

YESTERDAY'S FOOTPRINTS
Alberta Genealogical Society
Lethbridge and District Branch
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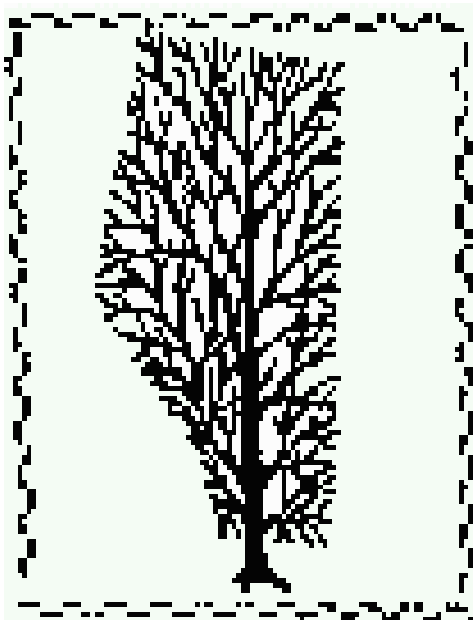


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It has been a busy time since we put out our last newsletter. We held GenFair starting with our Cemetery Tour conducted by Belinda Crowson of the Galt Museum & Archives that was held at St. Patrick's Cemetery on Friday, April 11th. Our GenFair Conference, held on Saturday, April 12th, at the University of Lethbridge was attended by 141 people and 84 people attended our banquet held at the Sir Alexander Galt Museum in the evening. Paul Smart, a dear friend of Ken Young, came up from Salt Lake City, Utah to teach classes on the British Isles and as our Keynote speaker for our banquet at the Galt Museum. Mary Tollestrup of the Lethbridge Family History Center taught a class on her award winning website 'Mary's Genealogy Treasures'.

Our GenFair conference was a great success and I would like to thank all those who were on the GenFair committee and who dedicated many hours of their time to its success.

In May we held an Open House for Historic Lethbridge week. Many thanks to Hans Henning Muendel for his fan pedigree chart and picture family trees that were displayed and to Pat and Carol Barry for their wonderful display of historic items (some of which I remember my grandmother having). May 15th I taught a class on Historic Timelines discussing gazetteers, historic atlases, directories and the importance of timelines in our family history research.

EDITOR'S CORNER



If you want to submit any articles, genealogy humor, interesting websites or have any queries you want us to print feel free to contact us. Please let us know of any articles you would like to see on any topics. You can drop off your submissions to our library or phone (403) 328-9564 or send an e-mail to lethags@theboss.net *Susan Haga, Newsletter Editor*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Lethbridge A.G.S. Branch Hours

Library Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 1:30–4:30 p.m. We hold meetings the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. September through May. Visitors are welcome!

Address: 1:28; 909 – 3rd Avenue North.

Phone: (403) 328-9564

<http://lethbridgeags.theboss.net/Exec.htm>

Membership Dues

In order to be a member, dues are required.

Branch: \$10.00

Alberta Genealogical Society: \$30.00

Seniors 65 and older receive a \$5.00 discount!

AGS LETHBRIDGE BRANCH-GARAGE SALE!

On Saturday, June 21 2008, AGS Lethbridge Branch is holding a Garage Sale. We have not had one now for several years. Because this is a good fundraiser for our branch, it is once again time.

What a better way to get rid of stuff than at our Garage Sale.

Please ask your friends and neighbors as well. We will also be begging our members to spend some time at this event as "Many hands make lighter work." This is a lot of work, but it is concentrated into a few days, rather than spreading it over a whole season and it can be fun!

Please mark the date on your calendar and please keep in mind that your help is appreciated so much. It is a great time for camaraderie as well. (Winnifred Evans, Lethbridge AGS)

Lethbridge Family History Center

Our summer hours begin—June 23 2008.

HOURS: Tuesday--Wednesday 9:00-5:00 p.m.
Thursdays--1:00-9:00 p.m.

Marriage Customs

Not two percent of the marriages in the midland district of England are celebrated on Friday. On the other hand, in Scotland nine-tenths of the marriages occur on that day.

In Scotland there are more marriages celebrated on the last day of the year than in all the rest of the year put together, yet when the last day of the year happens on a Saturday, no one gets married on it. (Walsh, William S. 1897. *Curiosities of Popular Customs*, page 447--text available at www.archive.org) (Newsletter of the Wellington County Branch OGS)

Family Ties Across The Atlantic – An Update

On September 25, 2005 I received a phone call from Phyllis Burnett to inform me that the Lethbridge Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society had received an email looking for me. This was the beginning of many pages of correspondence between me, living in Alberta, and my 2nd cousin, living in Dorset, England.

Kathleen and I have formed a wonderful long distance friendship while collaborating and sharing our research for the Stockwell family.

This September will mark three years of correspondence predominately by email between myself and Kathleen.

This past winter I sorted through some very old letters written by our great Aunt Aolty who was living in England. The letters date from January 1945 continuing to 1960 when a letter is received telling of Aunt Aolty's death. I scanned the letters and sent the digital images to Kathleen. Reading these letters reinforced the connection of our English/Canadian families for each of us. Sometimes connections or the lack of connections are very strange. Kathleen was amazed to learn the addresses where our great aunt lived. She said, "Perhaps I passed my Aunt Aolty when I was walking down the street, and did not know her." Neither one of us know why Kathleen did not meet Aunt Aolty at a family gathering. Even more strange is that I, living in Canada, met Aunt Aolty when she visited in 1949. I clearly remember "little Aunt Aolty". She was very short – even from the viewpoint of a six year old. It was very enjoyable to share these precious family letters with Kathleen.

Kathleen found an inventory dated 1723 for a pub and brew house which was operated by our ancestor, Samuel Stockwell. It is a fascinating document and took quite some time for Kathleen to decipher the old script and learn what all the old terms meant. Kathleen has generously shared the document and the translation with me. Kathleen is diligently searching for the precise location of the pub and brew house.

It is wonderful to share family stories, experiences and research with a cousin in the "home" country. The last two years we have also shared in the joys of the birth the next generation with a Canadian/American grandchild born in May of 2006 and an English grandchild born in May of 2007. Along with the photos we share of past generations we also share many photos of our grandchildren.

Thank you to the Lethbridge Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society for enabling Kathleen and I to meet and re-establish our family ties across the Atlantic.

(Norma Bosman, Lethbridge Family History Center)

Cookbooks—The Early Years

Flipping through cookbooks from a far earlier time makes an enlightening read. So much is described the way we still do it today. So much sounds unlikely to ever cross the threshold of a modern kitchen.

Take the recipe for "plain calf's head soup" printed in *The Home Cook Book*, the country's first fundraising community cookbook, published in 1877 and the best-selling Canadian cookbook of the century.

"Take a calf's head well cleaned, a knuckle of veal, and put them both into a large kettle; put one onion and a large tablespoon of sweet herbs, into a cloth and into the kettle, with the meat over which you have poured about four quarts of water..."

Learn how to scald or prepare a suckling pig—"make a slit down the belly, take out the entrails, well clean the nostrils and ears" — in that early classic, *Mrs. Beeton's Book of Household Management*, published in London in 1861. We're so spoiled these days.

Then again, just this year the cookbook "The Whole Beast: Nose to Tail Eating" appeared in North American bookstores. Author Fergus Henderson, acclaimed British chef of the restaurant St. John, revels in the less popular parts of animals, with recipes the likes of warm pig's head salad, grilled marinated calf's heart, and four ways to prepare lamb's brains.

Many a high-end restaurant menu has followed his example. (Haldimand Past Times – Page 9)

STRAYS

A stray is a person who is born in one place and dies in another place. The event is recorded in cemetery records or found in obituary section of local newspapers.

B/R—Birthplace & Residence—
BCVR--BC Vital Records
FHL Film—Salt Lake Family History Library

DEATHS

James Clifford BYRNES—B/R—Alberta—Cochrane—died—2 Jul 1944 in Italy—Ontario Deaths Overseas—703099-1944—FHL Film #1870461

Steve BRITW—B/R—Alberta—Toronto--died—22 Jul 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths Overseas—702954-1944-FHL Film #1870461

John Alfred HANMORE—Alberta—Whitby--died—3 June 1944 in England—Ontario Deaths Overseas—702909-1944—FHL Film #1870461

Claude William HINES—Alberta—Brantford--died—13 Sept 1944 in Italy—Ontario Deaths Overseas—702747-1944—FHL Film #1870461

Charles Stewart HOOD—Alberta—Toronto--died—11 June 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths Overseas—702704-1944—FHL Film #1870461

Everett Malcolm COULTER—Alberta—Sunderland—died—20 February 1944 in Germany—Ontario Deaths Overseas—702614—1944—FHL Film #1870461

John Adair WOODWARD—Alberta—Stratford—died—27 Sept. 1944 in Germany—Ontario Deaths Overseas 702448-1944-FHL Film #1870461

Edwin Clarence STANTON—Alberta—West Edmonton—died—13 August 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths Overseas 702354-1944—FHL film #1870461

Bernard Perry JENNINGS—Alberta—Ottawa—died—14 August 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths Overseas—704151—1944—FHL Film #1870462

William Lewis ELD—Alberta—London—died—13 September 1944 in Italy—Ontario Deaths Overseas—704010-1944—FHL Film #1870462

Norman William FLOCK—Alberta—Hamilton—died—27 August 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths Overseas—704396—1944—FHL Film #1870462

Jordan Coradon Clifford JONES—Alberta—Toronto—died—28 August 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths Overseas—704090—1944—FHL Film #1870462

Andrew Harold Adelbert McBAIN—Alberta—New Toronto—died—21 August 1944 in England—Ontario Deaths Overseas—703900-1944—FHL Film #1870462

John MacAulay CARSON—Alberta—Ottawa—died—26 Sept. 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths

Overseas—703793-1944—FHL Film #1870462
Nicholas Edward HYT—Alberta—Toronto—died—25 May 1944 in Germany—Ontario Deaths Overseas—704594—1944—FHL Film #1870462

Walter Lloyd HUTTON—Alberta—Ottawa—died—29 July 1944 in France—Ontario Deaths Overseas—704597—1944—FHL Film #1870462

Brian Gerald MORGAN—Lethbridge, AB—B/R--27 April 1950—died—19 March 2007—Toronto, Ontario—Globe & Mail—28 March 2007—Obituary, Page S9

Milous MANAK—Lethbridge, AB—B/R date—unkn—died at age 73—29 Nov 2006—Chatham, Ontario—London Free Press—30 Nov 2006—Death notice (London, Ontario)

Dr. Samuel Robert MOSCOVICH—Lethbridge, AB—B/R unkn—died at age 90—8 July 2007—Richmond, B.C.—Globe & Mail—11 July 2007—Death notice

Jack William “Lefty” JORDAN—Medicine Hat, AB—B/R—8 Dec 1913—died 22 Nov 2006—St. Thomas, Ontario—London Free Press, 23 Nov 2006—Death notice (London, Ontario)

Norman Zinkan ALCOCK—Edmonton, AB—B/R--29 May 1918—died 11 March 2007—Huntsville, Ontario—Globe & Mail—6 April 2007—Obituary, page S10

Elsie Irene Creech (nee?) DENSEM—Daysland, AB—B/R--20 Sep 1907—died 16 June 2007—Amherstview, Ontario—Globe & Mail—19 Jun 2007—Death notice

Edgar JOHANNSON—Edmonton, AB—B/R--25 Dec 1922—died—31 Jul 2007—Chesley, Ontario—The Sun Times, 8 August 2007—Death notice—Owen Sound, Ontario

Albert Benjamin Rutter LAWRENCE—Calgary, AB—B/R--31 March 1923—died 28 March 2007—Gatineau, Quebec—Globe & Mail—17 April 2007—Obituary, page S10

C.A. “Stoney” RICHARDSON—Vegreville, AB—B/R—1908—died 4 June 2007—Westmount, Quebec—Globe & Mail—6 June 2007—Death notice.

Phillip Sidney HERRING—Castor, AB—B/R---9 Nov 1919—died—8 June 2007—Burnaby—B.C.—Globe & Mail—13 June 2007—Death n.

Nina May (nee ELLITHORPE) PEARCE—Olds, AB—B/R--23 Dec 1916—died 22 Feb 2007—Sundre, AB—Globe & Mail—15 Aug 2007—Obituary, page L6

John Douglas GREGSON—Blackfalds, AB—17 Jun 1910—died—29 Oct 2006—Kamloops, B.C.—Globe & Mail—13 March 2007—Obit., page A16

Annie Laura BARNES (Scheffer)—Medicine Hat—Langley—died 21 Jan 1977—Murrayville, B.C.—BCVR—1977 Death Regis. 77-09-002365—FHL Film #2050828

Margaret Gertrude BERTO (Findlay)—Medicine Hat, AB—West Vancouver—death—7 Jan 1977—

North Vancouver—BCVR—1977 Death Regis--77-09-001207—FHL Film #2050828
 Elenor Olinda RAINER (BAUER)—Hilda—Quesnel—death 7 Feb 1977—Quesnel—BCVR—1977 Death Regis--77-09-002871—FHL Film #2050828
 Mary Helen Winnifred BRATHOUR (Fatt)—Medicine Hat—Sidney—death—16 Feb 1977—Sidney—BCVR—1977 Death Regis—77-09-002897—FHL Film #2050828
 William George CAIN—Medicine Hat—Vancouver—death—5 Aug 1961—Vancouver—BCVR—1961—Death Regis.—61-09-009043—FHL Film #2033373
 James Richard KINLEY (Medicine Hat—Vancouver—death—7 Jun 1960—Essondale—BCVR—Death Regis—60-09-007558—FHL Film #2033304
 Agnes Alvarna SELLENTIN (Selin)—Seven Persons—Van Anda—death—3 June 1960—Van Anda—BCVR—1960 Death Regis—60-09-007392—FHL Film #2033304
 Mildred Susan WEBBER—(Hayward) Medicine Hat—Vancouver—death—2 June 1960—Vancouver—BCVR—1960 Death Regis—60-09-007239—FHL Film #2033304
 Dorothy Elizabeth WEST (Gaskell)—Medicine Hat—Nelson—death—7 Oct 1959—Nelson—BCVR—1959 Death Regis--011599—FHL Film #2033300
 Walter ACKERMAN—Schuler, AB—Vancouver—death 25 May 1958—Vancouver—BCVR—1958 Death Regis 58-09-006011—FHL Film #2033178
 Eugene SMITH—Oyen—Prince George—death—25 April 1961—BCVR—1961 Death Regis—61-09-006556—FHL Film #2033373
 Francis John HICKS—Empress—Prince Rupert—death—27 June 1961—Prince Rupert—BCVR—1961 Death Regis--61-09-007716—FHL Film #2033373
 Mable Catherine WALT—Medicine Hat—Port Alberni—death—11 July 1961—Port Alberni—BCVR—1961 Death Regis--61-09-008196—FHL Film #2033373
 Raymond Clarence SHAW—Medicine Hat—Victoria—death—18 June 1960—Victoria—BCVR—1960 Death Regis—60-09-007885—FHL Film #2033304
 Dean Webster KENNEDY—Empress—Agassiz—death—13 June 1960—Harrison Lake—BCVR—Death Regis--60-09-007905—FHL Film #2033304
 Annie Myra SYMONDS (Cotton)—Medicine Hat—Vancouver—death—5 Sept 1959—Vancouver—BCVR—1959 Death Regis--59-09-010628—FHL Film #2033300
 Mary Christiana KROPFMULLER—Medicine Hat—Vernon—death—20 August 1959—Vernon—BCVR—1959 Death Regis--59-09-009893—FHL Film #2033300

Edward CHARTERS—Medicine Hat—North Surrey—death—31 May 1958—Vancouver—BCVR—Death Regis—58-09-006385—FHL Film #2033178

Death Notices from Montreal Gazette

Obituary—George Eckenfelder

Was born in Trochu, Alberta on May 22, 1910, the son of a French cavalryman. He passed away peacefully in Sidney, B.C. on March 9, 2007. A civil engineer, George graduated from the University of Alberta in 1933 and eventually joined Calgary Power. In 1940 he was commissioned in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, went overseas and served in England, North Africa and Northwest Europe, landing in Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Following his discharge in 1945, he returned to pursue a long varied engineering career in hydro and water resource management. He ceased working in 1996. George also pursued his passion for sailing throughout his life finding peace on the water. George is survived by his wife Alice (nee Nowicki); daughter, Margaret and son-in-law James Burns as well as numerous relatives in France. His son Charles died while mountain climbing in Nepal in 1988.

Brig.-Gen C.A. (Stoney) Richardson, D.S.O.C.D.

Clinton Argue Richardson, known widely as “Stoney” Richardson, was born in Vegreville, Alberta, October 12, 1908, the son of Silas and Emma Richardson, and passed away peacefully on June 4, 2007 at his residence in Montreal. He was predeceased by his wife, Frances Mary Lalor, in April 2001 following 65 years of marriage. His only family survivors are his nephew, Carson Williams, of Los Gatos, California, and a grandniece and grandnephew in Arizona. Stoney had a very impressive business career, starting first with the Safeway Store Chain in Alberta and joined the International Paint Company in Vancouver in 1948. In 1955 he was President and Managing Director in 1966, and subsequently Deputy Chairman. He retired in 1973. He and his wife Fran lived on Powell Avenue in the town of Mount Royal for over 40 years, and following her death he resided at Place Kensington in Westmount. The funeral services (were held) at Mountry Royal United Church on Friday, June 8, 2007, followed by a reception. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Urgel Bourgie.

Locating Graves (Dowsing)

The first time that I ever heard of dowsing for graves was in 1984 in the State of Indiana. They had moved the old folks’ home graveyard to make way for a road and there were no tombstones. How

did someone find the graves? They dowsed. How do you dowse you ask?

Take two metal hangers and yourself an “L” shape from both. Go to a cemetery that you know of, and try it there first. If you can document this on a camcorder that would be great, take several witnesses with you and don’t forget to let them try.

Hold the hangers in front of you by the short ends, like you are ready to box someone, with the long ends sticking straight in front of you. You don’t have to hold them firm, but not dangling from your fists either. Now, walk across a row of graves that you know are there...WOW.

The first time is a shocker. You will see how the rods will cross and identify a grave. Using this method, you should be able to identify where all the graves are in a cemetery. If the rods do the opposite, go out instead of crossing, you have found water. (Keystone Newsletter-Jan 2006)

ABOUT THE COUNTY ATLASES

Between 1874 and 1881, approximately forty county atlases were published in Canada, covering counties in the Maritimes, Ontario and Quebec. Thirty-two of these atlases were produced for Ontario by the following five companies: H. Belden & Co. (17); H.R. Page & Co. (8); Walker & Miles (5); J.H. Meacham & Co. (1); H. Parsell (1). Two types of county atlases exist for Ontario, those which covered a single county or multiple adjacent counties and those which were published as supplements to Dominion of Canada atlases. In total, 40 Ontario counties were covered by these 32 atlases.

Each of the county atlases consisted of a historical text, township and town maps, portraits, views and patrons’ directory/business cards. But more important, names of residents were marked on the lots of the township maps in these county atlases. Unfortunately only the names of subscribers were recorded on the township maps for the Dominion of Canada supplements. All of these atlases were sold by subscription. Prominent county residents paid an additional sum to have biographical sketches, portraits and views of their residences or businesses included in the atlases.

A township in Ontario is usually rectangular in shape, unless it borders a major river or lake. Townships are divided into concessions. Each concession is a strip of land 1 and ¼ mile wide. Concessions can run in any direction and are usually separated by a road. Concessions are numbered with Roman Numerals (V, IV, etc). A gore is a part of a township that does not fit into the regular shape.

Concessions are divided into lots that use Arabic Numerals (3, 4, etc). Originally lots were 200 acres, which could then be easily divided into parcels of 100 acres. The lots ran parallel to the road. (Taken from the home page for the digital.library.mcgill.ca/countyatlas/aboutatlases.html)

Genealogy Quotes

Tombstone Tales

Found in Simcoe County Archives. From the Cleveland Leader as quoted in the Stayner Sun Jan. 6, 1898.

Tis not the dead alone that lie
In the graveyards still and drear
Too often do the tombstones tell
What isn’t true. I fear.

Memory of an accident in a Uniontown, P.A. cemetery
Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake
Stepped on the gas instead of the brake

In a Georgia cemetery
“I told you I was sick!”

On Margaret Daniels grave at Hollywood Cemetery,
Richmond, Virginia
She always said her feet were killing her
But nobody believed her.

In a Thurmont, Maryland, cemetery:
Here lies an Atheist
All dressed up and no place to go

Oops! Harry Edsel Smith of Albany, New York!
Born 1903-1942
Looked up the elevator shaft to see if
The car was on the way down. It was.

Setting It Right

Kansas Paper – We wish to apologize for the manner in which we disgraced the beautiful wedding last week. Through an error of the typesetter we were made to say “the roses were punk.” What we should have said was “the noses were pink.” (Boston Transcript. Vegreville Observer, 17 August 1921.)

Back to the Future; 2008

Forty years ago, in 1968, Modern mechanics carried an article entitled, "What Will Life Be Like in the Year 2008?" It probably was interesting reading in 1968, but it's much more fascinating today.

The November, 1968 article was rather accurate in some of its prognostications:

Money has all but disappeared. Employers deposit salary checks directly into their employees' accounts. Credit cards are used for paying all bills. Each time you buy something, the card's number is fed into the store's computer station. A master computer then deducts the charge from your bank balance.

Computers also handle travel reservations, relay telephone messages, keep track of birthdays and anniversaries, compute taxes and even figure the monthly bills for electricity, water, telephone and other utilities.

In addition to programmed TV and the multiplicity of commercial fare, you can see top Broadway shows, hit movies and current nightclub acts for a nominal charge.

Remember that this was long before the creation of HBO, video-on-demand and similar pay-TV services.

However, most of the predictions have not occurred. Some of the more amusing predictions of 1968 include these:

The average work day is about four hours. But the extra time isn't totally free. The pace of technological advance is such that a certain amount of a jobholder's spare time is used in keeping up with the new developments—on the average, about two hours of home study a day.

A typical vacation in 2008 is to spend a week at an undersea resort, where your hotel room window looks out on a tropical underwater reef, a sunken ship or an ancient, excavated city. Available to guests are two- and three-person submarines in which you can cruise well-marked underwater trails.

Another vacation is a stay on a hotel satellite. The rocket ride to the satellite and back, plus the vistas of earth and moon, make a memorable vacation jaunt.

The car accelerates to 150 mph in the city's suburbs, then hits 250 mph in less built-up areas, gliding over the smooth plastic road. You whiz past a string of cities, many of them covered by the new domes that keep them evenly climatized year round. (Posted by Dick Eastman on March 27, 2008. You can read more at <http://blog.modernmechanic.com/2008/03/24/what-will-life-be-like-in-the-year-2008>.)

A Child of the Fifties

While looking at some old fashioned toys on display in the emporium in Baden one sunny afternoon. I was reminded of my own happy, carefree childhood in the fifties. I am sure many modern safety conscious parents would shudder at the antics that were allowed to indulge in as children. No one seemed to worry about their children playing unsupervised all day long. It was a safer world then. These are a few of my happiest memories.

As a toddler, riding my little red tricycle for blocks, looking for a playmate even in strange backyards.

Roller skating along bumpy sidewalks to call at my friend's house, where I would stand at the back door and yell loudly. "OHS HARON". Trading stacks of comic books on a Saturday morning with kids from another neighborhood only to rush home to read the newest Superman. Donald Duck or Archie. Two well used comic books without covers equaled on shiny new one on a trade.

Going swimming with my friends at the public pool because no one but rich folks owned a backyard pool. After a cool dip, we would compete to see who could make the weirdest body print on the dry concrete deck.

Building a fort in the empty field behind our houses where we could play war games with our little water pistols. We had to borrow a sealer from Mom's kitchen to carry extra water for our ammunition.

Playing Kick the Can on the street after supper until the street lights came on. No one watched TV at night because we didn't own one. Traveling all alone on the city bus downtown on a Saturday afternoon for the matinee at the theatre. I always spent my whole allowance of 25 cents.

Playing tennis on the hottest days of the summer because we could and because all our friends were there.

Learning how to water ski on vacation while my parents were gone fishing all day. Spending two fun filled weeks at my uncle's farm in August during harvest time. Riding on the tractor, learning how to milk a cow, playing in the hayloft and trying to tame the barn kittens.

Almost all these activities occurred outside. Even on cold winter days, we shunned the indoors. Being out in the fresh air was where most children of the fifties spent their time. No television, no video games, and no computers to entice us inside. We were healthy, well-toned and never overweight. Boredom was a foreign

concept because we couldn't wait to get outside to play with our friends.

The world has changed for children today. Less freedom, less spontaneity, less activity unless it's supervised and less time to just enjoy being a kid! (Irene Pollock, Thamesford)

Bath With A Path

Indoor plumbing. Everyone had indoor plumbing right? Not when I grew up. We had all the facilities, but a very shallow well so consequently not enough water to flush toilets all day long. The solution was outdoor plumbing in the form of an outhouse with the half moon in the door, the bath with the path. It was great in the daylight and in the spring, summer and fall, but nighttime and winter was another story.

No one wanted to go out alone at night, incase the boogie man would try to get you. It sure was a cool reception when the snow had somehow filtered through the smallest crack to settle lightly where your warm buttocks could meet it. Any soft paper source was saved scrupulously for our trips to the little shack out back. In the dead of night, a china pot was a lovely alternative. Emptying it was not.

Outhouses provided the local teens with entertainment on Halloween night as well. I'm sure it was great fun to push them over and try to avoid falling into the pit. "Good excuse to relocate" and Dad would simply move it to a new location till next year when it quite possibly would be up-ended again.

Some had one hole and some had two for bigger families and faster service. Our's always had two because there were ten of us and inevitably two people had to go to the bathroom at the same time. There were yellow jackets buzzing around in the summer, and chances of frostbite in winter. Still, we all marched the path and were relieved – young and old – rich and poor. Nowadays, I don't think the young people actually believe this happened. They think we're just making it up – funning with them – or that we actually came from another planet. But I was there, and am a better person for having endured summer heat, winter cold and the boogie man. (Agnes Burroughs Dorchester)

Local History Book Index Online at A.G.S.

Edmonton Branch AGS is excited to announce the launching of an online searchable index to selected Alberta local history books. This index, to 100 books from the AGS and Edmonton Branch AGS libraries, was compiled

by Marion Sim. The website development was funded from a bequest from the estate of Charles Denney (1901-2002), a founding member of the AGS.

Visit the Alberta Genealogical Society website to search the index.

23 Websites To Your Family History

1 AbeBooks – www.abebooks.com

AbeBooks, the world's largest online marketplace for books, lists more than 100 million new, used, rare and out-of-print books from more than 13, 500 booksellers.

2 About.com

Guide. Kimberly Powell offers tips to break down your genealogy brick walls through how-to-articles, free genealogy lessons, genealogy chat and the latest news.

3 Access Genealogy

www.accessgenealogy.com

This is a free genealogy resource provides information on how and where to locate key genealogical records such as cemetery, census, military and vital records, among others.

4. Ancestor Hunt –

www.ancestorhunt.com

The free genealogy search engines on Ancestor Hunt enable you to search for ancestors and locate your family surnames in some of the largest databases of genealogy records online.

5. Ancestry.com

www.ancestry.com

Ancestry.com contains many censuses for individual American states and Canadian provinces. Ancestry's Immigration Collection was recently updated to include 100 million names on all readily available US passenger lists from 1820-1960, including Ellis Island, as well as records from more than 100 other US ports of arrival.

6. Archives.Gov/Genealogy

www.archives.gov/genealogy

The NARA's site contains information for genealogists, including links for: forms, tools and aids; links to assist with using NARA's records for research; an online guide to NARA publications.

7. Canadian Genealogy Directory

www.cangenealogy.com

The links on this site are ranked with the most important ones at the top. The site provides a digest so that you don't have to

click through thousands of links to get to what you want. Links are categorized Genealogy by Region; Genealogy by Category; Resources, etc., with subcategories underneath.

8. Center for Research Libraries

www.crl.edu

CRL is a consortium of North American universities, colleges and independent research libraries. CRL holds more than four million newspapers, journals, dissertations, archives, government publications and other traditional and digital resources for research and teaching.

9. Dead Fred – www.deadfred.com

Dead Fred's Genealogy Photo Archive is a free, photo genealogy research website (or photo base) devoted to helping you visualize your heritage. This huge searchable database currently contains 13, 589 surnames and 65, 172 records.

10. EBay – www.ebay.com

Whether you are trying to track down a long-lost family bible, a collection of old photographs or postcards, a yearbook from your ancestor's high school or perhaps a rare book or map, keep an eye on eBay. As of this writing, there were some 3,900 items found for genealogy listed in the "Everything Else", "Books" and "Computers & Networking" categories.

11. Familysearch – www.familysearch.org

This free site sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been an "old faithful" to genealogists for years. It has begun a massive project to digitize billions of records previously available only microfilm, (e.g. civil, church and local records). It plans to make those available online beginning early next year.

12. Find My Past www.findmypast.com

FindMyPast is the new name for 1837online.com. You can search for ancestors from England and Wales among the comprehensive collections of military records, census, migration, occupation directories and current electoral roll data, as well as the complete birth, marriage and death indexes.

13. Ellis Island - www.ellisland.org

This database (EIDB) contains the records of the more than 22 million immigrants that entered the US through Ellis Island and the Port of New York between 1892 and 1924. The site can be searched for free.

14. Genealogy Bank

www.genealogybank.com

This new online resource contains data that is only available through Newsbank and its library subscription service, as well as some data not currently available elsewhere. Some of the databases include: Historical newspapers (1690-1977); Historical Documents (1789-1930); America's Obituaries (1977 to the present from more than 800 US newspapers)

15. JewishGen www.jewishgen.org

JewishGen is the primary Internet source connecting researchers of Jewish genealogy worldwide.

16. Google and Google Books

www.google.com &

www.books.google.com

Did you know you can use google to search on surnames and places? Also don't forget to try the International versions of Google – simply click on the "Language Tools" link on the first page of Google and then select from one of two drop-down menus to search pages written in a selection of languages or countries.

17. MyHeritage.com www.myheritage.com

The brainchild of Gilad Japhet. The site started attracting users last summer by enabling them to upload their own photos and compare them with images of various celebrities included in the database.

18. Joe Beine's Online Search Death

Indexes & Records –

www.deathindexes.com

This easy-to-use website is a directory of online death indexes listed by state and county. Information about death records, death certificate indexes, death notices and registers, obituaries, probate indexes, and cemetery and burial records can be found here.

19. Linkpendium www.linkpendium.com

Use this free "definitive directory" to browse surnames worldwide. Results may include websites, obituaries, biographies and other material specific to a surname.

20. OliveTree Genealogy

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com>

This site has been around since 1996 and currently has more than 1,900 pages of free genealogy resources to help you find your brick wall ancestors.

21. Steve Morse's One-Step Web Pages

www.stevemorse.org

A collection of online forms used to search certain genealogical databases in "one-step". The most notable is the "Searching the Ellis Island database in One Step" section, which enables researchers to mine data from the Ellis Island Database.

22. USGen Web www.usgenweb.com

The USGen Web project site is one of the Internet's genealogical research gems. The site is run by a group of volunteers working together to provide free genealogy websites for genealogical research in every county and every state of the US.

23. World Vital Records

www.worldvitalrecords.com

This new website, created by Paul Allen (one of the founders of Ancestry.com) contains free and subscription-based content. It offers users International record databases, references to top genealogical resources, expert advice, training and user-generated content.

(Internet Genealogy—Feb/March 2007—pages 21-26—Lisa A. Alzo)

MORE WEBSITES

1918 Cummings Maps of Southern Alberta homesteads (Bruce Haig's Site)

www.ourheritage.net/maps/south_ab_ca1918_intro.html

Pictures then and now of Lethbridge-Lethbridge-A Visual History (Bruce Haig's site).

ourheritage.net/index_page_stuff/Local_History_links/Lethbridge_visual/Lethbridge_qpsO1.05.html

Saskatchewan Homestead Index

www.saskhomesteads.com

(Note: Marion Fleming has donated a CD Rom "Home" (Historical Ownership Mapping Endeavour) for Saskatchewan. This will complement the above website.)

HOME (Historical Ownership Mapping Endeavor) RM Maps and CD. HOME provides the names, dates, and locations of approximately 400,000 Original Dominion Land Grantees in the province of Saskatchewan. A paper map of each RM is available showing the ownership of each ¼ section throughout the RM. A CD is also

available with a search function that will zero in on the grantee. The CD has overlaying maps, searches fast and easy, pinpoints grant location, zoom in on details, has popup window with full name of grantee, grant number, and date. There is also an explanation of the Dominion Land Survey System, a History, and a digital copy of the 2005 Saskatchewan Grid Road Map.

Nova Scotia Historical Soc. 1896-98 Members and Collections of the Nova Scotia Historical Society for the Years 1896-98 Volume X. include a List of Officers and Directors.

gentod.com/click.mv?FTC=3984&A=illyad

News Flash. 1 April 1851

It is April first, 1851 and Henry Smith/Schmit/Smet sits at his desk by candlelight. He dips his quill pen in ink and begins to write.

1. No man is truly well-educated unless he learns to spell his name at least three different ways within the same document. I resolve to give the appearance of being extremely well-educated for the rest of my life.

2. I resolve to see to it that all of my children will have the same names that my ancestors have used for six generations in a row.

3. My age is no one's business but my own. I hereby resolve to never list the same age of birth year twice on any document.

4. I resolve to have each of my children baptized in a different church – either in a different faith or in a different parish. Every third child will not be baptized at all or will be baptized by an itinerant minister who keeps no records.

5. I resolve to move to a new town, to a new county, or new state at least once every 10 years – just before those pesky enumerators come around asking silly questions.

6. I will make every attempt to reside in counties and towns where no vital records are maintained or where the courthouse burns down every few years.

7. I resolve to join an obscure religious cult that does not believe in record keeping or in participating in military service.

8. When the tax collector comes to my door, I'll loan him my pen which has been dipped in rapidly fading blue ink.

9. I resolve that if my beloved wife Mary should die, I will marry another Mary.

10. I resolve not to make a will. Who needs to spend money on a lawyer?

(Lethbridge Family History Center Genealogy Mailing List—Peter van Schaik)

Genealogy on a Budget

We all feel the money pinch and especially now with gas prices soaring higher and higher. You don't have to cut back on the quality of your genealogical research to make ends meet. There are plenty of options. How about these?

1. Go to your local library. Many have online library catalogs so you can go prepared. Determine if they have genealogy collections, microfilm, microfiche, vertical files or manuscripts. Don't forget the college or university databases? Many offer HeritageQuestOnline for their patrons.
2. Check out the resources available at a Family History Center in your town or area. To locate one go to <http://www.familysearch.org>. The hours vary, so check them out ahead of time. For a fee, you will be able to rent microfilm and microfiche from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Also ask to see their indefinite microfilm and their microfiche. Check out the databases that are on their computers. These may include Footnote.com, WorldVitalRecords, KindredConnections and Godfrey Library.
3. Post queries to message boards, mailing lists and forums. These just take time, not money. While you are posting, be sure to systematically check these areas for new posts that may apply to your research. Some of these areas include: Ancestry.com Message Board <http://www.ancestry.com/community/> GenForum <http://genforum.genealogy.com/> RootsWeb: genealogy mailing Lists <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/index.html>
4. Subscriptions to Ancestry.com may not be in your budget, there are databases that they offer for free. Also take advantage of their limited free access times which are announced on their web page. To find out what is free go to <http://www.searchforancestors.com/ancestryfreebies.html>
5. You don't have to spend a fortune to expand your personal genealogy library. You can also check your library. If you have a book in mind, don't know if it is what you really want or need, check out Library thing at <http://www.librarything.com>. People catalog their books there. Some people rate their library books and allow others to view the listings. You can also e-mail the owner and ask about the book...is it helpful, would they recommend it.
6. There are books you can download online. Check out GoogleBooks at <http://www.booksgoogle.com>. In the search area enter a title or some keywords. If the book is out of copyright, you will be able to download it in PDF format. Many family histories have been digitized into PDF format on BYU Family History Archive, <http://www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/>. They can be downloaded free to your computer..
7. Need genealogy software: I always suggest that people should ask others what they use and test the waters before they make a purchase. Most leading software will have a web page which will allow you to view the features, look at Frequently Asked Questions, and perhaps download a demo. The Personal Ancestral File (PAF) software is available for PC users at the FamilySearch web page, <http://www.familysearch.org>.
8. Are you tired of creating your own charts? Particularly if you do not use genealogy software, there is no need for this. Free charts and forms can be downloaded from the following:
Family Tree Magazine <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/forms/download.html>
Free genealogy Forms and Charts <http://www.genealogysearch.org/free/forms.html>
9. There are many free web sites available to the researchers. Your scheduled research on Internet should include many checks to the USGenWeb sites. Start at <http://www.usgenweb.org>, or simply add the abbreviation for the state that you are researching on the end, for example: <http://www.usgenweb.org/va>. Free genealogical assistance is also available at Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness at <http://www.raogk.org/> (Ruby Coleman—Source: Tracing Lines, 13 May 2008—GenWeekly.com)

The Seven Sins of Genealogy: Are You A Saint or A Sinner?

Arrogance—We all want to be proud of our ancestry. There's also a certain amount of pride you feel once you've obtained results during the research process. For example, finding that connection between two unlikely families or stumbling upon data that proves you are related to royalty. Once you've experienced success, it is tempting to feel that you know it all. There is nothing wrong with being proud of your discoveries, but try to keep your ego in check. Whether you've been researching for two years or 20, there is always something new to learn.

Credulity—Just because Aunt Betty told you that your surname has always been spelled a certain way or that she is sure your great grandfather arrived at Ellis Island in 1909, doesn't make it so. Sure, we're told: "Genealogy begins at home", and that we must interview our living relatives, but it doesn't mean we have to blindly accept every word. A thorough genealogist gathers all the facts and then searches for the documentation to back them up.

Impatience—In my opinion, this is probably the number one sin that plagues many genealogists today. In our "I want it now" society, it is so easy to become impatient when we don't get immediate results. An online database search for an unusual surname turns up "no hits" or the county clerk who doesn't answer a request for a specific record, or the priest or minister that you've contacted several times fails to respond with a copy of your grandmother's baptismal certificate. The truth is genealogical research takes time and lots of patience.

Laziness—This sin often goes hand-in-hand with "impatience". The Internet provides information to us around the clock, and it seems so inconvenient to use more traditional research methods, such as visiting the cemetery or courthouse, or spending an afternoon in the library cranking the microfilm reader or perusing rare books. Sure, it's tempting to want all the information we seek to be available online, but isn't "the hung" part of the excitement of genealogy? It's important to explore all sources (both on and offline) to avoid becoming a lazy genealogist.

Obsession—just because you've caught the "genealogy bug" doesn't mean that every member of your family will be

overcome with excitement to hear that you've traced your paternal line back nine generations, or that you've found your third-cousin twice-removed. Genealogy is one of those hobbies that can really become an obsession. It's just so darn addicting—the more you find out, the more you want to know. But not everyone will share your passion or enthusiasm.

Selfishness—You've spent 20 years researching a particular surname and all of a sudden you receive an e-mail from someone claiming they are related to you and could you "share" information with them. Yes, it's tempting to hold back what you know. You may be thinking of the old adage: "time is money". After all, you've spent so much time, energy and money to get the answers, it's not fair that someone else should just be handed that information on a silver platter without any effort. Now I am not saying that you should just hand over all the data you've collected to a complete stranger or even a distant relative. It is best to consider the balance between altruism and self-centeredness and decide where you stand.

Silence—Most genealogists regret "starting too late" or not asking a grandparent or other relatives the important "Where did we come from?" or "What is our family background?" questions. How much history has been lost in your own family due to your own silence or someone else's? In genealogy you must put forth an effort to see results.

Atonement—If you find yourself guilty of one or more the seven sins listed here, don't despair. Here are a few suggestions to help you correct the error of your ways.

Connect—Is there an extended family member you haven't talked with in awhile? Why not call, or, if you live close by, schedule time for a visit.

Document—Writing your family's story can provide you with a feeling of satisfaction knowing that all your efforts have uncovered some fascinating family tales. While it may be that at the moment you are the only person who is interested in your ancestors, future generations will be delighted that you documented how your great grandfather's ability to make wheels once saved his life in a Russian prison during WWI.

Don't let these seven sins get in the way of finding, your ancestors. Rather, use them as a learning experience to make you a better researcher. Trust me, it's not too late. (Lisa A. Alzo—Family Chronicle—Sept/Oct 2007 pages 46-49)