

The OFFSPRING

The British Columbia Genealogical Society E-newsletter

November, 2006 Volume 1 #2

Greetings to all B.C.G.S. members & friends. This e-newsletter brings you up to date news of B.C.G.S. activities & genealogical information. Please send your contributions, ideas for future issues & your comments to the Editor, M. Diane Rogers, at Editor@bcgs.ca

To learn more about the British Columbia Genealogical Society, please visit our website at: www.bcgs.ca

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To contribute to this newsletter, to subscribe, unsubscribe, or change your e-mail address & for copyright information, please see 'The Fine Print' at the end of this e-newsletter.

NEWSLETTER NAME CONTEST

Our newsletter now has a name, *The B.C.G.S. Offspring*. Congratulations to Janice Kidwell for her winning entry. She & Doug Ogg were our most enthusiastic entrants; each submitted four names to the contest. Thank you to everyone who entered!

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B.C.G.S. ACTIVITIES

Query Writing Workshop with Diane Rogers: Writing effective queries for the web & for print. Saturday, Saturday 25th November, 1-3 pm. B.C. G. S. Library, 211-12837 - 76th Ave. Surrey, B.C. Call Diane at 604 294 5369 or e-mail Editor@bcgs.ca for more info.

B.C.G.S. GENERAL MEETING, 13th December, 2006 7:30 pm. Edmonds Community Centre, 7282 Kingsway, Burnaby

This is our social event of the year! Refreshments & displays. Join in the annual Scavenger Hunt, hear who's won the Most Improved Genealogy contest, shop the Boutique or buy a paperback novel or two to support the B.C.G.S. Please bring books for the sale & if you'd like to bring a display, contact Eunice Robinson: eunice@dccnet.com

ALL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEMBERS: Please contact co-ordinators for dates & times of December meetings.

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MORE EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

CLOVERDALE LIBRARY

“High Tech Genealogy: DNA Testing for Family History” with Laurie J. Cooke. Saturday 25 November, 10:30 am to noon. Cloverdale Branch, Surrey Public Library. 5642 - 176A Street, Surrey. \$10. Call 604-576-1384, local 303 or 304, to pre-register.

DISCUSSION GROUP, DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER

Meet in the Vancouver Public Library Atrium, Tuesday 12 December, 1 pm, near the Blenz coffee shop, for an informal genealogy discussion. Free. V.P.L. Atrium, 350 West Georgia St., Vancouver. Contact Diane: diane_rogers@shaw.ca or 604-724-8744.

“THE GREAT BARRIER” A HISTORICAL FILM SCREENING, Tuesday, 12 December, 2006, 7:00 p.m. A Special Event of the Vancouver Historical Society at the Performance Centre at the Roundhouse in Vancouver's Yaletown.

“The Great Barrier”, filmed in B.C. in 1937, shows a Hollywood version of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the Rockies. Join moderator, Chuck Davis, & his guest, one of the film's extras. Free.

<http://www.vancouver-historical-society.ca/events.htm>

B.C. MUSEUMS, HOLIDAY EVENTS & OPENINGS

Many B.C. museums have special openings & events in December this year. You can learn about ‘days gone by’, see a special exhibit or just enjoy time out with friends or relatives. Here's a sampling from Lower Mainland museums.

Burnaby Village Museum, Heritage Christmas, 25 November to 13 December, 14-23 December, 26 December to 1 January 2007. Demonstrations & exhibits from the 1920's---watch for some ‘electrifying experiences’. Website: http://www.city.burnaby.bc.ca/cityhall/departments/departments_parks/prksrc_fclts/prksr_c_fclts_brnbyv.html

Langley Centennial Museum, "Maps: Changing Perspectives" till 14 January 2007. Historical & modern maps of the Langley area illustrate one way of looking at & thinking about maps by considering what is shown & what is not. Includes a collection of antique map making & surveying equipment & an example of how a damaged map may be carefully restored. Website: <http://www.langleymuseum.org>

London Heritage Farm in Richmond, 25-26 November, St. Andrews Day Tea; also open December 2-3, 7-10, 14-17, 21-23. See website for special happenings : <http://www.londonheritagefarm.ca>

Surrey Museum, "A Patchwork of Belonging", a display of quilts from the museum's collections, to 23 December 2006 & "Made by the Movies", an exhibit of movie memorabilia & toys from community enthusiasts, till the end of December. Website: <http://www.surrey.ca/Living+in+Surrey/Heritage/Heritage+Services+and+Facilities/What+To+See/WTS-Surrey+Museum.htm>

"No Place For A Lady: Adventurous Women Travelers" at the Vancouver Museum till 1 January 2007. Did a female ancestor travel the world...or not? Learn about the pleasures & difficulties women experienced while seeing the world in past years. Website: <http://www.vanmuseum.bc.ca>

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B.C.G.S. LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer at the B.C.G.S. library in 2007. Meet interesting people & be among the first to see new library resources. Please contact Betty Allen c/o bcgs@bcgs.ca or call the Library at 604 502 9119.

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VANCOUVER VOTERS, 1886 BOOK---GREAT GIFT IDEA

Our B.C.G.S. "Vancouver Voters, 1886" book is on sale for only \$20 (& postage, if applicable). Limited offer. Copies may be still available at the December meeting; please contact Publication Sales to reserve copies. E-mail B.C.G.S. Publication Sales c/o bcgs@bcgs.ca

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NEW & INTERESTING WEBSITES & DATABASES

CANADIAN GENEALOGY CENTRE, LIBRARY & ARCHIVES CANADA

CANADIAN PASSENGER LISTS ON-LINE

There are many new databases at Library & Archives Canada. Those with Canadian interests are extremely fortunate to have these excellent, free resources at their fingertips. Free & commercial indexes are now available for some of these.

Your editor is sending Mr. Ian E. Wilson, The Librarian & Archivist of Canada, a seasonal card thanking him for the care & commitment Library & Archives Canada shows in preserving the documents & publications that illustrate Canada's past & in working to make these accessible to everyone.

The most comprehensive new LAC offerings are the CANADIAN PASSENGER LIST IMAGES now on-line. Currently these include the ports of Québec (1865-1921), Halifax (1881-1912), to Saint John (1900-1912), North Sydney (1906-1908), Vancouver (1905-1912). Not included yet are lists for Halifax to 1922, nor those for the port of Victoria & the Eastern U.S. coast. Search by name of ship, year & port of arrival, shipping line or port of departure or by a specific date of departure or arrival. See the help section for good tips.

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/passenger/001045-100.01-e.php>

Be sure to have a look at the newly released second phase of the on-line exhibit, "MOVING HERE, STAYING HERE. THE CANADIAN IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE" : <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/immigrants>

For Canadian PASSENGER LIST & IMMIGRATION INDEXES, check out these websites. All have at least one free feature:

Ingeneas.com: <http://www.ingeneas.com>

GRL.com: <http://www.grl.com>

OliveTreeGenealogy.com: http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ships/search_ships.shtml

Also new is the multi-media web exhibition, "ORAL HISTORIES OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR: VETERANS 1914-1918" developed in co-operation with Veterans Canada & the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/first-world-war/interviews>

MORE RECENT ADDITIONS AT LIBRARY & ARCHIVES CANADA

The LIKACHEFF-RAGOSINE-MATHERS COLLECTION, passports & identity papers 1898-1922 created by the consular offices of the Russian Empire in Canada. Includes some 11,400 files on Jewish, Ukrainian & Finnish immigrants.

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/li-ra-ma/index-e.html>

WARD CHIPMAN (THE ELDER) MUSTER MASTER'S OFFICE (1777-1785) PAPERS, 19,000 references to Loyalist families in Nova Scotia & New Brunswick.

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/ward-chipman/index-e.html>

OTHER NEW DATABASES

FINDMYPAST.COM, a pay for view site, (previously 1837online.com), has a preview of the new U.K. Passenger List database now including a selection of records from 1890-1899. Definitely worth a look. Not only British passengers came through U.K. ports, for example, there are lots of Swedes. <http://www.findmypast.com>

LOSTCOUSINS.COM adds the 1881 Canadian census to its matching services. The Lost Cousins website helps you find others who share the same ancestors & relatives by comparing the information you enter for your relatives' names, location & ages in an 1881 census with that entered by other people. Now included is the 1881 Census of Canada, the 1881 Census of England & Wales, & the 1881 Census of Scotland. Watch for further additions in 2007. The basic service is free; there's a good beginner's guide & a confidential buddy scheme for British & Canadian census research. <http://www.lostcousins.com>

CENSUS SEARCH CONTESTS. ROOTDIG.COM, Michael John Neill's website, has a page for famous U.S.ians found in U.S. census records & has re-introduced his census search contest for other famous people. Might you find Georgia O'Keefe or Bob Hope? Rootdig.com Famous Census Search Contests: <http://www.rootdig.com/contest>

And, how about finding some famous Canadians living in the U.S.A. & Canada...perhaps Mary Pickford? To get you started, check out Dave Obee's page of famous Canadians found in 1911 Canadian census records:

<http://www.daveobee.com/columns/ancestry1911.htm>

Mary Pickford Institute for Film Education: <http://www.marypickford.com>

Send your Canadian finds to Editor@bcgs.ca We'll report on these in a future issue.

ANCESTRY.COM can't be ignored. Ancestry now has an index to the 1851 census of Canadas East & West, New Brunswick & Nova Scotia with entries linked to Library & Archives Canada's census images. As well, Ancestry claims to have the largest Immigration collection on-line with more than a million names recorded entering 100 ports in the U.S.A., as well as a few indexes to European emigrants & Canadian immigrants & passengers. Access to this collection free till 30 November, 2006: <http://www.ancestry.com> or <http://www.ancestry.ca>

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B.C.G.S. WEBSITE

Upcoming events & library closing days are shown on our B.C.G.S. website calendar. Many interest group meeting dates change for December, so be sure to check. The Library will be closed from 17 December, 2006 through to 2 January, 2007. If there's snow on other days though, we'll be closed. Please call 604 502 9119, if in doubt.

B.C.G.S. Members: Have you moved or is your e-mail address changing? Please keep your member information up to date. Just go to this quick link:

<http://www.bcgs.ca/Memberupdate.htm>

Don't forget you can add your surnames of interest to our B.C.G.S. Members Interests on-line database. Quick link: <http://www.bcgs.ca/MemberNameInterests.htm>

To contact our B.C.G.S. Webmaster, Bob Daniel: Webmaster@bcgs.ca

B.C.G.S. Website: www.bcgs.ca

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PHOTO ALBUM FOUND IN NEWTON, B.C.

MCKAY? PHOTO ALBUM: A photo album, with family & travel photographs, was recently found in an alley in Newton, B.C. The finder is anxious to return this to its rightful owner. It's reddish pink with stripes; has photos of Nice, Paris, Fiji & includes a card addressed to a Miss K. (Karen) McKay of Richmond, B.C. Please contact Teena at ivorie-allport@shaw.ca

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MAGAZINES ON THE WEB

DIGITAL GENEALOGIST, a brand new periodical, edited by Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, is all about the use of technology in genealogy. First issue available free on the website. Future subscription issues by e-mail. Also, look for info about the new Yahoo group for discussions about genealogy & technology.

<http://www.digitalgenealogist.com>

INTERNET GENEALOGY has a free 64 page issue available only on-line with articles on German research, war graves, using photographs & more. Regular issues available on news stands. http://internet-genealogy.com/IG_FreeExtraIssue.htm

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GENEALOGICAL PODCASTS & 'RADIO' & 'TV' ON THE WEB

CANGENEALOGY.COM, Dave Obee's new website for Canadian genealogy, has a radio show. Watch for a link to see contributor's comments on the 'Ancestry in the Attic' television programme too: <http://www.cangenealogy.com>

DEARMYRTLE.COM: dearMYRTLE, Pat Richley, has been broadcasting since 2000. Dear Myrtle is now recording some of her popular columns. Watch for her next podcast

with Bennett Greenspan of FamilyTreeDNA.com about using DNA testing to break down brick walls in genealogy. <http://podcasts.dearmyrtle.com>

IRISHROOTS.COM, the Irish Genealogical Foundation. Six free podcasts with Michael O’Laughlin & friends on Beginning Irish genealogy, Research in Ireland, Final Steps, Family Names, Immigration (mostly to U.S.A.) & Finding Records. These podcasts have good information, although they were first taped in 1984, so don’t expect Internet sources. Watch for more soon: <http://www.irishroots.com/podcast.php>

ROOTS TELEVISION.COM offers short genealogy & family history related videocasts on-line. Featured right now are several relating to DNA testing. Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, Hank Jones & Rick Crume are contributors & do have a look at Heir Jordan. <http://www.rootstelevision.com>

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GENEALOGY & FAMILY HISTORY IN THE NEWS

“FILES LIKELY TO SPUR HOLOCAUST RESEARCH” by Arthur Max, 18 November, 2006, Washington Post.com

The International Tracing Service (ITS), part of the International Committee of the Red Cross, has recently bowed to pressure & is changing its access policies. The ITS is the custodian of over 16 miles of Nazi documents & personal effects relating to individuals adopted, arrested, detained or killed during World War II. The ITS governing committee includes 11 member nations---Belgium, Britain, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland & the United States. All must ratify the amendments to the 1955 Bonn access agreements. Then each country will receive digital copies of the records & must make its own access policies:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/11/18/AR2006111800637.html>

“LOST GENERATIONS GAME” by John Naish, TimesOnline.co.uk, 4 November, 2006. Thank you to Jean List for pointing out this article.

Participants in the British Broadcasting Company’s television show “Who Do You Think You Are?” discuss the sometimes very personal highs & lows of learning about their families’ roots. <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,8123-2434913.html>

LostCousins.com is offering its members resident in the U.K. telephone access to an accredited, experienced UKCP registered psychotherapist & counsellor for a trial period. Comments on this issue anyone? E-mail: Editor@bcgs.ca

GENEALOGY GOES VIRTUAL, Interview with Drew Smith, The Genealogy Guys Podcast, 13 November, 2006

Second Life, a virtual society on the web, whose participants interact in 3-D representations, now has a Genealogy Scribes group which last week sponsored a talk by Craig Roberts Scott, genealogist & President of Heritage Books, Inc. More genealogical programmes are planned. Already inside Second Life, there's a recreation of the New Orleans Saint Louis Cemetery Number One which participants can wander through.

The Genealogy Guys: <http://genealogyguys.com>

Visit Second Life at: <http://secondlife.com>

CLICK HERE FOR ANCESTOR #1?

In an interview for the *Vancouver* magazine, Canada's Gerri Sinclair, technological pioneer, expert & entrepreneur, mentions that she's doing genealogy, looking at documents about her great grand parents, but she says, "...maybe my great-grandchildren will be able to just download me..." "Renaissance Woman", Q & A, by Stephen Galloway, *Vancouver*, November 2006, p. 31.

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The Fine Print & Contact Information

Please send submissions c/o the Editor by e-mail: Editor@bcgs.ca or by regular mail (see below). Contributions may be published either in the e-newsletter or the society's journal, "The British Columbia Genealogist".

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