

NDSGS

FEBRUARY 2000

NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH DAKOTA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



JAMES RIVER
GENEALOGY
CLUB

Mouse River Loop Genealogy Society!

Greetings from the members of the MRLGS.

We had our annual progressive auction and ethnic dinner. It was well attended and we don't anticipate having to do any other fund raising this year.

Our society decided to give some money to the Minot City Library for their expansion project.

We've had some great programs on genealogy, the most recent was by Eva Inches relating to genealogy on-line.

We had election of officers and they are:

Sam Kampman (Minot), President

Eva Inches (Minot), Vice-President

Agnes Cushing (Minot), Treasurer

Michael Bartolf (Canada), Secretary

Lillian Vannett (Minot), Corres. Secretary

Board members: John Mogren (Fessenden), Betty Schlichting (Garrison), Annette Rockeman (Donnybrook), Don Tank (Minot).

The new editor of our quarterly publication is Calina Clarkson.

We have members answering queries, doing local area indexing of records and some finding time to do research on their own ancestry. We have paid our 2000 dues for the North Dakota State Genealogical Society and John Mogren was elected to represent MRLGS at the meetings. As in the past, we will be sending a complimentary membership in MRLGS to the new NDSGS president, Patrice Hartman, and encourage other societies to do the same.

We continue to meet at 1:00 on the first Saturday of each month in the community room of the Minot City Library.

Even though the James River Genealogy Club is on hiatus until its first meeting of 2000 in April, club members keep busy. They continue to help with searches in the counties of Eddy, Foster, Stutsman and Wells.

More early newspaper microfilms for county seat papers have been added to the search sources, and some are being indexed for obituaries. Early school census schedules are being indexed for Stutsman County.

The club continues to operate six pages on the usgenweb with recent additions to searchable data there including 1900 US census indexes for Foster and Stutsman Counties, 1905 Stutsman County school census index, and the every-name index for the club's most recent cemetery book, "Rural and Village Cemeteries of Stutsman County". That book, which was completed in late 1999, contains tombstone inscriptions and cemetery records for 73 of the 80 Stutsman cemeteries, excluding only the seven cemeteries associated with Jamestown.

Current plans are to establish a new meeting place for the club which meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 PM from April through November.

G.L. Barron, informant

Come visit us!



...a few notes from Jacki...

If it looks like your newsletter was patched together, it's because it was. Affiliate coordinator Frank Lysy is free-lancing for Minot Daily News (watch for his articles) and acts as chief data-entry person for the cemetery index Williams County Genealogical Society is completing (see p. 5)

His was the software and skill which put out a nice ready-to-print page; I'm resorting to the olde 'cut-and-paste' method until I get my IMac going.

So, bear with me! I really need your input for news and events so this newsletter can be a better means of communicating between societies and of letting non-North Dakotans know what we have.

ASSIGNMENT: next issue is scheduled for May. Give me ideas of where to go and what to do for vacationing genealogists!!

YEARLY NDSGS DUES

- \$ 5.00 Individual
- 10.00 Supporting
- 5.00 Society (1-10)
- 10.00 Society (11-25)
- 20.00 Society (26-50)
- 35.00 Society (51+)

Queries welcome!!

Current officers (2000-2002)

Patrice Hartman, President
Clara Bliss, V President
Dorothy Pearson, Secretary
Don Smith, Treasurer

Editor <jkeck@dia.net>

Jacki Keck
703 West 7th Street
Williston ND 58801-4908

BISMARCK-MANDAN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The BMHGS has recently completed the following publications: 1917 Standard Atlas of Morton County; Perry Funeral Home Records; and Mandan, North Dakota Newspapers 1882-1924, Transcripts, and have completed indexing of Burleigh County School Census from 1898 to 1902 and Kennelly Funeral Home records.

The following officers and board members were installed during our January meeting:

President-Dorothy Jackman;
President Elect-Marcia Hansen;
Secretary-Sandy Denis;
Treasurer-Don Smith;
Corresponding Secretary-Dolores Green;
Program Chairperson-Gwen Rowley;
Repository-Don Smith;
Trustee-Shirley Jacobson;
Publication Committee-Marty and Bob Mooney,
Don Smith.

We lost our web site/page or whatever on 1 January 2000. Karen Williams has volunteered to reestablish it and to monitor messages, etc.

Plans are forging ahead for our workshop, which is scheduled for 30 September 2000. Linda Hippen is our coordinator -- watch our newsletter for more information.

Don Smith

*Life is lived forwards,
but understood
backwards.*



GENE^{EOLOGY}

Here's the list
of those attending the
last meeting

George Barron (JRGC)
Route 1 - Box 270
Jamestown ND 58401-9655

Clara Bliss (BCHGS/PTRM)
P. O. Box 78
Bowman ND 58623

Patrice Hartman (SWNDGS)
HCR01 - Box 32A
Regent ND 58650

John Mogren (MRLGS)
330 Harriet Avenue
Fessenden ND 58438

Jerry Newborg (SHSND)
612 East Boulevard
Bismarck ND 58505

Don Smith (BMH&GS)
2019 N. 2nd Street
Bismarck ND 58501-1737

James T. Stark (RRVGS)
73 Prairiewood Crossing SW
Fargo ND 58103

Minute Highlights from September 17, 1999

TREASURER'S REPORT: Balance = \$506.15

MINUTES: Distributed, read, correction on page 2, fifth paragraph; approved.

BUSINESS:

- [D. Smith] 501 (c) submitted August 23, 1999, filing fee of \$150.00 paid.
- Funeral Home / Cemetery Records discussion. [G. Barron] Copy of the Att. Gen. opinion (May 20, 1999) = records must be open to public inspection. Letter available.
[D. Smith] BMH&GS re: funeral home records; Kennelly Funeral Home / Mandan. Ernie Sands (Bismarck) = Sands Funeral Home / Velva; hope future copying allowed.
[J Mogren to G Newborg] How does NDSHSociety handle funeral home records? Only ones = Olson Funeral Home in Kenmare; no conditions attached. Policy = Conditions of donor honored. What information can be obtained from the records? [G Barron] Write to Dept/ Health re: standardized form for sextons to complete. Suggestion: Speaker from the Department of Health or Vital Statistics.
J. Mogren will arrange for a speaker for our March meeting.
[G Barron] List of "Registered Cemeteries" available from Department of Health.
- Workshops/Training opportunities. Photo Workshop: October 28 from 10 to 5. Governor's History Conference: October 29. More info: <<http://www.state.nd.us/hist/>> [J Stark] September 25th workshop scheduled in Moorhead.
- Correspondence. Oregon Genealogical Society = What's available in N. D.? Dolores will send reply.
- Election of 2000 - 2002 officers. [G Barron] Continue under previous bylaws / articles. P. Hartman = President; C. Bliss = Vice President. Dorothy = Secretary; Don = Treasurer.
- Reminder that Dues are due January 1, 2000. (See NDSGS Newsletter for dues rates).
- NDSGS Newsletter All those who attend the NDSGS meetings should receive copy.
- Next meeting: March 17, 2000 (if there isn't a snowstorm!) Gerry will reserve room.

Respectfully submitted: John Mogren, secretary pro tem

Friends come and go,
but relatives
tend to
ACCUMULATE !

NEWS FROM A NEIGHBOR TO THE WEST

Toni Marchwicki - Glendive, Montana

Dawson County Tree Branches Genealogy Society was founded in 1985 to promote genealogical research, share knowledge, and to help preserve family histories.

Membership is open to anyone with like interests for \$6.00/year. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. the third Tuesday in the months of September through May.

The Society publishes The Tree Branch newsletter three times a year.

A genealogy center is maintained by the Society in the basement of the Glendive Public Library, located at 200 South Kendrick Avenue in downtown Glendive.

Hours: 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri
and 1:00-5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

The genealogy center is not staffed but is open to the public by signing in at the library's main desk. The center houses a library of research materials including books, magazines and journals, and microfilm of Dawson County census and naturalization reports. Microfilm of early Glendive newspapers is also available, but can't be checked out for use outside the library.

An upcoming project is to gather family history interviews and long-time Glendive business histories appearing in the Glendive Ranger Review for a one-stop reference notebook in the genealogy center library. Previous histories will be assembled by the end of February 2000 and new articles will be added as they appear in the Ranger Review.



AT A DEAD-END? - TRY THESE TIPS!

Have you hit a proverbial dead end in your research? The following trends may help analyze your problem.

1. There are approximately three generations per century.
2. Average age for men to marry was 24. They rarely married before age 16.
3. The average age for women to marry was 20. They rarely married before age 16.
4. First marriages were usually between couples near the same age. Women generally outlived their husbands, but older widowers frequently married much younger women who had never been married before.
5. Birth generally occurred at two-year intervals. Frequently the first child was born a year after marriage. As a woman aged, the interval between births grew slightly. Child bearing generally ended around age 45.
6. Families and neighbors usually migrated together from their previous locations. Women rarely traveled alone.
7. Men usually married women from their neighborhood, but if a seemingly "strange" woman turned up, check the man's former home. Often men returned to their prior residence to find a wife.
8. If you can't find an old parent, chances are he/she "went West" with a son.
9. If you have a male ancestor born around 1840, strongly consider Civil War service.
10. If your ancestor has a virtue name (e.g. Patience, Charity, Silence) consider a New England heritage.
11. Children were often named for grandparents, both male and female.
12. Frequent middle names or even a first name was the mother or grandmother's maiden name, especially if the name was repeated through several related families.

Thanks to the Duryham-Orange Gen. Soc. Newsletter Vol. 8, No. 7, Nov. 1998 by way of the Tri State Gen. Soc.

From: YOUNG-L@rootsweb.com

SGS Newsletter April 1999

The Tree Branch, Glendive, Montana . . . Vol. 21, No. 3 . . . November 1999

WILLIAMS COUNTY
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Williams County Genealogical Society has completed its third summer of collecting gravesite information from rural burial sites in the county.

Now the task of entering the material transcribed on cards into a data base has begun; and two of our members, Gloria Johnson and Adrienne Stepanek, are verifying the pages compiled by Frank Lysy.

The search for funding for the publication of the "Williams County Rural Cemetery Records Index" is underway and the group was pleased to receive a \$600 grant from 'Casual Day for Charity' here in Williston. With a goal of around \$3500, we would appreciate guidance from other societies which have published similar books as to sources of support.

Our meeting in October featured Phylis Hystad, who recently compiled a book about McKenzie County Cemeteries (see elsewhere), and we gained much advice from the sharing of her experiences.

Dutch Elm disease has brought about the removal of many large trees in our parks and cemeteries over the last few years. This spring the Williston Cemetery Board is spearheading a project to underwrite replacement of 200 trees. Speaking at our February meeting, City Cemetery Commissioner Jim Yockim gave us a preview of these plans and those of preparing a 'Millennium time capsule' to raise additional monies for their beautification efforts.

Members of WCGS expressed the greater priority of having records kept up-to-date and available, and have drafted a letter to the Mayor requesting that the number of Advisory Board appointees be increased from three to five to allow for participation by interested persons. Do other societies have representation on their local cemetery boards?

**Every family tree
has some sap in it.**

[illegible]

"The Final Resting Place"

An index to cemeteries in McKenzie County, N.D.
compiled and available for \$15.00 (plus S+H) from:

Phylis Hystad

HCO1 - Box 8 - Arnegard ND 58835

(701) 586-3724

[illegible]

The Red River Valley Genealogical Society

Our Treasurer, James Stark, is basking in the AZ sun, while we 'enjoy' our mild ND winter.

Our library has acquired two additional (but small) rooms. We now have the luxury of a separate North Dakota / Minnesota reading room and the other stacks have a little breathing space.

We also acquired a 'new' copy machine that prints both sides of the page, bundles, etc. (donated, for tax purposes). Our internet provider remains the same after some deliberation.

Two new funeral home indices will be available in February - one for Ransom County and the second for Casselton (West and Priewe Funeral Homes).

Internet requests have been averaging 25 per week, providing income in the \$200 per week range. Without the internet, we would be in dire circumstances!

<rrvgs@rrnet.com>

During the past fall a carload of our members drove to Minneapolis and spent the day in the Minnesota Genealogical Library. Several items of interest were acquired.

That's about all the news from Lake Wobegon (sorry, ...Red River Valley).

Allen Ohrt, President

**MOURNING MOTHER CITES GENEALOGICAL BACKGROUND
AS SHE DECRIES THE LYNCHING DEATH OF HER SON
Charles Bannon - Schafer (McKenzie County) - January 1931**

In a series of public programs sponsored by the North Dakota Humanities Council entitled, "The Good - The Bad - The Ugly," Bismarck historian, Frank Vyzralek, shared stories about 'the darker side of our past.' In a publication by the same group (Jan-Feb 2000), the details about Charles Bannon's lynching were printed:

"North Dakota's last instance of mob murder occurred in late January 1931 at the former McKenzie County seat town of Schafer, N.D., not far from the Montana border. Charles Bannon was a farm youth of 22 who, in February 1930, suddenly moved onto the Albert Haven farm near Schafer, claiming that the family of six had departed for the West Coast, leaving him in charge as tenant. Since McKenzie County had been particularly hard hit by the drought and depression during the 1920s and entire families had been known to depart overnight in the face of pressing debts, the story seemed plausible. As the months passed with no word from members of the Haven family, Bannon came under suspicion and finally in November 1930, after he sold some of the Haven's hogs, was arrested and held on a charge of embezzlement. When searchers began finding bodies under the dirt floor of the Haven barn, Bannon admitted the murders but absolved his father, James, who had lived with him on the farm, of any blame.

"Fear of mob violence led McKenzie County authorities to quarter the Bannons in the county jail at Williston but then, inexplicably, the father and son were returned to Schafer for arraignment where a minimal force of men was assigned to guard them. A crowd of about eighty masked men moved in the same night and within minutes Charles Bannon was dangling from a nearby highway bridge. The father was subsequently convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment, finally being released from the penitentiary in the late 1960s.

Interest was renewed in this topic when Frank Vyzralek spoke on "Lynching in Northwestern North Dakota" to a filled meeting room at the Public Library in Williston on January 25, 2000. Another person who has kept a research file on this incident is a member of the Williams County Genealogical Society, Adrienne Stepanek. She shared information from the standpoint of the grieving mother, Mrs. James F. Bannon.

The McKenzie County Farmer ran front-page coverage on February 5, 1931, wherein Mrs. Bannon's response to learning of her son's lynching is set out in language equal to any stage production. "Oh My God!" she screamed, "They've done it, I knew they would. My poor boy Charles, Charles, where is he now. So that's why Bud Taylor brought them [her husband and son] down there. Oh! May the curse of God be on every one of them, the dirty hounds!" Another article states, "The Funeral service was private, Mrs. Bannon requesting that only personal friends be present." Although the paper reports that thousands of curious people viewed the body, her wish "that she did not want either services or her grief being made a public spectacle" appears to have been honored as "only a few friends of Mrs. Bannon accompanied the body to the cemetery."

Mrs. Bannon apparently moved to Minneapolis and one year later an article in the McKenzie County Chronicle dated February 18, 1932, reports that she issued a pamphlet "in memoriam" to her son:

"In this pamphlet Mrs. Bannon alleges that her son numbered among his ancestors British royalty and several presidents of the United States.

"Among the ancestors of her son cited by Mrs. Bannon were Lord and Lady Lisle of England; the Lisle, Hoar, Merriam, Mason, Brooks, Quincy, Sawyer and Adams families of Concord, Massachusetts, and nearby cities. Thru these families blood relationship is also claimed with Presidents John Adams, John Quincy Adams, Franklin Pierce and James A. Garfield, and thru marriages with the Harrisons and Calvin Coolidge.

She exhorts the "Fathers of our glorious America," to avenge "the terrible wrong inflicted upon Charles Francis Bannon" through his lynching death. "With the dying breath of Charles Francis Bannon, the hoofbeats of Paul Revere's steed resound on Concord bridge where his forebears lived and died for America, beacon light of old north church burn anew."

In conclusion she writes: "How many more lynchings will be staged in defiance of law and order to mock the Constitution of these United States?"

QUERY EXCHANGE

QUERIES will be printed in the May issue of the Newsletter. If you have one you'd like to submit, send it to the editor: 703 West 7th Street - Williston ND 58801-4908

NEW LDS TEMPLE IN BISMARCK

"WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO US?"

Jacki Keck, Editor

A beautiful, white building can be seen at 2930 Cody Drive in Bismarck; it's the new Bismarck North Dakota Temple. I volunteer at the Williston Family History Center and was curious as to why, with all the computer access to Salt Lake City, there was a need for such a facility.

My question, "What does this mean to us," found its way to the President of the Temple, Robert B. Dahlgren, who was kind enough to share some thoughts with me.

"I am assuming that the question of 'us' refers to the genealogist and/or the genealogical society." He had read my meaning correctly.

He explained, "The placement of a temple in Bismarck makes temple work more accessible to the church members. Thus we should see an increase in genealogical work among the members. As you know, however, much more genealogy work is being accomplished by persons who are not LDS church members." He was talking about me.

"As more genealogical work is done by church members, more records will flow into the archives and make their way to the church's website. All of these names will be available to the members of the society in North Dakota."

Being a person who's taken advantage of the <www.familysearch.com> website, his reasoning made sense.

"As interest in genealogy occurs among our members, there is the possibility of longer hours at the family history centers and the establishment of more family history centers. These are not promises, but possibilities..."

He concluded, "The North Dakota State Genealogical Society has been a blessing to all of the people of the state, and your work is valued by us who are church members. You help us focus, you train us, you enthuse us, and you enable us. Hopefully, the results of the establishment of this temple of the church in Bismarck will filter down, at least in small amount, to the strengthening of the work in which we are both vitally interested. Thank you for all you do in genealogy."

And now (sez I to meself and you), get your work done and add it to the store of data that is made available to us all. Files on PAF can be forwarded to Salt Lake City from any Family History Center.

Thank you, President Dahlgren.

MONTANA STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

MAY 5 - 7, 2000

Great Falls, Montana

*Genealogy:
Tracing yourself back
to better people.*

WADING THROUGH THE WEB

- gleaned from the erratic wanderings of Jacki Keck -
(contributions welcome!)

ONLINE GENEALOGY RESOURCES GROWING

The <Familysearch.com> webpage will soon have a new resource, called the Pedigree Resource File; the data is a collection of material submitted by visitors to the website.

New genealogy specific e-zine

<http://genealogyworld.com>

--

D. Metheny <methenyd@megapipe.net>

* * * * *

Thanks to "The Original Joke of the Day"
<<http://www.joker.org/>>

OH CANADA

An elderly woman lived on a small farm in Canada, just yards away from the North Dakota border. Their land had been the subject of a minor dispute between the United States and Canada for years. Now, the widowed woman lived on the farm with her son and three grandchildren.

One day, the son came into her room holding a letter. "I just got some news, Mom," he said. "The government has come to an agreement with the people in North Dakota. They've decided that our land is really part of the United States. We have the right to approve or disapprove of the agreement. What do you think?"

"What do I think?" his mother said. "Sign it! Call them right now and tell them we accept. I don't think I could stand another one of those Canadian winters!"

* * * * *

Previously published by RootsWeb.com, Inc.,
RootsWeb Review: RootsWeb's Genealogy News,
Vol. 3, No. 8, 23 February 2000.
<<http://www.rootsweb.com/>>

Minnesota Genealogical Journal: 23

From: Mary Bakeman
mbakeman@parkbooks.com

We are pleased to announce the tentative contents for the March 2000 issue of the Minnesota Genealogical Journal. It includes (among other listings) those Minnesotans who died in the U.S. Navy during WW-I and a 'where are they now?' compilation from the first fraternity on the U of MN campus 40 years after it was established. See:

<http://www.parkbooks.com/Html/mgj23.html>

A full description of the Journal with links to the contents of the first 22 issues:

<http://www.parkbooks.com/Html/mgjbroch.html>

ROOTSWEB'S GUIDE TO TRACING FAMILY TREES

If you haven't seen this series of "how to" genealogy lessons before, you might want to check it out. It is a pretty thorough review of the various research aspects.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~rwguide/>

It is composed of 19 interactive genealogy lessons with links to relevant resources at RootsWeb and elsewhere on the Internet that are available in HTML and PDF formats.

Another 11 lessons are in the works. With the holidays behind us, we may be basking in the warmth of family stories. The summer lies ahead with possible family reunions and now is a good time to hone our family folklore interviewing skills. You'll find interviewing suggestions in Lesson One.

- with thanks to Joy Stefan (12/99 e-mail)

North Dakota Biography Index Database Now Available

Accessing biographical information regarding North Dakotans has just become easier with the release of the North Dakota Biography Index (NDBI) database by the Institute for Regional Studies at the North Dakota State University Libraries. Searching the database will enable users to quickly determine which publication to consult for biographical information. More than 138,000 biographical sketches are indexed; found in some 540 publications. The site can be found at <http://dp3.lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/ndbi/>

The beginning of the NDBI was a unique card file index to published biographies compiled by Allen Petersen of Fargo, N.D. In 1980 the Institute for Regional Studies acquired the card file. Since then the Institute staff has continued to expand the card file by indexing all books published through 1980. A limited number of post-1980 books also have been indexed, mainly county histories. In 1993 the Institute staff began to automate the card file, and only in 1999 was the data from all the cards entered, making the public release of NDBI possible. The Institute staff continues to index newer publications as well as proof and edit the existing data.

The types of publications indexed include county and community histories, biographical dictionaries and who's whos, church and business histories, atlases, special historical newspaper editions, the WPA biography files, and several periodicals rich in biographical material. The index does not include published family histories or genealogies, newspaper obituaries, periodical articles, and books of biography about a single individual.

Additional indexing of newer publications will be included as time and funds allow. The addition of page numbers and life dates to entries will be an ongoing project by the Institute staff. Should users of the NDBI find pre-1981 North Dakota publications that have not been indexed, they can let the Institute staff know about them so they can be included in this database.

The Institute is also offering a copy service to the public for biographical sketches desired. A direct e-mail link to the Institute appears at the bottom of the search screen.

Institute for Regional Studies
NDSU Libraries
PO Box 5599
Fargo, ND 58105-5599
701-231-8914
E-mail: nulibarc@plains.nodak.edu
URL: <http://www.lib.ndsu.nodak.edu/ndirs/>

*Theory of relativity:
If you go back
far enough,
we're all related*

TO: those researching in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota
FROM: karen@rootsweb.com <NDSDMN-L@rootsweb.com>

The old archives of NDSDMN-L are now available for searching, back to 1996. (The very earliest messages are lost in the mists of time. If anyone is such a packrat that they still have messages from before-November 11, 1996, let me know and I can fold them in.

Go to: <http://searches.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/listsearch.pl>

Type "NDSDMN" in the search box and hit "submit query". On the next screen, pick a year to search, type your search term in the query box, click on "Search" and you're on your way...

QUERY SUBMISSION FORM

Name(s)

Information (dob/dod/area lived in/marriage/offspring/etc)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Also Researching:

Respond to:

Address:

Member Queries Welcome

() Interested in membership

Mail to: Jacki Keck, NDSGS Newsletter
703 West 7th Street
Williston ND 58801-4908

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