have found Fred in the 1912 to 1918 Saskatoon City Directory (but not the 1919 Saskatoon Directory), also in the 1921 / 22 and the 1929 North Battleford Directory where a Murray Handley is also listed at the same address. I know that Fred died in 1954 in B.C. and from B.C. Vital Stats it would appear his second wife was named Frances Elizabeth. I have a copy of Fred's obit and it lists 2 surviving sons (Fred and George) as well as 4 step-sons, 2 step-daughters and his wife but no names are given.

I am interested in finding out when and where Edith died, when and where Fred remarried and also what Frances' maiden surname was.

Many Thanks!
 Linda Holdaway
 lassiel@telus.net

Reeves, Annie

B 1865 Ross, Hereford, England
 d / o Henry Reeves & Louisa Nicholds
 Step-mother: Emma Pearce Maxfield

She emigrated to Canada in 1882. Have been unable to find any census listing for her or marriage/ death record in Manitoba. She had 2 sisters (Louisa Powell and Miliie Rooks) who married and lived near Estevan, Sask. area plus a brother (Bert) who settled in Montana and another brother Jim who returned to Lancashire, England.

I am trying to find out if Annie married (and to whom) as well as where she settled. Many thanks.

Linda Holdaway
 lassiel@telus.net

Washburn

A Mounted Policeman by the name of Washburn

I'm trying to find the name of the Mounted Policeman that was in our Newell and Washburn families. A relative of ours Roswell Newell use to go to Canada To visit other family members. We were told a relative was a Mounted Policeman. He visited the Alberta section. Any names or dates would be appreciated

Roswell Died I believe in Alberta . Would exchange dates with any connection and would like to meet cousins if any.

Mrs. Helen Newell
5028 Dewitt Road
Skaneateles, New York
13152

hlndln23@hotmail.com

Christopher, Blanche

Would like to locate on census...only info available on her was from her father's 1929 obit (Arthur Johnson,Manistee co.,Mich) Blanche (Johnson) Christopher of Sheerness,Albt.Can.

Sandy Tyler
3773 14 Rd.
Mesick,MI
49668

jimnsan@coslink.net

Lusk Cameron John

Birth 1917
Marriage - 1945
Looking for Lusk's in Alberta.

Shar Power
shar@georgian.net

Jackson, Frank

Birth 1859 (Aprox)
Death 1935 (Aprox)
Does Anyone Have Any More History On This Family

Built Railroad Into Alberta - Wife; Elizabeth Wilkinson Case Jackson - Lived At 1723 9th St. West. Built Home There In 1906 (Approx Dates) These People Were My Great Grandfather And Mother.
Burried In Union Cemetary, Calgary Alberta.

Donna M. Smolders
primadonna@telus.net
#12-6452 121 Street,
Surrey, B.C.
V3W 0Y5

Birth Registrations and the Multicultural Heritage of Canadians

Earlier this year an Edmonton man, Mr. Prus-Czarnecki attempted to register the birth of his daughter under the surname Prus-Czarnecka. The parents advised the Registrar that in Polish culture and tradition, Prus-Czarnecki and Prus-Czarnecka are the same surname with gender specific endings and that, to a Pole, it would be inappropriate that a female child should have the male surname Prus-Czarnecki rather than the female surname Prus-Czarnecka.

The Director of Vital Statistics refused the registration, citing s. 3 of the *Vital Statistics Act* which states that the surname of the child must be the father's surname, the mother's surname, or a combination of both names.

The parents applied to the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta for an order requiring the Director to accept the registration of birth as submitted by them. The Judge agreed to their request, one of his reasons being that under the Charter of Rights, all government legislation must be interpreted in the manner consistent with the preservation and enhancement of the multicultural heritage of Canadians.

Submitted by Ann Williams

MY FAVOURITE ANCESTOR

by Ann Williams

JOHN ASTRIDGE (184_ - 1939)

My favourite firstly because he was my first. Among the papers I brought with me when I immigrated here was the newspaper obituary (which included the marriage date) of 91-year old Granddad John (my great grandfather). A lecture at the Calgary Central Library gave me some direction and I still remember where I was standing and who I was with 18 years ago when I opened the envelope and looked at his marriage certificate – the exact moment I became hooked on this undertaking of ours.

My favourite secondly because of his achievements. John (who could only mark his name with an “X”) left his Hampshire village (where his 60-year old father had died of exhaustion at work in the fields) to find work on the outskirts of London. He began as an agricultural labourer then, as farm land was developed, wisely became a bricklayer’s labourer and finally for many years worked at the local brewery, he and his wife bringing up their 8 children to be independent, practical and caring people. Three of their four sons began their own successful businesses – the fourth had bricklaying skills and built houses for the others. All four sons bought land, the first generation of that line to do so. Granddad John was the link between the poverty of his parents and the relative prosperity of his children – Thank you John, I may never have met you, but boy I’ve sure heard the stories!

P.S. John’s grandfather, William Astridge, spent three months in Winchester jail for his part in the agricultural (Captain Swing) riots of the 1830’s – but that’s another story.

Ann Williams

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN

Spotted in the PRO Will Indexes:

John SUCH formerly Sarah SEAL of Slinfold, Sussex proved 22 June 1827.

submitted by Ann Williams

FEDERATION OF FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

Websites for British Research

The AFHS is a member of this organization which represents the British interests of its world-wide member societies. Some FFHS projects are:

Providing the family history perspective to the government on their proposed changes to civil registration in England and Wales (details on the Federation’s website www.ffhs.org.uk. - still in the consultation phase);

Publishing a journal - *Family History News and Digest* (copies of which are in our library). Extracts from *Chinook* articles later appear in the digest section of this journal;

Publishing research-tips booklets. We receive free copies and they are in our library;

Operating GENfair and FAMILYHISTORYONLINE as below:

GENfair (“www.ffhs.co.uk/genfair”)

An online catalogue and bookshop called Family History Books where family history societies (and other suppliers) advertise their books, maps, microfiche, CDs and services – a fantastic resource for finding census indexes and local material. Anything on the site may be purchased by credit card through the site – I’ve been purchasing material (and renewing family history society memberships) over the site for a couple of years now without problem.

FAMILYHISTORYONLINE (“www.familyhistory-online.net”)

This is a pay-per-view site. Register as a new user for free “person searches” of the database – a selection of English and Welsh family history society publications. Anything of interest can be pulled up for the cost of a few pennies. Payment is by credit card or voucher (available from Genfair) with a minimum value of £5 for use over six months. Also, of course, the site is a great finding and/or elimination tool: The database includes Billingshurst land tax records and I typed in “Gumbrell” for ancestors reputed to have lived there. A search found a Daniel and the years of his payments, too late to be my ancestor so no need to order the filmed records from the LDS. By the way, 1901 census vouchers are also sold at this site.

Ann Williams AFHS contact for the FFHS

MY FAVOURITE ANCESTOR

by Geoff Burtonshaw

Uncle Cil was my Mothers youngest brother and was very sick when he was a boy and only was able to get grade 2 in school. The Doc told Grandpa and Grandma they would have to leave England and move to Canada west of Winnipeg. So they came to Portage la Prairie and stayed with Apps till Grandpa built their house. Apps was known in Portage as the Englishman with the white team.

They left London in a converted cattle boat. Grandpa, Grandma, Mum, Uncle Bert and Uncle Cil. They were 10 days coming across and they ran into a storm the worst the Captain had seen in 33 yrs on the water. The name of the boat was SS Pomerian. They got to Portage in May of 1905 in time for Grandpa to put in a garden. Grandpa went to work for the railway on the track and Mum and my uncles found work. By and by Uncle Cil moved to Neepawa and bought a picture show. I remember going to the picture show with Grandma. It was silent movies then and what people said was written down at the bottom of the picture. There were 2 boys and a girl in a boat so these 2 boys were fighting over this girl and one guy landed in the water. I never found out if he was the good or the bad guy.

Uncle Cil sold the picture show and bought an ice cream parlor just like the one at Heritage Park in Calgary. When Uncle Cil had the picture show he would give a prize to the kid who brought the biggest potato to the show. Then he would give them to the Hospital. He was always doing something for the Hospital and he would go to the Hospital and cut hair and give a shave to any one that needed it.

He belonged to the fire dept. I remember one time they had a practice run. They were using horses to pull the fire engine.

Uncle Cil always wrote to Grandpa and Grandma. He learned to use a typewriter and do all his books with only grade 2. He had a Ford and a Star car and came to see us quite often. There weren't any roads then just trails. So it was quite a trip. Uncle Cil married Helen Mitchell and had 3 children Alan, Norma and Gordon. Uncle always used to send or bring Mum the goodies to make Christmas pudding and cake and Mum always made them on Dec 8 his Birthday. Uncle Cil passed away in Neepawa on June 24/1930. He was a very kind man always helping some body and real funny. He used to make us laugh and we always looked forward to his visits. I am glad I could write this so people will know what a Great Man he was.

Scottish Ancestry 2nd Edition by Sherry Irvine, CGRS, FSA Scot

submitted by Gordon Lane

The book has eleven chapters, the first two chapters cover how to prepare yourself for your research and the following eight chapters cover various types of records that can be used within your research. The last chapter has a brief overview of problem solving and some tools you can use.

Well Begun is Half Done – this is the title of Chapter two which lays ground rules for your research and developing skills to use in your research. Even if you have been carrying out family research for a number of years it is a useful chapter to help you refocus your strategies. There are also some helpful sections on the historical and geographical context of your research.

Chapter Three through Ten cover the various records which include Civil Registration, Bridging Decades and Centuries, Records of the Church of Scotland, Records of Secessionists and Other Denominations, Disposition of Goods and Property, Trades and Occupations, Taxes and Contracts and Special People.

Each Chapter gives good pictorial images of records that can be found under the various heading. Different ways to access each record type are discussed and ways to use these tools successfully are also discussed. Pitfalls and shortcomings of the various records are recognized and examined with hints on how to overcome them.

Chapters are split into sub-sections along with a conclusion and/or a summary. The summary helps you focus on some of the research techniques needed to find your records.

There are four appendixes: Church of Scotland Baptisms and Marriages, The Family History Library Catalog, Parliamentary Papers and List of Useful Addresses and Websites.

The book is full of technical information to help you in your research but at the same time it presents itself as light reading. This book is both for seasoned researchers and new alike, it brings together traditional research and the use of the Internet to enhance your journey back in time.

Not having carried out any Scottish research I feel by having read this book I am better armed to travel the ancestral high-ways of Scotland.

The book was provided by Ancestry.com and can be obtained from <http://shops.ancestry.com>, or 1-800-ANCESTRY for US\$19.95 as well as other genealogical shops.

My Favourite Ancestor

By Marmie Longair

Mary Jane Downer Dewell Smith (25 November 1850 - 17 March 1945)

Mary Jane Downer was the eldest daughter of Irish born parents, Jane Stinson and Henry Downer. Her parents were married in Emily Township, Victoria County, Ontario and began their married life by clearing land near Cameron, Ontario.

Mary Jane was a healthy and lively child who took a great interest in the outdoors. She loved to help her father and when she was ten years old they would take the big cross cut saw and go into the woods to cut down trees for fences and buildings.

As she grew up she had a number of suitors and her father established a strict curfew. Several times he accompanied Mary Jane and her "date" to the local celebrations. One of the young men (not her father's favourite suitor) was a carpenter, Daniel Dewell, who had recently arrived from Darlington Township in Durham County. He wished to take Mary Jane to the 12th of July Orangeman's Celebration in Bobcaygeon. The three of them, Mary Jane, Daniel, and Mr. Downer, travelled on a scow on the river. There was fiddle playing and dancing on the way to the celebration.

Mary Jane Downer and Daniel Dewell were married on the 24th of January 1869 in Lindsay and began farming near Cameron. They had six children in Victoria County and then moved to Osprey Township in Grey County where new land was being opened for settlement. After a little more than a year, they decided to go to Simcoe County where Mary Jane's mother and father were living. In 1882 they rented land near Wyevale and began clearing a field to plant potatoes. The landlord decided that he wanted to use this land for potatoes himself, but Daniel and his wife had cleared the land and they were not about to give it up. On Wednesday, May 10th, the landowner and Daniel sat down on a log to talk the matter over, Daniel turned his face away for a moment and then looked around again only to find his landlord swinging an axe at him. He tried to ward off the blow, but it was too late and the axe struck him "with a terrible force on his forehead, felling him senseless to the ground." Daniel lived until the morning of the 17th of May. Mary Jane was left with six children, the eldest being 12 years of age.

In an interview, the "widow" Dewell stated that she stayed on until the end of the year. In the fall she had a "bee" and got the crop in, paid the rent, and squared everything off, then moved to Lafontaine where her mother and father were living. Before long, she moved to Penetanguishene with the children. To make ends meet, she worked at the Ontario Hospital in Penetang, cooking, cleaning and doing other duties as needed. The children helped with the chores at home. On the 11th of February 1888, Mary Jane married Andrew Smith.

During World War I, Mary Jane Smith, once more a widow, spent several summers on the Alberta prairies helping her grandsons on their farm. She had originally gone to do housework, but when she saw the golden fields of grain she decided that she would rather work in the fields stooking grain. She said that she "earned three dollars a day for two whole summers." She was 65 years old then!

Mary Jane returned to Penetanguishene and the big white house up the road from the Ontario Hospital. In 1920, the dreaded influenza struck the country and Daniel Dewell (her youngest son) and his wife, Emily Stalker, died leaving 10 children, aged 1 to 13 years. Once again she was needed. She took several of the children and others were divided up among Daniel's five brothers and sisters. As time passed, several more came to stay with her. It was said that she raised six children of her own, six grandchildren and six "home children".

When I was 13 years old, I wrote to my Great Grandmother. She was confined to bed with a broken hip and was blind, but she dictated several letters to me. She has always been someone that I have admired and respected. She truly exemplifies our courageous pioneer ancestors.

Family History Week in the City of Calgary

Calgary's Mayor, Dave Bronconnier, last Fall issued a Letter of Recognition to the Alberta Family Histories Society declaring the week of October 19 - 25, 2003 as **Family history Week**. This was considered a *first* in the City's recent past. It is also viewed as a stepping stone toward a Province-wide proclamation in the years ahead.

A group of members of the Alberta family Histories Society assembled at the Atrium of Calgary's Municipal Building on October 15 as Deputy Mayor Barrie Erskine read the Letter and reflected on the importance of family history as a rewarding pastime. He proudly explained that he can trace his ancestors back to Robert the Bruce of Scotland (13th Century).



Picture above, left to right, are Bev Rees, Ken Rees, Judii Rempel, George Lake (Alberta Family Histories Society Chairman), Alderman Barrie Erskine and Bill Campbell.

My Favourite Ancestor: George Gilbert Worman

By Tom Worman

George Gilbert Worman was born August 18, 1886, the third of 10 children to John Worman, an agricultural labourer of Somerset, England and his wife Elizabeth. As 1899 New Year's Eve approached, George, not seeing a great future for himself as an agricultural labourer, was considering fibbing about his age and joining the British army. The following fall, at age 14, George signed up and served with the 8th Kings Liverpool Regiment for 12 years. Family stories indicate that he served in the Boer War, although his service has been unverified. About the end of his term in the British army, George met and married Margaret Doherty of Wales.

In 1913, George received word from his family that he should come to Canada where he could work the land and earn himself a quarter section. He took his family, which now included a one-year-old daughter, to Canada to join his parents and siblings who had immigrated previously and were settled in Saskatchewan. There he took up a homestead next to his father's farm, but it appears George was not interested in being a farmer.

With the onset of WWI, George sold the farm to his family and enlisted once more, this time with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces. Because of his experience, George was assigned to the East Coast as a non-commissioned officer to train the recruits. Family stories place George in Halifax at the time of the boat collision and munitions explosion that destroyed much of the city.

While serving in Halifax, George met a young lady who could not resist this man in uniform. After the end of the First World War, he returned for a time to Saskatchewan, but soon moved his second family to the Drumheller/East Coulee area of Alberta where he worked in the coal mines. During those years, George and his second spouse had 11 children, but the years were not easy. The life of a coal miner was uncertain as the demand for coal was dwindling.

cont. Page 30

Upper Canada Land Surveyor

by Adrienne Horne

My last article was about Lemuel Allan Wilmot, William M. Wilmot's son. This article is about Samuel Street Wilmot, William's brother, and second son to Lemuel Wilmot. Of Lemuel's five sons three served in the Legislature of New Brunswick and one, Samuel, in the Legislature of Upper Canada.

Samuel Street Wilmot

Samuel Street Wilmot was born on March 29th, 1773 in Nine Partners, New York. He stayed with his father until he was 21, when he left "to seek his fortune in the then wilds of Upper Canada". (1) Sam moved to the Richmond Hill area in York in about 1794. Here he became acquainted with John Stegmann who was a German Land Surveyor, and began his apprenticeship in that profession with him. After a time Samuel married John's daughter, Mary Archange Stegmann. (2)

A Hessian Mercenary

In 1701, the self-proclaimed King of Prussia secured his royal title by promising the Holy Roman Emperor military aid when needed. This caused Prussia to develop a great and strong army. By the 1760s Prussia's army was well known for its supremacy in battle across Europe. (3) Many European communities offered their support to Britain in their troubles in the colonies. Prussia's famous army was offered as well and Britain accepted 30,000 German troops to serve against the Americans in their Revolution. Half of these mercenaries came from the Hesse province in southern Germany, and so the entire group was known as the "Hessians". After the Revolution about 10,000 Hessians stayed in the Canada's.

John Stegmann, born in Cassel, near Hesse in Germany, was a Lieutenant in the Hessian Regiment at Lossberg, under Major-General de Loss. He served for the entire war in America and after the Revolution John moved to York with many other Hessians.

Once settled in the town of York, John was able to start his practice again as a Land Surveyor. In the early 1780s he met Marie Choisy, a French-Canadian from Quebec. In 1784, the two married and went on to have seven children. The family tradition says that the young family (only three children) lived in Newark, now Niagara-on-the-Lake. They lived in a house that was built in 1760 and was destroyed in a fire in 1813, during the war with the Americans. (4)

Deputy Surveyor

On October 18th, 1790, after a decade of survey work, John was appointed as a Deputy Surveyor for Ontario. In around 1794, John took his family to live in York where he did a lot of work for the Surveyor-General. It was at this time that he met Samuel Street Wilmot and allowed him to be his apprentice.

In 1798, after surveying several townships in the York area, John surveyed the shore of the Niagara River from Table Rock to Chippewa. In 1799, he began to survey the roads of York, starting with the Lake Shore Road from Dundas Street to York. In 1800, he surveyed the Township of King. He put in a request for snow-shoes to complete the survey and received an extra £20 for carrying on the survey of the King Township. (5) In 1801, he wrote a condition report for the new road of Yonge Street. In many places the logs and underbrush had not been burned. (4)

The Schooner Speedy

In about 1803, two brothers, the Farewells, established a trading post on Oshawa Creek, and later had one on Washburn Island. While one of the brothers was away, a Mississauga Native murdered the man in charge, John Sharpe. A white man had killed the Native's brother, Whistling Duck, the previous year. The Governor said the (white) man would be brought to justice, but nothing had happened in the year, so the Native brother sought his own justice. The Native's lawyer raised a question about jurisdiction and so John Stegmann was called in to determine the location of Washburn Island. It was determined that the murder held place in the Newcastle District and so the trial would take place at the court in Sellicks, near Presque Isle on Lake Ontario.

The government schooner “Speedy” took the entire court personnel, along with the defendant and the witnesses (including John Stegmann), to Sellicks. In the evening of Sunday, October 7th, 1804, the ship set sail from York for Presque Isle (Brighton). The schooner was seen off the shore of Presque Isle on Monday night, but harsh gales prevented the ship from entering the harbour. (4) A large fire was started on shore as a beacon for the lost ship, but she was never seen nor heard of since. Many items belonging to the Speedy, including the compass box and the mast were found on the opposite side of the lake. This was the third or fourth accident of a similar nature in just a few years and prompted an investigation into the construction of the schooner ships. (6) The Speedy was completed in April of 1799. In January of 1804, the ship needed repairs, but it was not recorded what repairs were made. (7)

It was felt by many that the ship hit a reef of rocks coming three miles out from the south shore of the lake, off of Devil’s Nose. She either went down the night of the 9th or the morning of the 10th. (8)

Mary Archange Stegmann

On March 26th, 1798, about four years after Samuel S. Wilmot was introduced to John’s eldest daughter, Mary, the young couple married. Samuel was 25 years old and Mary was only 14! Mary was eight months pregnant when her father died.

Land Surveyor

On November 6th, 1804, Samuel Street Wilmot was admitted as a qualified Provincial Land Surveyor. (9) This happened only a month after his former teacher and father-in-law died.

Samuel was employed by the government to survey the main road leading from Kingston to York, which is now the King’s Highway #2. This road was cut four rods wide and grooved two rods (a rod was used as a standard measurement tool). Captain Danforth constructed the road, and although being the main post road it was a very treacherous one. During the summer after very heavy rains it was almost impassible. The first mail carried over the road was taken on a mule and arrived every two weeks from Kingston to Darlington. (10)

Samuel Goes to War

Samuel Street quickly volunteered for the Britains when the War of 1812 began. He commanded a volunteer regiment, and achieved the rank of Major on the field. Samuel, under the command of General Sheaff, was also part of “that memorable but always unexplainable battle of York in 1813”. Unexplainable because even though the British soldiers fought bravely and strongly, the Americans “had perched the emblem of victory on our Flag, the whole effort was thrown away and transformed into a veritable debacle of our troops, through the weakness and failure of General Sheaff who, it will be remembered, was appointed by Britain to succeed that wonderful and great soldier General Sir Isaac Brock, on his death at Queenston in October, 1812”. (21)

Samuel Moves to Newcastle, Ontario

After the war, in 1816, Samuel moved from Young Street in Toronto to Newcastle in the township of Clarke, having purchased 400 acres of land, later known as the Wilmot Homestead. Here he built a replica of the Bliss’ *Belmont Home*, on the banks of the creek that ran through the property, which he named the Wilmot Creek. Samuel must have really liked the Bliss family home to build a replica of it. As it was another twenty years before Samuel’s brother, John returned to the Wilmot farm in New Brunswick, merged their land with the Bliss’ and made the *Belmont* the Wilmot homestead. Samuel’s replica burnt down, but was rebuilt out of brick, on the original foundation and is still standing. (11)

In 1820, Samuel contested the parliament seat of Durham County. Although there was great confusion during the voting period Major Wilmot was declared elected and took his seat on January 31st, 1821, in the Legislature. (12)

Wilmot Township

Samuel continued as a surveyor, but now he was also a farmer. In a diary kept by him at the time, Samuel recorded all the settlers who were living on the main road to Darlington (not including those who lived on the lake shore). He noted that there were no settlers north of the main road in Clarke or Darlington. It was a dense unbro-

ken forest, inhabited only by Natives and wild animals. Samuel surveyed many townships in southern Ontario; among others he surveyed the townships of Manvers, Cavan and Cartwright. (24) In 1830, Samuel surveyed a German settlement, who were, as Samuel described them, "55 very industrious peaceable settlers who cleared 1100 acres of farm land". (25) This settlement was named the *Wilmot Township*, in the County of Waterloo. (My family remains in this county today.)

The only crew Samuel Wilmot had to help him survey was the Christian Natives of the area. Samuel's work would keep him away for months at a time and between seasons he would often bring his crew and friends home with him. The Natives would entertain the people of Clarke and Darlington townships with their singing of religious songs and hymns. (10)

The Children

Samuel Street Wilmot had five children with Mary, four boys and one girl; Allan B., Lewis, Elizabeth, John and Samuel. Samuel Street later purchased another 1300 acres that made his 1700 acre land the most valuable in the area. This property was then divided equally between his four sons. His only daughter Elizabeth was not included. (10)

Allan was born on November 18th, 1804. Like his younger brother Samuel, Allan also supported the Government in the Rebellion of 1837, but he held the higher rank of Colonel of the Militia. Allan was also a Justice of the Peace like Samuel, a Reeve of Clarke for two years, and a staunch Conservative. He ran for office but was defeated when he contested the riding in 1861. Allan lived and died in the township of Clarke in Durham County. (12)

Lewis, the second son (1806-1886), owned a tannery in Newcastle. Lewis produced leather at a time when small tanneries were a very popular industry. There were two other tanners in Newcastle alone. At the time, tan-bark (tree bark used to tan leather) was plentiful in the region making the business a prosperous one. (12)

Elizabeth (1814-1896), the only daughter, married Asa Burnham in around 1845. Asa was a Senator from the Coburg District. Elizabeth had five sons and eight daughters, all who grew to adulthood. (2)

John, the third son (1820-1899), was educated, like his brother Sam, at Upper Canada College. As a young man John moved to New York City. There he became a grain merchant and then, for something completely different, went into the banking business. (9) John rented out his share of his father's land to a Richard Foster for many years.

Although Sam was the youngest child (1822-1899), he was the one who stayed on his father's original farm, the *Belmont*, where he raised his own family. (12)

Samuel Street Wilmot Retires

In his retirement years (1838), Samuel became a shareholder in the Bond Head Harbour Company, which imported goods into Newcastle. This harbour enterprise lasted until the railway came through the area at the turn of the century, effectively shutting down the harbour importing businesses. (23)

Both Samuel Street Wilmot and his wife, Mary, are buried in a graveyard, which was part of the first Episcopal Church in Clarke township. When first built, in 1835, the church was called Trinity Church but by 1847 it was named St. George's Church. Samuel built both the church and graveyard on his land. He donated the church, along with fifteen acres to the city of Newcastle. (9) The church is no longer on this site, only the cemetery marks the location. The St. George's Church is now in the city of Newcastle; it continues to be maintained by Wilmot descendants.

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continued from Page 26

Upon the entry of Canada into WWII, George again enlisted. This time he served in Calgary as a Physical Training instructor until the middle of 1944. During his service, this man in uniform swept another girl off her feet—Madeline Louise Patchett (Feradi) was almost thirty years younger than George. This couple had a son in 1945.

After he left the services, George obtained various jobs, including working in the Fernie, B.C. coal mines. However, with the young men coming home, work was soon lost to others of younger age. Living outside of Calgary in a rented home in Lawry Gardens (just east of Edworthy Park), George returned to his roots, raising chickens, milking a cow and raising a garden. Upon the death of his first wife in 1954, George and Lou were married. Little could young George have thought on New Year's Eve of 1899 that serving King and county would mean serving through three different wars, yet remaining close to his agricultural roots. In 1956, my dad died at age 69.

The Irish cook, praised for her hash, declared "Beef ain't nothin. Onions ain't nothing. Seasoning's nothing. But when I throw myself into my hash, that's hash!" The usual way to make hash is to cut the meat from a chicken or turkey carcass or from a beef roast, combine it with leftover gravy, reheat it briefly and season it acceptably.

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Membership in the Society is open to those interested in family history and genealogy, and may be obtained through the membership secretary of the Society at 712-16th Ave NW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2M 0J8. Membership fees are due 1st September each year. If a new member joins on or after 1st April then that membership is valid until the September of the following year.

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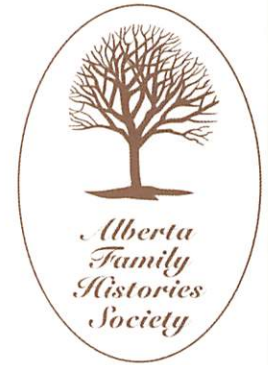
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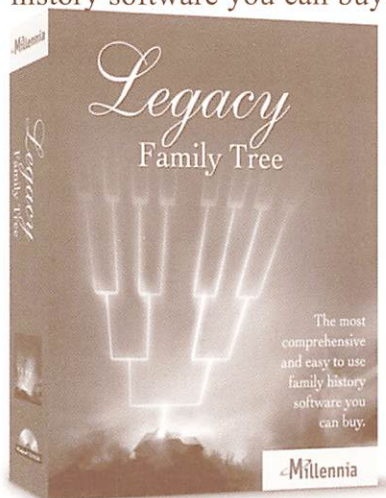
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