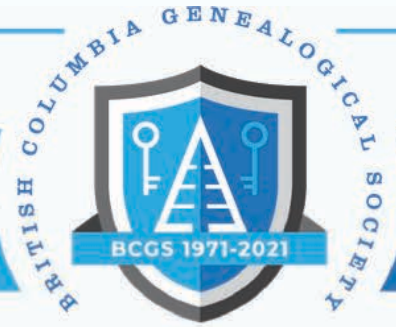


BCGS



NEWS

For Our Members and About Our Members

50 Years in 2021.

**Zoom
with us
June 9!**

**BREAKING
NEWS!
Library
Re-Opening
Details
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I wish ^{GD}
EVERY DAY
was
SUMMER

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BCGS Newsletter Team

newsletter@bcgs.ca

Sue Sullivan, Sharon Clayton, Jan Graf

Pub Review Team: Margaret Sharon,
Sherry King, Daphne Kelly, Sally Funk.

British Columbia Genealogical Society

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 88054, Lansdowne Mall

Richmond, BC V6X 3T6

Library: 604-502-9119

Advertising rates available upon request.

THE BCGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY IS RE-OPENING!

Appointments will be taken for research at the library on Saturdays, June 19 and 26. It will be closed Saturday, July 3rd. To reserve an appointment time, please email library@bcgs.ca. More details to follow in the Gen Blast.



Message from the President

Eunice Robinson #112, president@bcgs.ca

Well, May has been a busy month, starting on May 1st with two excellent presentations by **Janice Nickerson** for the second of our *BCGS 50th Anniversary Seminars*. I'm looking forward to hearing **Lucille Campey** on June 5th.

At our May meeting, **Marlene Dance** gave a very informative PowerPoint presentation on the *United Empire Loyalists*. Although not lucky enough to have a UEL ancestor, I really enjoyed Marlene's excellent Canadian history lesson.



Although the Covid numbers are trending downward, our library will remain closed for a while yet. So in preparation for reopening, maybe check our Library Catalogue online and figure out which books you'll want to see when you come in. Remember, we are a

FamilySearch Affiliate, so you might want to figure out which records you'll want to view on familysearch.org at that time. You can either bring your own laptop or bring a thumb drive to use on one of our computers.

BCGS has done several **Outreach Presentations** in May to spread the word about BCGS and family history – four sessions with the North Vancouver Public Library (*thanks Sara*) with Celia Lewis and me; a session with the CNIB group on May 19th (*thanks Phyllis, Jim & Jamie*), and a session with the New Westminster Library on May 29 (*thanks Tammie*).

Several great seminars and webinars are coming up in June. Check out the **What's Up** area on bcgs.ca, our Facebook pages, our GenBlast, and of course, the June Newsletter.

Wondering what to do with your spare time? We have several volunteer opportunities for our members – tasks that can be done in the privacy and comfort of home. Don't hesitate to contact us at info@bcgs.ca – we'll find a home for your skills.

Till next month, happy researching, and stay safe.



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.

Plans are underway
for our **Fall 2021 series**
of **50th Anniversary**
SEMINARS

Blaine T. Bettinger
September 25
Dave Obee
October 30

Don't Miss the Last in the Spring Series

Lucille's topics for this seminar:

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.

Thank you to Janice Nickerson for your great presentations

by Eunice Robinson #112

As part of the BCGS 50th Anniversary Seminar Series, we were thrilled to have Janice Nickerson be a part of our celebration. Janice is a professional genealogist specializing in Upper Canadian history and a contributor to several genealogy magazines.

Her presentation, **Your Ancestors in the Upper Canadian Justice System**, opened our eyes to what kind of information may be recorded in the justice system records. Whether our ancestor was the criminal or the victim, or part of the court system, this little-

researched set of records might add some little nugget to make your family history more interesting.

Janice's second presentation on **Early Ontario Research** was very interesting as she broke the records into six distinct categories and the information that might be found in each.

On behalf of the BCGS, we would like to thank Janice for being a part of our celebration and providing our participants with some excellent information.

For more about Janice, see www.uppercanadagenology.com.

JUNE 9th MEETING

Getting the Most Out of



with Jeannie Vance

Join us for an overview of one of the largest free online resources for family history research, storage and sharing.

Learn about the website's exciting new additions and features new to you.

Learn how to navigate and get the most out of this valuable website.

BCGS GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY has AFFILIATE LIBRARY STATUS with FamilySearch.org

When you are using FamilySearch.org and you see the **textbox on the right**, remember that the BCGS Genealogical Library has Affiliate Library status with FamilySearch.org.

When the BCGS Genealogical Library reopens, we will be able to view many digital images that are locked to home users of FamilySearch.

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**



Memorial Bench Project



by **Yvette Howard**
#5770

This spring you may have taken a walk through one of your local parks, gone for a bike ride on the trail by the river, or met a friend for a picnic at the beach. While participating in these activities you will have been treated to beautiful scenery, possibly a bit of exercise and at various points along the way, a bench to take a moment to rest and reflect. There are thousands of tribute or memorial benches found along various paths, trails, and boardwalks throughout BC. They are a quiet reminder of loved ones gone, although some honour an individual still living, or even commemorate an event.

To place a plaque on a bench is not an inexpensive gesture, and these dedications have expiry dates. Plaques are removed and replaced with new memorials, usually after 10 years.

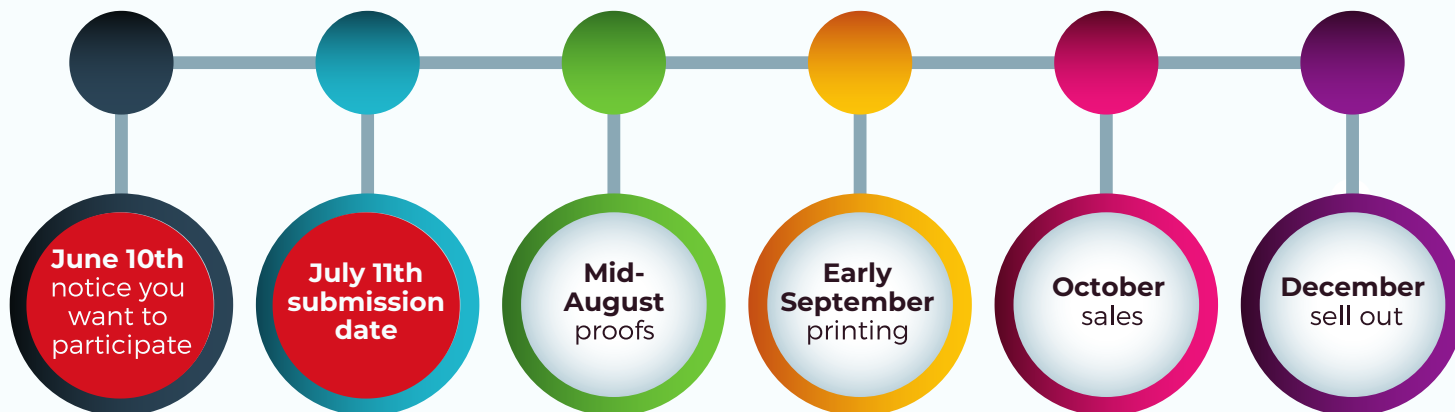
Our hope with this project is to preserve photographs and details of B.C. memorial benches in a transcription database. It will ultimately be available to view through the BCGS website, and photographs will be available at the BCGS Library.

As we launch this project, we are looking for volunteers to assist in the following ways:

- **Photograph Benches** – As simple as it sounds, we are looking for a few specific angles, and we hope to cover as many areas as possible
- **Data Entry** – basic Excel proficiency is required. Detailed instructions will be provided.

The nature of this project will allow both local and distant members to be involved.

If interested, please email benches@bcgs.ca.



Call for Calendar Contributions

You are invited to help create the BCGS 2022 Calendar

THE BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY IS LOOKING FOR STORIES AND PHOTOS TO HONOUR BRITISH COLUMBIA'S FOUNDING FAMILIES

FOUNDING FAMILY DEFINITION:

- Ideally, an area in BC named for a family.
- Think small towns, villages, neighbourhoods, cities or farm homes.
- Representation across the province.

ABOUT YOUR CONTRIBUTION:

- Your story should be 200-300 words.
- Include a photo of the family and caption.
- Include a photo of the 'place' and caption (*can be beefy*).
- Include a photo of you with your BCGS membership number.
- Society logo if you are an Affiliate Member, plus your name.

IF YOUR SUBMISSION IS CHOSEN:

- Your Founding Family story will be showcased in one of the twelve months.
- The location and geographical area will be highlighted in a Google Map.
- You will receive a pre-publication proof.

FAQ

- The family can be any family/area that you choose to research.
- You do not have to be related to the family—what a bonus if you are!
- We welcome all contributions, from BCGS members, Affiliates and/or non-member family history buffs alike.



Sharon Clayton
#5332

CONTACT SHARON CLAYTON OR SUE SULLIVAN AT

calendar@bcgs.ca



Sue Sullivan
#4887

**Judith
Ueland
#4913**



**Linda
Maitland
#4334**

Thank You, Judith and Linda for Your Outstanding Service to BCGS

I don't think words can adequately express our gratitude for all your efforts. You added being volunteer Newsletter Editors to pre-existing volunteer duties: as BCGS Board members, SIG meeting facilitators, photographers, and more...

You took on five years of creating monthly newsletters — pioneering by learning new computer programs

and applications, collaborating over the internet, and many times, problem-solving in the wee hours of the morning.

Very few of our newsletters' readers have ANY idea how much talent, time and energy has gone into these past five years of publishing attractive and interesting issues of our BCGS newsletter.

New Kids on the Block

Sue Sullivan, Editor in Chief
Sharon Clayton, Copy Editor
Jan Graf, Events & Education Editor

It's an intimidating challenge to follow in the footsteps of an editorial team that has consistently produced a high-quality publication every month for five years. The New Kids on the Block need all the help we can get from our readers. Your story ideas, articles, photos and feedback are all welcome.

We also NEED a few helper elves ie: reporters. Contact newsletter@bcgs.ca

Unsung Heroes - Publications Review & Proofreading Team

Our fabulous Pub Review Team reviews every newsletter before it is released to our readers.

The Pub-Team was there for Linda and Judith, and I look forward to continuing to working with them. Let me introduce this crack team:

Margaret Sharon, #1521
Sherry King, #5324
Daphne Kelly, #5461
Sally Funk, #1760

When I Croak Kit: Whoa, am I glad that is done!



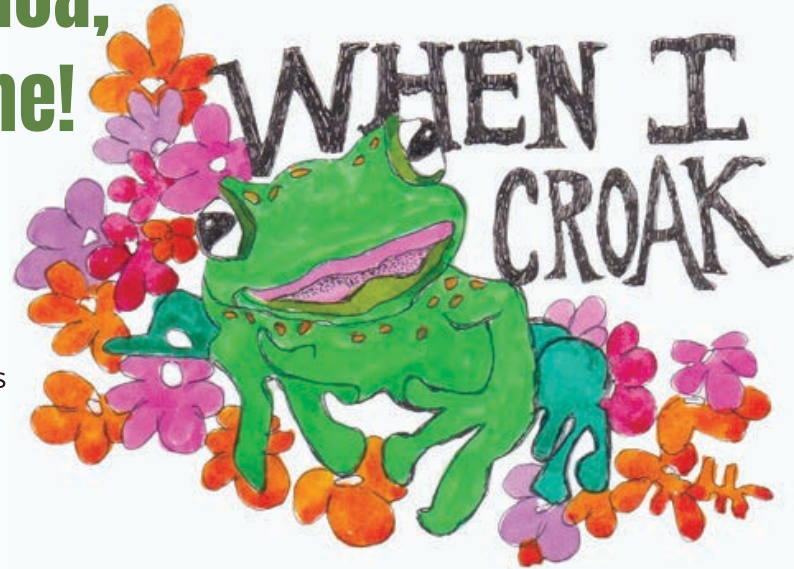
by Jane Murphy Thomas
#5727

Everyone knows of times when someone has passed away without making some basic decisions and writing them down in a legal, recognizable, accessible form—leaving a big messy crisis for their loved ones. I was reminded of this yet again a few Zoom meetings ago when discussions got around to the urgent topic of having our affairs and papers in order for when we bite the biscuit. ‘Okay self’, I said, ‘No more procrastination; just get on with it, and get it organized!’ No matter how tough and boring a job it is, I don’t want to leave a mess for anyone. I gave myself a deadline of six weeks.

In the past, I’ve made feeble attempts at this to prepare and inform my executor. I looked up all kinds of online estate planning guides, picked up “how-to” guides at my bank and actually drafted out some topics, but those efforts had become hopelessly out of date.

Once again, from online sources, I made a list of topics that need to be covered and with these, drafted an outline that became a Table of Contents. I put together a kit for my executor: everything needed to settle my estate. I wrote as if I was writing to a complete stranger who knew nothing about me.

My **‘When I Croak’** kit is comprised of two main parts: an 18-page manual-like document, and a second part that includes



appendices. I stapled and three-hole punched the document, which became the front section of a one-inch binder, with a package of plastic page protectors to hold the appendices.

The first item is a personal letter to my executor. The first half of the document contains instructions regarding my wishes and plans to be an organ donor, be cremated and buried. There is a list of family and friends to contact, a description of a kind of service to be held and details of the burial urn, grave and tombstone I’ve arranged. This section also includes tips and a bit of content for writing my obituary (including a copy of my CV to recall a lot about my past) and where to publish it; the timing of this process, along with a rough budget, having costed out all these steps.

The second part of the document gets down to the nitty gritty: essential numbers such as banking and credit card numbers, accounts, driver’s license, health cards, social insurance, etc.

Next are details about professionals who have served as my legal and financial

advisors for many years, what they have done for me (legal, taxes, investments, etc.), why I stick with them, how to reach them, what to expect them to do.

This section includes narratives on my Will; Representation Agreement (RA) (which integrates BC's latest laws about Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID); and Power of Attorney (POA). I also talk about insurance coverage, my health records and where they are, debts to be paid and pre-authorized payments that will need to be stopped.



Passwords are not provided in this document, for confidentiality and because they'll be changed, but clear directions are given on where to find them.

The last part of the document is a detailed list of all my belongings (an apartment full of collectibles), some history about them and what to do with them.

The appendices section has plastic page pocket/protectors to hold the documents mentioned in the first two parts: my up-to-date Will, Representation Agreement (RA) and Power of Attorney (POA); insurance policies; State of Title Certificate ('deed') for my condo; organ donor verification; tombstone supplier information; 'Right of Internment' from the cemetery; etc., as well as two excellent brief guides published by BC's own People's Law School, 'Being an Executor' and 'Power of Attorney' to introduce family members to these subjects.

When I took my binder to my lawyer to sign and insert the newly updated Will, RA and POA, he was amazed at how thorough it was, saying, "If only everybody was this organized! This will make it so easy for your executor!"

So phew! The kit is done, at least for a few years when I might want to update it all again. I've forced myself to do this process and to make some very tough decisions, but to do so I made myself a deal: I will make decisions even if I'm not 100% satisfied with them. In this case, those 'okay' decisions are far better than no decisions at all. The moral of this story? Just do it!

About my genealogical assets, research and collectables, that is another story. I have written two 'books' about this already and have an avid family history Facebook Group. The main part of my research is already in the right hands and safe. It's the backup and 'still in progress' parts that need far better organization. Maybe a future BCGS Zoom discussion will get me moving from this procrastination zone too!

Researching a More Recent Time



by Meg McLaughlin, member #3847

I've always been an avid reader. As a kid, I can remember haunting my elementary school's library. There were the usual books for beginning readers but that library also had a hefty nonfiction section.

The reason for that, no doubt, was that as soon as we reached the higher grades, we were expected to write Commonwealth Essays every year. I don't remember ever writing an essay about WWII but there was a run of books about the war that I found fascinating.

That fascination had to do with my own family's history. I knew that we had been directly affected by that war. My memory held scraps of stories about my parents' experiences during the war - stories I retained much longer than my English accent, which had faded by the time I graduated from Northview Elementary.

As I remember, the books in my school library were all about the war in Europe. They were interesting but not exactly relevant to my own family story. My father was stationed in India and Burma. Books about the conflicts there didn't come out until later. Many also had an American slant and didn't give up much information about the movements of the English forces. I don't remember seeing anything about the Land Army, where my mother had spent her war service.

Now, I've decided it's time to see what I have, so that I can piece together the war stories to write about for my blog. I've amassed a fair number of books, not yet read, and have gathered

My father's war time memories

Land army books, the one on top was my mother's

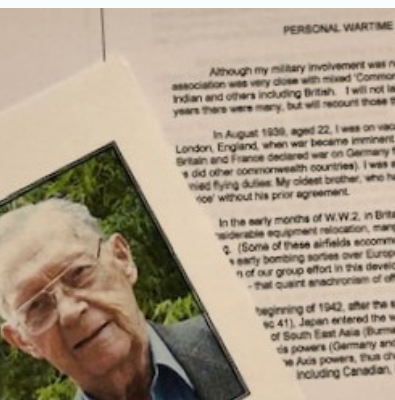


other documents over the years. It's time to see what I have and put it all together. Maybe I will finally decode my father's RAF record.

It promises to be a large project. My interest has grown beyond those who served, to all of the family who lived in England during the war years. As my maternal grandparents had returned to Britain in the '30s they will be included, as well as the grandparents on the other side of the family, who were living in London's East End.

It's also a project that, while it would have been good to have started while the participants were still alive, has gained much from waiting to be started. Now there are more resources at hand. For one, there is the record of my father's service which I only received within the last ten years. There are other sources that have become available as well. I've been looking at the website [Bomb Sight](http://BombSight.com) to see how close the bombs of the Blitz landed to family dwellings and have looked up family members on the 1939 Register on Find My Past. For some reason, I can't find my maternal grandmother on the 1939 Register but I'm on the case and eager to find out more about my families' war stories.

Meg writes about history and genealogy in A Genealogist's Path to History genihistorypath.blogspot.ca. Read more about her findings in her blog.

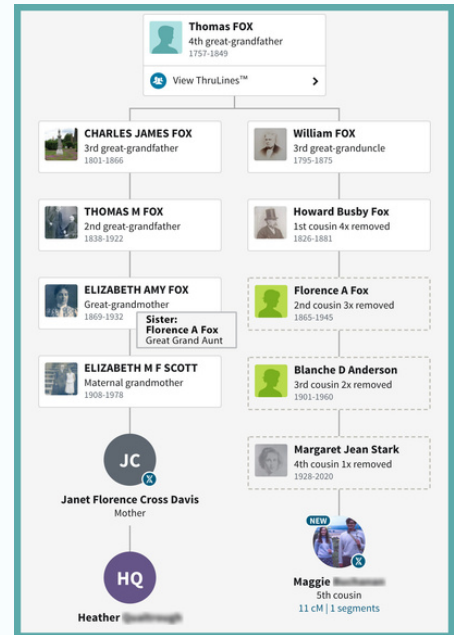
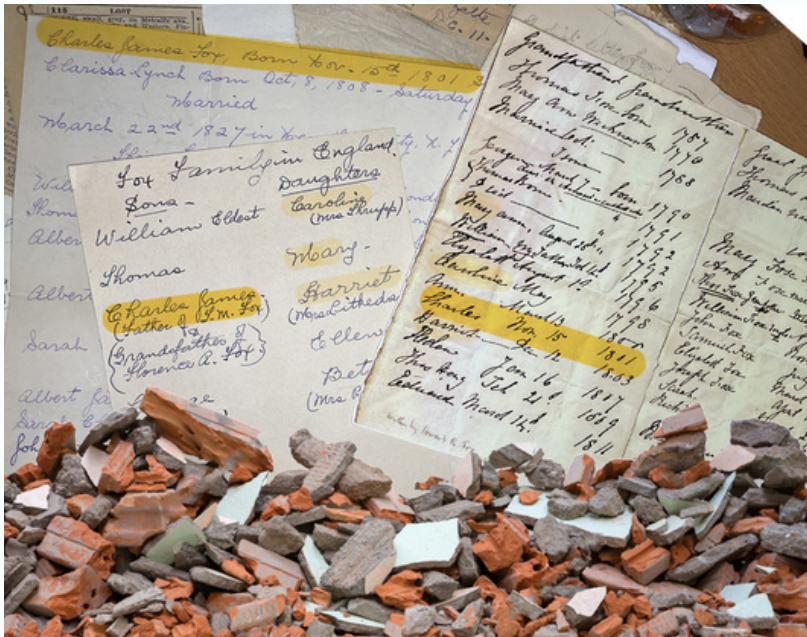


And the Wall Came Tumbling Down

by Sue Sullivan #4887



My mother Janet was my family history mentor. A decade ago, when I took up the genealogy baton, she bequeathed me two boxes of articles, maps, newspaper clippings, photos, and notes that she had gathered up from her mentors. Some notes were awesome; others were not helpful.



As some of you may know, I lost my mom to Covid in January 2021. When the hospital called to say that I could come in, I knew this would be the time. What time?

The time to ask a favour from heaven. I asked if she could please, please find Charles James Fox and his wife Clarissa Lynch as soon as she made it to the great beyond. I asked her to grill them for details about their parents– and then, of course, to get back to me somehow.

On Thursday, May 20th I received a message through Ancestry from Maggie. "I think I've broken your BRICK WALL! We may be related through the Fox family."

Maggie shares only one 11cM segment with my mom and my sister. We exchanged information, and then she emailed me a photo of a handwritten note passed down to her from her GG Grandfather, Howard Busby Fox.

We compared Maggie's note with the one I inherited from my Great-Grand Aunt. Each note had been saved by different women, both named Florence A Fox.

We connected enough information that matched– and down came the BRICK WALL. Maggie lives in the south of England. We are 5th Cousins by Thomas Fox (1757-1849).

I got your message. Thanks Mom, you're the best!



BCGS—Genealogy for Beginners



A 4-week virtual class, free for BCGS members,

Facilitated by Celia Lewis, #5183, an experienced presenter and BCGS member,
7-9 pm on Mondays: June 7, 14, 21, 28th.

Introduction to: research basics, genealogy software, online databases, online/offline resources, common issues and problems. There will be handouts each week, plus suggested homework.

Class information and [REGISTRATION](#) are on the BCGS website. Cost for non-members is \$35.

Historical Photo Analysis: ROADSHOW

BCGS is co-sponsoring this Seminar with the Cloverdale Library and Cloverdale Museum

**Thursday, June 10,
 10am — Noon**

Registration required
 604-598-7328 or
familyhistory@surrey.ca
[REGISTER HERE](#)

Join **THE PHOTO DETECTIVE MAUREEN TAYLOR** and Learn How to Date and Place Old Photos.

Historical Photo Analysis: ROADSHOW!

FREE!

**Thu, June 10
 10:00am–12:00pm**

Registration required
 604-598-7328 or
familyhistory@surrey.ca

JOIN THE PHOTO DETECTIVE MAUREEN TAYLOR AND LEARN HOW TO DATE AND PLACE OLD PHOTOS.

Old photos are full of clues if you know how to read the evidence. You can submit your own photos for analysis in this online Roadshow-style program (10–15 photos will be chosen).

OUR PARTNERS:

Digital Branch

surreylibraries.ca

Qualicum Beach Family History Society

Saturday, June 12, 2021 — 10am to 11:15am

Diahan Southard *Your DNA Guide* Presents –

8 Ways Your DNA Test Impacts Your Family History

\$20 for non-QBFHS members [REGISTER HERE](#)



Thanks to the power of DNA testing, many people are finding parents, siblings and long-lost grandparents. You may have the impression that genetic genealogy is only for those who have only limited genealogical information. That is not the case! Those with especially conspicuous ancestors can also benefit from DNA test results. We will cover how to use your test results to verify your known family history, how to use it to get younger generations involved in family history, how to use it to explore your health, and much more!

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**.

The "Getting Started" webinars will be presented by Christine Woodcock.

JUNE 9 Getting Started with Scottish Research [REGISTER HERE](#)

JUNE 16 Navigating the ScotlandsPeople Website [REGISTER HERE](#)

JUNE 23 Brick Wall Busters for Scottish Research [REGISTER HERE](#)

JUNE 30 Online Sources for Scottish Research [REGISTER HERE](#)

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL WEBINARS

JUNE 15 Stories from the Asylum presented by Lorna Steele of the Highland Archive Services [REGISTER HERE](#)

SEPT 27 Cataloguing Archives Presented by Archivist George MacKenzie [REGISTER HERE](#)

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 over the five-day conference, access to speaker handouts before the conference and limited-time access to recordings of all presentations for two weeks after the end of the conference.

LEGACY 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](#)

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>Ngā aho tāne o Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa: Revitalising...</p> <p>by Elena Fowler Tue, Jun 01, 2021; Wed, Jun 02, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | <p>Solving Family Mysteries with mtDNA Projects</p> <p>by Mags Gauden Wed, Jun 02, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | <p>African Americans in the U.S. Revolutionary War</p> <p>by Janice Lovelace, PhD Fri, Jun 04, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  |
| <p>New breakthroughs in MyHeritage's photo tools</p> <p>by Tal Erlichman Tue, Jun 08, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | <p>Samoaan genealogy (Gafa) retold</p> <p>by Andrew Reuben Peteru Wed, Jun 09, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | <p>They Had Names: Identifying Children Represented by Tick...</p> <p>by Denise E. Cross, MSLIS, CG Tue, Jun 15, 2021; Wed, Jun 16, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  |
| <p>New England's 'Seventh State': Life along the coast</p> <p>by B.J. Jamieson Wed, Jun 16, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | <p>Online Sources for Scottish Genealogy Research</p> <p>by Christine Woodcock Fri, Jun 18, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | <p>Top tips for reviewing Smart Matches™ and Record Matches</p> <p>by Daniel Horowitz Tue, Jun 22, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  |
| <p>Angel Island's Immigrants from 80 Countries: Stories from...</p> <p>by Grant Din Wed, Jun 23, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | <p>Genealogy for Houses</p> <p>by Jeanie F Glaser Wed, Jun 30, 2021</p> <p>Register (Free)</p>  | |



THE FRENCH CANADIAN
GENEALOGIST

Discover Your French-Canadian Roots

Learn more at www.tfcg.ca

Research • Translation •
Photo Restoration



NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR GENEALOGICAL STUDIES

The National Institute for Genealogical Studies is inviting all our members to a free event, as well as offering discounts and prizes, as we continue celebrating our 20th anniversary year.

Saturday, June 27, 2020

A FREE online fun-filled day with Gena Phillibert-Ortega talks and games;

- \$10,000 worth of prizes;
- one of three free courses available to everyone;
- one of six courses at 50% off;
- 15% off any one package.

For more information [CLICK HERE](#)

THE GENEALOGY SHOW 2021

**2-DAY VIRTUAL EVENT –
Fri/Sat June 25 - 26 2021**

World-renowned keynote speaker line up! Industry-leading exhibitors! One-to-one consultations with expert wizards! Live chat with other guests! Articles, games, competitions + much more... click below for more information.

[REGISTER HERE £20](#)

CLIFTON HOUSE IN BELFAST

Free Online Irish History talks

5am & 11am PST, June 10 – July 14

Clifton House in Belfast, along with their partners, will run a series of unique free events to celebrate the life, legacy and relevance today of Mary Ann McCracken, on what would have been her 250th birthday.

[TO SEE THE FULL LIST OF EVENTS AND TO REGISTER, CLICK HERE](#)

Father's Day Special



Struggling for a personal gift?

It will be heart-felt with family history in a Custom-Mini. Art for \$50 and your first print **FREE**. Contact Sue for details. Order before June 15.

Family Ancestrees

graphics@familyancestrees.com

604.510.3361

CONFERENCE KEEPERS

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!](#)

BCGS.ca – Website Team Report



Sheila Albrecht, #1046

Ann Buchanan, #5583

Jan Graf, #5382

BCGS Online Education

June 2021 Sessions

GENEALOGY FOR BEGINNERS VIA ZOOM

You will see plenty of notices in this newsletter and in our GenBlasts regarding this course, presented by Celia Lewis. You can easily RESERVE YOUR PLACE for these sessions at [BCGS Online Education](#). These are **FREE for BCGS Members**. If you are not a member it costs \$35 to attend. Click **“Pay Registration Fee”** to go directly to the payment area of the website. See page 13 for additional details and REGISTRATION.

BCGS Coffee Chats

We've already had a busy year with our Coffee Chats and continue to find new topics to explore. We now have an **Advanced DNA** Coffee Chat, for those of you that are very experienced DNA researchers.

Our **Canadian Content** is being expanded and we are working on adding more research links to our Coffee Chat Bulletin Boards for each location. Check out our updated [Coffee Chat](#) webpage and the new Coffee Chat listings on page 26.

"If you want to understand today
you have to search yesterday."

–PEARL S. BUCK

BCGS Affiliate Societies

The BCGS is pleased to offer an Affiliate Society Membership to any genealogy group or society in British Columbia. For more information on the membership benefits and eligibility as an Affiliate Society, check our [Affiliate Society Memberships](#) page.

We have a page dedicated to our current [Affiliate Societies](#) where you can view details of their organizations, their websites and/or Facebook pages.

B O N U S

[Affiliate Society Membership Sale](#)
Only \$40 for the balance of 2021



MAY Meeting Chit Chat

Judith Ueland #4913

As has become our habit, members log in before the official meeting to visit. There was a discussion about the meeting's 7:30 pm start time. The 7:00 pm log-in time is for those wanting to enjoy pre-meeting casual conversations.

Susan Garcia from Nanaimo offered that this was the first time she was able to attend one of our meetings.

A conversation ensued between **Sharon Splinter** with **Marlene Dance** (our guest speaker) about BCGS members who are also United Empire Loyalists. Sharon and Marlene have met over the years at various venues and recalled their Loyalist connections.

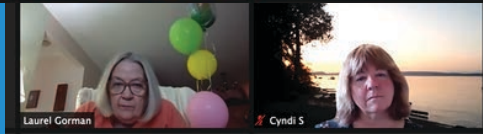
Eunice Robinson talked about meeting people and asking about their families' surnames - a habit she feels can be an introduction to long conversations. One member said that she has relatives whose eyes glaze over when they see her coming - something many of us who are avid genealogists have also experienced.

Celia Lewis is looking for someone (within her family groups) to take on her genealogy when she cannot continue. She thinks she may have 25 years left. We all hope so.

The conversation veered toward the **2021 Federal Census** now underway online. Questions arose about whether one received the long or short version. As genealogists, those of us who received the short form were disappointed and



Members at the meeting without showing their beautiful faces including Kathy Chung, Meg McLaughlin, Sandra Cunliffe, Matthew JR Schubert, Barry Kirk, Catherine Smith, Kathleen & Jim Graham, Margaret Sharon in Kamloops, Steve Todd-CRGS, Ann, Jo-Ann Blomquist, Marilyn, Darlene/Mel, Christol James, Mary Robinson, Bob in Comox, Grant, Tony Sainsbury, Bev, Yvette Howard, Janice Wilkin, Don Calder, Frances, Gerald Z Townsend, Elizabeth Christie, Lynne Fletcher, Kim Kujawski, Margaret Strocel, Terri Mackenzie, Daphne Kelly, Karen, Mary and Gwen.



those with the long-form went to a great deal of trouble to answer fully and expansively. We are all cognizant of leaving information for the future.

Margaret Sharon wished to add an addendum to the April Newsletter's *Jumbo the Elephant* story. While searching old Vancouver newspapers, she discovered that—indeed—one of her family members was in St. Thomas when Jumbo was killed. Her great grandfather's brother rushed down to the accident site and saw the lifeless elephant. One of our members mentioned a relative who worked in the local abattoir at the time.

Peonies are budding in **Eunice Robinson's** garden, which brought the conversation to heritage plants that have been handed down through various family members, and have been taken to and planted in the gardens of many 'new to the family' homes.

Linda Maitland's mother's aunt, Kathleen Dillon, gifted a piece of her deep pink peony to Linda's parents when they bought their first house in 1960. It went through two more moves to new homes. Linda's mother mailed her a clump when she married in 1985 and Linda has taken it to her three homes. A portion also lives in

the cemetery where the family is buried in Montreal. Linda has given a piece to several special people, including a second cousin, a grandson of the original gifter, Kathleen Dillon. It was suggested a collage from the many homes this family heirloom plant thrives in would be a nice family keepsake.

Judith Ueland has a blue Bearded Iris root thriving in Burnaby. The original was rescued by sister Joanne from our mother, Mildred Johnston's garden in Keremeos, after her death in 2002, and now resides in Peachland. Another portion is at our brother Dale's home in Cawston. Not as far travelled or as old as Linda's peony, but treasured nevertheless.

Bill Clayton has a cutting of a jade plant which he got from his barber in 1962. The barber had brought the plant from New Brunswick to Ontario's Ottawa Valley. Bill has moved his 'copy' of the plant from the Ottawa Valley to Toronto, to Ottawa and finally, to Surrey. It is waiting to be moved to the Vernon, BC home of friends who have a "perfect spot" for the much-travelled old timer.

Another member has an 85-year-old Christmas cactus, handed from a lady born in the '20s. Bill commented that perhaps we should use these plants in our family genealogies instead of trees.



BCGS BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Eunice Robinson, *President*, began the official portion of the meeting at 7:35. There were several changes to the agenda, with 83 people attending throughout the evening. **Janet White** moved to accept the April 14th Members Meeting Minutes and **Judith Ueland** seconded.

Photos of the Library before and after upgrading were shown. The United Empire Loyalists Vancouver Branch Library Collection was a part of the upgrading.

The Bottle Drive fundraiser, as of Friday, May 6th was about \$825. The total for last year was \$748.15. Bev Taylor (#5650) kindly donated cash from the recycling she'd collected in North Vancouver.

The monthly Financial Statements are available in the Members Area of the website.

The seminar sessions with **Dave Obee** and **Janice Nickerson** were reviewed. The third session in the series, with **Lucille Campey** will open at 9:30 AM on June 5th, with a break at 11:15 AM. The session will end at 12:30 PM. A Fall series of seminars is being organized and will include Dave Obee discussing European research.

2022 Calendar Team: Sue Sullivan spoke about the 2022 calendar, which will feature **Founding Families of BC** whose surnames have graced British Columbia's towns, districts, villages and cities.

All the free seminars Eunice mentioned can be viewed and registered for on the BCGS website [HERE](#).



WEDNESDAY, June 9th BCGS MEMBERS' ZOOM MEETING

- A Zoom invitation to the Monthly BCGS Members Meeting will be sent to members, so watch your inbox for details about 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.

MEMBERS' VOICE

Advise our President before June 9th if you wish to present a family history story or anecdote at the June meeting.



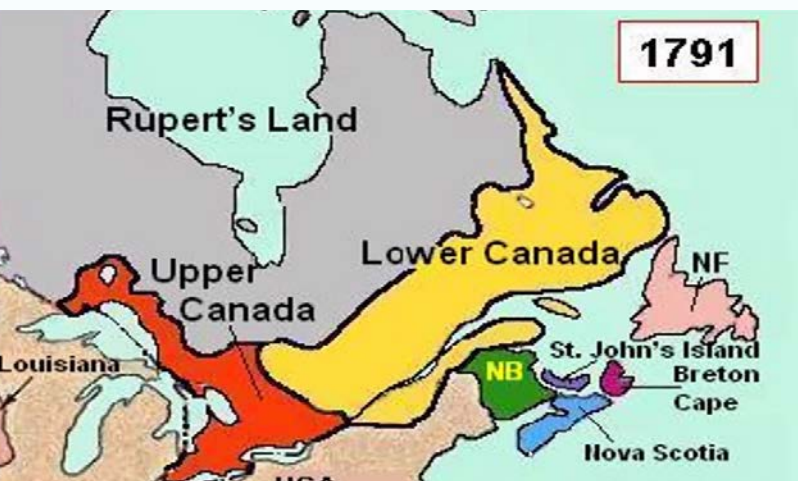
May 12, 2021 BCGS Members Meeting

Educational Presentation by Marlene Dance, UE

The United Empire Loyalists of Canada—This is Their Story

Review by Judith Ueland, Member #4913

Marlene's Loyalist Story presentation began with an overview of events leading up to the American Revolution. Her slides of colourful maps portrayed altered landscapes, as territories changed hands during ongoing conflicts between Britain, Spain and France. Colonials in the Thirteen Colonies became increasingly unhappy with Great Britain's governance and taxes, leading to the famous Boston Tea Party and America's Revolutionary War.



The Loyalists were a mixed group of Europeans, slaves, free "persons of colour", Mohawks and, as Marlene humorously remarked, "The Scots were everywhere!" **July 4, 1776, marked the Declaration of Independence.** Most supporters of the crown didn't want a war, but needed a defended territory, and felt their loyalty lay with the British. After the Colonials won the war, Loyalists were compelled to give up their lands.

Britain promised Loyalists transport to any British-held colony. Those who chose to come to Upper and Lower Canada were promised land and provisions for the first winter. The British sent ships to move 40,000 Loyalists to areas that became the provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec. Others walked to Upper Canada (now Ontario). Families that travelled with what they had, or were allowed to bring, became Canada's first refugees. ([Land Grants lists and documents are available through Library and Archives Canada.](#))

Lord Dorchester/Sir Guy Carleton (1724 – 1808) was Canada's Governor. He felt that Loyalists (males, females and all their descendants) deserved recognition. He persuaded the British government to accord them the **honorific of U.E.**, alluding to the great principle of a United Empire.

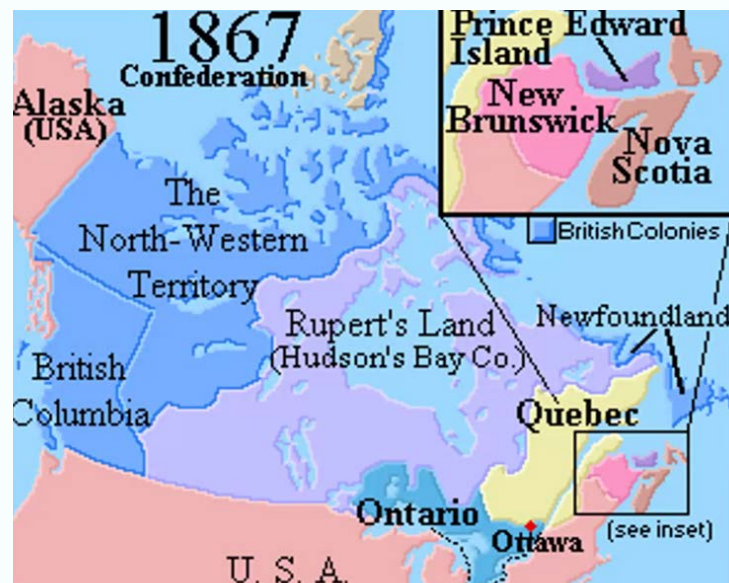
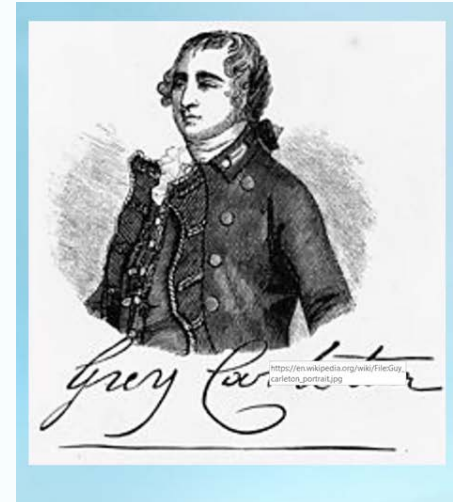
Some slaves were brought with families seeking refuge, and around 3,500 former slaves arrived as free persons who supported the British. By 1793, when all slaves were granted their freedom, Canada became the destination of the Underground Railroad.

Applying for certification as a Loyalist Descendant requires membership with a branch and a genealogical proof argument – a compilation of primary documentation records leading back to original Loyalists and their land grants. Help is provided to members of the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada (UELAC). Currently, DNA evidence is not considered useable proof beyond the first generation.

Descendants of those first Loyalists in 1783/4 were instrumental in helping to establish the Confederation of Canada in 1867.

In 2015/16, UEL Pacific Region donated its collection of books to our BCGS Library. Corrine Jubb's Library Report on page 23 highlights some of the books in the UEL collection.

Marlene Dance provided an excellent overview of United Empire Loyalist history that may have inspired some BCGS members to pursue research into UEL branches on their family trees.



Report from between the Library Stacks



**Corrine Jubb #5215,
BCGS Library
Administrator**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the BCGS library remains closed. We will reopen pending orders from BC's public health officials.

The May BCGS meeting featured **Marlene Dance's** presentation **"The United Empire Loyalists – This is Their Story"**.

These three books are among those gratefully added to our library's UEL collection from **UEL Pacific Region**.

FUNDRAISING

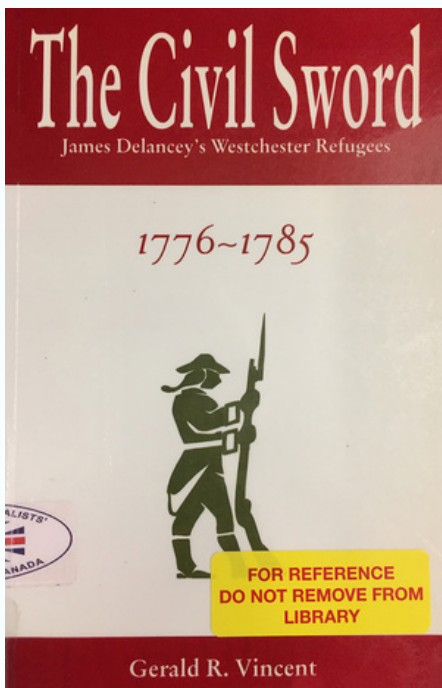
\$2,200 GOAL
POP CANS & RETURNABLE BOTTLES

Big thanks to those who have dropped off bottles and cans at the library and in Bill Clayton's driveway. Your donations are very much appreciated. Anyone with a donation to drop off can contact Bill at **604.329.1721**. As the Library is closed until further notice, please continue to drop off your pop cans and bottles in Bill's driveway in South Surrey, if that is convenient for you. Email Bill at billclayton@shaw.ca.

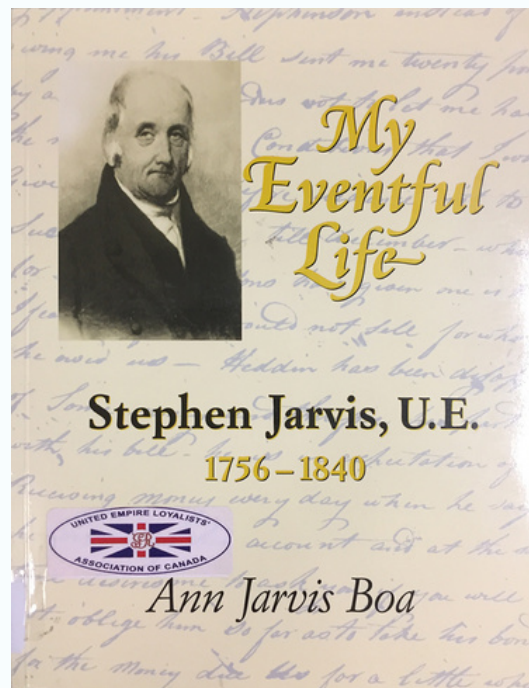
These funds are for the **Alice Louise Marwood Fund (ALM Fund)**, which is dedicated to the upkeep of the Library. Bill processes the donations each week and makes monthly deposits to the BCGS.

\$973.25
MAY 27

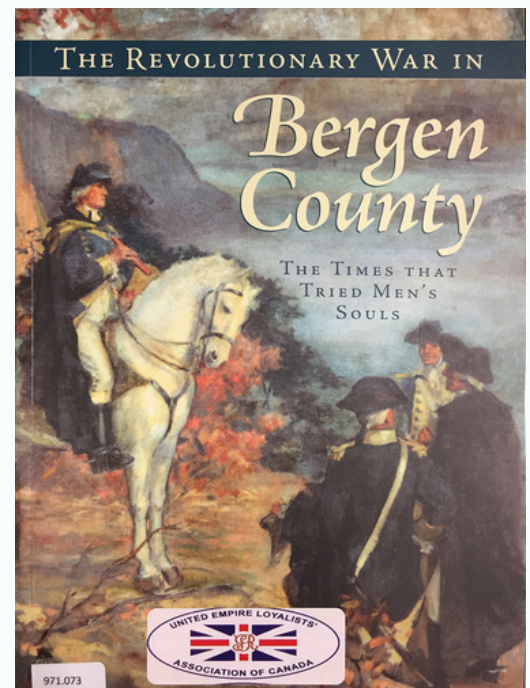
\$727 APR 30



R 971.073 VIN
by Gerard R Vincent-
"The Civil Sword,
James Delancey's
Westchester Refugees"



971.073 BOA
by Ann Jarvis Boa-
"My Eventful Life – Stephen
Jarvis, U.E. 1756-1840"



971.073 KAR
by Carol Karels- "The
Revolutionary War in
Bergen County, the Times
That Tried Men's Souls"



PACIFIC REGION

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/



Message from the BCGS eJournal Editor



Lynne Fletcher #5353
eJournal Editor

While searching through some pictures of my grandparents last week, I noticed that many were taken outside their homes, in their front gardens. I think gardens had a different significance in those days. They were a necessity for survival. Many families relied on their garden space to produce sufficient fruit and veggies for the family table, as well as flowers and herbs for special occasions. I can still remember going to visit my grandmother, being sent outside to play and picking pansies in the front yard, and giant red raspberries from the bushes along the back fence. Her garden was also, as they are nowadays, a play space for the children, and storage space for vehicles and equipment.

Nowadays, we don't rely on our gardens for foodstuffs as much, though they're still used for play space and storage. They do seem to be getting much smaller, too!

Do you have a special memory of a garden that belonged to a family member? Perhaps one that featured special flowers, or an unusual workspace for the family? Did it have a connection to a home in the "Old Country"? Do you have any plants in your garden today that have come from a grandparent's home?



Could you share these with our readers? We look forward to reading your story! Please send your story and pictures (if possible) to Journal@bcgs.ca

ALASKA CRUISE UPDATE

Report from Robert Marcoux
and Sharon Clayton, #5332

With so much that has happened in the past 15 months, it is important to be educated about travel insurance options before embarking on our BCGS 50th Anniversary (Plus 1) Alaska Cruise.

Many of us already have insurance plans for when we travel. Some of us rely on the insurance policies included with our credit card companies, but most of us don't read the fine print on these policies. My strong advice to you is to **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!** Assumptions can lead to disasters-in-waiting. Did you know that the minute you clear customs at Vancouver's Cruise Terminal, you are in the United States of America? Will your current Insurance cover you for medical situations and emergencies in the USA's profit-driven health care system?

Are you covered?

U.S. travellers need to contact me for their insurance policy options. Here are some basic types of Insurance for **CANADIANS** to consider before embarking on our Alaska Cruise in September 2022.

TRIP CANCELLATION covers costs for travellers when medical issues or deaths can spoil even the best-laid travelling plans.

NON-MEDICAL INCLUSIVE - including coverage for missing connections because of unavoidable traffic issues or extreme weather events.

ALL-INCLUSIVE—Coverage up to the amount of the trip PLUS Emergency Medical coverage up to \$5 million. This plan provides all-inclusive coverage for physical, psychiatric and mental illness issues, as well as death involving travellers, their travelling companions, and members of extended families.

Pricing is based on age, length-of-trip and amount of insurance. Contact **Robert** to learn the fine details on all policies and for price quotations for each insurance option.

IT'S FOR OUR PEACE OF MIND.



Don't want to be
left behind?

Contact Robert now to
join our BCGS group
September 18-25, 2022

Robert Marcoux
Cell 604-401-0484
Toll Free 866.354.1869
Robert@getawaywithcompass.ca
Getawaywithcompass.ca



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Coffee Chats on Zoom

—also known as Special Interest Groups [SIGs]—
Before COVID, Chats were held at the BCGS
Genealogical Library. The library is slowly re-opening.
Coffee Chats will remain on Zoom for now. Watch this space and
the website for breaking news.



CHINA COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, June 3, 10 - 11 am
RSVP Linda Yip
hello@past-presence.com



IRELAND COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, June 3, 7 to 9 pm
With Eunice Robinson
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY
COFFEE CHAT
Introductory DNA
Monday, June 7, 1 to 3 pm
RSVP Sharon Clayton
sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



SCOTLAND COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, June 10, 7 to 9 pm
With Lorraine Irving
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



QUEBEC QUESTERS COFFEE CHAT
Saturday, June 12, 10 am to noon
RSVP Linda Maitland
lindamaitland@telus.net



NEW ADVANCED DNA COFFEE CHAT
Tuesday, June 15, 1 to 3 pm
With Terry Hartley, Jim Graham &
Kathleen Graham
RSVP Terry Hartley terrhart1@gmail.com



BC COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, June 17, 7 to 9 pm
With Janet White
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



EXPLORING GENETIC GENEALOGY
COFFEE CHAT
Parental Puzzles (NPE)
Monday, June 21, 1 to 3 pm
RSVP Sharon Clayton
sharonjmclayton@gmail.com



ENGLAND COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, June 24, 7 to 9 pm
With Ann Buchanan
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ONTARIO COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, July 8, 7 to 9 pm
With Janet White
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



Germans from Russia COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, July 15, 7 to 9 pm
With Eunice Robinson
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca



CANADIAN PRAIRIES COFFEE CHAT
Thursday, July 22, 7 to 9 pm
With Judith Ueland
RSVP coffeechat@bcgs.ca

TBA CHATS: coffeechat@bcgs.ca



ATLANTIC CANADA
UNITED STATES



With Judith Ueland
ORGANIZING YOUR RESEARCH
With Eunice Robinson



SCANDINAVIA
With Eunice Robinson



50 YEARS

50 Years Ago—June 1971

50 YEARS AGO The Beachcombers GIBSONS, BC

The quirky quality of Gibsons Landing and Molly's Reach Café were part of the charm of *The Beachcombers* television series. The first six shows were filmed in 1971. The café featured in the show was just a film set, used mainly for exterior shots and storage. It was reborn as *Molly's Reach Café* only after the TV series ended.

More than 10,000 tourists came to BC's Sunshine Coast to see where the show was filmed. During production, bleachers were built for the live audiences so people could be comfortable while watching the filming.



In 1974, Jackson Davies (*'Constable Constable'*) got his part on the series because he fit the CBC's only extra RCMP uniform. When the show ended 16 years later, he was still playing Constable John Constable.

The series was seen in 60 countries worldwide. After 387 episodes, *The Beachcombers* was cancelled in 1990. It remains the longest running drama in Canadian TV history.

Friends of The Beachcombers Facebook group

More than 2,000 Beachcomber fans are members of the group. Jackson Davies (*"Constable Constable"*) is the group's administrator.

facebook.com/groups/2298458331

NEW! FIRST RUN SYNDICATION

130 COLOR HALF-HOURS

THE BEACHCOMBERS

- Highest rated CBC-TV series for teens and kids for the past 12 years!
- Great action-adventure filmed on location in the spectacular Pacific Northwest.

"A phenomenal success." – VANCOUVER TIMES

"The Beachcombers' is family entertainment and a hit worldwide." – TV TOPICS

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1976 Molly's Reach Photo courtesy of Jackson Davies.

JUNE

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| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

June Celebration Days:

Father's Day, Summer Solstice

Discovery Day (NL), National Indigenous People Day (NT, YT),

St. Jean Baptiste Day (QC)

To-Do This Month:

June is for Fathers. Use this month to research your male ancestors.