

YESTERDAY'S FOOTPRINTS
Alberta Genealogical Society
Lethbridge and District Branch
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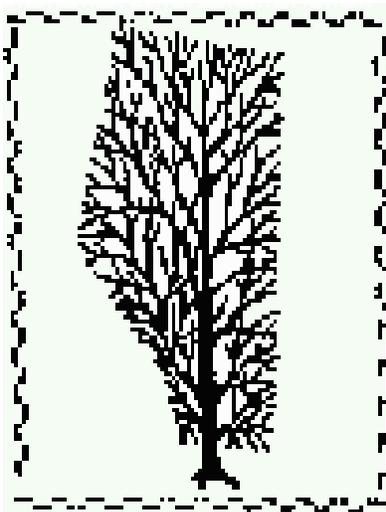


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Editor's Corner



If you want to submit articles, genealogy humor, interesting web sites 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 Susan Haga, Newsletter Editor.

Lethbridge A.G.S. Branch Hours

Library Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 1:30-4:30 p.m. Meetings are 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. September through May. Visitors Welcome! Our library will be closed July and August and Dec. but can be open on request. See our web site at:

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

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

Phone: (403) 328-9564

Membership Dues

Regular individual or family (Includes 1 Branch)--\$50.00, seniors (65+) individual or family (Includes 1 Branch)--\$45.00

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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President's Message

Winter is over, even though from time to time we get a reminder that Alberta weather is impossible to predict. So, with the arrival of spring we turn our thoughts to gardening and, hopefully, some genealogical trips and family history adventures during the summer. We look forward to September and your reports of fun and discovery.

But we can not jump ahead too fast and dismiss the coming activity of our branch over the next month. We have the BI-annual garage sale on June 7, 8th and 9th to be held at Pat and Carol Barry's at 202 – 26th St. South. We hope that many of you will be able to lend a hand. It is our main fund raising activity.

I think we have had a very successful season and the programs presented have been excellent. I personally gained valuable insights into Lethbridge and its history by attending the very informative presentation at the Galt Museum Archive. I was also highly impressed by Henning's Mayflower presentation. I hope we all gained a better understanding of the value of proper documentation and sources.

Thank you for support of our Society and its activities and for your willingness to work and share. Nestor Martinez, Branch President

Genealogical Finds!

This is a new section I've decided to add to our newsletter. If any of you have had any genealogical finds that you would like to submit e-mail them to me at

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

I will include them in the next newsletter. They can be short pieces of information or articles of greater length.

Monthly Meetings

On Thursday, April 19th at 7:00 p.m. we went to Sir Alexander Galt Archives for a tour of the Archives and a presentation by Andrew Chernyvch. There were about 20 people in attendance. On Thursday May 17th at 7 p.m. Celia Tyler (David) new Co-Director of the Raymond Family History Center gave an interesting presentation on England beyond the Basics.

Lethbridge Family History Center Hours

Summer Hours: The Lethbridge Family History Center is now open for summer hours. It will be open Tues: 9:00-5:00 p.m. and Wed 1:00-9:00 p.m.

Family History Center Portal

Family History Center Portal includes a number of websites for free at the Family History Center.

19th Century British Library Newspaper Archive
Access Newspaper Archive
Alexander Street Press – The American Civil War:
Research Database/Letters and Diaries/Images,
Photographs, Posters, and Ephemera
Ancestry.com
ArkivDigital Online (Genline--Swedish Research)
Find My Past
Fold3.com (Previously known as Footnote.com)
The Genealogist
Godfrey Memorial Library
Heritage Quest Online
Historic Map Works Library Edition
Paper Trail
World Vital Records

Here are the latest books in the Lethbridge Family History Center

“Guide to Published Genealogies in the Library of the New England Historic Genealogical Society”

This book contains a listing of all published genealogies the Society acquired prior to 2011. It includes almost every published genealogy on New England families, plus works on families throughout the United States, Canada and 39 other countries around the world. Genealogies in the collection span nearly 400 years from 1624 to the present.

“Erin’s Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761 -- 1863” (4 Volumes)

From the time of the earliest European colonies, there were Irish settlers in the four provinces of Atlantic Canada

– Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia. Large numbers of Irish and Scots-Irish immigrants passed through the Atlantic Canada Ports of St. John and Halifax and a score of lesser ports.

Genealogy for Juniors Program Class in Youngstown, Arizona

Perhaps we should see more classes like this one. The following announcement was written by the West Valley Genealogical Society.

The West Valley Genealogical Society, Youngstown, Arizona, invites young people, ages 10-16, interested in learning about their family history and finding their ancestors, an opportunity to enroll in a four week Genealogy for Juniors Program. The class will include the Scouting requirements for a Genealogy or Family History badge. Scouting membership is not required.

The classes will meet four Mondays, June 4,

11, 25 and July 2 (no class on June 18), 10 a.m. to noon. The classes are free; a \$5 charge will cover supplies and a notebook providing proof of project completion.

WVGS will also offer a Junior Society membership for \$20 for those wanting to continue their research. The enrollment form and more details are available at the Society web site: <http://www.azwvgs.org> or by calling 623 933-4945. (Eastman’s Genealogy Newsletter—June 1, 2012)

1921 Canadian Census--Released in 2013

Canadian laws dictate that the country’s census records must be kept private for 92 years. After that time, the records are transferred to Library and Archives Canada and will be opened for public use. That means that the census taken on June 1, 1921, should be made transferred on June 1, 2013. However, the census records will NOT be available to the public on that day.

The law stipulates that the records are to be transferred to Library and Archives Canada on that date and the records are to be made available. However, government personnel will require some time to receive the records, catalog, scan, and place the images online. The work cannot begin until June 1, 2013 so we can assume that public availability will not occur until some time after that.

The Library and Archives Canada Blog states, “Our intention is to make it available to researchers online, in the same format as previous censuses, as soon as possible after that date.” You can read more <http://thediscoverblog.com/2012/03/27/1921-census-countdown/> (Submitted by Eleanor McMurchy, Lethbridge A.G.S)

1940 U.S. Census Community Project Nearly Halfway Complete—May 22, 2012

Congratulations and thank you to all of the volunteers participating in this unprecedented genealogical community effort. Currently more than 20 states are at or above 85 percent complete. Six states—Delaware, Colorado, Kansas, Oregon, Virginia, and New Hampshire—are now indexed and searchable by name, location, and family relations. And thanks to the efforts of more than 100,000 volunteers, more states will be added in the coming weeks. Follow the day-to-day indexing status at the1940census.com/dashboard and search completed states at familysearch.org/1940census.

Current and Completed Projects

To view a list of currently available indexing projects, along with their record language and completion percentage, visit the FamilySearch [indexing updates page](#). To learn more about individual projects, view the FamilySearch [projects page](#).

Recently Completed Projects

Note: Recently completed projects have been removed from the available online indexing batches and will now go through a final completion check process. They will be published at familysearch.org in the near future.

Brasil, Rio de Janeiro—Cartoes de Imigracao, 1900-1965 [Part 2 J]

Brasil, Rio de Janeiro—Cartoes de Imigracao, 1900-1965 [Part 2 H]

Brasil, Rio de Janeiro—Cartoes de Imigracao, 1900-1965 [Part 2 E]

Italia, Napoli, Castellammare di Stabia—Atti di Nascita, 1809-1885 Part 1

U.S., Alaska—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Arizona—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Florida—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Idaho—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Indiana—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Mississippi—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Montana—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Nevada—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Texas—Deaths, 1890-1976

[Part B]

U.S., Texas--County Marriages 1837-1977

[Part C]

U.S., Vermont—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Wyoming—1940 Federal Census

U.S., Veterans Pension Cards, 1907-1933

[Part A]

UK, England and Wales—1871 Census for Lincolnshire, Cheshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Rutland

Canada, Ontario-Marriages, 1869-1927 [Part B]

(Taken from FamilySearch.org web site

<http://familysearch.org/node/1634>)

Border Crossing Information to Canada

What information can be gained from a simple border crossing document? In researching my grandparents, I checked the border crossing information available on Ancestry. I expect it is also available from other sources. The card below is the image that I found, dated May 2, 1939. There are several important items that I was able to get from the card for my grandmother.

MARVEST		SWEETGRASS, MONT.		May 2 1939		Serial No.	
Family name		Given name		Accompanied by			
SQUARE		Agnes		Husb. Stove, son, John			
(OR SQUAREK) & dtr. Katherine & Trs. Chas. Blaskin							
C.I.V. No.	Place and date of issue		Section and subdivision	Quota monthly charged	R.P. No.		
	Age of 1939				P.V. No.		
Place of birth (town, country, etc.)		Age	Sex	M. A.	Occupation	Read N	
Galencow Tolny, Austria		55	F	W. D.	Housewife	Write N	
Language or dialect		Race	Nationality	Last permanent residence (town, country, etc.)			
Transit		Polish	Canada	Hillcrest, Alta.			
Name and address of nearest relative or friend in country whence she came							
Son: Nick Squarek or Ssmarek, Hillcrest, Alta.							
Ever in U.S.		From	Is	Where	Passage paid by		
No					Husb.		
Destination, and name and complete address of relative or friend to join (where)							
Dtr. Mrs. Stove Senalko, 3210 Sandwich Str., Windsor, Ont.							
Money shown		Ever arrested and deported, or admitted from admission		Purpose in coming and time remaining			
By husb.		No		Transit 5 days			
Head tax status		Height	Complexion	Hair	Eyes	Distinguishing marks	
		5 ft. 2 1/2 in.	Sallow	Brn	Brn	Mole over lip R. outer corner	
Support and date of landing, and name of steamer						Can. Id. identification card	
Montreal - Aug. 1912 - SS unknown.							
Records by		Previously examined at	Date	Previous disposition	Present disposition, P. I.		Arrived by
TCH		MI			TS to 5/10/39		Auto

First, you will note that the last name is actually spelled 3 different ways on this one card. The first is the Canadian spelling, the second is the spelling on her passport, and the third, for her son, is spelt both the Canadian way, and a further different spelling.

Second, we see the place of birth (spelt wrong, probably phonetically), which is shown as being in Austria. At the time of her emigration the town was in the state of Galicia, in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Today it is in Ukraine.

Third the race is listed as Polish. This is great information, in that she spoke Ukrainian, and I always thought that my grandparents were Ukrainian. I now know that the town was 50% Polish and 50% Ukrainian.

Fourth, it shows the actual arrival in Canada in Montreal in August, 1912. This helped me find the passenger list and ship on which she traveled.

Finally, on the back of the card, under endorsements, it says that she was Canadian by virtue of the naturalization of her husband, at MacLeod, June 23, 1913, also information for which I was searching.

So, this little card, for a simple trip across the US border, has provided me with a wealth of information on my grandparents. Maybe you too can find out something using this search. (By John Squarek—Lethbridge A.G.S.)

Fold3 is Opening War of 1812 Images for Free during June

The following announcement was written by Fold3:

On June 18, 1812, the United States declared war on Great Britain officially launching the War of 1812. In the 200 years since, it has become a forgotten war, perhaps best remembered by school children as when The Star-Spangled Banner was written. Yet, the War of 1812 was strategically important to the future of American diplomacy, a reinforced independence from Great Britain, and the country's westward expansion.

Several events provoked President James Madison to request action from Congress to enter a war with one of the world's most powerful nations, less than thirty years after the Revolutionary War ended. Uppermost was the unlawful impressment of American sailors into a British Navy eager to replenish its ranks during the lengthy Napoleonic Wars. Great Britain also restricted America's right, as a neutral country, to trade with France.

On the home front, Americans were embracing the concept of "Manifest Destiny." Migrations into the Northwest Territory provoked confrontations with Native American tribes. The British supported the rights of the Indians to maintain and defend their territories, but Americans were eager to push them westward and claim their land. The war is best remembered by Canada, a friend to both Indians and Great Britain, and on whose border many battles took place.

Fold3 observes the War of 1812 bicentennial with rich and revealing historical documents within the War of 1812 Collection. They include the War of 1812 Prize Cases from New York's Southern District Court, Letters Received by the Adjutant General, and War of 1812 Service Records for Lake Erie and Mississippi, and, perhaps most revealing, the War of 1812 Pension Files. The pension files are digitized in color at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., with funding provided by the Federation of Genealogical Societies' Preserve the Pensions! Project. They are brought to Fold3 visitors at no charge.

Help us honor those who served in this highly important, yet overlooked event in U.S. history by exploring the War of 1812 Collection with its many stories of our fledgling nation's second revolution. (Eastman's Genealogy Online Newsletter-June 1, 2012)

The Best Canadian Genealogy Blogs!

Keeping up with Internet resources can be a full-time job! Fortunately, blogs and newsletters can help. Here are my favorite blogs and newsletters for Canadian Genealogy.

Anglo-Celtic Connections

<http://anglo-celtic-connections.blogspot.com>

John Reid describes his blog as "family history, related news and independent views with a British-Canadian perspective, from Ottawa, Canada's capital for more than 150 years".

While many posts pertain to English records, Canadian researchers will find that John does an excellent job of keeping track of what's happening at Library and Archives Canada, Ancestry.ca and other Canadian information providers.

Olive Tree Genealogy

<http://olivetreegenealogy.blogspot.com>

Lorine Schultz writes this blog (and several others) which focuses on free genealogy resources mostly in the United States and Canada. Along with news items about new releases and events, she periodically includes reports on her own family research. One of the excellent features is the scanned images of actual records she posts in her blog, to show readers what they look like and how to read them. She also frequently describes her own research process in finding information—with lots of tips and tricks we can all learn from.

Librarians Helping Canadian Genealogists Climb Family Trees

www.canadianlibgenie.blogspot.com

This is a great place to catch up on your Canadian genealogy news. Elise Cole, the author of this very descriptively named blog, is both a librarian and a genealogist, so knows whereof she speaks! As one might expect from a librarian, many of her posts are announcements and reviews of genealogy-related books—these are much appreciated.

Toronto 1861 <http://toronto1861.blogspot.com>

This fascinating blog is a play-by-play of "old Census Scribe's progress in creating a database based on the 1861 City of Toronto census (enhanced with information from the city directories and other biographical publications). She began the project in 2005 and is now in the final proofreading stages. She began her blog in January 2009, so we only have the final stage to read about, but it is truly absorbing reading. She goes well beyond the actual census, to convey the history of the City of Toronto and describes its neighborhoods. She also tells all about the odd and interesting errors she's come across during the process of transcribing the census. She posts between one and nine entries each month—always interesting reading. If you have an interest in 19th-century Toronto, census records or the process of transcribing and creating a database, have a look.

Prairie History Blog www.reginalibrary.ca/blogs/

If you do research in Saskatchewan, you'll want to bookmark this blog written by the librarians at the Regina Public Library. It's an excellent source for announcements about genealogical and historical events, new publications and genealogical resources. An excellent feature I haven't seen elsewhere is regular listings of the articles in genealogical publications from across the country. This way, you don't have to join all the historical and genealogy societies to know what's in their journals—you can just check out the issues with articles of interest to you (using your local library or genealogical society, that often have subscriptions to many publications).

The Global Gazette

<http://globalgenealogy.com/globalgazette/>

Published by Global Genealogy an online shop for genealogy books, software and archival supplies, this newsletter offers a wide range of articles by regular contributors Gordon Watts, Rick Roberts, Fawne Stratford-Devai and many more articles cover genealogical news from all over the world, announcements from resource providers, product reviews, descriptions of original records and research strategies. The archives of old articles is really useful—don't forget to check it out.

The Ancestry.ca Newsletter for Canadians

www.ancestry.ca/learn/learningcenters/

Scroll down and click on “newsletters” on right-hand side. Ancestry.ca is growing all the time, adding new databases, publications and articles. It's hard to keep up! Fortunately, the site offers a monthly newsletter to keep you up-to-date. In addition to announcements of new resources, the newsletter also provides helpful articles and tips on how to use the collections. If you're an Ancestry.ca subscriber, or you use the library edition, you will want to subscribe to the newsletter so you can make the most of this extensive collection. (Janice Nickerson—Internet Genealogy—Feb/March 2010)

Digital Books Online

Remember the days when, in order to look at a genealogy book, you'd either need to go to a bookstore and buy it, check it out at your local library or go to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City? During the early days of genealogical research on the Internet, it was great when people transcribed indexes from books or offered lookups. Currently, there are so many new options for finding and using family history books. With the advent of web sites that digitize books or market to those who own special e-readers, genealogists have more choices than ever in accessing the books they need.

Google Books

Millions of books and periodicals from libraries and publishers are housed at Google Books, <http://books.google.com/books>. This is the place to find family history surname books, historical journals, transcribed record books and genealogical “how-to's”.

To search Google Books, you use the search engine on the web site exactly as you would when searching on Google. You can enter your ancestor's full name, surname or locality where they lived. Remember to use quotation marks around your search term in order to conduct an exact search. So, for example, if your ancestor's name is John Smith, type it into the search box as “John Smith”. This tells the search engine that you want it to search that exact phrase together and not for any page with the words John and Smith on it. You can also add a locality to that name search by typing in “john Smith” “Virginia” or “John Smith” “Augusta County, Virginia”.

In some cases books that no longer have copyright protection, become fully digitized on Google Books. They are available for you to download to your computer. However, books which are still new and under copyright are sometimes only available for a preview or a snippet view. A preview allows you to look at a certain number of pages from the book, while a snippet view only allows you to see a sentence or two that includes the keyword you have searched on.

For those books that are not fully digitized, due to copyright restrictions, there is a feature on Google Books where you can either search in WorldCat to find a library that owns the book or find a bookseller where the book is available for purchase.

Internet Archive

Internet Archive, www.archive.org, includes much more than just digitized books. Internet Archive has everything from audio, moving images and texts. According to their About Us page, their goal is “to build an Internet library. Its purpose includes offering permanent access for researchers, historians, scholars, people with disabilities and the general public, to historical collections that exist in digital format”.

From the Internet Archive home page click on the link for “Texts”. This takes you to the Text home page with over two million texts and e-books in the Archive's collection. At the top of this page or by scrolling down the page, you will see a link for “Additional Collections”. Click on the link and then the “Genealogy” link to view the genealogy collection of books. The genealogy section of Internet Archive has over 23,000 books from the collections of the Allen County Public Library, Roberts Library at the University of Toronto, the

University of Illinois Urbana Campaign Library and the Boston Public Library.

This collection can be browsed by title, author or searched through a search engine box located on the top right of the page. The Genealogy Collection home page also allows you to see what books have been recently added and what the most popular books are.

Once you select the title you are interested in, you will be shown a variety of ways to view the book. Depending on the book, you can read it online, download a PDF of the book (you will need Adobe Acrobat, a free download, to read a PDF file, available at <http://get.adobe.com/reader>), and there are even some options to download to an e-reader.

Don't restrict your hunting for a "genealogy" book to just the genealogy collection. Other collections in the Text section have historical and genealogical value to the researcher, including texts from the Microfilm category.

Heritage Quest

Many genealogists are familiar with Heritage Quest and have used it to search for their ancestor in the US census. Heritage Quest cannot be accessed through an individual subscription. However, you can access Heritage Quest, for free, through some public libraries and through your local Family History Center.

Heritage Quest offers images of the United States Federal Census, the PERSI catalog, Revolutionary War pension records and bounty land warrant applications, Freedman's Bank records, the US Serial Set and 28,000 family and local history books.

You can use the search box located on the Books page to search for the family surname or locality that you are researching. Once you find the book you are interested in you can use your printer to print the pages you need.

There is a more in-depth look at Heritage Quest on the Encyclopedia of Genealogy, which includes what libraries, by state, subscribe to Heritage Quest. If you have a library card to one of these libraries, you can, in most cases, get remote access from your home to Heritage Quest using your library card. The Encyclopedia of Genealogy article can be found at <http://www.eogen.com/heritagequest> online.

Brigham Young Family History Archive

The BYU Family History Archive, www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/index.php, includes family history books from the Harold B. Lee Library, BYU Hawaii, BYU Idaho, LDS Business College, Family History Library, Church History Library, Allen County Public Library, Houston Public

Library—Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, Mid-Continent Public Library, and Midwest Genealogy Center. These libraries have provided 17,752 family history books. Books are shown in PDF format so, once again, you will need Adobe Acrobat to view the books and to print pages from them.

When searching for surname books through the Family History Library catalog at familysearch.org, books that have red links can be viewed on the web site for the Brigham Young Family History Archive.

Hathi Trust

The Hathi Trust, www.hathitrust.org, is another web site that brings together books from partner libraries. With over six million titles to search, from university library partners and the New York Public Library, there are a rich amount of historical and genealogical books to choose from.

From the home page of the Hathi Trust there is a search link at the top right-hand corner, labeled, "Search Hathi Trust Digital Library". You can search using a Catalog Search, a Full-Text Search or Search by Collection. One of the collections available is Ancestry and Genealogy. The search page offers some search tips to assist you in finding the materials you need. I would suggest you read these tips and implement them to conduct the best possible search.

While there are some books in this collection that are fully digitized, there are some that, because they are still in copyright, will just provide you a citation and not the actual content. In those cases, you may want to note the information about the book and then contact your local reference librarian and ask to borrow the book through interlibrary loan.

There's So Much More

These are just some of the places to find digitized books online. Don't forget to check out genealogy subscription sites, like Ancestry, WorldVitalRecords and Genealogy Bank, for digitized family history books. When searching a genealogy web site, look for options that allow you to browse by record type or title. While digitized books won't often be labeled as such, they will be part of record types that include family histories and even vital records.

The web site Genealogy Book Links, www.genealogybooklinks.com, provides a listing of digitized books categorized by state and topic. Digitized books can also be found on web sites for university libraries, state libraries, state archives and museums.

Finally, don't forget that books are also available to read on e-readers. E-reader devices

include Amazon's Kindle, Barnes and Nobles' Nook, Borders' Kobo and the Sony Reader. Don't have an e-reader? No problem. These companies offer free reader software that you can download to your computer, smart phone or iPad. While the software is free, the majority of the books available will have a cost to download. But these prices are less expensive than buying the book in print.

Digitized books are yet another opportunity for you to find information that will enhance your family history research.

The next time you need a particular book, especially an older book that is no longer protected by copyright, look for it online. (Gena Philibert Ortega—Internet Genealogy—Aug/Sept 2010)

Choosing an Online Genealogy Course

If tracing your family tree has you frustrated, perhaps an online genealogy course may be the answer. If you are a beginner family historian trying to sort out the basics and feeling slightly overwhelmed, an online genealogy course can definitely help you. If you are an advanced genealogist, online courses can offer you the learning tools you need to become a professional. Regardless of where you are in your genealogy journey, an online course can help you get to the next level.

Before signing up for the first course you find, you need to take stock of what you are looking for in online learning and what is available.

Seek out a course that fits your learning style. We all have a preferred way of learning. Some love to read, while others are auditory learners. Some are visual and others prefer a hands-on-approach. Some people prefer a combination of these styles. Look for an online course that will best fit with your strengths.

How much time are you willing to invest? Consider how in-depth you want your course to be. Courses vary from a quick 10 minute lesson to a couple hours, or lessons spanning a period of weeks or months. Some courses will require a commitment in advance for a pre-determined day and time, while others offer an open enrollment with no prior registration. Give careful thought to your commitment level. Don't take on more than you can dedicate the time and energy to.

Does the content of the course meet your needs? Avoid being overwhelmed; if you are a beginner, seek out beginner courses. If you are an intermediate researcher, you may wish to pursue a course that addresses a specific issue or area of expertise. However, if you are an advanced genealogist looking to obtain certification, then search for courses that offer you the in-depth steps required for your success.

What style of courses is available? Self-directed courses offer you the flexibility of stopping

and starting at your convenience. If you prefer an instructor led course, be prepared to be locked into a pre-determined time and place with possible homework and deadlines.

Are you looking for credits as a result of your learning? If you are looking to obtain a certificate, identify programs providing the necessary credits. Certificate programs are not essential in acquiring accreditation. However, they are important tools in building your knowledge and confidence while preparing a portfolio for evaluation.

How much support do you require? If you wish to have specific genealogy questions addressed, consider instructor led courses. If you are computer challenged, seek out courses offering technical support. If you are looking for support in terms of an online community, search for programs offering blogs, chat rooms and forums.

Once you have identified your needs, it is best to understand the various kinds of genealogy courses that are available on the Internet. They generally break down into three styles; podcasts, webinars and web-based home study courses.

Podcasts

Podcasts are a series of digital computer files, which can take the form of a video or audio file. They are periodically released for download by means of web syndication. Consider them to be like a pre-recorded radio program over the Internet. Podcasts do not allow for any interaction between the presenter and the audience. They are viewed at your convenience and are usually free to the viewer. You are able to stop, forward or rewind them. You can listen to them on site or download them to your computer, MP3 player or burn to a CD. Let's take a look at a few of the most popular.

The Genealogy Guys

www.genealogyguys.com

George G. Morgan and Drew Smith have over 100 genealogy podcasts in their archives. They have been around for a number of years and are leaders in this genre.

Dear MYRTLE'S Family History Hour

www.dearmyrtle.com

Pat Richley has podcast archives dating back to September of 2005. Her focus is for those just beginning their genealogical education. They also include interviews with professionals and she offers the listener show notes.

Genealogy Gems

www.genealogygemspodcast.com

Host Lisa Louise Cooke offers genealogy-based audio podcasts and videos on her weekly Internet radio show. They are also available through iTunes, <http://www.apple.com/itunes>.

Webinars

Webinars are web-based seminars, transmitted over the Internet, and take the form of a presentation, lecture or workshop. The primary feature of a webinar is its interactive capabilities, generally the ability to give, receive and discuss information live.

Webinars usually come with a price. They often are lengthier than a podcast, and occur at a pre-determined day and time. Below are a few top webinars.

Ancestry www.ancestry.com

Ancestry offers webinars that guide the audience through specific research problems.

Upcoming topics require registration, but previous webinars are available for viewing to everyone and include such topics as German ancestry, Irish ancestry and using Family Tree Maker.

Family Tree Magazine

www.familytreemagazine.com

Family Tree provides interactive webinars to help improve your research skills. Each webinar lasts for no more than an hour and offers a question and answer period to help with your specific genealogy questions. Prices range from \$29.99 to \$49.99 US. These are live workshops or seminars available at a pre-determined day and time with available PDF slides for download.

Roots Television

www.rootstelevision.com

Roots Television falls somewhere between a podcast and a webinar. Online television is still new in the genealogy field, and Roots Television is one of the leaders in the field. These television feeds allow the viewer to watch a pre-recorded online presentation on various topics.

Web-Based Home Study Courses

Online home study courses are delivered in a combination of audio, video and PDF formats, and range from beginner to advance. Some can be accessed free of charge, while others are available at a cost and are presented in a lengthier and in-depth style. Certificates are awarded upon completion.

Free Online Genealogy Courses

Family Search, www.familysearch.org, presents a series of research classes available online. These free lessons last approximately 15 to 60 minutes, with downloadable videos and a PDF of the class outline, along with class handouts on such topics as research in England, Germany and Italy.

Learn Web Skills, www.learnwebskills.com,

offers a self-paced tutorial titled Researching Your Family Tree: An Introduction to Genealogy. This information is designed for beginner genealogists with basic computer and Internet skills. While following the course outline, you are engaged in researching your own ancestors and learning to use online databases and other genealogical resources.

Brigham Young University

<http://ce.byu.edu/is/site/index.cfm> extends family history courses through a partnership between the LDS and BYU. These free classes are available in a combination of audio, video and PDF's with self-administered quizzes after each subject. Areas of study range from Intro. to Genealogy Research, record types, and regional and ethnic studies.

Home Study Certification Courses

National Institute for Genealogical Studies in affiliation with the University of Toronto

www.genealogicalstudies.com

This is a web-based course for family historians and professional genealogists. They offer a certificate in genealogical studies or specialized certificates for a specific country. If you wish to obtain a certificate, you must follow the recommended pre-requisite courses. But if your goal is simply to enhance your knowledge, the pre-requisite courses are not required. These courses are identified as beginner, intermediate and advanced. Homework and assignments are mandatory if you are seeking a grade or credit. They offer class discussions, interactive bulletin boards, online meetings and live chats along with study groups. Varying in length from six to eight weeks, these courses are available in Canadian or US dollars and are purchased individually or in packages. These classes can provide a genealogist with the tools and confidence needed in acquiring professional accreditation.

National Genealogical Society

www.ngsgenealogy.org

Beginner to advanced courses is available in the form of home study courses through the National Genealogical Society. The online interactive courses offer screen-by-screen presentations of content, along with a resource center consisting of web links, online records and fact sheets. Certificates of completion are offered, but no accreditation or certification is available. Discounts are available for NGS members. Also available to students is an in-depth NGS home study course on CD. These CDs are purchased individually or in sets of three, with graded or self-graded options. Again, certification of completion is available, but no accreditation awarded.

No matter what your preference, participating in an online genealogy course will undoubtedly expand your knowledge. A course can grant you

more confidence and better equip you to tear down that brick wall, start that family tree or set you on your path toward accreditation. Regardless of your motivation, an online course can help get you there. (Lynn Palermo—freelance writer and genealogist. She can be reached online via her genealogy blog, www.thearmchairgenealogist.com) (This article appeared in *Internet Genealogy*—Dec/Jan—2010)

Dutch Naming Practices in Colonial New York

The earliest immigrants to New York were the Dutch, beginning with Henry Hudson's exploration up the Hudson River in 1609 and the subsequent founding of New Netherlands. Although the English seized the territory in 1664, Dutch naming practices were wide spread well into the eighteenth century. This custom is important to genealogists working in this period because the Dutch did not use the system of surnames we take for granted today. Instead they used a patronymic system in which the "last" name was derived from the father's given name. Pieter, son of Jan, would be known as Pieter Jansen. Jan would name his daughter Catharina Jansdr. And Jan's own patronymic would derive from his father's given name, say, Jan Pieterzen (John son of Peter). However, Jan might instead use a name indicative of his occupation, perhaps Jan Smit (John the smith). Or he might use a name indicating his place or origin, Jan van der Werken, or something more personal such as Jan de Klyn (Little John). The Dutch also employed an astounding number of nicknames, which at first glance look nothing like their roots. Grietje comes from Margaretha. Bartel, Mees, and Meus all come from Bartelmeuas.

Patronymic and Dutch naming customs for given names

In a small community, such as a classroom or office, a single name for each individual can suffice. When the number of individuals significantly exceeds the number of given names, an additional designation is required. A common solution in many societies was the use of patronymics. In a patronymic ("father's name") system, a person bears both a given name and his father's name. Mystery fans will recognize Cadfael ap Rhys as their favorite Welsh monk/sleuth and readers of Russian literature will translate Chekhov's Ivan Ivonovich as John Johnson. In such a system, the last name can change with each generation. The patronymic system was still in use with the Dutch when they settled New Netherlands. Since all sons of a man named Jan would bear the patronymic Jansen (or Janse/Jansz/Jans...) and his daughters Jansdochter (or Jansdr/Jans...), moving forward in time is a bit easier than moving back. When the English assumed power in New York

after 1660, they found this system an enormous muddle. No longer familiar with patronymics, the English could not easily deal with a Martin Adriaens whose father was Adriaen Reyersen and whose son was Rem Martense. The English insisted that all families adopt fixed surnames. However, compliance was slow, and the use of patronymics continued.

Another key element in Dutch genealogy, in addition to the lack of surnames, is the naming pattern for children. Given names of children came from relatives—grandparents, parents, aunts, and uncles. The two oldest sons were usually named for their grandfathers, and the two eldest daughters were usually named for their grandmothers. Also, if a child died, the next child born of the same sex was usually given that name. As an illustration, Table 1 shows the Bible record of the children of Pieter Strycker and his wife Annetje Barends, married May 29, 1681. Although eleven children are listed, four of them died young and the names were used again. Of the seven surviving children, four are named for grandparents, one for the father, and two for paternal uncles.

Given these two naming customs—patronymics and using given names over and over—in any Dutch community at any given time two (or more) people often had the same name. In Dutch genealogy, therefore, you must identify not only all your ancestor's siblings but also all of his aunts and uncles—a family cluster.

With so many duplicate names, it is more difficult to know, from a single document, which person is meant. Thus you must obtain all available records for each person of that name. Records that link several family members, such as wills and baptismal records are the most useful. One additional rule may be helpful. In the event of a second marriage after the death of a spouse, the next child of appropriate sex was often named after the deceased husband or wife.

Ignorance of Dutch naming customs and the equivalence of these variant given names have led to unfortunate errors in printed family histories. Kenn Stryker-Rodda illustrates such with an example from the family of Martin Cregier. The family had a daughter, Catharina. Several years later the couple had another daughter, Trijntje. Because Trijntje is a variant of Catharina, the same name is being used again. Recalling the practice of naming the next child of the same sex for a child who died, you conclude, correctly, that the first daughter died. Others, not fully conversant with Dutch names and naming practices, kept both girls alive on paper and further complicated an already complex family group.

Diminutives and English Equivalents

There is considerable variability in Dutch given names. We are accustomed to variability in English names, of course. Hence, we readily recognize Rob, Robbie, Robin, Bob and Bobbie as derived from Robert. In Dutch names we can recognize three types of variants: verkortwoorden, or shortened words; verkleinwoorden, or diminutives; and verbasterdwoorden, or illegitimate words.

Names are shortened (verkortwoorden) by dropping a syllable or two. With English given names often the last syllable is dropped (Louis/Lou); Dutch names are usually shortened by dropping the first syllable. Matthys becomes Thys. Nicolaes, in general, becomes Claes, and St. Nicholas, in particular, becomes Santa Claus. Some confusion can result in moving from the shortened form to the original name. Just as Al might be short for either Albert or Alfred, Lena might derive from either Magdealena or Helena.

Diminutives (verkleinwoorden) are formed by adding an ending *-ie/-je*. The ending is often added to an already shortened given name (William/Will/Willie). Thus Cornelia is shortened to Nelia, and the diminutive is Neeltje. In a similar progression Katharina becomes Katrina and Katrintje and finally Trijntje. Margaretha first forms the diminutive Margrietje, which is then shortened to Grietje—not to be confused with Geertje, a diminutive of Gertrude.

The occurrence of “illegitimate” variants (verbasterdwoorden), such as Polly from Mary, is infrequent in Dutch names. However, one should be aware of Krelis from Cornelis.

One source of diminutives and Dutch/English equivalents is noted in Arthur Kelly's *Names, Names & More Names: Locating Your Dutch Ancestors in Colonial America* (1999). The English name Matthew has fifty-seven Dutch equivalents. Variations on Matthias lead to the shortened form Thys and its diminutive Tysje. But how does Debiss arise? One might speculate that Matthias leads to Hias, which leads to Heis, to Dies, to Debiss. Another useful source is John Neafie, “English Names with Dutch Equivalents,” in *Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society*, new series, 9 (1924): 374-81.

Other Substitutes for Surname

The patronymic was not the only means used to distinguish between people with the same given name. As noted above, the Dutch also used occupation, place of origin, and/or personal characteristics. If a person changed his occupation during his lifetime, his name could reflect that change. Place of origin may refer to city, area, feature, estate, or manor house. If a person used all of his names, he might begin with some title,

equivalent to present-day Mr./Mrs., followed by given name (in full or a shortened or diminutive form), patronymic, place of origin, occupation, and, finally personal characteristic. Obviously not every person had all these names, and all of these names were not used on every document—but it is important to know the possibilities for each of your ancestors.

With such fluidity in a man's name, indexes are difficult to construct and to use. Consider a specific example: Nicholas whose father's given name was Jan. When he immigrated, the entry in the ship's list reads “Claes Jansen vanpurmerent ramaker,” which we can interpret as a shortened form of a given name (Nichlas/Claes), patronymic, place of origin, and occupation (ramaker, that is, wheelwright). On his marriage record he is Claes Janszen van Purmerendt. At the baptism of his children he is Claes Janse/Jansen/Janszen. He switched his occupation from wheelwright to cooper as was buried as Claes Janszen Kuyper. To be complete, this individual would have to be listed in a name index under J,V,P,R, and K.

The slow and uneven shift to hereditary family surnames, combined with this array of possible “last” names, has an interesting consequence for Dutch families. Some brothers and cousins settled on surnames a generation later than others, and did not all choose the same surname. Using the previous example, a history of the descendants of Claes Jansen could easily contain branches of the family that settled at various times on surnames Van Purmerendt, Ramaker, and Kuyper/Cooper (all with various spellings) in addition to Jansen/Johnson.

Aids to Dutch Genealogy

To offset these various naming customs, two other customs give much-needed aid to the genealogist. The first is the last names of married women and the second is godparents.

Contrary to English custom, a woman did not change her name when she married. When she witnessed a legal document, her children were baptized or she stood as godmother to another child, she used what we would call her “maiden” name. If that name is her patronymic, we know her father's given name as well.

The names of godparents or sponsors in a baptismal record should be noted carefully. They will be close relatives, not just neighbors or friends. (Marian Henry-New England Ancestors Fall 2007)

120,000 More Scottish Memorial Transcriptions Added to Deceased Online

Additional records for approximately 120,000 Scottish burials, mostly in rural burial grounds and cemeteries are now available on www.deceasedonline.com.

This set of records comprises headstone and memorial photographs and transcriptions from 99 cemeteries and burial grounds from Argyll to the Scottish Borders including Banffshire (Moray), Clackmannanshire, Edinburgh, Fife, The Lothians, Lanarkshire and North Ayrshire.

The oldest records date back to 1526

Memorial inscriptions can be searched on surname, forenames and date in the same way as register records; but access can also be purchased to a whole cemetery/churchyard collection for browsing, or just the subset of headstone images with inscriptions containing a specific surname. These inscriptions can then be searched for any combination of names, words and dates (i.e. farmer, drowned, killed).

The records have been supplied by Scottish Memorial Inscriptions who have photographed and transcribed the inscriptions from the memorials and headstones. New indexes have been prepared by Deceased Online to assist with searching.

There are now records for over 250 Scottish cemeteries, burial grounds and crematoria on Deceased Online and we will upload records for 150 more in the next few months. For full details see the Database coverage section at

www.deceasedonline.com. There are approximately 920,000 Scottish burials and cremation records now on Deceased online. (Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter—June 4/ 2012

Net Notes

Founders Early Access

<http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/FOEA.html>

This project makes available for the first time thousands of unpublished documents from our nation's founders in a free online resource. Collected over many years by the Founders documentary editions, these letters and other papers are penned by important figures, such as James Madison, John Adams, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

Essentially, you now have a backstage pass to see these documents as they are being processed to become part of the Rotunda's American Founding Era Collection,

http://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/index.php?page_id+Founding%20Era%20Collection, where one can purchase the completed publications (as a library, school or individual).

This web site is a "way station" as these documents prepared for final publication, the documents are not necessarily available for all of the listed figures, nor are all the documents written by that figure available. And, there is a note at the bottom of each transcript that says "This early access document should not be cited in formal research."

Ignoring all that, this is another rich collection of documents written by and received by our founding fathers—what insight into 18th century US history.

Irish Maps

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline/irishmaps.asp

The National Archives of Ireland has launched a digitized collection of early Irish maps (c. 1558-c.1610) from the State Papers Ireland. The collection comprises more than 70 maps, amongst the earliest cartographic representations of Ireland, depicting plantations, fortifications and townships during the reigns of Elizabeth I and James I. Attractive and colorful, these maps include the famous 1567 map of Hibernia by John Goghe, and are normally held in their safe room. But now, as a result of this digitization program, these valuable treasures are accessible to millions globally.

According to Rose Mitchell, Map Specialist, The National Archives in a BBC article, http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_830700/8307233.stm, "These maps were drawn at a time when the English were colonizing Ireland, transferring land ownership from the native Irish to English settlers. The maps were usually made in response to a particular threat, to show a siege or battle, or to help inform defense strategy against a background of ongoing clashes with Irish chieftains."

Besides being informative, these are just beautiful maps. Regardless of whether you have Irish Ancestry or not, you will want to take a look at these.

Welsh Wills

<http://cat.llgc.org.uk/probate>

Over 190,000 Welsh Wills (some 800,000 pages have been digitized and are now available on the Library of Wales web site.

These wills are those proved in the Welsh ecclesiastical courts before the introduction of Civil Probate on 11 January 1858 and encompass the following counties: Bangor: 1635-1858, Brecon: 1543-1858, Chester (Welsh wills): 1557-1858, Hawarden: 1554-1858, Llandaf: 1568-1857, St. Asaph: 1565-1857 and St David's: 1556-1858.

You can search on date range, diocese and then name, parish, township and occupation. My husband's family has Welsh origins, so I searched on Walter Matthews whom we know died in 1823, according to his tombstone. I found his entry and the full contents of the will which names his eldest son as Richard Matthews, my husband's ancestor! Previously, there was no easy centralized and free access to these records, so I hadn't fully explored this record group until now. This site makes it so much easier to gain access to these wills. (Diane L. Richard—Internet Genealogy—June/July 2010)