

BCGS



NEWS

For Our Members and About Our Members – Celebrating 50 Years in 2021.

Zoom
with us
September
8th



*In Affectionate Remembrance
William Lawrence,
Child of Wright and Elizabeth
Who Died January 28th,
Aged 2 Years and 9 Months,
and was Interred at the Cemetery, Stockport,
January 31st, 1867.*



Library Hours
Tues/Thurs/Saturdays
Open 10am to 3pm



†
*In Memory of
Martha
Wife of Lawrence Kenyon,
died July 2nd 1882, Aged 74 Years
and was this day interred at
Borough Cemetery, Stockport*

The Kenyons

Table of Contents

PAGE 03

Message from the President

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 04 September Meeting Speaker
- 04 Begin with Books!
- 05 BCGS Anniversary Fall Seminars
- 06 Fundraising News

FEATURE ARTICLES

PAGE 07

The Story of White Cloud

By Ian Stewart #5804

PAGE 08

Search between the Covers

By Meg McLaughlin #3847

PAGE 09

Sam Hill and the Peace Arch

By Lorraine and Hugh Ellenwood

PAGE 12

Dean Goard

By Cynthia Hamilton #3216

PAGE 13

Small World Sequel

By Margaret Sharon #1521

COVER

By **June Gauntley #5112** This month June worked on a French Memo Board for her Mum's family, the Kenyons. The photos in the oval frames are of her grandparents on their wedding day in 1864. It occurred to June that this Memo Board might be perfect for the BCGS Newsletter.

Advertising rates available upon request.

WEBINARS & WORKSHOPS

14 In Canada, US, Ireland & England

Welcome

to our new members

Jeevn Atwal, Vancouver #5878
 Linda Gomez, Rosland #5882
 Wendy Warner, Surrey #5879
 Cheri Sutherland, Surrey #5880
 Leslie Thompson, Gibsons #5881

DEPARTMENTS

- 16 August Meeting Chit Chat
- 17 eJournal
- 18 EULAC
- 18 August Presentation Recap
- 19 Library Report

MONTHLY

- 20 Genealogy Gems
- 22 50th Anniversary Cruise
- 23 Coffee Chats
- 24 50th Anniversary Calendar

BCGS Newsletter Team newsletter@bcgs.ca

Sue Sullivan, Sharon Clayton, Jan Graf

Pub Review Team: Margaret Sharon,
Sherry King, Jo-Ann Blomquist, Sally Funk.

British Columbia Genealogical Society

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 88054, Lansdowne Mall

Richmond, BC V6X 3T6

Library: 604-502-9119



Message from the President

Eunice Robinson #112, president@bcgs.ca

The countdown to the end of summer is upon us, but we still have some time to enjoy the weather. I hope you have been able to spend some time visiting family and friends. Though Covid is still with us, let's hope with the increase in vaccinations life as we knew it will slowly return.

September also brings back memories of returning to school. What do you remember about your first days of school in a new grade or new school? Who was your best friend? What was your favourite subject?

My friends and I travelled to school on a school bus. The total journey was about one hour and during the trip, some

people did the homework they didn't do or asked for answers to questions that they didn't complete. Sometimes we sang songs – many a rousing chorus of "*Found a Peanut*" was belted out, much to the dismay of Bill, our bus driver.

While we are all getting back to our Fall mode, don't forget to look at our Coffee Chat schedule. We are also very proud to provide you with our 50th Anniversary Fall series of seminars, featuring Blaine Bettinger, Dave Obee and Johanne Gervais. Our library is slowly reopening, so do plan on visiting and doing some research there. Not everything is on the internet.

Till next month, happy researching.

WEDNESDAY, September 8th BCGS MEMBERS' ZOOM MEETING

- A Zoom invitation to the BCGS Members Meeting will be sent to members, so watch your inbox for the Zoom link, meeting number and password.
- If you don't receive the email by the day before the meeting, please contact info@bcgs.ca for assistance.
- A free Zoom account is needed to join these meetings.



Feature article photos, illustrations and images have been submitted by the writer. The material in this newsletter may be reprinted unless otherwise noted. Please give appropriate credit to the original source. Please feel free to pass on the newsletter to anyone who has an interest in family history – genealogy and/or genetic genealogy.

September 8th MEETING

Why—How—When Do You Resort to Hiring a Professional to Conquer that Brick Wall?

Join us for a presentation created by professional genealogists Kim Kujawski and Linda Yip — and delivered by Eunice Robinson. Discover what you need to be ready before hiring a professional, and learn what you can expect.



Begin with Books

Leave the Internet at Home

This is a new workshop, designed to introduce beginning genealogists and those that wish a refresher to the books and databases available in the **BC Genealogical Library**.
211-12837-76 Avenue, Surrey.
September 26, 2021 from 1pm to 3pm

Please note that this is NOT a zoom meeting. Attendance is in-person at the BCGS library. No appointments are necessary.

Masks are mandated by the BC Ministry of Health.


 The logo features a central shield with a key and a tree, surrounded by the text "BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY" and "BCGS 1971-2021". Below the shield, it says "50 YEARS". The background is a collage of a map and a paper cut effect.
 [REGISTER](#)

BCGS 50th Anniversary Fall Seminar Series

9:30 am to 12:30 pm PDT • [Register at bcgs.ca](http://bcgs.ca)

BCGS members **FREE** • Non-members **\$25** per seminar

Attend all seminars for FREE by joining BCGS

Blaine Bettinger

Sat, Sept 25

- DNA's Latest Developments
- Case Studies

Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD, is a professional genealogist specializing in DNA evidence. In 2007 he started ***The Genetic Genealogist***, one of the earliest blogs on the topic. Blaine is the author of *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, and co-author with Debbie Parker Wayne of the award-winning *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*, the world's first genetic genealogy workbook.

He also co-authored "Genetics for Genealogy" with Judy Russell in 2018's *Professional Genealogy: Preparation, Practice & Standards* (ProGen PPS) (Elizabeth Shown Mills, Author and Editor).

Dave Obee

Sat, Oct 30

- Eastern Europe;
- Finding Your Way
- Changing Borders

Dave Obee, award-winning journalist, genealogical researcher and popular seminar presenter, is Editor and Publisher of the ***Times Colonist*** newspaper in Victoria. He has written a dozen books and given more than 600 presentations at conferences and seminars in Canada, the United States and Australia.

Among his awards are:
2017: *Bill Good Award*
2016: *Heritage Advocates Award*
2014: *The Governor General's Caring Canadian Award*

Dave also runs **CanGenealogy.com**, and is a columnist for *Internet Genealogy* magazine and *Your Genealogy Today* magazine

Johanne Gervais

Sat, Nov 27

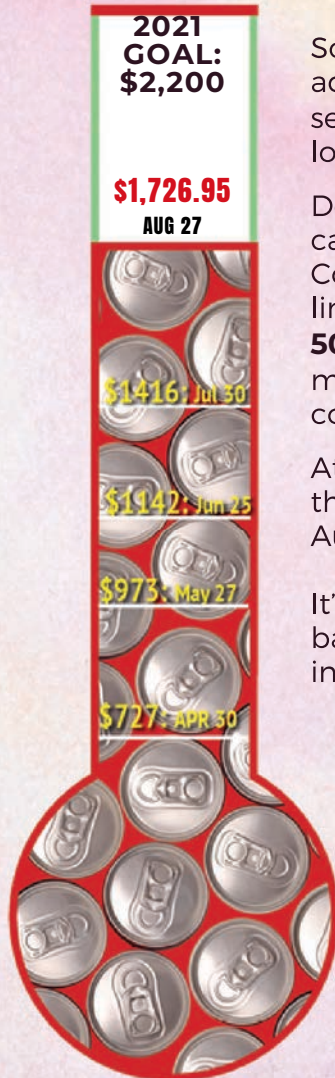
- Quebec Notarial Records
- Early New France Census Records

Johanne Gervais, BSc, MBA, worked for over 25 years in Montreal, developing and implementing computer business systems. She became interested in genealogy while helping her husband write a book about his family for his mother's 90th birthday. In 2008, she left the corporate world to dedicate herself to genealogical research.

Johanne is the founder of the ***Quebec Genealogical eSociety***, a virtual non-profit society. Johanne has her own company *Gervais-Laekas Services* which includes *Quebec Family Search*. She lives in St-Bruno-de-Montarville, QC.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

BCGS LIBRARY RECYCLING PROJECT IS EXPANDING



So far this year, BCGS members' recycling donations have added **\$1,726.95** to the Alice Marwood Fund. Thank you to several members who have already made donations at their local Return-It Express recycling centres.

Donations of recycled cans, bottles and tetra pack containers can be easily dropped off, in clear plastic bags, at any of British Columbia's 37 Return-It Express Centers. Glass bottles are limited to six per bag. Our BCGS library's phone number **604-502-9119** is the code we use to print 1 - 6 labels. One label must be attached to each bag. Return-It Centre employees count the contents of each bag and credit our BCGS account.

At least once a week, recycling donations are picked up from the BCGS Library. The 20 litres of pull-tabs dropped off in August was a very pleasant surprise!

It's an equally pleasant surprise every time I arrive home to find bags or boxes of recycled materials that have been dropped off in my South Surrey driveway.

Some donations already have been used to refurbish the Library Board room, and similar projects are in the planning stage. If you have suggestions for other projects, please call Bill to discuss your ideas.



**Thanks to all of you—
your generosity is much
appreciated.**

Donations of bottles and cans can still be dropped off at the BCGS library or in Bill Clayton's South Surrey driveway.

These funds are for the **Alice Louise Marwood Fund (ALM Fund)**, which is dedicated to the upkeep of the Library. Bill processes the donations each week and makes monthly deposits to the BCGS.

**Memberships (Individual & Affiliate Societies)
until end of 2021 are only \$40.**

Membership Sale
Only \$40 for the balance of 2021

Affiliate Society Membership Sale
Only \$40 for the balance of 2021

The Story of White Cloud, Hay and Griffith Islands

(First ed. 1979, second ed. 1993)

Book review by Ian Stewart #5804

Sometimes you get lucky when researching and find something that might have been lost. This is what happened to me when I found a book, *The Story of White Cloud, Hay and Griffith Islands*, by Rose MacLeod.

I first heard of this book when researching my Stewart ancestors from White Cloud Island, Ontario, which is in Georgian Bay, near Wiarton and Owen Sound. I wrote the name of the book in my notes and because it is out of print, I checked the web every now and then to see if anyone was selling a copy. When I found one, I hesitated buying it because at that time, I wasn't sure if it had any useful information. I figured that if I didn't need it, then at least the library may want it, so I forked over \$50 to AbeBooks.

In the mail there came a small, used book that smelled like smoke. I was delighted to find it had pictures of my great grandmother, Sarah Stewart (1889-1964). The author, a schoolteacher, actually lived with her on White Cloud Island. The only school-aged child on the island at that time was Stuart Cameron, my grandfather's half-brother. It was cheaper to hire a teacher just for Stuart than to move the whole family to the mainland. They had a small schoolhouse, in good repair, with an organ, so the building also served as a church. The pioneers worshipped in the schoolhouse during the summer months when a minister, Rev. James Nicol, would stay on the island. In other months, parents taught their children on Sundays. In his free time, Stuart played with his dog Laddie and rowed his rowboat.

The author is extremely nostalgic for the island, likening it to the Garden of Eden several times. She also makes it clear that

life was hard. Most of the streams on the island disappeared after they logged the trees, and the well water tasted bad, so they drank mostly from Georgian Bay. Storms would make the lake water dirty, so they kept a supply of it.

It was dangerous to cross over to the mainland in spring and fall because the ice was thin. Sarah's first husband, George Cameron, died of pneumonia one spring day when they could not get a doctor to the island. There was a radio on the island but no telephone.

Charlie Stewart (1892-1947), my great grandfather, was a fisherman who owned a houseboat and played violin "to while away the lonely hours". The author says that his parents died in a house fire when he was a baby, a story that does not agree with my research. It is true, however that he was raised by his grandparents.

Some surnames mentioned in the book are: Bennett, Burke, Cameron, Drane, Frame, Fox, Hilditch, Hill, MacCauley, MacDonald, Millar, Nicol, Scully, Shier, Soper, Stewart, Thornley, West, Wright, Young.

When the author visited the island in 1993, it had been a ghost town for many decades. The roads were overgrown and many buildings that were still standing were in ruin. The schoolhouse was turning grey and returning to nature. Stuart, her student, had moved to Victoria and had died the year before. Although the island is naturally beautiful, I suppose life was easier elsewhere. I am grateful that at least the memories of this island will live on.



A Search Between the Covers of a Book



Colourful houses in Portree.
Inset: Clan Donald Centre

by Meg McLaughlin, member #3847

In my research, I often find myself searching between the covers of a book. The hope is that I will find something about the specific ancestor I'm searching for. Failing that, maybe there will be some enlightenment about the events that he or she lived through. Books can be very good for putting information in context. Then there are the books that recount other people's searches for their family history. Those can be a source of inspiration for how to find out particular information. But I've never come across a narrative that reminds me so viscerally of my own on-the-ground research trips until I pulled the book ***Reunion: A Search for Ancestors*** from the shelf.

In that book, the American author Ryan Littrell gets married in Edinburgh, based on a barely explored link to Scotland through his McDonald line. Well, that sounded promising. I have rumoured links to McDonalds in my own family tree. A return trip to Edinburgh, even if only on paper, is always welcome. But it got even better when the newlyweds headed off to Oban, a place I've passed through more than once on my trips to Islay.

They ended up taking a ferry, not to Islay but to Skye. Which made me question when the author was there because there's now a

bridge from Loch Alsh to Skye. But it seems the ferry from Maillag is still an option. Now I'm thinking about my next trip to Skye and how I'll get there. The author's descriptions of the museum at the Clan Donald Centre reminded me that the time that I spent in the museum and library there was far too short. I'm due a trip back, one with a longer time spent on Skye so that I can find my way from one end to the other, to spend time in the Clan Donald Centre in the south and to visit the Skye Museum of Island Life in the north at Kilmuir, a place where my ancestors lived at one time.

When I stayed on Skye, I stayed in the middle, in Portree, which seemed like the best bet for exploring both ends of the island but buses to one end or the other didn't come often enough for me to fit in trips to both ends. So, I'll have to plan carefully next time so I can fit in everything that I want to. Perhaps the book will give me more hints at things to see when I am there because I've only just begun reading it. The newlyweds are still at Clan Donald Centre about to attend a talk by Bryan Sykes. I've been able to date the author's journey to 2005 so it's the early days of DNA testing. This should prove interesting.

Meg writes about history and genealogy in [A Genealogist's Path to History](http://A_Genealogist's_Path_to_History_blogspot.ca) genihistorypath.blogspot.ca. Read more about her findings in her blog.

Sam Hill and the Peace Arch

by Lorraine and Hugh Ellenwood

The Peace Arch celebrates its 100th birthday this month. The 67-foot high structure that straddles the international border at Blaine was dedicated September 6, 1921, amid fanfare, although not as much as recorded in some accounts.

The date was chosen, "because it was the anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower from Plymouth, of the birth of Lafayette, and of the first battle of the Marne." Although invited, neither King Albert of Belgium nor U.S. President Harding could attend. The French war hero, Marshal Foch, did not arrive until the following year, and Queen Marie of Rumania made her progress across the United States to view it in 1926.

Erecting a monument to peace is admirable at any time, but why in 1921, and by whom? The seed had been planted when a temporary arch was erected in 1915 to commemorate 100 years of peace between Canada and the United States after the War of 1812. (It might seem ironic that this event took place while 'the war to end all wars' was raging in Europe.)

Although he gave credit for the idea of the monument to A.E. Todd, a former mayor of Victoria, Sam Hill is the man most closely associated with the vision and achievement of the Peace Arch as we know it.

**White Rock Archives:
1993-36-122**

Crowds gathered for the opening ceremony of the Peace Arch, September 6th, 1921.



In 1899, Sam had become the first president of the Washington State Good Roads Association, promoting his dream of providing a coastal highway from Mexico to Alaska.

Naturally, he was disappointed that initially the B.C. government decided not to build a Canadian highway down to the peace portal. But as his biographer, J. E. Tuhy, explains, by 1929, "Sam could announce that Canada and Washington State had agreed that the main international highway would pass close by the portal."

Sam Hill was born in North Carolina in 1857 to parents with strong Quaker roots. After the family moved to Minneapolis in 1865, Sam graduated from Haverford College, briefly studied at Harvard, and was admitted to the bar in 1880. Six years later he was hired by railroad baron J.J. Hill as a law clerk for the Great Northern Railway. Within the next decade, he had risen to the position of president or director of a dozen component railroads of the Great Northern.

Sam became an inveterate globetrotter and delighted in friendships with the famous that travel afforded him. He wasn't above embellishing the illustriousness of his ancestry and would not necessarily deny that he was the origin of the saying 'What the Sam Hill!'... but he wasn't.

In 1888, Sam married J.J. Hill's oldest daughter, Mary, in St. Paul, and they had two children, Mary and James. He resigned his railroad posts in 1900 to move to Seattle, but the decision did not suit his wife who soon returned to the east with the children. Although he visited them occasionally, they never again lived as a family.



Sam Hill with his personal trademark. He had these globes specially made to be used as gifts.

There was no chance of a divorce since Mary Hill was a devout Catholic. This hurdle did not prevent Sam from entering into liaisons, fathering three other children. To legitimize one, he persuaded his cousin to marry the child's mother. Each of the women was given a trust fund to raise her child.

On the Canadian side of the border, not far from the Peace Arch, another of Sam's enterprises still thrives. It was begun in 1923, under the company name of Ye Olde English Restaurants, Ltd. to entertain his parched American friends during prohibition. The complex included a golf course, opened in 1928, now known as Peace Portal.

During his last decade, Sam's fortunes steadily declined. His marriage had failed, his daughter was institutionalized with mental problems, and his son estranged.



White Rock Achives: 1996-36-110 The V.I.P. stage and part of the crowd gathered at the foot of the Peace Arch for the opening ceremony, September 6th, 1921.

Still, he held on to 'some ineffable wish for self-realization and immortality.' He died after a short illness in 1931, and his ashes were placed in the crypt at Maryhill, the 'castle' he had built on the banks of the Columbia River. A marker contains the epitaph that he had prepared for the occasion, "Samuel Hill: amid nature's great unrest, he sought rest."

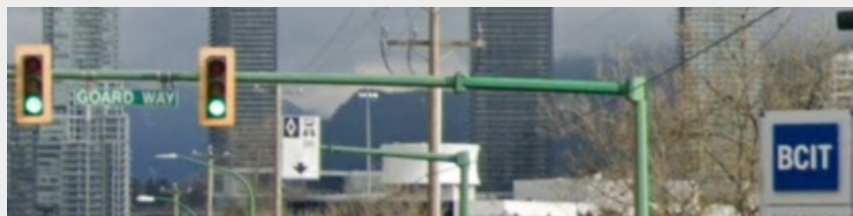
Biographer Tuhy wrote, "If Sam Hill had never existed, it would not have been necessary to invent him: in fact, it would have been next to impossible. ...he was his own complicated invention which eventually exploded."

A document in the holdings of the White Rock archives, handwritten by Sam Hill in 1929, states, "I would not have the United States and Canada bound by other ties than friendship. Let each learn from the other, but let not any right or fancied right be settled except by peaceful arbitration, and may the dawn of the next one hundred years find each nation seeking its neighbour's good, as well as its own." An advocate of such noble precepts deserves to be remembered even if he wasn't the most famous Sam Hill ever born.

If you are interested in learning more about White Rock's history, would like to do research, or if you want to share your memories, please contact us at the White Rock Museum + Archives, 604-541-2225
archives@whiterockmuseum.ca



Train Plaque Program - Celebrate, congratulate, commemorate, or honour a loved one on the promenade by the sea! Purchase a train plaque and have it inscribed with your special message. Contact us for details at 604-541-2222 / 604-541-2221, email us at trainplaques@whiterockmuseum.ca or visit whiterockmuseum.ca



Dean Goard

by Cynthia Hamilton,
#3216

If you've ever driven down Willingdon Avenue in Burnaby, BC and passed the BCIT campus, you've probably crossed Goard Way.

Goard Way is named for my great-uncle, Dean Goard, who was principal of BCIT from 1967 - 1974 (BCIT website). Uncle Dean was my grandmother's twin brother. He got his degree in chemistry from UBC, which is where he met my grandfather, his future brother-in-law. According to the BCIT website, Uncle Dean began teaching at Tech in 1939, and then VCC. After those years at BCIT, he went on to be the University Affairs Director for the Province of BC. My father would tell us that his Uncle Dean's claim to fame in our family, however, is that he married the daughter of James Sinclair, Isabelle Sinclair (*my Aunt Belle*).

I remember not one iota of Uncle Dean teaching, but I do know he was a great fisherman (*in my eyes*) off Gower Point, which is outside of Gibsons, BC (& *to tie this in, for those who don't know, this is the area at which the show "The Beachcombers" was filmed, and where some of these cousins got to be extras*).



IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL ... A SEQUEL

by Margaret Sharon, #1521

Last month's newsletter featured **Jacqueline Penney's** article about indexing *Pioneer Pipers of British Columbia* by Carl Ian Walker. When I read that **Sharon Clayton's** father, **Kenneth MacRae Campbell**, has a biography in this book, I immediately emailed her that my father was also a World War II piper and is also in the book! Sharon and I had a wonderful long phone call and she suggested that I write about this additional amazing coincidence for the newsletter.

My father's name was **George Dugdale Sharon**. He's listed in the book as Douglas, but that's incorrect. He was with the 1st Battalion Canadian Scottish Pipe Band during the war and later with the Gizeh Temple Shrine Pipe Band. Two of his wartime comrades, **Pete Burt** and **Doug Stewart**, are also in the book, as is **Henry Eddie**, who taught my Dad and other Chilliwack boys to play the pipes.

Pete Burt became a schoolteacher in northern BC; I remember occasional visits from him when I was a child. He had an



Canadian Scottish Pipe Band members in England, 1941: **Dug Sharon, Doug Stewart, Charlie Stewart** (no known relation to Doug)

adventurous nature and later in life wrote an autobiography, *Forty Years with an Eagle in his Breast*. Sadly, Doug Stewart was killed in the war; he is buried at Groesbeek Canadian War Cemetery in Holland.

I have two copies of Pioneer Pipers of British Columbia and would be happy to let go of one to anyone who'd like to make a donation to the BCGS.

Volunteers are always welcome for book indexing, newspaper indexing and FindAGrave postings. Memorial benches are being compiled by Yvette Howard. To volunteer, go to the BCGS website at bcgs.ca/volunteers-needed

The Emotional Rollercoaster of DNA Testing

Wednesday, September 15 at 6:00 pm (PDT) by Janice Lovelace, PhD.

DNA testing sounds like fun, but what happens when the returning results are unexpected and cause emotional ups and downs? How do you handle previously unknown relatives? What about unexpected parentage, including donor conception? How do you react to non-responsive matches? Dr. Lovelace discusses the range of emotional responses to DNA testing.

Register for Free:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1704947121583525135>

BRITISH ISLES FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY OF GREATER OTTAWA

Virtual Conference

September 19-26, 2021

Irish Lines and Female Finds,
\$45 CAD, [REGISTER HERE](#)

Your registration includes access to all 15 sessions during the five-day conference, access to speaker handouts before the conference, and access to recordings of all presentations for two weeks after the conference ends.



Leave the Internet at Home – September 26 – See page 4 for details

SEPTEMBER LEGACY FAMILY TREE WEBINARS

Webinars are FREE to attend. Subscriptions are available if you wish to have unlimited access to all webinars and handouts. [CLICK HERE FOR FULL DETAILS](#) There are 11 free webinars listed for September 2021.

My mission is to get
your family history out of
the computer and up on a wall
to display with pride.

—SUE SULLIVAN



graphics@familyancestrees.com

SCOTTISH SIG WEBINARS - FREE

Organized by Christine Woodcock -
Offered by the Scottish SIG of Ontario
Ancestors — All Webinars take place at
10am EST/ **7am PDT**.

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL WEBINARS**SEPT 27** Cataloguing Archives

Presented by Archivist George MacKenzie

[REGISTER HERE](#)**OCT 20** Lothian National Health Archives

presented by Archivist Louise Williams

[REGISTER HERE](#)**NOV 18** Scottish Marriage: Instantly Buckled
for Life presented by Genealogist Chris Paton[REGISTER HERE](#)**DEC 9** Customs, Traditions and Superstitions
presented by Christine Woodcock[REGISTER HERE](#)**CONFERENCE KEEPER**

Genealogy Webinars, Zoom
Meetings, and all kinds of
genealogy-related online events!

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW
UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS](#)

Please note that
ConferenceKeeper.org is not
associated with any of the listed
events, but provides the
information as a service.
Verify all event information and
details on the hosting entity's
website. If you need assistance
regarding a specific event,
please contact the hosts.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES (UK)**Ongoing Talks, Webinars and Live Q & A's**[Click here to get to the National Archives online page of Events!](#)

THE FRENCH CANADIAN
GENEALOGIST

**Discover Your French-
Canadian Roots**Learn more at www.tfcg.ca

Research • Translation •
Photo Restoration





Meeting Attendees: Jan Graf, Judith Ueland, Mark Forsythe, Eunice Robinson, Aidren Kayce, Barbara Benoit, Barbara Nielson, Barry Kirk, Betty & David Harvey, Beverley Taylor, Bill & Sharon Clayton, Bob, Catherine Smith, Cathy Lawrence, Celia Lewis, Cerian Postle, Christine Manzer, Christol James, Claire Belzer, Clark Shea, Colin Stevens, Colin Vanderfluit, Cory Bretz, Cyndi Smith, Cynthia, Don Calder, Donalds James, Dorothy Jones, Elizabeth Christie, Ernst Stjernberg, Frank Gavaghan, Gordon Coburn, Grant, Gwen Dumfries, Jane Thomas, Janice Wilkin, Jeanette, Jo-Ann Blomquist, Judy Isaac, Kim Kujawski, Linda Drake, Linda Kositsin, Linda Yip, Loretta, Lynne Fletcher, Marcia Graves, Margaret Sharon, Marilyn, Marlene Dance, Marnie Thomson, Mary, Mary Robinson, Meg McLaughlin, Megan Riter, Noreen Gunn, Richard McMillan, Sean Vanderfluit, Sharon Bennett, Sheila Albrecht, Sue Sullivan, Susan Snalam, Suzanne, Terri Mackenzie, Tony Sainsbury, Yvette Howard.

August Meeting Chit Chat

The pre-meeting conversation centered around the effects of the horrendous fires throughout the province.

Margaret Sharon in Kamloops said that today was lovely but some days the smoke has been thick and one can barely see a block away.

Celia Lewis' niece is on evacuation order because of the White Rock Lake fire. They had to leave and were allowed to return but are still worried they might have to leave again. They are prepared. A difficult and anxious way to live. We talked about long-haul trucking and how Celia's daughter came to choose

Judith Ueland
#4913



trucking as her livelihood and how travel can add to one's family history.

Celia also welcomed **Linda Yip** from Saskatchewan. Linda is searching a family in Kamloops who are of both Chinese and Italian backgrounds. Linda cautions it will be easier to research Chinese family history by learning how to do genealogy first. She found it interesting to research the Allison family of Kamloops - they are well known in the Similkameen Valley.

Clark Shea spoke about a CBC documentary titled The Blue Moon Café. It is the story of a Chinese family living in a small town. A sad tale, with all the children of the family leaving the town, a common occurrence in many small towns in BC and other parts of western Canada.

Clark also asked about connecting his old computer as a second screen. **Sue Sullivan** suggested that he call her contact for instructions as to how to do this and which 'dongle' to buy.

Sheila Albrecht offered to talk anyone through renewing a membership online.

Dear Members:

This will be my final Newsletter contribution about the conversations (Chit Chat) prior to each monthly members meetings via Zoom. I will, of course, continue to enjoy our new BCGS Newsletter and be a contributing volunteer in other areas of this vital society.

I wish the best to our new team with the production of the many aspects of the society in the BCGS Newsletter.

Judith Ueland, #4913

Message from the BCGS eJournal Editor

Last weekend, while reading through several letters posted by Garrison Keeler on his blog, these lines caught my attention:

"My grandpa came from Glasgow to escape the disapproving eye of his stepmother. The Rosenbergs came over from Czarist Russia and made the big decision at Ellis Island to become the Ross family. Goodbye history, be your own person."

I had noticed that in many of his letters, he compared life growing up in Minnesota (lots of snow jokes) with his life as an adult living in New York and how much he enjoys its diverse, multicultural population.

Lynne Fletcher
eJournal Editor
#5353



As a child, I can recall my grandfather telling stories, and talking about "the old country" and how it's different now in Canada.

Do you have memories of your grandparents telling stories about their old country? Did they find the opportunities that they had hoped for in this new country? Could you share some of those tales/lessons with us?

We look forward to reading your story!

Please send your story, and perhaps a picture to, Journal@bcgs.ca



WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

- Fraser Valley
- Vancouver Island
- Thompson/Okanagan area
- Lower Mainland

The four UELAC Pacific Region Branches are here to help you discover your Loyalist history.

We'd love to hear from you! Find us at uelac.ca/branches/

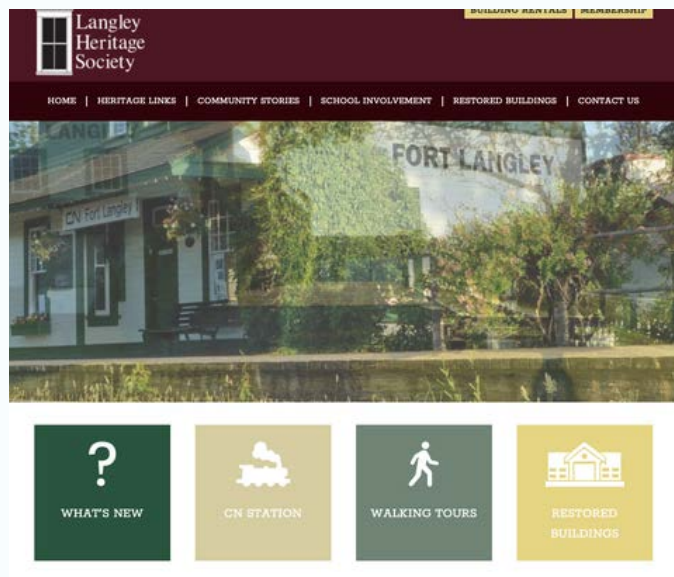
August 11, 2021 BCGS Members Meeting, Educational Presentation

LANGLEY HERITAGE SOCIETY

A personal presentation by Fred Pepin, facilitated by Mark Forsythe

Langley Heritage Society has made fantastic efforts to document Langley's heritage, featuring many photos and details on its website.

If you were not at the August meeting, you missed a great presentation. Mark led us through the **Langleyheritage.ca** website and Fred recounted stories of the before, during and after renovations of historic buildings.



There are walking tours offered in Fort Langley and Murrayville. The CN Station part of the website has videos too! Check it out!



Report from between the Library Stacks

Corrine Jubb #5215, BCGS Library Administrator

The library is looking for volunteers!

4th Thursday each month—afternoon shift from 12:30 to 3 pm

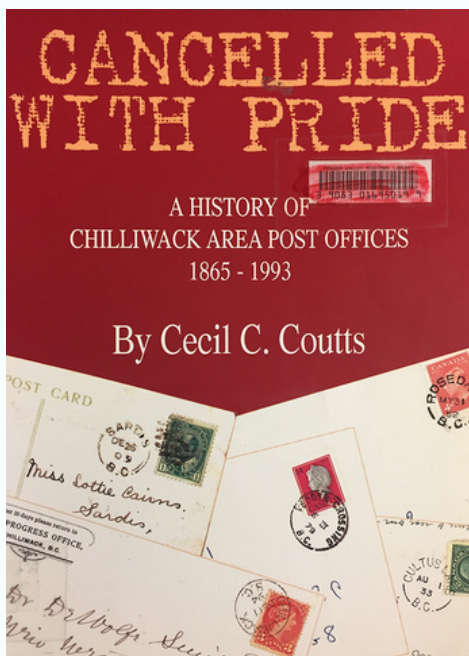
5th Thursday afternoon shift from 12:30 to 3 pm

This usually is only two or three times each year.

Training and library familiarization will be provided.

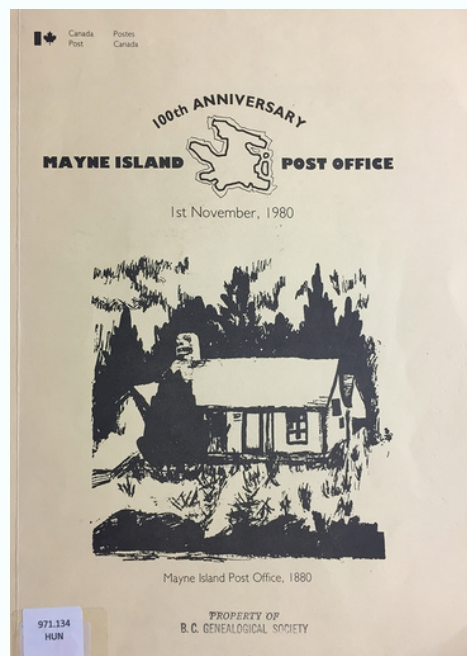
In the past, post offices played an important role in delivering letters with family news. Today, Canada Post delivers anything from provincial Covid information to merchandise ordered online.

These three books in our library are about British Columbia's post offices.



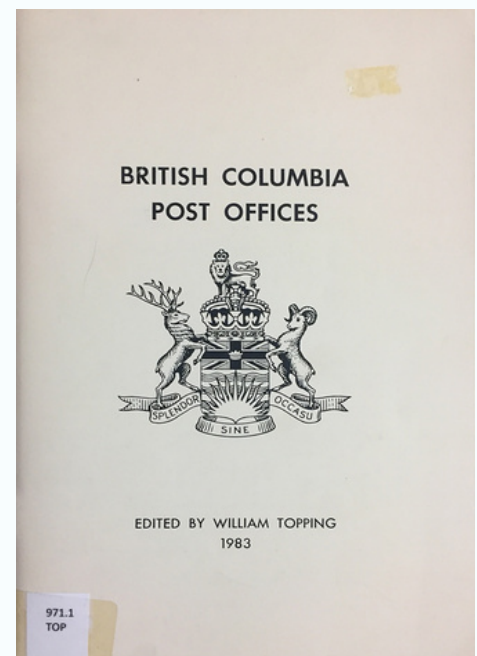
971.133 COU

Cancelled with Pride, a History of Chilliwack Area Post Offices 1865-1993
by Cecil C. Coutts



971.135 HUN

100th Anniversary Mayne Island Post Office
by Canada Post



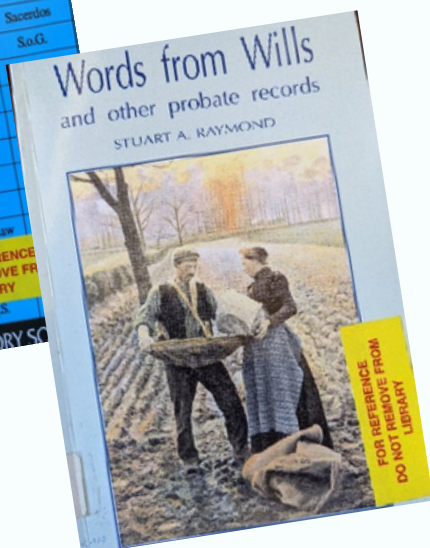
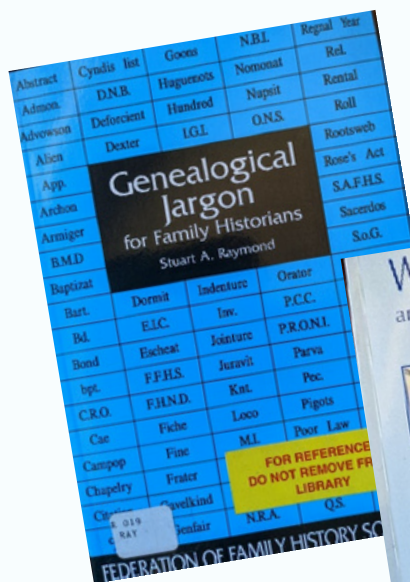
971.1 TOP

British Columbia Post Offices
by William Topping

GENEALOGY GEMS & ODDITIES in our BCGS Genealogical Library

SMALL WORD BOOKS

by Celia Lewis, #5183

R019 / RAY both by
Stuart A. Raymond**Words from Wills
and other probate records:**

Another helpful “word” book by Stuart Raymond in England, *Words from Wills and other probate records* provides brief explanations and cross-references of words commonly found in Wills and Probate records. These usually reference children, give daughters’ married surnames, sometimes grandchildren’s names, details of the land and more, – all useful for genealogists.

Did the Inventory list a **Barm Tub**? Used for fermentation in brewing. A **Bear**? This is a case, as in a pillow or a pillow bear. But then, what’s a **Pillow**? A dish-shaped wooden block on which stone was placed for carving. Were there **Pipkins**? Small round deep pots for cooking. A **Shearman** as an occupation? He shears woollen cloth! Were debts listed in the inventory, listed as **Desperate Debts**? These were unlikely to be recoverable. Whereas **Sperate Debts** were likely to be recoverable. Some words we might think we know, but I see by scanning quickly through this book that their older meanings were totally different. This book clarifies what is specifically meant in the Will or in the Inventory to Probate. Very helpful book! Published by the same company as before, £8.50

**Genealogical
Jargon for Family Historians:**

The cover of this small blue soft-cover book has 5 columns of words, Latin words, acronyms, 3-5 capitalized letters referencing places/institutions. Although most of us know most of these words, there are always some that seem confusing. I think this little book would be an excellent one as an at-your-fingertip-mini-dictionary. Published in 2005 by the Federation of Family History Societies in England, £3.95.

Not sure what a **Rel.** is? Relict or Relicta – the widow, i.e., the “left-over.” How about **B.T.**? Bishops’ Transcripts which are a second opportunity to find. **O.P.R.**? Old Parish Registers [Scotland] **GOONS**? Guild of One Name Studies - search online. **TNA**? The National Archive [in Kew, England]. There are many more bits of jargon in this helpful aid.

Both these small word books come highly recommended. If you love words, you’ll skip and dance through them, stopping at “interesting” places throughout.



GENEALOGY GEMS & ODDITIES in our BCGS Genealogical Library Continued!

by Celia Lewis, #5183

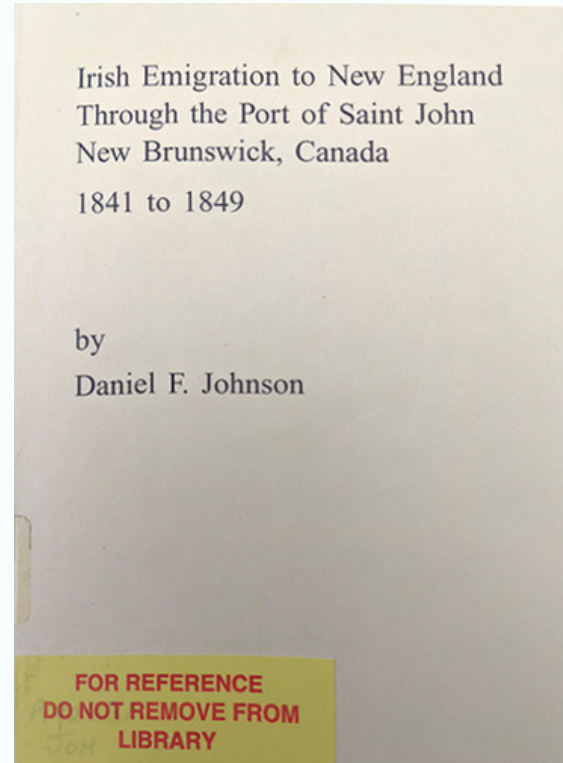
IRISH EMIGRATION to NEW ENGLAND THROUGH the PORT of SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA, 1841-1849

This excellent reference-only book is written by Daniel Johnson, well known to other New Brunswick genealogists for his excellent work on NB vital records and events, which he abstracted from many different newspapers and other printed newsletters in the province. A treasure. Unfortunately, Daniel is deceased, otherwise I'm certain he'd still be indexing and abstracting more NB genealogical and historical items.

In this book published in 1996, he pulled together a variety of boxes of un-indexed documents from the Archives of New Brunswick, regarding a number of different groups of unfortunate Irish emigrants. These documents of groups of emigrants are separated by year of ships' arrivals, and ages of the emigrants, if known, are given. Admittance and discharge dates to various asylums or almshouses are provided.

A few of those document groups were the Emigrant Poor of Portland Parish, NB, the Provincial Lunatic Asylum Records, Emigrant Poor of City of Saint John including those who were sick or were admitted to Alms and Work Houses. In addition, there are four appendices, including a name index. A treasure trove if your ancestors may be found in any of these documents.

R 929.21 / JOH, by Daniel F. Johnson



I see a number of variant spellings that might also help in your research: O'Donel, O'Donnel, O'Donnell; O'Hara, O'Harran, O'Harrin, O'Harron and O'Hearn; Brian, Brien, Brine, Bruen, Bryan, Bryen, Bryant—and then O'Brien and O'Brian variants as well.

This is an outstanding resource for the time period and for the Port of Saint John in New Brunswick. As it is a reference book, it can only be read in the library. But with the name index at the back, it won't take long to find your ancestor(s).



50th Anniversary BCGS Genealogy Alaska Cruise

Report from Travel Advisor Robert Marcoux and Sharon Clayton, #5332

NEW HOLLAND AMERICA HAVE IT ALL PROMOTION For New bookings before **SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**

Canadian Residents: \$99 Deposit PLUS free gratuities. Includes: free WIFI, free premium drinks, free specialty dining and discounts on shore excursions.

For US promo prices for American residents - please contact Robert

Holland America has completed moving our 2022 Alaska cruise group bookings from the Nieuw Amsterdam to the Koningsdam, without extra charges. Even better, the transfers allow us to keep all of the amenities that we had earned before all the changes.

Now that Robert Marcoux has completed transferring our bookings to the Koningsdam, everyone in our booking group should have received emails from

him with updated invoices and new Holland America confirmation numbers. As always, Robert is happy to talk to anyone who has questions about the cruise.

We can use our revised cruise confirmation numbers (found at the top of the Holland America Guest Booking Confirmations that Robert attached to his emails) to check out shore excursions and other amenities at <https://www.hollandamerica.com>



Robert M. Marcoux
TRAVEL WITH ROBERT

Luxury Travel Advisor
604-401-0484

robert@travelwithrobert.ca

Blog: luxurytravelwithrobert.wordpress.com

Don't want to be
left behind?



Sept 17-24, 2022

Contact Robert now to
join the cruise group

Our September 2022 Alaska Cruise with Blaine Bettinger and Mary Kathryn Kozy has attracted more potential cruisers who have recently joined our BCGS Cruise Facebook group. At last count, the group has grown to 160 members. [Click here for the GROUP](#)



Coffee Chats on Zoom

—also known as **Special Interest Groups [SIGs]**—

Before COVID, Chats were held at the BCGS Genealogical Library. Although the library is reopened, Coffee Chats will remain on Zoom for now.

Watch this space and the website for breaking news.



ONTARIO COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, September 9—7 to 9 pm
 With Janet White
 RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



NEW FRENCH-CANADIAN COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, September 30—7 to 9 pm
 With Kim Kujawski & Sue Sullivan
 RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ENGLAND COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, September 16, 7 to 9 pm
 With Ann Buchanan
 RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY COFFEE CHAT
Introductory DNA
Monday, October 4—1 to 3 pm
 RSVP Sharon Clayton
sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY COFFEE CHAT
Parental Puzzles (NPE)
Monday, September 20—1 to 3pm
 RSVP Sharon Clayton
sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



CHINA COFFEE CHAT
Taking a break until October
 RSVP Linda Yip
hello@past-presence.com



ADVANCED DNA COFFEE CHAT
Tuesday, September 21—7 to 9 pm
 With Terry Hartley, Jim Graham & Kathleen Graham
 RSVP Terry Hartley terhart1@gmail.com

TBA CHATS: coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ATLANTIC CANADA



GERMANS FROM RUSSIA



CANADIAN PRAIRIES

USA

ORGANIZING YOUR RESEARCH

SCANDINAVIA

BC

SCOTLAND



IRELAND COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, September 23—7 to 9 pm
 With Eunice Robinson
 RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



50 Years Ago—September 1971

1971



50 YEARS AGO Centennial Medallions BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC's 1971 Centennial Medallions

Centennial Pioneer Medallions were presented to living BC residents born in (or living in) Canada prior to 1 January 1897. Many applications (9,706) for the medallion can be found online through the Royal BC Museum.

Gertrude Weinrobe (1893-1975) is credited with being the first Jewish child born in Vancouver. Her application (GR-1490.28.2), provided a genealogical treasure trove.

Gertrude's parents Barney Weinrobe and Sara Sarbesky married in Montreal in 1884. The family arrived in British Columbia by train in January 1893. Sadly, eight-year Nathan Weinrobe died of diphtheria in February, three weeks later.

Gertrude was born a short three months after Nathan's death. When she died at the age of 82 in 1975, she was buried beside Nathan's grave. Her name and dates were added to the grave marker of her younger brother Saul Weinrobe (1885-1920).

Search: search-bcarchives.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/pioneer-medallion-application-forms

The privately produced Centennial Medallion pictured below represents 1871-1971 as a "Century of Progress". Designed by Jerry and Betty Parker in Ladysmith, BC, the medallion features the handsome profiles of a miner, a lumber worker and a fisherman. Designs created by the Parkers are well known to Canadiana coin and stamp collectors.

NO COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT INTENDED.



Gertrude was buried between the graves of her younger brother Saul and older brother Nathan

PHOTO J00994 (PIONEER MEDAL) COURTESY OF ROYAL BRITISH COLUMBIA MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES.
PHOTO OF WEINROBE MONUMENT COURTESY OF VANCOUVER'S MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY.

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

September Celebration Days:

Labour Day, Rosh Hashanah, 911 Remembrance Day, Grandparents' Day, Yom Kippur, Talk Like a Pirate Day, International Peace Day, Autumnal Equinox, British Home Childrens' Day

To-Do This Month:

Labour Day celebrates workers. Record your ancestors' occupations.