



SAAMIS SEEKER

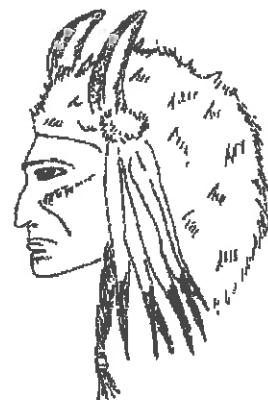
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1998 EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE HEADS

| | | | |
|------------|------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| President: | Edith Pinder | 548-3770 | epinder@memlane.com |
| Past Pres. | Betty Padfield | 526-8677 | bpadfiel@memlane.com |
| Vice Pres. | Deb Phillips | 526-0802 | |
| Secretary | Brian Klein | 527-2874 | bklein@memlane.com |
| Treasurer | Fern Muirhead | 527-5093 | fmuirhea@memlane.com |
| Publicity | Ferdinand Schwab | 527-5774 | |
| Library | Betty Padfield | 526-8677 | bpadfiel@memlane.com |
| Membership | Kathy Gleisner | 548-7505 | khinds@memlane.com |
| Queries | Margaret Myles | 526-3466 | myles@telusplanet.net |
| Research | Deb Phillips | 526-0802 | |
| Editor | Eileen Stahl | 527-3291 | estahl@memlane.com |



Address all correspondence to:
 Medicine Hat & District Branch AGS
 P.O. Box 971
 Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 7G8

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 August and November.

The purpose of the Saamis Seeker is to inform members of A.G.S. and Medicine Hat & District Branch affairs, to print material to further member's research, and to publish local resource and research materials.

Final authority regarding the acceptance of material rests with the editor. Neither the editor nor the Branch accept any responsibility for the opinions or errors on the part of the contributors.

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1997 ANNUAL PRESIDENTS REPORT

by Edie Pinder, President

Once again another busy year has come to an end. We have had a couple of changes take place over the past year. One change was the election date from November to February. As a result of this, work was started on changing and updating the branch Rules and Procedures.

Last March we decided to open our branch library for two hours on Tuesdays. We closed the library for July and August and reopened it in September. This has worked out rather well with members and nonmember coming in to do research.

Our programs for the year consisted of guest speakers, show and tell, library nights, an online Internet presentation and workshops.

Obituary indexing, an ongoing branch project, is moving right along. Some of the indexing has been done at our meetings and some of our members are doing the indexing at home.

I would like to say "Thank You" to all the executives, committees and members who worked so hard during the past year. It has been a pleasure working with you.

ANNUAL LIBRARY REPORT FOR 1997

by Betty Padfield

Another year is behind us already and we have seen some informative material added to our Library.

We received our subscriptions to Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan Genealogy societies again. Exchanges were made with 31 branches from Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Several purchases were made during the past year, such as:

- Carved in Stone, Manitoba Cemeteries listing
- 1885 births, marriages and deaths from Manitoba Newspapers
- Ontario Vital stats. Births 1899, Marriages 1913, and Deaths 1923 (microfilm)
- Directory of Scottish Immigrants Vol II
- English GRD on microfiche
- English Ancestry , a guide for North America
- Four Bristol and Avon Family History Journals
- Booklet on films, books and microfiche for searching in Quebec
- Record of the Medical Profession in England

Also a new Bookshelf was purchased.

We had several donations made during the year as well, which have been put into our Library already.

GENEALOGY LIBRARY HOURS

For this spring our library will be open on Wednesdays from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Our library is open to members and nonmembers. Only members may borrow books from our library.

LOCAL CENTENARIANS MAKE THE NEWS

On Feb 5th the Medicine Hat News had, not one but two items, about local Centenarians. Sunnyside Care Centre held a celebration in honor of five local ladies, four of whom have reached their 100th birthday. The fifth lady for having reached her 102nd birthday. They are:

Mary FREY b. 8 Oct 1895

Katherina HORST b. 18 Nov 1897

Hazel KNOWLES b. 13 Dec 1897

Augusta GOOD b. 23 Dec 1897

Ruth BREWER b. 19 Jan 1898

In a separate article, Margaret FULTON (nee Cumberland) is reported to be celebrating her 101 birthday on Sat Feb 7th. She was born in 1897 south of Maple Creek, and as a single woman taught school in the same area. She married Wendell FULTON, and they raised their sons at the ranch near Walsh. Margaret wrote a book about the early history of the Walsh and Graburn areas in 1980. She has resided at Central Park Lodge for the past 10 years.

Congratulations to all of these local ladies. And thanks to the Medicine Hat news for permission to reprint these articles.

BOOK REVIEW

by Ruby Engler

A-Z Guide to Tracing Ancestors in Britain - By Pauline Saul & F.C Markwell - B-49 in our Genealogy Library.

This book goes through the alphabet, listing all the names a person would use in genealogy from A to Z. For example: ALIAS was interesting to me, describing use of an alias. For the children not to lose their claim to their natural father's copyhold land, they could use both names as their surnames. This happened in my family - using their father's surname and their grandfather's surname where there was money. BOYD'S MARRIAGE INDEX contains 7,000,000 names, during the period 1538-1837, divided into counties. From the index you would search the parish mentioned and the entry of marriage. CENSUS RETURNS - the first census was taken in 1801 and then every 10 years to 1881, all on microfilm. The 1891 and 1901 census are not available to the public. The staff will look up the information. Family History Centers are listed. You can order microfilms from Salt Lake City for your location.

This is a very well documented book. There is so much information.

PROGRAM REVIEW

by Ruby Engler

Picture space is available, which I like. Scan one picture at a time to get proper tones, which does need some practice. This program is interesting. You can list a family and the names go on the family database in alphabetical order. Also names show up in the member database. The names and dates go into long boxes and can be recalled to delete information or add more data. There is a family tree chart, a section on Ancestor Family Portraits, also writing a biography along with the picture and more. It's a good idea to back-up your information on the disk, although pictures do take up a lot of space. The database monitor tells you how many family members you have recorded. Birthdays and Anniversaries section is a good idea.

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER HOURS

New hours for the Family History Center are Tues. & Thurs 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, and Sundays 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

NEU SARATA

Submitted by Ferdinand Schwab

Neu (New) Sarata, Kahul, Bessarabia, Romania. That is where once my crib was standing. I was born on March 25, 1922. My parents were Henry Schwab and Emma (nee Zarbock) Schwab. In 1924 my brother Albert was born. I also had a half brother from my mother's previous marriage. His name was William (Schenkel).

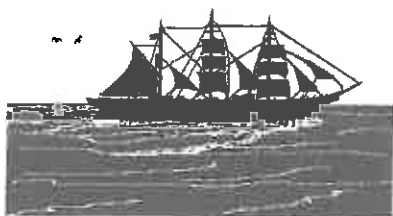
In 1927 my parents decided to sell out and emigrate to Canada. We had several relatives that had gone on before. They wrote us how good it was in Canada. We arrived in St. John, New Brunswick, on January 1, 1928. We crossed Canada on a train. Our final destination was Leader, Sask. My dad's cousin, Ben Schwab met us there with horses and bob sleigh. He immediately made Canadians of us by buying us new caps. He threw ours away. I sure would have liked to keep my cap for a souvenir. I have never seen a similar cap for sale in Canada.

After spending considerable time with relatives, my parents got a job working for a farmer, in the spring of 1928. They even pitched bundles that spring. A good deal of the crop had been left out on the field because of an early winter. That spring I started my education in Rockhill school. This school was near Horsham, Saskatchewan. The next year my dad rented two quarters of land, six miles south of Richmond. Now I attended Dunbrody School. This school was about one and a half miles from our farm. We always walked to school. I took the rest of my education there. I passed Grade X. We lived in a small house. There were only two rooms. One bedroom and a kitchen. In the kitchen was an old cast iron cook stove. In the bedroom was a small cast iron heater. We had three beds in the bedroom. There was no clothes closet. Clothing was hung on a wall or kept in suitcases or a trunk. Oh yes, we must not forget the outdoor plumbing!

We were quite happy there. Eventually when I was 21 years old, my parents bought another farm. I continued farming the old farm. I batched for several years. On July 17, 1948, I was married to Lena Beierbach. We still had the two room house for several more years. Finally my dad bought a bigger house and moved it on our farm. We had seven children there. Our first child died at age one week. Our last were twin girls. One only lived one day. That year, 1965, we moved to Medicine Hat. Here I still am. I worked as night clerk for the Cecil Hotel. Then I had a heart attack. I spent six weeks in hospital. After I recovered, I worked for the Car Safety Inspection for two and a half years. Next I worked for Alberta Transportation for ten years.

After I retired I took some upgrading in college. In 1989 I bought a computer. That is when I decided to start researching my ancestors. I joined the Medicine Hat Genealogical Society. I have read all the films available about Bessarabia. I also have read the St. Petersburg films. I had much help from the friendly staff at the L.D.S. Church. I have said many times that I would start a family history. However it seems that I always want to find a little more. I now have 19,000 names in my computer.

On November 19, 1997, my dear wife Lena passed away. It make me realize that I better start writing a family history soon. I am still willing to help any one interested in the same families that I am working on. Following are some of my main families of interest, SCHWAB, BEIERBACH, GRUS(Z)IE, ZARBOCK, NEUMANN, LAUX, STOCK, ZIEGENHAGEL and many more extended families.



MOST WANTED ANCESTORS

PADFIELD

Since I've been doing research back in 1986, I've been looking for the birthplace and parents of James Padfield.

I've been able to determine that he was born in Somerset County, England c1810 and that he was married in Emborrow, Somerset County England to Mary COX in June of 1833. James and his wife and two sons, George and Alfred came to Ontario, Canada in 1853. A James Padfield was a witness to a marriage of a Maria Padfield to James Cox, in 1854 (Maria being born c1818. so therefore unlikely to be a daughter of James, probably his sister.) His occupation was an edged toolmaker and later on a farmer. I just don't know where to look next for any more information, so would really appreciate any help and/or suggestions.

Betty Padfield e-mail: bpadfiel@memlane.com

MERRICK

In several secondary records, I have found parents recorded for my 3rd great grandfather John Merrick, whose wife was Mary PENROSE, Quakers who settled in Newton Robinson, Simcoe Co. Ontario. Each of these secondary records, show his parents as John Merrick and Sarah ARMITAGE. My problem is that none of these records show sources for this information.

I did find the family of John Merrick and Sarah Armitage in PA primary sources, and they did have a son John b. 1783, and I know that Sarah Armitage's brother Amos settled in the Newmarket, Ont. area. Everything I have found, however, is circumstantial. What I need is a source that will prove his parentage.

I found an old query from a OGS member, Bernice Ellis, who was researching this line. I did write to her, but received no answer. She apparently had done excellent research on this line, as she too, was a Merrick descendant. I have since learned that she passed on a while ago. I have tried to find out what happened to her research, but have been unsuccessful.

Any and all help to point me in the right direction will be very much appreciated. Thanks to all for your time.

I can be contacted through the address on this newsletter, or by e-mail at:

Eileen Stahl <estahl@memlane.com>

WHAT'S ON THE WEB

GERMANS FROM RUSSIA RESEARCH

For those researching Germans from Russia, there is an excellent *Gopher* site. You can download an index of births and marriages (1833-1900) that are found on the St. Petersburg films, along with the film number. If you only have a few to find, you may want to do it on-line. If you should decide to search on-line, be sure you use the "find" feature in your browsers *Edit* window. This is a very large data base, and the find feature saves a lot of time. The address for this very useful site is:

<<gopher://pixel.cs.vt.edu/00/GRG/Stpete/gluc/glueckbm.txt>>

submitted by Rosina Braun

GERMANY & POLAND RESEARCHERS

One of the most interesting web sites I have found for German research is the FEEFHS [Federation of Eastern Europe Family History Societies]. Here you can search for a family name in their powerful search engine, which will bring up all documents that contain that specific surname. By pure luck they have an index to the passenger list, S.S. Pomerania, that sailed from Hamburg and arrived in New York July 3, 1877. On this list is Paul STAHL, age 19. I am still not sure this is the Paul Stahl who was a cousin to our Hermann STAHL, who arrived in New York June 18, 1888, but it is a good possibility.

You can also go to their map room, and download excellent maps of the areas you are researching. I have not checked out all of the maps, but did download a full color excellent map of Pommern, where I am researching.

There is much much more to see. You will find an Index of their web site on the "Front Page". Be sure to take a look at this site at: <<http://feefhs.org>>

submitted by Eileen Stahl

MORE WEB SITES

A list of 309 general interest genealogy sites world wide and 101 Civil War sites

<<http://cpcug.org:80/user/jlacombe/mark.html>>

Halinet Homepage - for those in search of Halton/Peel data, check out: <<http://hhpl.on.ca>>

Ontario Genealogy Resources - Link to various Ontario sites. <<http://wwwnet.com/~treesearch/ontario.html>>

Cyndi's list of Genealogy sites on the internet- Canada <<http://www.oz.net/~cyndihow/gencan.htm>>

Free National Archives of Canada Miscellaneous Immigration index. This database contains information from records dating from 1802 to 1849.

<<http://www.ingeneas.com/free/index.html>>

submitted by Betty Padfield

POSTAL RATES

Canada Post - rates for all postage, for destinations within Canada and also destinations outside of Canada. <<http://www.mailposte.ca>>

U.S. Postal Service - This site will let you learn how much "U.S. postage" to include for your SASEs.

<<http://www.usps.gov>>

submitted by Eileen Stahl

NAMES IN THE NEWS

Once again we are listing some names of residents found in the Medicine Hat News from July 12 - 29th 1910, as submitted by Kathy Gleisner. Should you see a familiar name, please contact the Medicine Hat Genealogy Society for more information.

Sat. July 16, 1910

Miss Blanch
Addie Millican
Mrs. Bell
Mrs. Mallett
A. W. Wright
C. C. Wright
James Little
Mrs. Cocksidge
W. A. Burton
Edgar E. Butler
Clare Forster
Mrs. Livingstone
Alice Livingstone
F. G. Forster
Bert Clark
Donald Cameron
L. Wice
R. W. Jamison
D. H. Currie
J. W. Forster
Emile Desilets
John Warnen
Clement Neff

Mon. July 18, 1910

Mrs. C, Wagstaff
Mrs. Dunham
George Dunham
S. J. Hopper
Miss Ried
J. G. Billet
Mr. Gowan
J. L. Majer
C. H. Bell
N. B. Moors
Chas. E. Neff
Bryce Mitchell
Henry Mitchell
Mr. Cocksidge
H. E. Snel
John MacDougal
James Rae
Miss Mina Mullins
H. L. Tweed
Dr. Boyd
Miss Mary Ethel Neff
J. H. Spencer
Mrs. Robinson
Miss Campbell
Mrs. Chas Potts
Carl Beny

Tues. July 19, 1910

Miss Minnie Burke
Mrs. S. Wales
Jos. Richards
Mrs. J. Wright
Lois Kinlay
Mrs. A. Patterson
Mrs. Edith Wales
Florence Wales
Mrs. John Burke
S. T. Hopper
Mr. Major
Mrs. John Kennedy
Miss Ruby Kennedy
W. K. Porter
Miss K. J. McLean
F. M. Ginther
S. C. Taylor
Gladys Day
Lydia Cooper
W. J. Wilson
Mrs. Cummings
W. B. Burton
Norma Day
Mr. Clenishaw
Fred McPherson
Roy Cuncliffe
Rex Legh
Mrs. J Watkins

More July 19, 1910

Mr. Turpin
B. G. McClellan
Sterling McLennan
Guy Dunham
Ferdie Legh
Mr. D. Curry
Miss Clara Hunter
Mr. J. W. Martin
Jack Reid
S. T. Fawcett
L. C. Brown
M. Fulton
James Plumley
J. L. Peard
T. Legh
W. R. Simmons
George Jenkins
Henry Caven
Terence Finlay
C. A. Krauss
Ted Hahn
James Sallows
Mrs. Singleton
Warren Overpack
Fraser Rainey
M. C. Sackrider
J. J. Hewitt
W. B. Marshall

SHIPS OF OUR ANCESTORS

submitted by Eileen Stahl

Some time ago I saw an e-mail posting about a book on the "Ontario-mail list" I subscribe to. The posting read:

"I am posting to the list because this is general information that may have generic value to others researching ships.

1. An excellent book is "Ships of Our Ancestors" by Michael J. Anuta.

Reprinted 1993 by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.

1001 N. Calvert St.

Baltimore, MD 21202 USA

As the introduction describes:

"Ships of Our Ancestors" is not a genealogical source book but a compilation of photographs of the steamships that were employed in transporting immigrants to this country in the heyday of mass migration. ...photos of nearly 900 ships are arranged here in alphabetical order, and each ship is further identified by date, shipping line, and source.

In the book for my personal research, I have found 2 of my NY port ancestors' ships; they migrated 1881 & 1882.

2. I have purchased 11x14 photographs of my ancestors' ships from:

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square

Salem, Massachusetts 01970 USA

Telephone: (508)745-1876

Fax: (508) 744-6776

The brochure you want to request from the museum is "Photographic Price List." Prices for the photographs vary according to:

a) requested photo reproduction size &

b) whether the museum already has a negative on file versus having to produce a new negative for you.

All of this is explained in the 4 page brochure that the museum will mail to you on request. Be sure and mention your ship's name; if Peabody does not have it, they may refer you to other museums (Mystic Seaport, University of Baltimore, Steamship Historical Society, etc)."

As I knew the name of the ship my husband's ancestors came over on, I took a chance, and e-mailed the person who had posted this information. She was very helpful, and even did a look-up for the ship I needed. It was indeed in the book. She gave me the page number and all the other pertinent information I would need to write to the Peabody Essex Museum, which I did. I now have displayed on my wall, a photograph of the ship that brought the STAHL family to America in 1888.

I asked the person that posted the original message if I could make this information public. Her reply was: *"Spread the word ... No credits needed for me :) Just emphasize to folks that you received this information off the valuable Ontario list from someone living in Texas, and encourage your Ontario family researchers to subscribe to the list ... they'll never know what helpful info may appear :)"*

This article is to let you all know that there is a lot of information to be shared on the internet. In particular by the folks that are subscribed to the various mailing lists.

To go along with this item, I should add, that if you know the ships name and the arrival date of the ship, you can request from the National Archives in Washington D.C., a copy of the passenger list for that ship. For the cost of \$10.00 US, you get a copy of the "original" passenger list for the ship. I ordered the passenger list for our immigrant family, and although I do not have it displayed, have the date of arrival in New York as well. To order this you must first fill out NATF Form 81. This form may be available through the FHC. If you cannot get it there, I can supply the address where the form can be obtained.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

In the last year, I have done some upgrading to my computer and software. As in all upgrading, you lose a few of the things you like, in my case a few of the things that I have used to edit this newsletter. You may notice that some things have changed in this issue, the most noticeable being the cover page of the Saamis Seeker. Although I am using the same program, the upgrade has changed names and with it some of the features that were available. As I was using some of those features to create the cover page, I had to redesign the page. I hope that it meets with the approval of our members. You may also notice that I have added e-mail addresses for the executive. Each of them has offered their e-mail address to be used as a contact for members and non-members to contact our branch. I hope that all those who have e-mail access will make use of these contact people.

I am also trying to start a few regular columns for our newsletter, and would like all of our members to submit to these columns. Two of these columns are in this issue, they are *Most Wanted Ancestors* and *What's on the Web*. Another column intended to inform and help others will be a listing of books and reference material owned by our members. As a lot of people research in the same areas, we thought it might help if all members knew what reference and history books are available through our members. It will then be up to the individual who owns the book, how he or she wants to get the information to those who require it. Some will be doing look ups for those members in need, and some will be offering the loan of the material. Please use respect when borrowing books, and when requesting information, as this is offered as a helping hand, and is not required by our members.

We would also like to continue reviews of computer genealogy programs available. As there are so many now, and they keep coming out with upgrades for those, we are asking that every member who uses a computer genealogy program, review their own program (please include what version you are reviewing). That way many of the programs will be covered. There will be a lot of people who use PAF, and who will probably think that someone else will review it. I would ask that everyone do a review, as there may be features that some people do not make use of. If there are several reviews for the same program, I can specify the features used by each person. Let's all contribute, and make our newsletter the best it can be.

Eileen Stahl, editor

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I would like to welcome the new executive, Deb Phillips as vice president, Brian Klein as secretary and Fern Muirhead as treasurer. I would also like to say, thank you, to the past executive, Gordon Bruins, Myra Anderson, and Memory Myers for doing such a fine job. A bouquet goes out to all the committee chairpersons and other committee people for continuing for another year. You have worked hard and have done a superb job. To all our members who worked on obituaries, did typing, set up and put away tables and chairs and other miscellaneous tasks, thank you. You did a great job.

A special "thank you" goes to Adele Johnson. Her many duties have included being our president, working on queries, phoning committee, and she has always taken an active part in our branch.

Even though we had a very successful election, with all elected positions filled, we still need committee people. Programming and Cemetery are still vacant. The executive all have specific duties to perform. When the executive have to chair the committee positions, as well as performing their own duties, it tends to become time consuming and things do not get done properly. We need you, our branch members, to accept appointments or volunteer for these committee positions. The committee positions are not long term. Try being on a committee and see what happens. It can be a great learning experience.

REMEMBER: "Many hands make light work."

Eddie Pinder, President