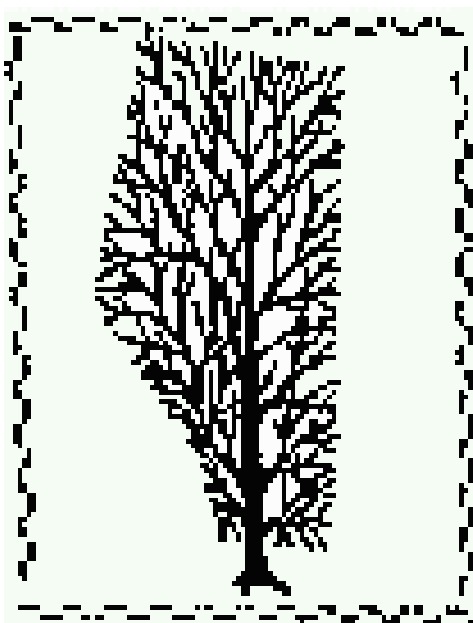


**YESTERDAY'S FOOTPRINTS**  
**Alberta Genealogical Society**  
**Lethbridge and District Branch**  
**Vol. 26, No. 2**  
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## **EDITOR'S CORNER**



If you want to submit articles, genealogy humor, interesting websites or have any queries you want us to print feel free to contact us. You can drop off your submissions to our library or phone (403) 328-9564 or send an e-mail to [lethags@theboss.net](mailto:lethags@theboss.net).

Susan Haga, Newsletter Editor

### **Lethbridge A.G.S. Branch Hours**

Library Hours: Tues., Wed. & Friday 1:30–4:30 p.m. Meetings are 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. September through June. Visitors Welcome! Our library will be closed July and August but can be open on request. See

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

**Address: 1:28; 909 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North.**

**Phone: (403) 328-9564**

### **Membership Dues**

Branch: \$10.00 A.G.S.: \$30.00

Seniors 65 and older receive a \$5.00 discount!

Thursday, May 21 we held our monthly meeting at the University of Lethbridge for a tour of their genealogical resources, including their map room and special collections. Mike Perry and Joanne Overn conducted the tour and showed us all the digitization records that are now available online. There were 15 people in attendance.

On June 18th at 7:30 p.m. for our monthly meeting with Eleanor McMurchy and Alma Berridge on “Talk the Walk” – the journey of the Robert Goudie family. Local history books are on display at the library.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President	Doug McLeod
Vice President	Susan Haga
Treasurer	Pat Barry
Secretary	Phyllis Burnett
Membership	Pat Barry

#### **BRANCH COMMITTEE**

B. M. & D.	Muriel Jolliffe
Cemetery	Phyllis Burnett
Librarian	Phyllis Burnett
Publicity	Jacque Bly
Researchers	Phyllis Burnett & Eleanor McMurchy
Computer	Phyllis Burnett & Doug McLeod
Newsletter Editor	Susan Haga
Web Master	Anne Baines
Past Presidents	E. McMurchy Pat
Advisory Group	Barry, Phyllis Burnett & Winn Evans

## **NEW EXECUTIVE**

On February 19, 2009 a new executive was elected for 2009/2010 years. Our new President is Doug McLeod, Vice President is Susan Haga (and Past President), Secretary is Phyllis Burnett and Pat Barry is our Treasurer.

### **Doug McLeod**

I was born in Edmonton and raised in Calgary. After serving 27 years in the RCAF/CF, I retired in Abbotsford, BC and worked with Commissionaires BC for 13 years.

I retired for the second time and moved to Lethbridge in January 2007. I have been married for 40 yrs and have a daughter and son and 3 granddaughters and 2 grandsons.

I started my family research in 2006 as I was thinking of taking a trip to Scotland to see the military tattoo in Edinburgh (trip never happened) and thought it would be nice to track the family back to and in Scotland.

I joined AGS Lethbridge branch late in 2006 while still in Abbotsford. My father's family came from Scotland to Ontario and then to Okotoks, Alberta. I have hit the brick wall as my 2g grandfather (I call him the old guy) left Scotland in 1842 and of course there are no records of this time frame. My mother's family came from England, to Ontario, to Edmonton.

As a member of the Lethbridge Branch, I have been involved in cemetery and obit recording, researching, reviewing newspaper microfilms for BMDs. I work in the library and help with the computers.

In February 2009, I was elected President of the Lethbridge and District Branch of the AGS. I attended my first Board meeting in February and also the Family History Conference in April. I look forward to working with the Branch members and with the AGS Board.

I enjoy helping others with their research. My hobbies include geocaching, and model railroading.

### **Susan Haga**

I was born in Comox, B.C., where my father was stationed in the military. We moved to Vancouver when I was a young child, moving onto Calgary when I was five years old. I spent my formal years in Calgary. I received my B.A. in History and Family History at BYU, in Provo, Utah. After receiving my degree I moved to Lethbridge, where I have worked as a Professional Genealogist for over 15 years.

My interest in family history began when I was 11 years old when I began writing my personal history. My mother wrote the first 6 years of my life and then I filled in the rest of the years. I continued to update my own history after that.

When I was sixteen years old I started researching my family lines. I had an aunt who was researching my mother's side of the family so I decided to start researching my father's side. I knew that my father was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba. I learned after obtaining my grandparent's marriage certificate that my grandfather was born in Garson, Manitoba just outside of Winnipeg. Upon finding my great grandfather on the 1901 Census I learned he came from Sweden in 1892, settling in Manitoba. Sometime later I found a short local history of my great grandfather in a local history book briefly detailing his life. It was then that I learned that my great grandfather's brother and his family left Sweden arriving in Manitoba in 1901.

After graduating from high school I worked as an Engineering Secretary in the Oil & Gas industry for a number of years in Calgary. I began teaching family history classes specializing in Oral & Family Histories. I then branched out teaching every subject imaginable in family history. In 1984 my father became very ill with acute leukemia. At the time I was unemployed so I spent as much time as could with him discussing his life and the lives of his family. It was such an inspirational time in my life as we were able to connect daily and discuss things that mattered most to him.

After my father's passing I continued to meet and talk with my grandmother, his mother, who was then in a nursing lodge in Calgary. My grandmother was born in England and came to Canada when she was a year old. I knew my father had been a twin but knew very little about the death of his twin sister. I learned that she had not been a stillbirth but had actually lived 7 days before passing away. My grandmother and I became very close and she began to give me some information.

Upon moving to Lethbridge in 1994 I began teaching classes at the Lethbridge Family History specializing in Canada, United States, and British Isles. In the past few years I've taught classes with A.G.S.. The most intriguing class I taught was "Analyzing Handwriting of Our Ancestors." Before moving to Lethbridge I had volunteered at the Calgary Family History Center for five years. I have been volunteering at the Lethbridge Family History Center as a Shift Leader for 13 years.

I began attending A.G.S. meetings as a guest for a number of years and in February 2005 I officially became a member agreeing to assist with the newsletter. Shortly thereafter I became the newsletter editor for Yesterday's Footprints and was put in as the Vice-President. Upon the passing of Ken Young, our past President, I became President. I am now the Vice-President (and Past President) and continue as the Newsletter Editor of Yesterday's Footprints. At the A.G.S. April Family History Conference this year our newsletter,

Yesterday's Footprints, won an award for the newsletter with best local content.

### **Phyllis Burnett #1772**

Phyllis Burnett was born in Edmonton, and received her early education in Stony Plain. She received her B.Ed. degree from the University of Alberta with a major in History and a minor in Biological Sciences. She taught six years in Edmonton, and one year in Montreal. She met James Dale Burnett at the Columbia Ice Fields where they were both employed as summer help. They married in 1966 and moved to Kingston, Ontario in 1971. Their daughter Gayle was born in 1974.

Phyllis got her first taste of genealogy in Kingston when she attended a conference of the Ontario Genealogical Society. She knew very little about her roots, only that her mother's parents were of German descent, and that her father's father came from Galicia, Austria. On her husband's side she knew his mother was of Norwegian descent and that the Burnett line was either Scottish or English. She learned that the first Burnett's to come to Canada, lived in the Eastern townships of Quebec. She wrote to the Brome County Historical Society and from them received an obituary of the first Burnett to immigrate to that area. It said that he came from Scotland. This opened up the research on that line.

She had a couple of approximate dates on the Norwegian line. In The Sons Of Norway newsletter *The Viking* she found the address of Gerhard Naeseth, a genealogist, and she wrote to him at Vesterheim Genealogical Center in Decorah, Iowa about Aslag (Aslak) Thorvildson and his wife, Ragnild Knudsdatter, who came from Kviteseid, Telemark, Norway. He was able to send Phyllis the information of the boat and the year they immigrated. Subsequently he and his assistant searched parish birth and marriage records and census records in Norway, and the line has been taken back three generations to about 1616.

After living 14 years in Kingston Phyllis and her family moved to Lethbridge in 1985, and she joined the Lethbridge Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society. She worked at Lethbridge Community College where she taught faculty and staff how to use computers and later email and the internet.

Phyllis has worked hard for the Lethbridge AGS Branch. She set up the original indexing system of the library and put it on computer. She has served as librarian and secretary, and worked on conference committees when Lethbridge was the host city. She served as president of the branch from February 1999 to February 2001. She was editor of this newsletter from September 1993 finishing with the September 2004 issue.

## **Lethbridge Family History Center**

### **Spring/Summer Hours:**

Monday 9:00-5:00 p.m., Tues—Thurs 9:00-9:00 p.m., Fridays closed, and Sat 9:00-1:00 p.m. Summer hours begin as of June 23<sup>rd</sup>. (Tues. & Wed. 9:00-5:00 p.m., Thurs. 1:00–9 :00 p.m.)

### **Family History Center Service Portal**

Family Search has partnered with several companies to provide free access to their databases for Family History Centers. The following programs are available at the Lethbridge Family History Center. FamilyHistoryLink.com, Footnote.com, Genline.com, Godfrey Memorial Library, Heritage Quest, and World Vital Records.

### **FamilyHistoryLink.com**

This program is a free social network for genealogists and their families.

#### **Individuals can:**

- Upload their family tree and their GEDCOM files
- Send messages to genealogists in more than 20 countries
- Upload photos of ancestors
- Connect with more than 15,000 genealogists and family historians in more than 1600 places
- One feature is the geo-mapping feature. You can select cities where you are researching and see all of the other members who are also working on that city. Geo-mapping shows you exactly where the city is, and gives you a handy frame of reference if you are unfamiliar with the location you are researching.

#### **Footnote.com**

- Footnote.com is a place where original, mostly American, historical documents are combined with social networking. The Footnote.com collections feature documents, most never available before on the Internet, relating to the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, US Presidents, Historical newspapers, Naturalization records, and many more. Footnote has a partnership with the National Archives (NARA) to digitize selected records. Footnote.com adds about 2 million records every month.
- One special option is “Face book for the Deceased,” these pages feature a photo gallery, an interactive timeline and map, and other tools that bring people together to create a more colorful and rich picture of the past.

- Now with Footnote Pages, friends and family can come together to share stories and memories about the people they care about. People are encouraged to upload their personal shoeboxes of photos and documents to Footnote.com

### **Genline.com—Sweden’s New Genealogical Research Aids**

Swedish research has now become more accessible with the introduction of the digitized images of the Swedish Lutheran Church records. Swedish Church records are the primary source for doing Swedish genealogical research, and now images of these records are available at the Family History Library of the LDS Church in Salt Lake City, Utah. Using the Genline.com site, the researcher can look at birth, marriage and death records from the late 1600s to the 1920s. At the Family History Library images of these records can be assessed free of charge. However, if the patron wishes to use the site at home, it then becomes a paid site. Several different payment options and time lengths are available for choosing and the client can view a detailed listing of the prices and time intervals are listed under the web site: [genline.com](http://genline.com)

#### **From genline.com website: What is the Swedish Church Records archive?**

Genline’s Swedish Church Records archive consists of photographic quality images scanned from microfilm of the original church records. These microfilms are direct copies of the masters kept at the Swedish National Archives in Stockholm.

#### **What Swedish Church Records are included in our archive?**

Our church records archive includes records from the 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century. These records consist of birth/baptismal, confirmation, marriage, death/burial, church ledgers and household examination rolls. These are the main sources of genealogical information in Sweden. In some cases we will be complementing these church records with those kept by a government agency known as Statistics Sweden (abbreviated as SCB).

#### **Godfrey Memorial Library**

Collects and publishes material relating to American genealogy and biography both onsite and online.

Resources include newspapers, city and business directories, vital records, census records, state, county and local histories, family histories, bible records, military and pension records. Most of these resources were created by various government agencies, historical and genealogical societies and private companies.

Each resource is listed both by topic/record type and by location. Clicking on the name of the database takes you to the search page of the website that it resides on.

**Other resources:**

1. Columbia World Gazetteer-helps locate place names around the world.
2. Reference USA-helps locate people in the United States and Canada.
3. The American Genealogical Biographic Index. This collection, which spans over 100,000 pages and 200 printed volumes, is one of the most important printed genealogical sources in the United States. It is an every-name index to over 800 printed genealogies and other sources.

Each entry of AGBI has the following parts:

Surname, First names, Birth year, State of residence, Biographical data, Citation.

4. American Military records-find when and where they died and were buried. Links to the National Burial Index kept by Veteran Affairs and databases of those who died in the US Civil War, WW1, WW11, Korean War and first Iraq War.

5. OCLC Worldcat- is a worldwide database of over one billion catalog records submitted by more than 57,000 contributing libraries in 112 countries. The database is continually growing as more libraries contribute. It is the world's largest bibliographic database for materials held around the world.

**Heritage Quest**

HeritageQuest Online combines digital, searchable images of U.S. federal census records with the digitalized version of the popular UMI Genealogy and Local History collection and other valuable content. This online database is an essential collection of unique material for both genealogical and historical researchers, with coverage dating back to the late 1700s. Researchers can use HeritageQuest Online to find their ancestors, trace their paths across America, and learn what life was like in the areas where they settled.

U.S. Federal Census includes all of the images, and extensive indexing, from the 1790–1930 censuses.

Books—information on people and places described in over 22,000 family and local histories.

People and places located in over 20,000 published family and local histories. Additionally, there are more than 250 primary-source documents such as tax lists, city directories, and probates records.

PERSI, a widely recognized resource guide, update annually, that covers more than 6,300 genealogy and history periodicals written in English and French (Canada) since 1800.

Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application files which identifies more than 80,000 American military, naval, and marine officers and enlisted men.

Freedman Bank Records considered one of the most important resources for African-American genealogical research. It is a database that documents more than 70,000 bank depositors and their dependants and heirs.

Historical Newspapers-The New York Times 1851-2001. The Wall Street Journal-1889-1987, The Washington Post-1877-1988, The Christian Science Monitor-1908-1991, Los Angeles Times-1881-1984. Digital Sanborn Maps 1867-1970-digital access to more than 660,000 large-scale maps of more than 1200 American towns and cities.

**World Vital Records**

- Everton Publishers was the first company to partner with World Vital Records. As part of the partnership, all of Everton's content including the Genealogical Helper and Everton's Pedigree Files and Family Group Sheets became available at World Vital Records.
- World War II Army Enlistment Records. Provided by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) one of the largest archives in the US.
- The Social Security Death Index (SSDI)
- Ellis Island Passenger Arrival Records--documentation of the arrival of over 25-million people arriving through the New York Port between 1892-1924.
- Find a Grave--more than 16 million grave records.
- SmallTownPapers the people, place and events that were reported in local newspapers.
- Allcensus-U.S. Fed. Census from 1790-1930 over 800,000 browseable images.
- International Records such as Scottish Death Records—1747-1868.
- NewspaperArchives.com--the largest newspaper database online gives access to a half-billion records from 1759-1923. (Lethbridge Fam. His. Center Conf. handout)

**101 Genealogy Research Tips**

From booklet titled 101 Best Genealogy Research Tips published by Moorshead Magazines.

**Searching for Names**

**2. Follow the females** – Usually to find females we need to follow men in their lives however at times in order to find men we need to find females.

-Often elderly men went to live with their daughters, so in order to find death or burial records, wills, obits, you need to find their daughters.

-men tended to migrate with their in-laws so follow their families.

**5. Ignore surnames** –sometimes just looking for the given name will bring success when the surname is illegible, oddly spelt, entered or indexed incorrectly. At times married daughters or remarried widows can be found with this method.

**47. Think like soundex** – Ignore vowels and the letters H, W and Y (unless they are the first letter in the name then use with extreme care). Treat similar sounding constants as one sound e.g. (B,F,P,V) (D,T) (M,N) (C,G,J,K,Q,S,X,Z) for example Campbell can become Gampbel or Kempel or Quimble/Siller can become Cellar.

**49. Focus on unique identifiers** – Many names are common. If so, focus on unique identifiers e.g. occupation, religion, middle name, wife's name, birthplace or home location, witnesses. Compare their signature to others with same name.

**50. Learn common nicknames, short forms or interchangeable names.**

**76. Siblings can have the same name.**

**77. One Name Studies** – If a surname is rare check with the Guild of One Names Studies <http://one-name.org/> You may be lucky and find a whole group already tracing families with your surname.

**79. Make a collection of and try to think of other possible surname variations.**

**96. Surnames can follow the female name** – This is unusual but does happen. There are two main reasons for this. 1. A child whose birth is illegitimate. 2. In rare cases when the woman has inheritable property and there are no male heirs. There are usually legal papers to document the change in a case like this.

### Interesting Websites

#### **What is a Blog and of What use are they?**

1. A short term for Web log-or a web journal. It is the new way that genealogists communicate with each other, how they share information and in some cases how they do research. It can help you find others who are researching your family names.

2. A blog is a web site, where you write information on an ongoing basis. New things show up at the top, so your visitors can read what's new. Then they comment on it or link to it or e-mail you. It does not require special computer software.

3. Many hosting sites for a blog, are free and have very good Help sections.

Googles "Blogger": <http://www.blogger.com/> It is quick and easy to use. There are templates to help with the design of your blog.

**WordPress:** <http://wordpress.com/>

Has an option fee-based up-grade for more features.

Live Journal: <http://www.livejournal.com/>

You can use LiveJournal in many ways: a private journal, a blog, a discussion forum or a social network to keep family or friends in touch.

### Top Blogging Sites

#### **Ancestry Insider**

<http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com>

This well informed blogger's daily posts are focused on Ancestry.com and familysearch.org. Knowledgeable and on target it is a must read.

#### **DearMYRTLE's Genealogy Blog**

<http://blog.dearmyrtle.com>

DearMYRTLE has been working in genealogy for decades. Her blog can be counted on for breaking news and insight. She makes new resources easy to use and understand.

#### **Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter**

<http://blog.eogn.com/>

Dick Eastman's blog is essential reading. He is up to date and knows the field. There is a free and a paid version.

#### **Eats Like a Human**

<http://eatslikeahuman.blogspot.com>

A majority of people want to know more about their ancestors. This blog is a forum for promoting innovation that will help to take family history to the common people. Dan Lawyer has been the Product Manager for Family Search since 2004.

#### **Family Search Lab Blog**

<http://labs.familysearch.org/blog/>

Future tools to dig up the past. Find out what Family Search is working on now.

#### **24/7 Family History Circle**

<http://blogs.ancestry.com/circle>

<http://blog.familytreemagazine.com/insider/> is the latest incarnation of the popular family history newsletter produced by Juliana Smith for Ancestry.com. In addition to how-to-articles by genealogy pros.

#### **The Footnote Blog**

<http://blog.footnote.com>

This blogger usually posts 2-3 times a month. The articles are usually brief and focus on the latest developments at Footnote.com—you'll want to read it to keep up with what's new on that site.

#### **Gary's Turn Family History Blog**

<http://garysturn.blogspot.com>

Items of interest in Family History, new.familysearch and Internet Family History Research.

### **GenealogyBank**

<http://blog.genealogybank.com>

Bringing you practical tips, searches and information about new content available in GenealogyBank.

### **Genealogy Help**

<http://genhelp.org>

Genealogy help at your finger tips.

### **Genealogy Insider**

<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/insider/>

Diane Haddad, Editor of Family Tree Magazine is a great blogger. Well informed and with an upbeat writing style.

### **Genea-Musings**

<http://www.geneamusings.com>

Down-to-earth blog filled with tips, news items, humor society news, family history research, and even some family history stories.

### **The Genealogy Roots Blog**

<http://genrootsblog.blogspot.com/>

Is for finding online genealogy databases, records and resources. The focus is on vital records (birth, marriage, divorce & death records), obituaries, census records, naturalization records, military records and ship passenger lists.

### **The Genealogue**

<http://www.genealogue.com/>

This blog is lighthearted, fun, and has the tagline, "Genealogy News You Can't Possibly Use." Christopher Dunham is the author of the blog.

### **Learn How to Blog**

#### **Cyndi's List**

<http://www.cyndislist.com/blogs.htm#HowTo>

#### **Dummies Guide to Google Blogger**

<http://betabloggerfordummies.blogspot.com/2007/06/10-quick-tips-for-smarter-blogging.html>

#### **Mary's Genealogy Treasures**

<http://www.telusplanet.net/public/mtoll/>

Click on Genealogy Blogs then on each site under Blog Tutorials (Blogging handout by Faye French)

### **Submitting a Correction to Ancestry**

For those who have access to Ancestry.com there is an opportunity to make corrections to the index so the entries will be easier to find.

My grandparents and their children in the 1916 Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta census have barely recognizable names in the index and were very difficult to find with search criteria. The name must be found by searching before changes are made. This does not make the original search any easier but will make future searches very easy.

Find the individual and open the detail view. On the left hand side under "Page Tools" beside the pencil,

click on "Comments and Corrections". Fill in the form that appears. Less than two weeks later I received an e-mail indicating the correction had been added to the index. One e-mail was received for each individual correction.

#### **Example:**

My grandfather, Arvid Lyckman, is indexed as Hovid Lychman. After the corrections when I type Arvid Lyckman in the search the first individual that appears is Hovid Lychman. It is shown with a comment bubble and + sign to indicate that comments and corrections have been added to the individual listing.

If you would like to make corrections check out the above example to see how it works.

(Submitted by Norma Bosman)

### **FamilySearch Record Search Update:**

Thirteen collections were added on the FamilySearch Record Search pilot—over 3.5 million new records. These collections can be searched for free at the FamilySearch.org Records Search pilot (click Search Records, then click Record Search pilot).

<b>Collections Name</b>	<b>Digital Images</b>
Brazil Pernambuco Civil Reg. 1889-2003	470,743
Czech Republic, Northern Bohemia, Litomerice Archive Church Books 1552-1905	54,068
Czech Republic, Southern Bohemia, Trebon Arc. Church Books 1650-1900	14,646
Florida Deaths 1877-1939	471,800 indexed recs
Indiana Marriages, 1811-1959	153,361 indexed recs
Italy, Palermo Prov, Montreale Diocese, Catholic Church Recs 1530-1919	24,705
Massachusetts State Census, 1855	13,071
Massachusetts State Census, 1865	2,222
New York State Census, 1865	35,851
North Carolina Deaths 1906-1930	612,154
North Carolina, Davidson County Vital Records, 1867-1984	79,128
South Carolina Deaths 1915-1943	635,098
South Carolina Deaths 1944-1955	231,138 indxd recs (Posted by Dick Eastman on May 20, 2009)

## **Mourning Quilts**

They're in our closets, on our beds and part of our lives. They're quilts, and while the general agreement is that quilts are a part of life, they are part of death as well. In times when death was sometimes unexplained, the quilt played an important role for those left behind. Known as mourning quilts, their purpose was to help their makers cope with loss than to keep them warm.

The mourning quilt enjoyed great popularity in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, before falling out of favor. Made following the death of a loved one, the mourning quilt not only commemorated the dead, but also offered healing for those left behind. During the latter 19<sup>th</sup> century, the infant mortality rate was high, and a mother expected to bury at least one of her children. Dorothy Boettner, as recorded in Pat Ferraro's book *Hearts and Hands: the Influence of Women & Quilts on American Society*, recalled the story of her grandmother, who was so distraught over losing an infant daughter that her husband took her to sit with a neighbor and sew a memorial quilt as a way of easing her grief.

It is hard to say what constitutes traditional mourning quilts; the only consistency was their purpose. Some are made from scraps of the deceased's clothing. Meanwhile, some communities had the funeral tradition of covering a body with a square of cloth, white for children and black for adults. These squares were then sewn into quilts with the name of the deceased embroidered upon it. However, the usual mourning quilt was made with black, gray and dark blue colors. Star patterns were popular choices of morning quilts, leading quilters to believe that many of the star patterns surviving today, which are made in darker colors, are actually mourning quilts.

One of the more unusual mourning quilts was the Graveyard Quilt. Aptly named, these Graveyard or Coffin Quilts featured the macabre image of a center "graveyard" filled with and surrounded by six-sided coffins. The quilt itself was usually made in black or gray fabrics, and some had a center star design while others had fence designs surrounding the graveyard. The coffins, usually black, were placed along the quilt's edge until the family member whose name was embroidered on the coffin died. Upon death, coffins were then moved and appliquéd into the graveyard, where they received embroidered death dates. The rest of the quilt featured a variety of patterns including the popular "black darts of death", a triangular dart motif, and heavily embroidered vines.

The Graveyard Quilts were made in certain areas of Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia and Ohio for only a short period during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Sewn with the purpose of preserving family records, the quilts were considered to be

more permanent than any paper recording. There were no set rules for the creation of a Graveyard Quilt. One Ohio quilt was made with various shades of purple, and the well-known Kentucky Coffin Quilt by Elizabeth Roseberry Mitchell was made in shades of brown.

What created this unique graveyard pattern? One possible influence was the development of modern cemeteries. Traditionally, family members were buried on family land in small clusters of graves. However, during the period of the Graveyard Quilt, the urban cemetery began to crawl towards the rural landscape. The new cemeteries were park-like and created for both the living and the dead; therefore the placement of graveyards on quilts in the 19<sup>th</sup> century lacked the morbidity that it does today.

Mourning quilts preserve a different view of death. What might seem macabre today is a historic representation of the belief that the dead were only temporarily absent, and the quilts served as a connection between the living and the dead. (Kelly Ann Butterbaugh—*History Magazine*—October/November 2008)

## **Canadian Civil Service Salaries Published Online**

The following announcement was written by Familyrelatives.com:

The world's largest collection of Canadian Civil Service records are now available on the internet. Familyrelatives.com today launched over 200,000 Canadian Civil Service records for the period of 1872-1918. The fully searchable records offer a fascinating insight into the machinery of government from the Governor General's office and those employed in Parliament (House of Commons & Senate) to the 10 people in the "Slide and Boom" Service of the Inland Revenue all of whom are meticulously accounted for. The online records reveal the civil servants name, position, department, length of service, salary and date of appointment.

The period covers the early years of the Dominion of Canada from 1872 through to the end of the First World War, when immigration to North America was increasing Canada saw the majority of migrants arriving from Britain and Ireland which accounted for a large proportion of the Government Service Lists. In 1870 this influx reached its highest level.

The earliest Returns detail the origin and creed of those in the civil service. Canadians were described as French or British or even Irish and German but these distinctions eventually disappear. In 1872 there were 3,704 civil servants which increased to 8,312 by 1909. The latest figures show that there are now over 454,000 Canadian civil servants. Included in this online collection are



individuals who shaped and transformed the country in those early days. One of these was Richard Burton Deane, an officer and author educated in India and Ipswich (England) who in July 1883 was appointed by the Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald as an inspector in the North-West Mounted Police in July 1883. After the North-West rebellion Deane became responsible for the prisoners, including Louis Riel one of the most controversial figures in Canadian history.

These comprehensive records spanning 47 formative years of Canada's Administration are a vital part of the Dominion's development and the source for family historians whose forebears left Britain for a new life and in many cases reached importance and fame in their adopted country. The collection is available online to all members and by way of an annual subscription of only 30.00 (pounds) or US \$50.00 with other datasets at [www.familyrelatives.com](http://www.familyrelatives.com).

(Posted by Dick Eastman)

### Interlink

#### Canada Genealogy Books

##### **Genealogy in Ontario: Searching the Records**

Fourth Edition By Brenda Dougall Merriman, C.G. This valuable volume rewritten for the twenty-first century, with new references and websites. Reviewers and users have found that Genealogy in Ontario is required. Explains how to find the records; how to use the finding aids; how to read land records, will and guardianship records among others. Records of Ontario. C\$30.00

##### **The Sash Canada Wore: A Historical Geography of The Orange Order in Canada**

By Cecil J. Houston and William J. Smyth. This work explores the role of the Orange Order in the unfolding settlement geography of Canada. Orangism as an ideology of Protestantism and loyalty and the Orange lodge as a focus for social interaction are studied within a wider perspective aimed at elucidating some elements in the social and cultural life of Canada as that country progressed from British colonial status to an ethnically complex and industrially advanced modern nation. C\$34.95

##### **Routes to Roots**

A collection of Genealogical columns by Ryan Taylor. Useful sources and practical advice. Discover seldom used resources. Expert guidance. C\$19.95

##### **Records of the Department of Indian Affairs at Library and Archives Canada – A Source for Genealogical Research, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition**

By Bill Russell. Updated to include the reorganization of Library and Archives Canada and the latest electronic finding aids. The volumes of material held in RG 10 make up the latest electronic finding aids.

The volumes of material held in RG 10 make up the historical collection of the Federal Department of Indian Affairs. The records of status Indians and Inuit, Metis and non-status Indians, as well as employees of the administration and those who dealt with both groups are herein documented and illustrated. 2004 \$28.00

##### **Books You Need To Do Genealogy in Ontario**

Annotated bibliography by Ryan Taylor, Second edition. Including information about 2,200 publications, this is essential for beginning and experienced researchers. It offers useful sources and practical advice. C\$37.95

##### **Much To Be Done – Private Life in Ontario from Victorian Diaries**

By Frances Hoffman and Ryan Taylor. In this book we glimpse how life was lived in 19<sup>th</sup>-century Ontario, not only in the grand mansions, but in the farm houses and streets where our ancestors lived. \$21.95

##### **What's Not on the Internet**

##### **Where/How To Find It**

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##### **Library Catalogs and Record Lists**

Become familiar with your local library catalog. Ask the librarian or archivist about their records.

##### **Research Outlines**

Your local Family History Center has research outlines for specific countries. Go to FamilySearch.org and click on the Family History Library Catalog. This can be a great resource tool to find descriptions of other libraries and their collections. Look in the Place Search, find the place and look for the topic Archives and Libraries.

##### **Other Research Libraries**

Major libraries are identified in the research outlines for most nations, each province in Canada, and each state of the United States. Most major cities have good or public libraries. Libraries in the United States and Canada with genealogical collections are described in—Filby, P. William, Directory of American Libraries with Genealogy or Local History Collections, Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, 1988. (FHL book 973 3fi). The public library may have this book.

**WorldCat** is a worldwide database of over one billion catalog records submitted by more than 57,000 contributing libraries in 112 countries and territories, as of January 2007. The database is continually growing as more libraries contribute. It is the world's largest bibliographic database for materials held around the world but it is not comprehensive.

## Using Worldcat

Go to <http://www.worldcat.org/>

Type in some keywords for the title, subject or person. An advanced search option is also available.

Click on the name of the title you need. Scroll down and click on the name of a holding library.

Click on details to see description of the item. You can see a Full Record, Brief Record, or have a Look Inside. The Classmark is given as well as the availability of the item.

Click on Request Interlibrary Loan to see details on lending, or check with your local library for assistance.

Ask a librarian to help you use the library catalog, which is the key to the collection. Every research library has some collections not available elsewhere as well as records found in other repositories. Some libraries collect extensively for a specific area and may be the best source for that area.

**Local Libraries-** Become familiar with your local library catalog. Ask the librarian or archivist about their records. Many other communities have wonderful local history library and or genealogical society, that offer low cost or donation based research services. They may have a website listing resources and tell you how to send for the information and the cost. They are the best repository of local newspapers, books, journals, newsletters and other hidden gems that have not been digitized. Look-ups for obits may be available. Public and college libraries have many published and some microform records. They usually have a good family history collection for the town or county they serve. Most have a reference collection and can help you locate other records of interest. Directories of public libraries are available for most major countries, for example see Libweb. <http://lists.webjunction.org/libweb>.

## Interlibrary Loan

Most public and college libraries provide interlibrary loan services that allow you to borrow many records from other libraries. This is especially helpful if you live some distance from where your ancestors lived. These services are most useful for obtaining published books and microfilms of newspapers and city directories.

Books at the Family History Library which cannot be loaned (unless on microfilm or microfiche), are often available through your nearest public library.

Many libraries will not lend family histories. Some rental libraries (described below) include family histories in their circulating collection. One public library with an extensive collection of genealogical material that does make them available on inter-library loan is—

Midwest Genealogy Center  
Mid-Continent Public Library  
15616 East 24 Highway  
Independence, Missouri 64050  
<http://www.mcpl.lib.mo.us/genlh/mgc.htm>  
<http://www.mcpl.lib.mo.us/genlh/about/request.htm>

## Private Libraries and Archives

Have many important manuscripts. See below.

The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)

<http://www.dar.org>

The Historical and Genealogical Societies of Pennsylvania <http://www.hsp.org>

The National Genealogical Society – has recently created some online indexes to manuscripts <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>

The New England Historic Genealogical Society- (The Lethbridge Family History Center has a paid subscription) <http://www.newenglandancestors.org>

You can request research for \$50 US per hour for members and \$70 US for nonmembers.

## Societies

Many societies maintain small collections of records. Their collections may include membership information, local history, and query files that identify the interests of researchers. Many historical societies are open to the public. Others, sponsored by a genealogical society or a fraternal or ethnic group, may be restricted to members. Most are usually quite helpful to all researchers. Some surname organizations have extensive collections the names in which they are interested.

## Correspondence

Strive to see the most original record with your own eyes. Never fully trust records selected or copied by someone else because they may have overlooked something important.

But if you cannot visit a records repository, you may e-mail or write to archives or organizations to request a copy of the records you need. You may learn about other researchers who are willing to share their findings with you. For difficult problems, you may want to hire a professional researcher to help you.

When writing to request services, you will be more successful if your e-mail or letter is brief and specific. You will usually need to send a check or money order to pay in advance for photocopy or research services, although some organizations will bill you later.

Keep the following in mind as you prepare your correspondence:

Be courteous and considerate of the person's time who will answer.

Make your request clear and simple. Do not ask complex questions or request detailed searches. Keep a copy of your e-mail or letter and record it.

Be sure the information and address for the person or repository is correct.

E-mail is usually better than surface mail. If you decide to use surface mail, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope when writing within your own country. For letters outside your country, enclose International Reply Coupons (available from your Post Office) for postage.

When contacting other researchers, offer to pay copy and postage costs.

**The Bottom Line:** On the internet you may find indexes and other information that helps to find the records you want but sometimes you need to visit, write, phone or fax to obtain that precious record.

(By Faye French)

### **Hereditary Societies Today**

I've been involved with hereditary societies for almost twenty years now. I'm far from the typical member, as I joined the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) when I was fresh out of college, doing so on my own and without being pushed by a family member. My interest in family history began in junior high school, when for an assignment I had to create a family crest. My first thought was, "Why should I design a new one when I have multiple examples on the wall at home?"

As I started to research my family, I first reviewed piles of papers, clippings, and notes collected over the generations. I found that my grandfather joined the SAR in the 1930s. A number of women in the family belonged to the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) at the beginning of the twentieth century and had documented descent from many patriots of the Revolution.

When I joined the SAR, I piggybacked on my grandfather's application and had to prove only my connection to him. For many years, I was the youngest guy in the room, but that situation is changing. I was asked to get involved and did so with computer and website work. Then, after being asked to join other patriotic and hereditary societies, it began to dawn on me that the SAR and the DAR are only the tip of the iceberg.

After joining a few groups, including the Society of the Descendant of the Founders of Hartford (SDFH) and the Order of Founders and Patriots of America (OFPA), I found that there were hundreds of organizations honoring many periods of history. To help the societies and acquire additional web experience, I established a website for hereditary societies in Connecticut at [www.SocietyCT.org](http://www.SocietyCT.org), with basic facts about each organization, including requirements and contact information. A few years ago a national site emerged: the Hereditary Society Community, at [www.hereditary.us](http://www.hereditary.us), which has information about most of the societies in the country.

The largest societies, like SAR and DAR, consist of national, state, and local groups. Most societies are national, with state chapters; the smallest operate only at a national level. In Connecticut, the large groups meet at each level regularly. Recently we have begun holding twice yearly joint meetings of the smaller societies—OFPA, Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America (DFPA), General Society of the War of 1812, Nathan Hale Society, National Huguenot Society, Order of Descendants of Pirates and Privateers (ODPP), and Sons of the Revolution (SR). Every fall, all of the hereditary societies gather for the Massing of the Colors, which includes a procession of flags, a short service, and a social gathering.

Connecticut also has a number of small societies unique to our history and region: Founders of the New Haven Colony, Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor, Society of Middletown First Settlers Descendants, Society of the Founders of Norwich Connecticut, and Society of the Descendants of the Founders of Hartford. Examples of family associations include the Nathan Hale Society and Descendants of Stephen Hart.

Over time, I've broadened my knowledge of these societies and their histories. The Society of the Cincinnati was formed in 1783 by Continental officers who served in the American Revolution; General George Washington was the first president general. Today, although membership requirements for the fourteen chapters vary, usually only one member at any time can represent an eligible officer.

The country's Centennial coincided with a wave of immigration and a flood of new hereditary societies. Many Americans with colonial ties wanted to commemorate their ancestors' struggles and achievements, and emphasize their deep roots in a country that had become a melting pot. Most groups formed as separate men's and women's societies, but today new societies are seldom gender-based and typically welcome everyone who meets genealogical requirements.

Unfortunately, these types of societies still have the reputation of private clubs for gentlemen and "fat cats." Instead, most organizations are open to anyone with an eligible ancestor (or kinsman) and an interest in history. Over the years I have met members from all walks of life with widely different professional, ethnic, and racial backgrounds who share aspects of a common heritage.

Some societies began in opposition to other societies. One might be too restrictive with its requirements—therefore excluding many prospective members—so a new, more inclusive society would form. At its first annual meeting in 1890, SAR voted at the national level not to admit women. DAR quickly formed and skyrocketed in

membership. The less known aspect of the story is that many SAR state societies allowed female members. The Connecticut SAR, for example, had about 140 women members, who stayed on the rolls for decades.

Certain societies act as gateways, such as DAR, SAR, and, of course, the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. These groups remain in the public eye and have established many good programs, including youth education, scholarships, and record preservation. Most people who join societies first join one of these three groups and then discover additional hereditary societies of interest.

Some people in the hereditary community have fun with history and have created some interesting groups, Son of a Witch – for those descended from colonial-era accused witches – unfortunately no longer exists. Descendants of the Illegitimate Sons and Daughters of the Kings of Britain (the “Royal Bastards”) is for anyone who descends from an illegitimate child or grandchild of a king of England, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, or the United Kingdom.

Some societies started as veterans groups, such as the Society of the Cincinnati, the General Society of the War of 1812, and the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. The first members were actual veterans; later descendants continued the tradition.

New societies are still being formed today. A number of us started the Nathan Hale Society in 2005 for collateral relatives of the first spy executed during the American Revolution. The Hereditary Order of the Families of Presidents and First Ladies of America was founded in 2003. The number of societies will continue to grow as people become interested in different periods of history.

I have found many advantages to belonging to patriotic societies. Some groups produce scholarly research which is published in their periodicals. The more general articles are often interesting in their own right. I have made many friends I would not have met were it not for a shared interest in genealogy. I have found more cousins by attending meetings and functions than I ever would have at a family reunion.

As with many organizations, hereditary societies can vary greatly from chapter to chapter and state to state. As with other activities, the more you participate, the more you will receive and enjoy. Great lunches, world-renowned speakers, parades, functions, and parties -- the list goes on. The best part, of course, is the shared love of history and genealogy that brings us all together.

(Stephen Payson Shaw is the owner of WholsTheOldGuy.com, a small web design company. Winter 2009—New England Ancestors.)

### **A Publisher's Black List, From Erin Advocate**

It is a well known fact every newspaper has a number of dead-beats on their subscription list, who will take the paper for years and never make any effort to pay for it. We imagine that a black list exposure is the true reward of these bloodsuckers.

Mrs. J.T. Carney, Emerson, Man., would be reading the Advocate yet, but we discontinued it thinking four years was long enough to trust foreign subscribers.

John Stewart, Helena, Griggs Co., Dakota, owes us \$4 and is a notorious dead-beat, at least we shall send the Advocate to Helena, and people can judge for themselves.

Wm. Leslie, late of Erin, but now of Brandon, Man., ordered the Advocate sent to him simply as a reminder from Erin. Wm. however, failed to remind the editor once a year for four years with a dollar.

John Backus, of Belfountain, has been beating us out of a dollar a year for four years. John will buy everything but never make an effort to pay. Belfountain notables will receive considerable attention next week.

C. Spalding, butcher, Georgetown, has been doing his best to help the Advocate along since 1880, but always forgets to pay up. Spalding has the unenviable reputation of never paying any debt he can avoid.

H. Gane, late of Georgetown, but now of Guelph, has read the Advocate for seven years, and is unprincipled enough not to pay. If “an honest man is the noblest work of God,” where will H. Gane be counted in—or out.

W.T. Jackson, “green” grocer, of Georgetown, owes \$7 for the Advocate, having been a constant reader, but a poor payer. He put us off twice stating that he owned nothing, but finally promised to pay on Erin show day. The show is over, but Jackson never showed up. Fergus News Record, 17 Nov. 1887. (Newsletter of Wellington County Branch OGS—Summer 2005.)

### **Family History Conferences**

**International Convention of Germans from Russia** held in Medicine Hat, Alberta 15-21 June 2009. The Convention will take place in the Medicine Hat Lodge Convention Center

<http://www.medhatlodge.com/>

See Convention website [www.ahsgr.org](http://www.ahsgr.org) Leona Mann and Mabel Kiessling are the co-chairs for the convention.

### **Super Conference 2009, Journey of Discovery**

July 24 & 25 2009

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Joint Conference Convention with the Federation of East European Family Histories Societies <http://feefhs.org/> Reservations (888) 201-1718