



BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

GENEALOGY NEWS - ABOUT OUR MEMBERS - FOR OUR MEMBERS

March 1, 2021

Volume 6, Issue 3



THE NEXT BCGS MEMBERS' MEETING

will take place on

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

PRESENTER - PATRICIA SKIDMORE

"MARJORIE - TOO AFRAID TO CRY"

See page 11 for details

NOW IS THE HOUR - TO REGISTER THE BCGS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR SERIES

FIRST SESSION

DAVE OBE

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021

A SATURDAY MORNING ZOOM EXPERIENCE with
Dave Obee, a renowned genealogist and lecturer
specializing in Canada and the West Coast



Register at the British Columbia Genealogical Society Website www.bcgs.ca

See the following two pages for the Series information about times and topics

BCGS SEMINAR SERIES - CELEBRATING THE BCGS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

With BCGS celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2021, we had planned to have a special seminar; however, Covid put an end to those plans.

In lieu of a one day seminar, we are offering three morning seminars with well-known genealogists and presenters
Dave Obee, Janice Nickerson and Lucille Campey.

These seminars will be held via **Zoom**. They are free to BCGS members, but are \$25.00 for the three seminars to non-members.

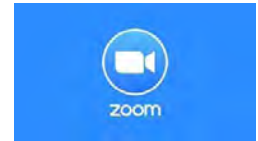
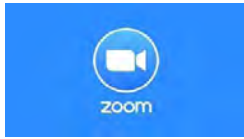
Information on the topics follow.

REGISTER THROUGH OUR WEBSITE www.bcgs.ca

Saturday, April 3 – Dave Obee – 9:30 am to 12:30

Saturday, May 1 – Janice Nickerson – 9:30 am to 12:30

Saturday, June 5 – Lucille Campey – 9:30 am to 12:30



BCGS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEMINAR - PRESENTERS



DAVE OBEЕ - Saturday, April 3, 2021 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

To say **Dave Obee** is a journalist and genealogical researcher is rather an understatement. While he has written a dozen books and given more than 600 presentations, he has received a great many awards for his work as a historian, genealogist and journalist. Among these awards, in the 2017, Bill Good award; in 2014, the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award, in 2016 the Heritage Advocates award. He also runs CanGenalogy.ca, and is a columnist for Internet Genealogy magazine and Your Genealogy Today magazine, as well being Editor and Publisher of the [Times Colonist](#) in Victoria, British Columbia. He has worked as a journalist in British Columbia and Alberta since 1972. BCGS is always pleased when Dave finds time in his busy schedule to present for us.

Topics

Looking Forward, Looking Back: Half a century of genealogy, and the best is yet to come

Technology has had a huge impact on our lives and our research techniques. The first half of this presentation examines the recent history of genealogical research, starting before the rise of the Internet and the many resources we have at our disposal today. The transformation is stunning, and gives a hint of what might be in store for us. The second half looks at the potential impact of that technology, including some of the good points and a few of the bad.

Beyond the Online Basics: A Genealogical Guide to Digital Collections

There are billions of scanned pages on the Internet -- a collection that few physical libraries could match. The problem is that many pages relevant to your research can be difficult to track down, since they are not on the usual genealogy websites. This session provides ideas on how to find the documents that will help you learn more about your families, or the local histories of the areas where they lived.



JANICE NICKERSON - Saturday, May 1, 2021 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Janice Nickerson is a professional genealogist who specializes in Upper Canadian history. She provided behind-the-scenes research for the CBC Television program, *Who Do You Think You Are?* and is a regular contributor to *Family Chronicle*, *Internet Genealogy*, and *Your Family Tree* magazines. As well, Janice lectures to groups through Ontario. She is a proud 8th generation Canadian with English, German, Irish, Welsh and Aboriginal ancestry.

Topics

Your Ancestors in the Upper Canadian Justice System

Family historians are always seeking records that will help us tell the story of our ancestors' lives. We want more than just names, dates and places. But few of us make use of the rich trove of stories found in justice system records. Upper Canada was such a small society, most of our ancestors were "known to the court".

Were your ancestors criminals? Were they victims of crime? Did they sit on a jury or testify at a trial? Maybe they couldn't pay their debts and got sent to debtors' prison.

Early Ontario Research

So you traced your family's history back to an ancestor who lived in Ontario (or its predecessors, Canada West and Upper Canada) before civil registration. Now what? This lecture provides an overview of the six key record groups for pre-civil registration research, what information you can expect to find, and where you'll find it.



LUCILLE CAMPEY - Saturday, June 5, 2021 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

Lucille H. Campey was born in Ottawa. A professional researcher and historian, she has a master's degree in medieval history from Leeds University and a Ph.D. from Aberdeen University in emigration history. She is the author of eighteen books on early Scottish, English, and Irish emigration to Canada. She was the recipient of the 2016 Prix du Québec for her work researching Irish emigration to Canada. She lives near Salisbury in Wiltshire, England.

Topics

Canada's Irish Pioneers

As pioneers, the Irish bestrode Canada. They were the largest immigrant group during Canada's formative years. They dug its canals, built its roads, chopped down its trees and established many of its early farming communities. They were ambitious, self-funded people with big dreams who were desperate to escape from the poverty in their homeland. And yet, despite their great pioneering successes, some politically-motivated people continue to depict them as sad and helpless exiles.

British Customs Records and Other Government Sources

These records and sources can assist family historians in locating their ancestors. Although census returns, customs records and the British Parliamentary Papers may seem like unlikely sources to use in tracking down a British ancestor who immigrated to Canada, they do hold nuggets of data that can provide vital clues. The talk will demonstrate how such sources can sometimes reveal the geographical origins of immigrants and/or their places of settlement in Canada. This can be achieved by analyzing numeric data rather than hunting down a particular surname.

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Check our website www.bcgs.ca for more detail about our Society

Please share. Just click FORWARD from the email and send this to your friends. Thank you!

We'd love to hear from you! Please share your ongoing research, your personal searches, your exciting successes, your frustrating challenges, your research trip, your discoveries, how you broke down that brick wall, found a long lost relative, a story about an ancestor, or an interesting family story. If you have an idea about a story, feel free to talk to or email the newsletter editors at newsletter@bcgs.ca or the eJournal editor at journal@bcgs.ca. Your stories encourage others.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Bill Clayton, BCGS President, president@bcgs.ca

The first two months of 2021 have zoomed by quickly. March will bring our membership a unique Zoom experience – the BCGS Annual General Meeting. There has been a lot of head scratching and consideration about how we could hold an AGM, with so many decisions to be made by voting, without having members all in the same physical room.

The final consensus was to email out the ballots for voting to all members, who will send their decisions back to a secure email address set up specifically for voting. The ballots will be tabulated by the three (3) scrutineers who have volunteered for this project. They will announce the results at the Zoom AGM. This should reduce the amount of time needed for the AGM and allow more for the education portion of the meeting.

At first glance, due to social distancing, this could have been a very difficult year. In reality, it has been a good year for BCGS members: the library has been closed for much of the last year, but by using Zoom, our monthly Members' Meetings have been attended by more than double the number of members who normally would have attended our in-person meetings. Each month we have more members attending than the previous month. We are attracting members from far away places, including outside Canada, instead of just BC's Lower Mainland.

Special Interest Group meetings and special education offerings are becoming more and more popular, especially for members who can't always travel to in-person meetings or get to the library.

Although life is providing us Covid-19 lemons, we are enjoying the lemonade.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING VOTING VIA BALLOTS INFORMATION

The following is the letter which has been sent to all applicable members with regards to the voting process via email. The other parts of the ballots showing nominees etc. were included with the email mailout. This page is to help in allowing members to understand the process we are obliged to undertake due to covid restrictions.

If you did not get copied on the mailout and need a ballot, please contact BillClayton@shaw.ca to receive a ballot.

The **BCGS Annual General Meeting** will be part of our 'regular' meeting on **March 10th** with everyone attending via Zoom. All members will be able to participate in the AGM & election even if they do not live in the Lower Mainland or usually attend meetings.

Your ballot is attached for the elections of officers and board members with responsibilities. Your completed ballot must be returned by midnight on **March 6th** to this secure email address: ballot2021@bcgs.ca. Our regular email list may include members who have not (yet) renewed their BCGS membership, but only ballots from members whose membership payments have been processed by March 5th will be counted. Please print your ballot, add your membership number, and mark your choices on the printed ballot.

When you have finished making your choices, please scan or photocopy your completed ballot. Email the scan of your completed ballot to this secure email address: ballot2021@bcgs.ca. Alternatively, mail a copy of your completed ballot to the BCGS Library: #211 – 12837 – 76th Avenue, Surrey, BC, V3W 2V3. Please mark "Ballot" on the outside of the envelope. Mailed ballots must also be received in the Library mailbox on or before **March 6th**. Only the three election scrutineers (George Caldwell, Jim Graham & Terri Mackenzie) will have access to the emailed ballots. The scrutineers will count and tabulate the valid emailed & mailed ballots, and announce the results during the AGM meeting.



BCGS
March, 2021



FUN FACTS OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY



1.

The Real St. Patrick was born in Britain
He was born near the end of the 4th century, and at age 16 was kidnapped by Irish raiders and sold as a slave to a Celtic priest in N. Ireland. Working as a shepherd for 6 years, escaped back to Britain. He returned to Ireland later as a Christian missionary.



2.

There were no snakes for St. Patrick to banish.
The legend that St. Patrick stood on top of an Irish hillside and banished snakes from Ireland is a myth. Research suggests that there were never any snakes in the Emerald Isle in the first place.



3.

Leprechaun are likely based on Celtic Fairies
The original Irish name for the leprechaun is "lobaircin", meaning "small-bodied fellow", stemmed from Celtic belief in fairies, who could use their magical powers to serve good or evil. Their job was mending shoes.

4.

The Shamrock was considered a Sacred Plant.
The shamrock, a three leaf clover, has been associated with Ireland for centuries. It was called the "seamroy" by the Celts and meant the arrival of spring. Legend says that St. Patrick used the plant as a visual guide when explaining the Trinity.



5.

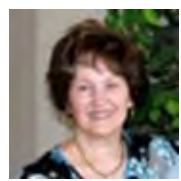
The Irish were once scorned in Canada
Tensions between the Irish Protestants and Catholics were widespread in Canada, notably in the Atlantic provinces and Ontario. In NB, violence was rampant, resulting in some of the worst urban riots in Canadian history. Suppression of poor, Irish-speaking peoples rights led to decades of turmoil.



6.

Corned Beef & Cabbage was not an Irish dish
Corned beef and cabbage was actually an American dish. In Canada, they ate their traditional food such as Irish stew - made with mutton or goat, potatoes and onions as the central ingredients.

Lucky



Photos and poster by June Gauntley, member #5112. June has chosen to celebrate Ireland's day by researching the truth (or not) of some common comments about the Irish. All fitting for the St. Patrick's Day celebrations.

MESSAGE FROM THE BCGS WEBSITE TEAM

BCGS WEBSITE FEATURES OF THE MONTH



*"We all carry, inside us, people
who came before us."*

Liam Callanan

BCGS Website Feature

50th Anniversary Seminar Series

We are excited about our 50th Anniversary Seminar Series. **Seminars are free to members but you must register online.** Non-members pay \$25 per seminar. There is much more information elsewhere in the Newsletter. You can find information and links to each seminar speaker on the [BCGS Home Page](#).

Irish Offerings on the BCGS Website

We have a number of useful items that should help you with your Irish Research. Check out our [Ireland Coffee Chat](#) page which features links to many Irish research sites, information about our BCGS Ireland Special Interest Group, a link to our Irish Vertical Library plus links to an Index of Irish Marriages 1771 – 1812.

Our next Ireland Genealogy Chat via ZOOM is on Thursday, March 18th from 7 – 9 pm and is open to all.

Click "[Here](#)" for the event listing where you can email the Chat Scheduler, if you wish to attend.

BC Pioneers

Just a reminder to all members to take a look at the BC Pioneer Registry in the Members' Area of the website - bcgs.ca/bc-pioneers. The registry contains almost 3800 names, and more are being added. The Registry includes names, dates of arrival in BC, and locations of residence. Family relationships and maiden names are cross-referenced where available.

The earliest pioneer on our Registry (so far!) is James Murray Yale, who arrived in BC in 1815, and worked as the Chief Trader at Fort Langley.

If you have an ancestor who arrived in BC prior to 1925, you are invited to submit their information to the Registry – a form is available on the website.

BC Pioneers could be a very useful tool for anyone researching ancestors who arrived in the province before 1925. If you want to submit a Pioneer to the registry OR use the registry to help with your research, click "[Here](#)" to become a BCGS Member.

MESSAGE FROM THE BCGS eJOURNAL EDITOR



Lynne Fletcher, BCGS eJournal Editor

While checking through blogs on the web last week, I noticed an unusual item about a special donation that happened during the 1880s in the United States. The **Choctaw** tribe gathered \$170 to donate to the victims of the Irish Potato Famine (worth more than \$5,000 today), even though they were still recovering from their forced march on the Trail of Tears.

This generous act has never been forgotten in Ireland, and many years later, in 2018, a scholarship for Choctaw youth was set up at University College Cork.

This reminded me of the annual gift of tulips from Holland to Canada each year in recognition of the service of the Canadian soldiers during the Second World War. I suspect that many small acts of kindness between other families or cities have been as significant as these two.

Does your family have a story about a special act of kindness, perhaps in recognition of some generous or brave act of one of your ancestors? Could you share that story with our members? We look forward to reading your story!

Please send your story and pictures (if possible) to Journal@bcgs.ca



MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS of the BCGS

We welcome these new members to the BCGS. We're here to help you with your research, so please ask us any questions at all.

5835 Andrew Marshall in Brockham in Betchworth, UK

5836 Muriel Walton in Castlegar, BC

5837 Heather Boal in West Vancouver, BC

5838 Kelly Crowe in Minot, ND

5839 Trevor McKeown from Burnaby, BC

5840 Barb Tait from Regina, SK

5841 Bev Webster in Surrey, BC

5842 Rebecca Weatherford in Fruitvale, BC

5843 Francis Hayden in Langley, BC



MEMBERSHIP



YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP includes **FREE ACCESS** to the **BCGS RESEARCH TEAM**
Ann Buchanan, BCGS Research Co-ordinator

Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, the BCGS Research Team can still search the **Clippings Index**, **Cemetery Recordings**, **Vancouver Sun Newspapers** - 1999 to 2012 obituaries, and various other databases which BCGS has digitally produced. In 2020 an additional 61,403 names were added to the Clippings Index. The photos of several hundred **memorial benches** are currently being coordinated into a database by Yvette Howard. Also, Eunice Robinson has been working on creating **Vertical Files** for England, Wales, Canada, Scotland and USA. She has recently updated the Irish Vertical Index. These Indexes are all on the website and open to queries through the BC Research Team.

If you are a member of the BCGS, email Ann with your queries at queryrequest@bcgs.ca. There is no charge to members but donations for extra research would be helpful.

A non-member is charged specific fees based on what they are asking. The [library catalogue](#) is available online to help you prepare for your next visit to the library when we are open again.

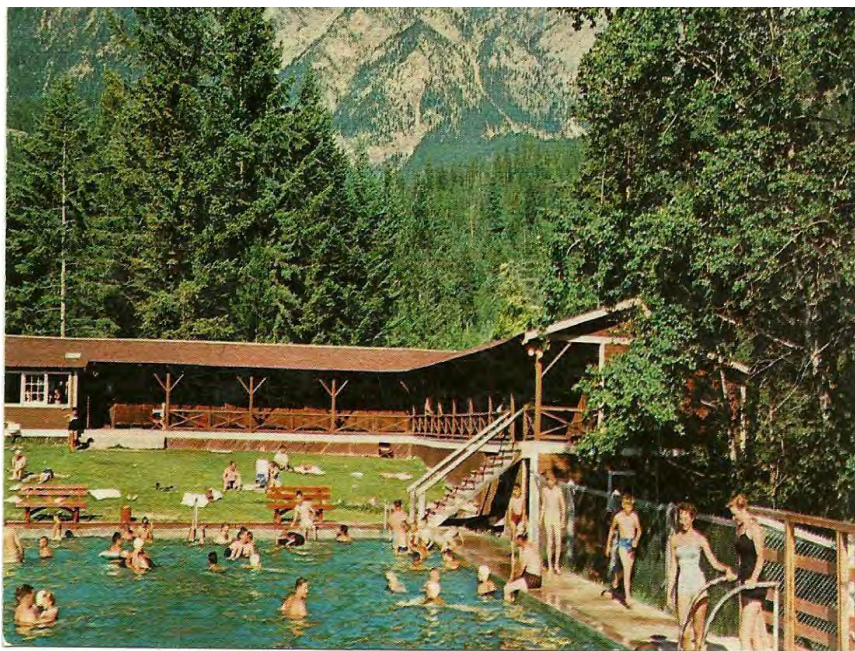
BCGS POSTCARD COLLECTION



POSTCARDS OF THE MONTH - The Story Behind a Picture Postcard
Janice Kidwell, member #5033

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Situated between the Rockies and the Purcell mountain ranges is the unincorporated resort community of Fairmont Hot Springs.



The first written history of Fairmont dates back to the 1800s, when the **Ktunaxa and Shuswap bands** discovered the natural calcium hot springs. These Hot Springs were formed over 300 million years ago when the Rockies were worn down and reformed, creating deep cracks in the earth. According to the Fairmont Hot Springs website, water collected high in the mountains entered the rocks through these faults and ran deep into the mountains, eventually bubbling back to the surface. Warmed by the heat of the rocks, it emerged much hotter than it entered – forming hot springs at the rock surface.

BCGS POSTCARD COLLECTION, cont'd

The first homesteader in the area was Englishman **George Geary**, who arrived in the area in 1887. His homestead was a large tract of land that included the hot springs. The original **Geary** home is well preserved and visible on the south end of Mountainside Golf Course.

Sam Brewer, a placer miner from Wisconsin, USA was working a gold claim on Perry Creek. His son **Hope Brewer** was born at Perry Creek, B.C. on May 30th, 1886, the first white child in the East Kootenays. The **Brewer** family later moved to Joseph's Prairie, now called **Cranbrook**, and in 1888 they moved to Fairmont where Sam purchased the Fairmont property from **George Geary**. In 1909, they moved to the Chamberlain Ranch north east of Windermere. Sam Brewer's Historic home in Fairmont Hot Springs is still inhabited to this day. The Resort's **Brewer's Market** is named in honour of this early pioneer.

The name Fairmont Hot Springs was given to the area by **Mrs. John Galbraith**, wife of a ferry operator at **Galbraith's Landing**, located near Fort Steele,

In the early 1900's, visionary **John Hankey** purchased The Fairmont Hot Springs Ranch, re-named it the "Fairmont Hotel Springs" and offered accommodation for \$2 per day, which included the use of the hot springs. With the construction of the bathhouse the Resort became a hub of health, wellness and hospitality.

In 1912 **W. Heap Holland**, a cotton manufacturer from Manchester, England arrived in the area. Intrigued by the hot water, he purchased the property, built a swimming pool, erected a Ranch Barn, built bungalows and operated it as a ranch and resort. The original wooden Holland barn is still a well-known landmark in Fairmont Hot Springs.

In 1957, two Saskatchewan brothers, **Earl and Lloyd Wilder** and a group of Invermere businessmen purchased the property. Under the leadership of the Wilder family, the resort began to grow with additions of the pools, hotel, golf course, airport and ski hill.

As time passed and the resort had different owners, major expansion transformed the area into the internationally recognized resort it is today.

The postcard was made in Canada by Grant-Mann Lithographers Ltd. "Color Card": Division, Vancouver, British Columbia. There is neither a message nor a stamp on the back.

www.fairmonthot springs.com/history-of-fairmont-hot-springs-resort/

<https://www.fairmonthot springs.com/hot-springs/history/>

<https://www.wingsovertherockies.org/history-of-fairmont-hot-springs/>

<https://www.columbiavalley pioneer.com/a-recollection-of-hope-brewer>

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO US!

1971 to 2021 - 50 YEARS

We will be marking our 50th anniversary with some special events. Plans include an online seminar over three separate Saturdays with renowned speakers, the special Alaska Cruise - when we can - and, of course, our 2021 BC Celebration Calendar. Watch for the page of the month highlighting events during 1971.



BCGS MEMBERS' MEETINGS

News about both upcoming and previous members' meetings

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

The **MARCH MEETING** will be held via **Zoom**.

All BCGS members will receive an email with information on how to join in.

PRESENTER - PATRICIA SKIDMORE

"MARJORIE - TOO AFRAID TO CRY"

When Patricia started exploring records involving Britain's child-migration program, a home-child saga emerged. Her mother, Marjorie Arnison, was one of many children removed from their families, and placed in a British colony or commonwealth to be cheap labour, and supposedly learn skills. She was sent to Prince of Wales Fairbridge Farm School, just north of Victoria, BC in 1937. This is Marjorie's story, as told by her daughter, Patricia.



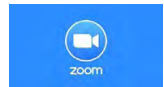
Marjorie
TOO AFRAID TO CRY



ABOUT the WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10th

BCGS MEMBERS' MEETING via ZOOM

- Our previous Members' Meetings via Zoom have been well attended; therefore, we are continuing with this program for the upcoming meeting.
- An invitation from the BCGS to the Monthly Meeting using Zoom will be sent to members, so watch your inbox for details about the website address, meeting number and password.
- If you don't receive the email by the day before the meeting, please contact info@bcgs.ca for assistance.
- Each member needs a free Zoom account to participate. See the Information on page 7 of the Newsletter.
- The meeting will follow the usual format for in-person meetings.
- There will be some time for a Q&A session.



MEMBERS' VOICE - Please advise our President if you wish to present a family history story or anecdote



APRIL 14, 2021

All in-person meetings are cancelled for the foreseeable future.
We will resume pending orders from BC's public health officials.



Join us via Zoom

Marlene Dance UE

Loyalist Presentation - BC Loyalist Day

The American Revolution - The Loyalist - Canada

This is Their Story

LOOKING BACK at the FEBRUARY MEMBERS' MEETING



The ELEVENTH BCGS Members' Meeting via Zoom

During the **Introductory Chat** time, the numbers kept climbing: from 63 to eventually **107** as members logged in to join the eleventh meeting using the internet Zoom program. Comments along the way referred to in-person meetings from over 30 years ago when there were upwards of 120 people attending. These numbers had fallen to about 60 prior to the switch to online meetings. A rare light during these difficult covid times.

Bill Clayton opened the meeting at 7:31 and remarked that the BCGS Membership is at 87 percent of total membership from last year.

The **Minutes** of the January meeting were moved as accepted by **Darlene Austin** and seconded by **Janet White**. It was passed unanimously.

The **BCGS Genealogical Library** re-opening has been delayed until March 5, 2021.

Jan Graf encouraged a sign-up for the Genealogy Coffee Chats at coffeechat@bcgs.ca asap so they will be able to sign in to the chats via Zoom.



A discussion took place regarding the **Zoom** subscription. As we are currently limited to 100 screens and, as of this meeting, have almost surpassed that limit, we will need to expand our subscription in view of the **Annual General Meeting** in March. As well, our **Saturday Seminars**, beginning in April, will need a larger online venue. **Carl Stymiest** suggested using Zoom Pro. There is also the option of an extension. The Board will make a decision as to which platform will be most suitable.

LOOKING BACK at the FEBRUARY MEMBERS' MEETING, cont'd



AGM Board member elections will be done by ballot. The ballots were sent out by **February 20th** and must be returned by **March 6th**. Three scrutineers will be the only members to have access to the returned ballots. All ballots will require the member's number. The point was made that Affiliate members do not vote. Instruction for completion of the ballot will be included. Email has been chosen as the best method for the most members but a postal mailing will be available for those who need it. Our scrutineers are **George Caldwell, Jim Graham and Terri Mackenzie**.



LOOKING BACK at the FEBRUARY MEMBERS' MEETING, cont'd

Eunice Robinson, who is the BCGS Past President Responsible for Nominations, believes we have nominations for all positions. If there is only one nomination for a given position, the position will be filled by acclamation.

This was also a time for greetings and questions to other members.

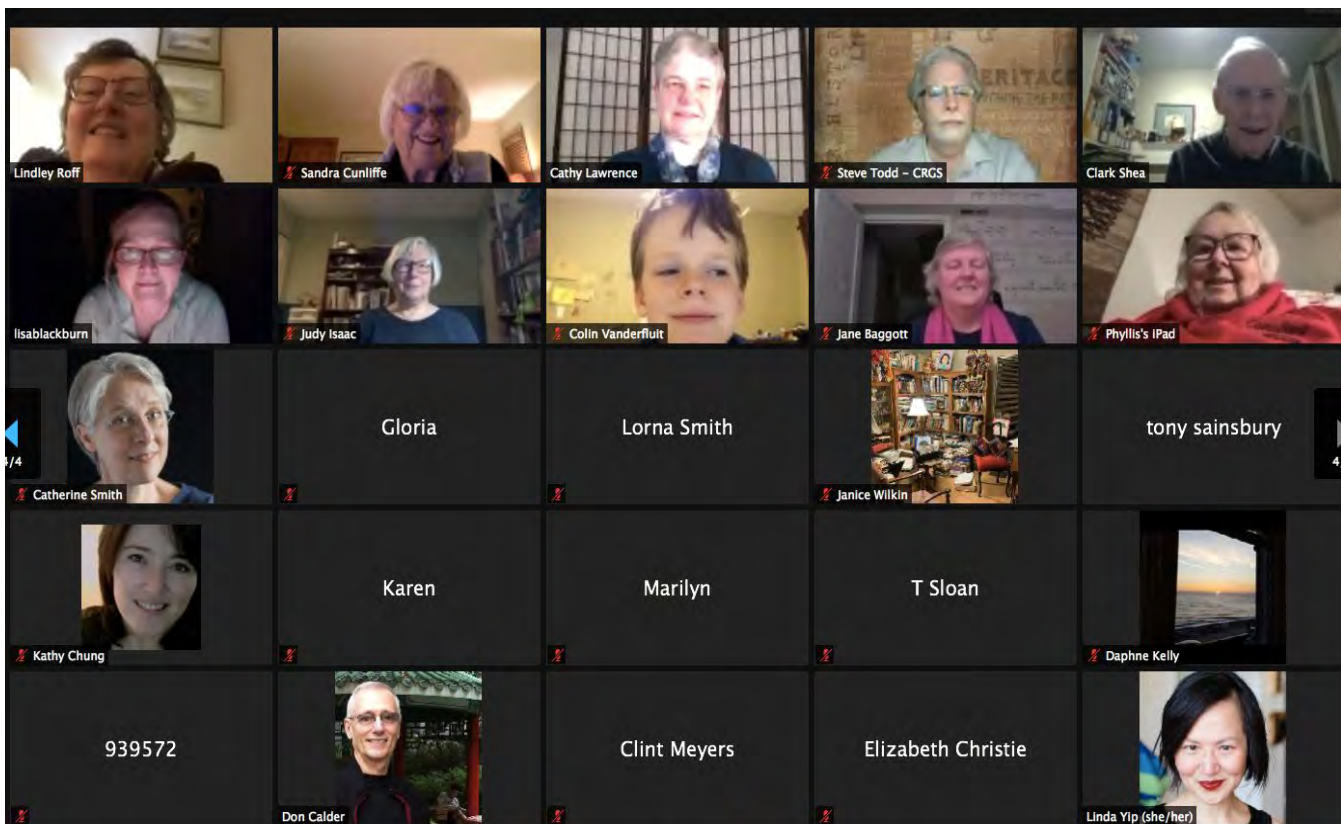
Linda Maitland asked **Marny Nassichuk** if some of her family comes from Powell River as one of the roads outside Powell River is called Nassichuk. Marny replied her husband's grandparents settled there and many extended families still live in Powell River. In turn, Linda was asked about her husband Peter Maitland's family in Powell River to which she replied his father lived there but passed away less than a week ago at the age of 96; her husband's brothers also live in Powell River. An unexpected connection which likely wouldn't have happened without the internet.

Nanaimo bars also came into the conversation with Janet White mentioning a new drink featuring the now famous sweet from Vancouver Island. Linda Maitland promptly displayed a bottle of the Forty Creek Nanaimo Bar Cream liquor, which she had received from her cousin for Christmas.

Janet White noticed a **Ken Ueland** in the recently published book "A History of Burnaby Schools" and asked Judith Ueland if there was a connection. Indeed, all the Uelands in Burnaby are related and are members of the same family. All six children of Eric and Phyllis Ueland attended school in Burnaby during the sixties and seventies.

In response to a query about mailing lists for the Newsletter, **Judith Galpin** explained that if you receive one of our publications you will receive all of them as she uses the same members list for all mailings.

Betty Harvey, member #004 was congratulated on her 50 years as a member. Betty will be receiving a Certificate in the mail as we are unable to present it personally. See page 18 for some of Betty's contributions to the Society and a depiction of the certificate.





**BCGS MEETING PRESENTATION: KAREN INKSTER VANCE
STORYTELLING 101 – WRITE AND SHARE YOUR (SHORT) FAMILY STORIES**

Eunice Robinson, BCGS Education Facilitator, introduced Karen and remarked that this talk may be the first step in which to start writing your own story. There is a handout available on the website in the Members' Resources area [here](#). Karen's website can be accessed at kareninkstervance.com

Karen began by saying she was born and raised in Powell River, BC and that it was a great place to grow up. She started her genealogy research as a teenager but always wanted to know the story behind the records. She remarked there is no right or wrong way to tell a story but her purpose was to give ideas on how to share stories with your family.

Karen made the point, which most of us involved in genealogy research recognize, that a record of charts, photos and certificates often need to be shared in a way others can understand in order to connect with an ancestral family.

Her major point is that it is not necessary to include everything one has discovered but to use "bite size" storytelling. Use personal and memoir essays to paint a picture and bring the stories alive. This can be done by collecting bits of information about a given person and building on those to bring a long gone or little known person to life. Diaries, letters, and cookbook recipes can all be used to gather a sense of how a person lived and what impacted their life.

Karen demonstrated some of the stories she had compiled as a book "*Remembering Renate*", and an interactive map from www.canva.com. She also stressed that social media, such as blogs and other online formats, can be used to preserve one's research and to intrigue other family members. Check out online bloggers to see what others are doing. Two blogs she recommended were Amy Johnson Crow's 52 Ancestors in 52 Weeks and Lynn Palermo, The Armchair Genealogist. There was much more to Karen's presentation and it was an inspiration to begin one's own 'storytelling'.

MEMBERS VOICE

Celia Lewis wrote: There is no one best platform... Blogger is free and fairly easy to use, part of the Google group - so if you have gmail, you can start a blog using Blogger free. But there is also WordPress - more expensive but also gives you more control of many aspects. Weebly is another platform - a bit clunky, but easy to use.

Lindley Roff in Kamloops: Lindley has been writing small bits and pieces about other family members. She advises sending one's stories to someone somewhere else to enable preservation of one's research. It has happened that others may use one's stories and histories for commercial purposes. Eunice Robinson commented that she has had someone use her research and lay claim to it as have many of us. There were discussions on how to prevent this with no clear solutions.

Sharon Clayton: At Christmas time a story and recipe posted was a great connection to family. The recipe was her Jamaican grandmother's Christmas pudding recipe which appeared in a Christmas Journal article. *"I shared the article (as published in the Journal) on my Webb Kin Facebook group. Many of my Jamaican cousins appreciated seeing the recipe in my grandmother's handwriting. They also liked the rum stain from my pouring the rum too quickly."*

Linda Yip: Linda has been experimenting with a website that combines her family tree with password protection. She has almost 2000 names and needs a way to show her research and bring in younger generations. She said younger family members need to start with themselves to pique their interest in their ancestors. Her idea is to showcase it as family union via Zoom so all living generations are there with the possibility of identifying old unnamed photos. Can all this be combined in some way?

LOOKING BACK at the FEBRUARY MEMBERS' MEETING, cont'd

Cynthia Hamilton: Blog on a platform that is immortal rather than one that would die in time. Keep someone to access those sites. Technology is tricky. Sometimes also having print is important.

Aidren Kayce spoke about compiling a family cookbook and said she and her mother quite enjoyed the process. It was a nice project to do together.

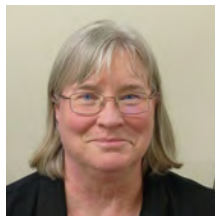
Sara Herrington: She has visited all six of her first cousins whom she hadn't seen in 52 years. She took each side of the family a fan chart which produced much interest. Some needed help to understand the chart. There is no depth to these charts but they produced interest into how the cousins fit into the family and fostered interest in the makeup of the extended families. Her grandson wanted to know more about a specific great uncle and Sara discovered that those who are fascinated know it from a young age.

BCGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY

Unit 211, 12837 – 76th Avenue, Surrey, BC

News about our library as well as the events that took place and will take place at the library

Normally open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Due to the Public Health Orders issued by Dr. Bonnie Henry, the BCGS library will remain closed until Saturday, March 6, 2021. We will reopen on that date if allowed.**



Corrine Jubb, Library Administrator

The Burnaby school book is so new to the BCGS library that it is not yet in the catalogue. However, I think it is a wonderful example of local history assembled by local people. Janet White at the January BCGS monthly meeting mentioned that “**Inkwells to Internet, a History of Burnaby Schools**” was now for sale. The book is over 350 pages with over a thousand photographs. To purchase your own copy, please contact the Burnaby Museum at 604-297-4565.

The BCGS library does have some school yearbooks in our collection. If you have any yearbooks that you no longer wish to keep, please consider donating them to our library. If you email library@bcgs.ca we will arrange for dropoff of your yearbooks to the library.

INKWELLS TO INTERNET: The History of Burnaby Schools

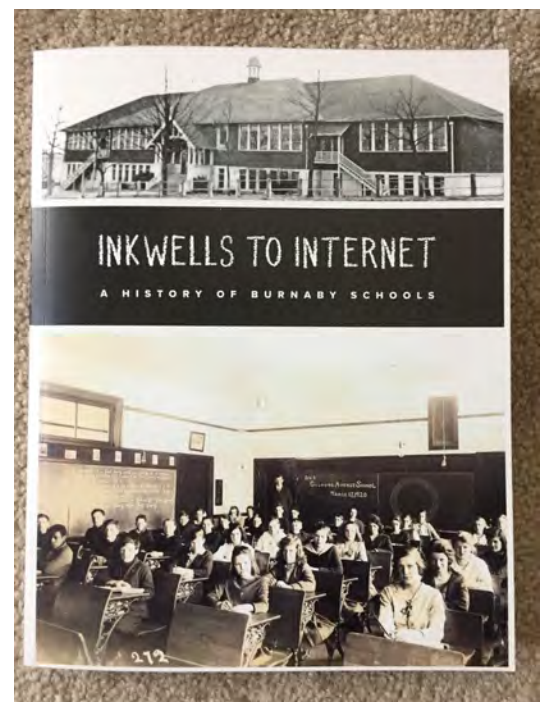
Co-authors Janet White and Lisa Codd, Heritage Planner for the City of Burnaby

The book was launched virtually on February 18, 2021. The presentation will be available on Facebook Live and on the Burnaby Village Museum [website](#).

A Note of Congratulations:

Warm congratulations Janet... a true labour of love telling a wonderful story of the amazing Burnaby teachers over the years....thank you SO much for sharing this history, and for your personal dedication to bringing this book project to fruition. As I told you when I picked up the book from you a while ago, you looked like a very proud Mama!

Best, Svend Robinson, former MP for Burnaby



BCGS GENEALOGY CHATS

CHATS ARE TAKING PLACE **via ZOOM**

Click [here](#) for Local Events

Genealogy Chats at the BCGS Genealogical Library

When the Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, come by the library for a chat about your research. Bring a coffee mug, a friend, your favourite resources or just bring yourself. \$2 drop-in fee. Spend the day and browse our wonderful resources. Until then, join us **via Zoom**.



QUEBEC QUESTERS GENEALOGY CHAT **via Zoom****

Sat, Mar 13 & Apr 10, 10 am to noon

RSVP Linda Maitland

lindamaitland@telus.net



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY CHAT **via Zoom****

Monday, March 1, 1 to 3 pm

March 1: Leeds Method

RSVP Sharon Clayton

sharonjmclayton@gmail.com

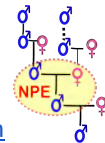


EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY CHAT

Parental Puzzles (NPE)

Mondays, Mar 15 & April 19 **via Zoom*** 1 to 3 pm

RSVP Sharon Clayton sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



WALES GENEALOGY CHAT

TBA

Facilitator Lynn Owen-Whalen

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



BC GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, March 4, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom****

With Janet White

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



CHINA GENEALOGY CHAT

Thurs, March 4 & April 1, 10 - 11 am **via Zoom****

RSVP Linda Yip

hello@past-presence.com



US GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, April 15, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom****

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



SCOTLAND GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, April 1, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom****

With Lorraine Irving

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ENGLAND GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, April 8, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom****

With Ann Buchanan

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



IRELAND GENEALOGY CHAT **via Zoom****

Thursdays, March 18 & April 22, 7 to 9 pm

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



SCANDINAVIA GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, March 11, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom****

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ONTARIO GENEALOGY CHAT

TBA

With Janet White

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ATLANTIC CANADA GENEALOGY CHAT

TBA

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



GERMANS from RUSSIA GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, March 25, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom****

With Eunice Robinson

RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



PRAIRIES GENEALOGY CHAT

Thursday, April 29, 7 to 9 pm **via Zoom****

With Eunice Robinson

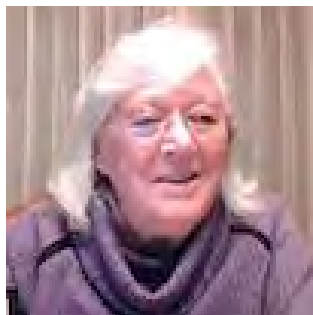
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



***via Zoom - email the facilitator**
**** via Zoom - email coffeechat@bcgs.ca**
In both cases, you will be sent an invitation to join the meeting via Zoom.

BCGS NEWS

News about new members, positions, committees and contests within the Society



BETTY HARVEY, BCGS MEMBER #4

At the February Members' Meeting on February 10th, **BETTY** was congratulated on her 50 years as a member. She mentioned that she was a neighbour of Alice Marwood and joined due to their friendship and common interest in genealogy.

Betty was very active in the early years of the society. In the BCGS publication of the **British Columbia Genealogical Society, 1971-1996, The First Quarter Century**, she is shown as having been one of the eleven people at the first meeting. She served as Recording Secretary from 1971 - 1972. She was involved in various committees; the Journal, the newspaper birth, marriage and death clippings collection, fund-raising and assisting with the search to find a 'home' for the society.



Betty will be receiving the Certificate, shown on the left, in the mail, as we are unable to present it personally.

BCGS GENEALOGY EDUCATION - ONLINE CLASS - DONATION

The genealogy class of January 2021, in appreciation of and to honour Celia Lewis and Eunice Robinson, made a very kind and welcome donation of \$100 to the BCGS library. The participants felt that the course content was excellent and that they greatly appreciated Celia and Eunice's extensive knowledge and the generosity of their time and energy.



Judy Zipursky, on behalf of the genealogy 'students' who attended the classes.

BCGS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are lots of volunteer opportunities within the BCGS. Many hands make light work and ALL help is appreciated!

The BCGS Genealogical Library is now closed. Unless there is a new health order, the BCGS Library is scheduled to reopen on March 6th, 2021; however, many of our projects can easily be done at home.

Contact Eunice Robinson at president@bcgs.ca for more information.



WANTED

Two (or more) members to take over the positions of editor for the BCGS NEWSLETTER



This is a GREAT OPPORTUNITY to CONTRIBUTE to the FIELD of GENEALOGY and to the BCGS

Our co-editors, Judith Ueland and Linda Maitland, are fast approaching the end of their five year term in May 2021 as compilers of the monthly BCGS Newsletter.

This is an opportunity for two (or more) people to participate more fully within the society. Requirements are simple:

- a working knowledge of a computer - most genealogists have already been through the upward curve of learning an online genealogy program
- an interest in the workings of the society and, of course, in genealogy

The Newsletter is the Society's way to contact our members and outreach those who are beginning their research and need some ideas and information. So many members already participate by contributing a monthly column or volunteer within the society and send us their reports that this is not an onerous position. It is a very well received publication. Preparation of the Newsletter can be done at home.

Contact: Judith Ueland and Linda Maitland at newsletter@bcgs.ca or Bill Clayton and Eunice Robinson at president@bcgs.ca

BCGS GIFT CERTIFICATE

Please note that the BCGS now has this attractive **Gift Certificate** available for members who wish to gift a relative or friend with a BCGS membership.

It's easy to order. Go to our [website](http://www.bcgsgenealogy.com). The order form is under "Membership" in a category called "Gift Membership". The first page explains what happens, then click the "Gift it" button and it takes you to the page where you can select and add to the shopping cart.



There is a very short form for the purchaser to complete since the membership committee will have to contact the new member to give privacy notice and permission to send them emails. This method allows the purchaser to pay on-line. Our membership team will then send the certificate to either the person purchasing the gift or the recipient. If you would like to purchase a gift certificate using a cheque or cash, please contact membership@bcgs.ca

BCGS 50th ANNIVERSARY ALASKA CRUISE
now in SEPTEMBER 2022

Have you heard?

Holland America Nieuw Amsterdam NOW SAILING
September 18-25, 2022
with Genealogy Gurus: Blaine Bettinger & Mary Kathryn Kozy

Robert Marcoux at 604.401.0484 or toll-free at 1.866.354.1869
or email robert@getawaywithcompass.ca

In late February, Holland America announced that their 2021 cruises operating out of Canadian ports have been officially cancelled. It is standard practice for HAL to email booked passengers about these kinds of decisions. People receiving these emails from Holland America can be assured that our Travel Agent Robert Marcoux is taking good care of us by transferring our group booking, on the same ship and with the same itinerary, to September 18 - 25, 2022.

Robert is negotiating with our attentive HAL Group Booking Rep about retaining all the perks our group's members have been accumulating for more than a year. As you can imagine, Holland America's staff have been scrambling to process booking cancellations and changes.

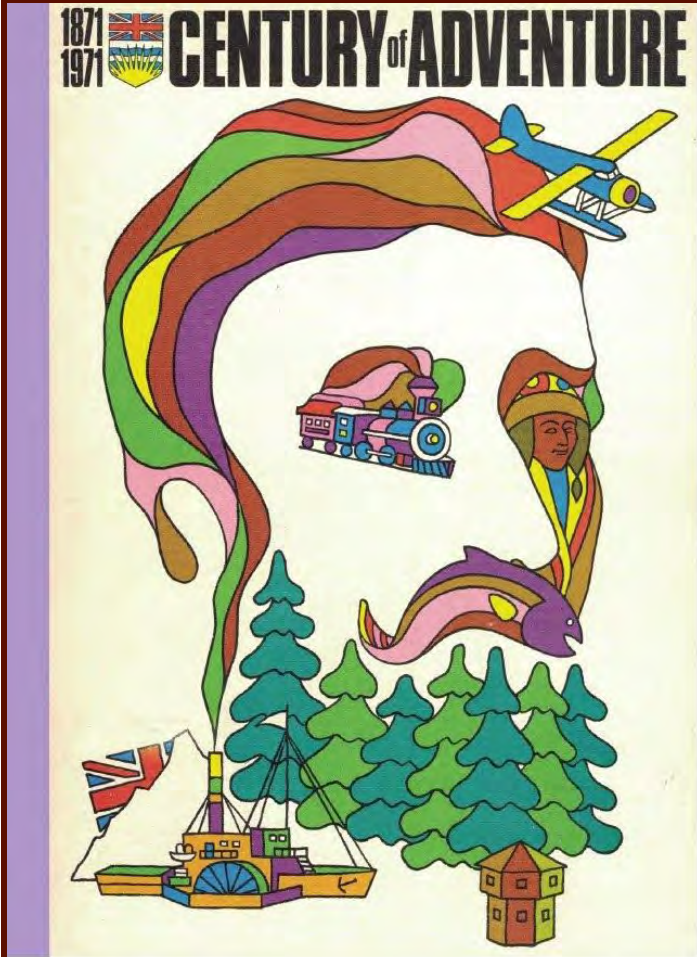
As soon as Robert receives new information from our group's HAL booking representative, he will share it with us through our two BCGS Facebook groups and our BCGS website.

If you have questions or concerns, please email
robert@getawaywithcompass.ca

BCGS 2021 CALENDAR - MARCH

1971 to 2021 - 50 YEARS AGO - Century of Adventure

Photo construction: George Caldwell, Written commentary: Sharon Clayton, Graphic Design: Susan Sullivan




**1871
1971** **CENTURY of ADVENTURE**

1971
50 YEARS AGO
Century of Adventure
BRITISH COLUMBIA

The 1971 book *Century of Adventure 1871 - 1971* (available to borrow through the BCGS Library) was published by Victoria's *Daily Colonist*. The cover features artist Robert Wilson's stylized portrait of **Amor De Cosmos**, who played a strong role in bringing British Columbia into Confederation.

Born to Loyalist parents in Windsor, Nova Scotia in 1825, *William Alexander Smith* renamed himself in 1854, explaining that his new name "tells what I love most [...] order, beauty, the world, the universe." He changed his name after arriving in the California gold fields, where he set up a daguerreotype photography studio.



When news of the Fraser River Gold Rush reached California, De Cosmos relocated to Victoria, where he founded *The British Colonist* newspaper. Elected to the BC Legislative Assembly in 1871, he represented Victoria in the 1871-72 Federal House of Commons. As British Columbia's second premier from 1872-74, his accomplishments included initiating a public school system, reducing the number of government officials, extending the property rights of married women and implementing secret ballots.

"CENTURY OF ADVENTURE 1871 - 1971" WAS EDITED BY JOHN SHAW AND PUBLISHED IN 1971 BY THE DAILY COLONIST. BOOK COVER ILLUSTRATION BY ROBERT WILSON. NO COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT INTENDED.

THE BCGS 50th ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

Celebration Days in March: Saint David's Day, International Women's Day, Genealogy Day, Daylight Savings -Set Clocks Forward, Ides of March, St. Patrick's Day, Spring Equinox, International Earth Day, Palm Sunday.

50 years ago in 1971

Marriage of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau to Margaret Sinclair.

Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip and Princess Anne visited BC to celebrate British Columbia's Centennial of joining the Confederation of Canada.



COMPLIMENTS from our READERS



Mary Turnbull: Can not tell you how much I look forward to every issue of our Newspaper, lots of info, love the personal stories. Just want to say thank you both for all your work in getting out each issue.

Linda Suveges: I am a Board member of the Saskatoon Branch of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (otherwise known as SBSGS). As Coordinator of Programs and Education for the Branch, I was very impressed with the article in your Newsletter about how to use Zoom. We resumed our Branch meetings in September 2020 using Zoom and have gradually become better at it, but I think it would be very helpful if we could provide our members with the information developed by Cathy Lawrence. Would it be possible for me to send a copy of it to our members, with credit to Cathy and the BCGS Newsletter? Memberships are still coming in, but we usually have between 50-60 members in our Branch. Thanks for your consideration of this request!

On a personal note, congratulations on your excellent newsletters! I am always impressed with the quality and comprehensiveness of the contents, and look forward to reading it each month. I don't have a lot of ancestors from BC but I'm considering joining BCGS because you have so much going on!

Sherry King: This month Patrick's story about his curmudgeonly friend was really fun.

Pat Keily: As always, very professional. Seriously, they'll never find two people who will have the talent to replace the both of you. I vote to keep you in office. Pat

Christol James: I just want to let you know how much I enjoy getting and reading the BCGS Newsletter. It never fails to give me a new idea for my own research or a project idea for our Campbell River Genealogy Society. Thank you so much. I know how much work goes into these publications.

Jack McGee: Judith and Linda, I don't know how you do it, but your Newsletter is a masterpiece each month. Thank you very much for capturing so many of the fascinating aspects of Genealogy and presenting it so skilfully.

Lynne Fletcher: Just wanted to thank you for this current newsletter - it looks gorgeous, and is full of info. I'm amazed at how any projects/meetings/seminars will be going on during this lock-down year! A very good sign!

Thank you very much!

Judith Ueland and Linda Maitland

FUNDRAISING - POP CANS and BOTTLES



Each donated can or bottle makes a difference to our BCGS budget

Bill Clayton: Pop bottles and cans have brought in \$340.95 up to February 26th. Our total last year was \$748.15, so by the end of this year we will have exceeded last year considerably.

These funds are for the **Alice Louise Marwood Fund (ALM Fund)**, which is used for upkeep of the Library.

As the Library is closed until further notice, you are welcome to drop your pop cans and bottles off in Bill's driveway in South Surrey, if that is convenient for you. Bill will see them returned and funded to the library. Email Bill at president@bcgs.ca

Thanks to Ann Buchanan and her husband for stopping on their way by and picking up two large bags of cans and delivering them to the library for Bill to take to the Return-It Centre - Judith Ueland.



Keep an eye on our Facebook pages during the Covid-19 pandemic. We're posting genealogical links to help with research while you're physical distancing, self-isolating, in quarantine or recuperating.

British Columbia Genealogical Society - Information about the BCGS and announcements for upcoming BCGS events are posted in this account. Open to non-BCGS members too. You can join [here](#).

BCGS Genealogical Discussion Group - For genealogical collaboration and discussion. You can easily communicate with all members of the group, post your research questions, share a brick wall, a genealogical success, and other members of the group can reply or comment. Others can help you and you can help others. As well, genealogical items of interest are posted. Open to non-BCGS members too. You can join [here](#).

GENEALOGY NEWS in BC

Upcoming events and new genealogical resources in BC



To help limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, Surrey Libraries, FamilySearch FHC, Vancouver Public Libraries and all other BC libraries are closed or have reduced hours and services until further notice.

A note from Vancouver Public Library

Ancestry Library Edition

VPL cardholders can now enjoy access to Ancestry Library Edition from home for free until **MARCH 31, 2021**. Click [here](#) to visit their genealogy guide for more research help.



Surrey Libraries Family History

Ancestry from Home – Extended to MARCH 31, 2021!

(This is generously provided through ProQuest and their partner Ancestry). Access through the website [here](#) and scroll down until you see the Ancestry login button.



Fun Family History Friday

Join us for some lively, open family history discussions. All levels welcome. Fridays, February 6 to March 26. Pre-registration is required. Via Microsoft Teams.

Genealogy Orientation & Consultation

These are in-person, one-on-one sessions (with full covid safety protocols in place) for anyone new to genealogy OR needing a new direction in their research. A session will include a tour of our department and the resources, databases, and services we offer, as well as some personal consultation to discuss your specific research needs and create a new research plan with you. Please call or email us to make an appointment – 604-598-7328 or familyhistory@surrey.ca.

Remember: We are open for in-person visits and research. Time in the library is limited to one hour, with 45 minutes on the computer. We are hoping this will be extended soon. Library and Family History Department hours are [here](#).

If you have **any questions**, please email familyhistory@surrey.ca , or call 604-598-7328.

Images Available

To view these images you must do one of the following:

- Access the site at a [family history center](#)
- Access the site at a [FamilySearch affiliate library](#)

BCGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY has AFFILIATE LIBRARY STATUS with [FamilySearch.org](#)



When you are using FamilySearch.org and you see the image on the left, remember that the **BCGS Genealogical Library has Affiliate Library status with FamilySearch.org**. When we reopen, while using FamilySearch.org at the BCGS Genealogical Library, you will be able to view many of the digital images of documents that are locked to home users.

Digitization of Nanaimo Free Press, 1874-1928: Part II complete

Snipped from Gail Dever's blog, Genealogy à la carte, 18 February 2020

<https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?p=34920>

The University of British Columbia yesterday announced that Vancouver Island University Library has completed part two of its digitization of the *Nanaimo Free Press (1874-1928)* collection. Nanaimo is the sixth oldest incorporated municipality in British Columbia and a key site of settler early industry as a mining town. For more information about the 2019/2020 BC History Digitization Program Projects, [click here](#).

UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS OF CANADA

UELAC Vancouver Branch honours Loyalist women!
International Women's Day is March 8th.

- <http://www.uelac.org/Vancouver/>

A memorial in Hamilton, Ontario recognizes the hardships endured by the United Empire Loyalists.



Grace Growden Galloway (1727-1782) was the wife of loyalist Joseph Galloway.

MEMBERS' CORNER

In this section of the newsletter, we feature stories from our readers.



Patrick Keily, member #5414

As I Recollect - I Remember Coach Brandecki

Last month I introduced you to Vic Brandecki - musician, teacher, dreamer. A man with grand notions and no ambition. Most people who knew of him thought he was all talk, but many of us saw that, given the opportunity, he could be a shining star in the community. That chance came in the form of sports.

Baseball in the 1970s was still America's Pastime. Besides the major leagues, townspeople across the nation would take in a Sunday afternoon amateur team playing against teams from surrounding communities. Butternut was no different, fielding a team with the uninspired name of Butternut Baseball. Although they thought they were hot stuff, they were as cold as a January night on Lake Superior.

In those days, the federal government had various social programs aimed at keeping kids out of trouble and helping older Americans by providing work for them. In most cases, funds were provided to be used as the community leaders saw fit, and they saw fit to hire Brandecki as baseball manager. It was a total flop because he could not get the respect of the players, all thinking he knew nothing of the game and most seeing him as a buffoon. He quit after two weeks. Someone, however, saw something in the old man that he liked and asked if he'd manage Butternut's Little League team. Vic accepted.

Practice for the kids was both fun and torturous. They loved Vic because he made them feel like winners but they hated the constant drills. He'd yell at some and not others for the same

mistake because he made it a point

to understand each and every one. As told to me years later by one of the players, Donnie Christian became furious at Vic during a game. He stormed out of the dugout, crying and yelling that he hated Vic. As he headed towards home, Vic yelled, "Take off that uniform. I'm not gonna let you steal it!" Donnie said, "I'll bring it back." "Oh no you don't. I don't trust you. Take it off right now!" Donnie said, "I'm not walking home in my underwear!" Vic said either that or get back and finish the game. Donnie relented, settled down, and stayed with the team and went on to be one of the best players.

The camaraderie that developed between the coach and players became almost legendary. One of the players, John Bablick, told me years later about how Vic would get 13 kids and equipment into his old DeSoto. Since this was illegal (and dangerous) in towns that had police departments, he'd drop half the kids off outside of town, deliver the other half to the ballpark and return for the rest. And what a team they had! They won the league championship for three straight years.

Unfortunately, they became the victims of their own success. The league moved to remove local teams and instead create a pool of players who were drafted by the different teams in the league. Vic quit in disgust

and Butternut never had another little league team. As a footnote, the city amateur team realized how good Vic really was at managing a team and asked him to return. Vic smiled and replied, "Go to hell."

Next month - Living with Unexpected Wealth.





Meg McLaughlin, member #3847

Meg writes about history and genealogy in *A Genealogist's Path to History* at <http://genihistorypath.blogspot.ca/>. Read more about her findings in her blog.

The Power of Concentration

With travel curtailed and future research trips a distant dream, I feel that I haven't been doing much with my family history lately. But that isn't strictly true. There has been some progress made. Just not the kind that results in new relatives or interesting details about the lives of the people I already know about. Sometimes it helps to just look at the information already at hand.

That's where writing an ancestor's story comes in. At the end of January, I attended a writing retreat. For that I need 5000 words written about an ancestor, in my case, my grandfather, in my case, my grandfather, H.S. Chambers. It's not like writing fiction. The narrative needs to be based on fact. It was a push but I got there.

It probably helped that I have been writing about his life for a long time. He led a fascinating life, at least, I think so. The first magazine article I wrote was a case study about how his life was affected by the Regina Cyclone. That disaster happened soon after he moved to that city shortly after he immigrated to Canada. The first posts on my blog came from delving into the reasons why he left England. Those posts were about the scourge of tuberculosis. TB was a major killer in the early 1900s and one that carried off many of his family. Another series of posts were about the ship he sailed on, the *Empress of Ireland*. A ship that is well known because it sank in the St. Laurence River. So, finding out about his life has led me to stories about the larger history that was happening in the years he lived through.

I've followed his footsteps virtually as I find out more about him. But I've got a shopping list of places ready to

follow those footsteps in person. A trip to Regina might net a mention in that city's records about what happened to him when the tornado hit, one to Winnipeg, a view of where he lived and worked. Who knows what might remain? In England, my cousin took me to visit the site of his shop in Shooter's Hill. It was a thrill to see that it was a newsagent (see photo below). He had run a tobacconist and newsagent shop at the same site.



So, it may not feel like I've been doing much family history recently. But concentrating on the history of one person in my ancestry has not only shown me what information I have but it has opened my eyes to the history he lived through. Concentrating on a single person has allowed me to go deeper and gain a better understanding of his life. Now to see if I can bring that concentration to other ancestors. Who knows what insight that would bring!



Zoom FAQs



Information about Zoom to enable our members to join our meetings and use the Zoom website feature.

What is Zoom?

- Zoom is a web based video conferencing tool that allows people to share and participate in meetings in 'real time'

What device do I need to access?

- Zoom will work on a desktop / laptop / smart phone or tablet – both Apple and Android will work!
- Note – depending on which device you are using, the location of icons and some other features might be different

How much does it cost?

- The Zoom application is free, and you can download the link at 'zoom.us'
- There is no cost to join a meeting as a guest, just follow the link when you receive the invitation
- BCGS has a corporate account which allows for extended time limit and multiple guests
- If you have an account, you can host your own Zoom call with restrictions:
 - o Maximum of 40 minutes
 - o Maximum of 50 Participants (note: in Gallery view, you can see 25 people per screen)

Accessing by Telephone only

- If you decide to use a toll number to join a Zoom meeting, you will be charged based on the rates of your phone service provider

Join a Meeting

- Click on the link provided by the meeting Organizer. Make a note of the meeting ID number – you may or may not need to enter a password
- Select if you want to connect audio and/or video and click 'Join'
- Select 'Gallery view' to see everyone in the meeting – 25 participants per screen
- Use the arrows to scroll left and right to view everyone
- There will be a yellow outline box around whoever is speaking

Who allows me into the meeting?

- When you sign on to the link to join the meeting, you will be put into the 'waiting room'
- The Host will admit you. For large groups, it is suggested to have a Co-host who can assist with allowing participants into the meeting
- If you see a small screen, just hit 'Gallery View' on top right to enable a full screen of participants

How do I change my name under my photo?

- Move the cursor to the top right corner of your photo box where you see 3 dots
- Click on this and you will get a list of options,
- Select 'rename' and type in the name you want on your profile photo
- Note: The host can also change your name!

How do I mute myself?

- Hover mouse over bottom of screen (or top if on a MAC) until icons appear. You will see a microphone icon – hit this until a red line crosses, and you are now muted
- Or you can select the 'mute' button on the top right of your photo screen
- The host also has the ability to 'mute' and 'unmute' participants

How do I unmute myself? Several options

- Hover mouse over microphone icon again & click so the red line is gone – participants can now hear you
- Go to the top right corner of your photo box and hit 'unmute'
- You can tap and hold the space bar to unmute temporarily
- You can hit 'ALT & A' to unmute

ZOOM FAQs, cont'd

How do I allow video?

- If you have selected audio and video when you first signed on, your video will be on
- Remember to remove any tape or covering on your computer camera!

How do I turn off the video?

- Go to the 'Stop Video' button and click it. A Red line will appear and your video feed will be stopped. Participants will see a black box with your name, or a still photo if you have uploaded one

How do I add a Photo to my Profile?

- Sign on to your Zoom Account
- Select 'Profile' from menu at left
- Under user image, click 'change'
- Click upload – select photo from your computer. This is what participants will see when you turn off the live video function. Your name should also appear

What else can the Host do?

- Allow participants into the meeting
- Assign one or more Co-hosts
- Rename participants
- Share screens

Sharing your Screen (As Host, you can allow others to share their screen)

- At bottom of window, click 'Share Screen'
- Only one person at a time can share
- When finished, click 'Stop Sharing'

How do I use the 'Reactions'?

- When you hover the mouse over the top or bottom of the screen (depending on which device you are on) you will see a button for 'Reactions'
- Click on this button and you can select any of these emojis to use – clap for a presenter, raise your hand to speak, celebrate, etc, and they will appear briefly on the top left corner of your picture box.

Compiled on behalf of the BCGS by **Cathy Lawrence**, member #4975



When this pandemic is all over, we are all throwing the biggest St. Patrick's - Easter - Passover - Vaisakhi - Earth Day - Ramadan - Mother's Day - Victoria Day - Father's Day - Canada Day - BC Day - Labour Day - Thanksgiving - Christmas - New Year's Day - Groundhog Day - Robbie Burns Day - Chinese New Year - Family Day and Valentine's Day party that anyone has ever seen!



***** **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** *****
BCGS EVENTS

March 1	Exploring Genetic Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 1 to 3 pm
March 4	Chinese Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 to 11 am
March 4	BC Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
March 10	BCGS Members' Meeting & AGM - via Zoom - 7:30 pm
March 11	Scandinavia Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7:30 pm
March 13	Quebec Questers Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 am to noon
March 15	Exploring Genetic Genealogy (NPE) Chat - via Zoom - 1 to 3 pm
March 18	Ireland Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
March 25	Germans from Russia Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 1	Chinese Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 to 11 am
April 1	Scotland Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 3	BCGS Seminar Series - Dave Obee - via Zoom - 9:30 to 12:30
April 5	Exploring Genetic Genealogy Chat - Easter Monday - <i>no chat</i>
April 8	England Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 10	Quebec Questers Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 10 am to noon
April 14	BCGS Members' Meeting - via Zoom - 7:30 pm
April 15	USA Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 19	Exploring Genetic Genealogy (NPE) Chat - via Zoom - 1 to 3 pm
April 22	Ireland Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm
April 29	Prairies Genealogy Chat - via Zoom - 7 to 9 pm



St. Patrick's Day - Wednesday, March 17, 2021

See our March Calendar Page for other special event days



Suggestions, comments and stories are always welcome.

Please contact Judith Ueland and Linda Maitland at newsletter@bcgs.ca

To unsubscribe - please email membership@bcgs.ca

BCGS NEWSLETTER CO-EDITORS



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Vice-President



Linda Maitland
Director (2023)

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