



SAAMIS SEEKER

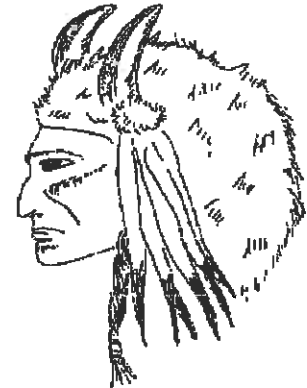
SEPTEMBER 1998

ISSN 0229 7205

VOL. 19 NO. 3

1998 EXECUTIVE & COMMITTEE HEADS

President: Edith Pinder 548-3770 .. epinder@memlane.com
 Past Pres.: Betty Padfield 526-8677 .. bpadfield@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 5275774
 Library: Betty Padfield 526-8677 .. bpadfield@memlane.com
 Membership: Kathy Gleisner 548-7505 .. khinds@memlane.com
 Queries: Margaret Myles ... 526-3466 .. myles@telusplanet.net
 Research: Faye Hood 527-8314
 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

Publication dates are the first day of
 March, June, September &
 December. Submission deadlines are
 the 15th of February, May, 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.

CONTENTS

ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE	3
SOME ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE DISPLAYS	6
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT	7
LIBRARY REPORT	7
HILDA 75TH ANNIVERSARY	7
LIBRARY HOLDINGS OF OUR MEMBERS	8
BETTY PADFIELD	8
MOST WANTED ANCESTORS	9
FENDLEY	9
JOHNSON	9
IT'S A SMALL WORLD	10
FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE FALL HOURS	10

ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE

by Joanie Gilchrist

The year 1998 marks the twentieth anniversary of the beginning of the Medicine Hat & District Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society. Early in the year ideas were discussed on how to celebrate this anniversary. The celebration chosen was an open house, giving our members an opportunity to display their research, show off their family heirlooms and share their knowledge with other members and the public. The date was set for Saturday, June 20, 1998, and planning began in earnest.

Under the capable guidance of our president, Edie Pinder, and Deb Phillips, the open house chairman, many members volunteered their help. Betty Padfield and Rosina Braun were in charge of displays. Edie made posters to advertise the open house with members taking care of putting them up around Redcliff and Medicine Hat. Other publicity was done by Ferdinand Schwab. The invitations, special member name tags as well as a guest book were made by Eileen Stahl. Deb Phillips, Rhonda Dent and Janet Davies volunteered to man the guest book during the open house. The lunch was organized by Jean Schattle with the help of Rhonda Dent and Faye Hood. Both Ruby Engler and Gwen Gogolinsky undertook special displays. A display of past executives, together with as many pictures as possible, was done by Ruby Engler. Gwen volunteered to do a photo directory of current members. Many other members of our branch willingly volunteered for the variety of other tasks to be done to make the open house celebration successful.

The evening before the big day, the Multicultural Folk Arts building was a busy place. Members arrived with display materials, donations for the lunch table or just came to help with the actual set up -- arranging tables for the displays, moving backdrops, setting up the lunch/sitting area, and the setting up of the many displays. The morning of the open house celebration didn't dawn bright and sunny but that didn't stop the members of the Medicine Hat & District Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society from starting the day very early. By the 10:00 a.m. official opening time, everything was ready.



Grace Roth gets some help from Deb Phillips and Rosina Braun



Busy members Brian Klein, Al Gray, Ruby Engler and Edna McKelvie, set up displays



Carol Anderson presents "President's Award" to Edie Pinder, our Branch President

The highlight of the day was the official welcome and presentations at 2:00 p.m. Our president, Edie Pinder, after welcoming all in attendance, spoke on the beginnings and background of our branch. Edie then introduced Carol Anderson, president of the Alberta Genealogical Society, who presented our branch with the President's Award in recognition of our 20th anniversary. Carol also spoke, mentioning her personal ties with our branch since she lives in Brooks. Edie made special introductions of four charter members in attendance, Ruby Barfuss, Eva Dyck, Doris Grant and Ruby Engler.



Founding members in attendance. Doris Grant, Ruby Barfuss, Ruby Engler (present member), and Eva Dyck



Certificate of Recognition presentation to Ruby Engler



Certificate presentation to Rosina Braun

Ruby Engler, as a founding member still in good standing, received a Certificate of Recognition as the only charter member still active in our branch. Edie also presented Ruby with an Honorary Life Membership in our branch. Rosina Braun, Grace Roth and Marge Ensminger all received a Certificate of Recognition for their long-standing membership in our branch. The Certificates of Recognition and Ruby's Honorary Life Membership were designed by Eileen Stahl, using her computer skills. After the presentations, the special anniversary cake was cut and served.

Throughout the day, members of our branch admired each other's displays. The public browsed the many displays, often stopping to talk (sometimes at length) and relating stories of their own. Grace Roth's display included a priceless four generation picture, circa 1879, and also four generations of wedding dresses, one of which was her own. Memory Myers explained how much research and collecting of pictures from near and far went into her husband's family picture. She mentioned briefly the cost of framing then quickly and proudly stated that the finished product was actually worth far more than money. Gwen Gogolinski displayed her grandmother's photo album. It was started in approximately 1880 and, although many of the pictures are unlabeled, through research she has managed to identify some of the pictures. Almost as good as the photo album were the stories of her family that she was able to tell, including one about "changed" ages at marriage. Rosina Braun, Betty Padfield, Janet Davies, Brian Klein, Ruby Engler, Al Gray and Ron Becker all had displays -- binders of research, pictures, genealogical books, computer research. The variety of these displays were of interest to all. Edie Pinder displayed religious certificates belonging to her grandparents. Eileen Stahl displayed her family's history books. In talking to her, she pointed out how much research work had been shared with her by other people. Edna McKelvie's "The Willock Family Tree" made with the help of GenBook, a computer program, was greatly admired. Merv and Barb Hamblin had an inspiring



Certificate presentation to Grace Roth



*Ruby Engler and Carol Anderson
cut the anniversary cake*

display of family heirlooms, including diaries, pictures and a family bible. Particularly interesting was a picture, taken in 1888, of a cricket team from Alford and District, City of Lincoln, England, with the team members dressed in white pants, top hats and tails, with some of the members smoking long clay pipes. Shannon Cairns displayed some of her research, together with war medals belonging to her husband's family. Joanie Gilchrist had an interesting display of pictures taken of pictures from her grandmother's photo album. After viewing the member's displays, Carol Anderson, president of AGS, commented that the "member's displays were outstanding."

In addition to member's displays, the Medicine Hat Museum and Art Gallery had a display, manned by Donny White, Lorraine Sept, and Lorene Marshall. Part of their display was a family album, similar to Gwen Gogolinski's grandmother's album. When questioned about why such an album would be in a museum rather than being a cherished family heirloom, it was explained that the album belonged to the last of a family and was given to the museum. In speaking to Donny White, he pointed out that family history requests are high in their mail volume. He mentioned two different branches of the same family that had been linked together by correspondence in their biography file. The Medicine Hat Public Library had a display of genealogical materials available at the library. They also displayed a listing of out of print books and local history books that can be

ordered through inter-library loans, as well as newspapers and census records that could be ordered on microfilm. The Family History Center of the LDS Church had a computer set up with Deb Phillips and Deane Haynes answering questions on what the Family History Center has to offer to help in your research. Creative Memories consultants Debbie Siwy and Cris Kenmore had a display of archival photo albums and supplies to get started making these albums. Their display emphasized the proper care and storage of photos. Our branch had a library display, taking the opportunity to exhibit some of the books and materials our branch has gathered over the years.

Of special interest to present and past members was the display prepared by Ruby Engler, who is our present branch historian. All past executives of our branch for the last 20 years were listed, together with pictures of most of these people, were displayed. Also displayed was a lengthy list of all past members of our branch and the photo directory of current members, which was prepared by Gwen Gogolinsky. All of these displays will be placed into a special anniversary book which Ruby has volunteered to complete in honor of our branch's 20th anniversary.



*Lunch committee, Rhonda Dent, Jean Schattle (head
of committee) and Faye Hood*

At the end of the day and after everything had been cleaned up, it was agreed that a good time had been had by all in attendance. To quote Memory Myers -- "people interested in genealogy are selfish in wanting to know about their families. But very unselfish in doing research for themselves and others, with money when it comes to genealogy, in sharing their knowledge with others and helping people." Everyone working together, giving freely of their time and knowledge, made our 20th anniversary celebration a success!

SOME ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE DISPLAYS



Barb Hamblin talks to Creative Memories representative Cris Kenmore.



Donny White from the Medicine Hat Museum talks to an unidentified visitor



Merv Hamblin with his and Barb's display of family heirlooms



Grace Roth with her display of four generation of Family Wedding Gowns



Joanie Gilchrist with the pictures from her Grandmother's photo album.



Betty Padfield with her display of family history books.



Edna McKelvie displays her family history book.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer, and maybe found an elusive ancestor or two.

Our 20th anniversary open house held on June 20, 1998 was an overwhelming success. There were 97 names in our guest book. Numerous comments that I heard during and after the open house were very complimentary.

I am so proud of all our members. The effort that was put into the organizing, setting up, working during our open house, and the clean up was fantastic. A lot of people were surprised and impressed by the quantity and quality of the displays. You, the members, did a really super job. Thanks so very much for making the celebration the success that it was.

Edie Pinder, president

LIBRARY REPORT

We received a number of Newsletters over the summer months, which have all been put into the Library, so be sure to check them out in Sept. Lots of interesting stories and articles and addresses to help with our research. I continued to work on a subject listing and should be finished in Sept. Our Obituary indexing is moving along (a bit slow over the summer) but hopefully in Sept we will get going at it in full swing.

Betty Padfield, librarian

HILDA 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Submitted by Ferdinand Schwab

The hamlet of Hilda Alberta celebrated the 75th anniversary on the week end of Friday July 31, to Sunday August 2, 1998.

On Friday at 6 p.m. Registration took place at the hall. There was an Arts, Crafts and School Photo Display at the School. The Hilda hall was open for refreshments.

Saturday August 1st, there was registration at 10 a.m. at the hall. At 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. hamburgers were available. From 1-3 p.m. they had Bingo in a tent east of the hall, 1-4 p.m. they had a horse shoe competition, 2-4 p.m. Teen activities. From 5-6:30 p.m. they had a Roast Beef Supper. At 7:30 - Opening Ceremonies and Evening Entertainment followed by a street dance. Later that evening they had a Fireworks Display.

Unfortunately I missed the above activities. However, I was out there on Sunday. I really enjoyed it. Everything was so well organized for such a small community. There are only about 40 or 60 residents left. However, the whole district joined in to help. They claimed there were about 800 people there on Saturday. On Sunday there were over one thousand.

Sunday they had a nice parade starting at 10 a.m. They had many beautiful floats. Also several bands. They even had a float in memory of Jim Austin. His store was missing. Possibly many of you saw the Austin store, which is now on the stampede grounds. I went to see it. It was moved in along with most of the supplies. Jim still had a lot of antique

supplies that were on sale in the 30's. It sure brought back memories to a lot of people. He still had the old kerosene lanterns and lamps on the shelves.

The parade lasted about an hour and a half. After the parade a delicious lunch was served in the hall. They had pancakes and barbecued sausage as well as vegetables. For \$4.00 you could eat all you wanted. Lunch lasted a long time. During lunch there was entertainment outdoors beside the hall. Some people ate outside. There were a couple of large tents set up. There was a band playing and singing, old favorite songs. There were also several clowns.

There was also a first aid station at the Fire Hall. Three nurses were in attendance: Renee Wuerful, Alicia Mattheis & Evelyn Schuler. There was antique machinery on display. The Churches were open for visiting.

At 2 p.m. there was a Interdenominational Church Service held outdoors beside the hall. I enjoyed the service very much. However, *I had my ears sunburned!* The celebrants were Rev. Bob Findley of the Hilda Baptist Church: Rev. Herb Bachler formerly of the Hilda Baptist Church: Rev. Emil Krause of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Rev. Gary Knoemerschid formerly of the Zion Lutheran Church. Song sheets were handed out so that the whole community could join in singing several hymns. There also were some special bands. Southland Harmony Quartet, Boschee/Shافر Country Gospel.

There was also a Hilda Community Choir, made up of members of the different churches.

All in all it was a great week end. Let us hope that Hilda will still exist for another 75 years! Congratulations to all who participated! You put on a great show.

LIBRARY HOLDINGS OF OUR MEMBERS

HOLDINGS OF BETTY PADFIELD

1. Behind Canadian Barbed Wire. by David J. Carter
Alien, Refugee & Prisoner of War Camps in Canada
1914-1946
2. Dinosaurs to Defense. A story of the Suffield Block
3. For King and Country- Alberta in the Second World
War
4. The Doomsday Book - England Heritage Then & Now
5. Prime Ministers of Canada (to Brian Mulroney)
6. The Story of Canada by Janet Lunn
7. Merchant Princes - History of Canada's Business
Empire
8. Steeple Chase - Ontario's Historic Churches
9. King's Men - The Soldier Founders of Ontario
10. Loyal She Remains -A Pictorial History of Ontario
(story of beginning Ontario to Modern Ontario)
11. Haldimand County Newsletters 1992- 1993-1994
12. Brant County Newsletters - 1990-1991-1992
13. Simcoe County Newsletters - 1990-1991-1992
14. Bruce & Grey Newsletters - 1990-1991-1992-1993
15. Crandall Manitoba Cemetery Listing
16. Scotia Hamiota Cemetery Listing
17. Kinsmore Hamiota Cemetery Listing
18. Whitby -Oshawa Newsletter 1988-1989
19. Perth County Newsletter 1988-1989
20. Huron County Newsletter - 1987-1988-1989
21. Index to Probate & Surrogate Court Records for
Simcoe County 1828-1929
22. Thy Dwelling Fair - Churches of Nova Scotia
23. Lunenburg- An Illustrated History (Nova Scotia)
24. Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office
(England)
25. Dogwater to Dauphin (Manitoba)
26. Early History of Howick, Huron Co, Ontario
27. My Roots are in Blanshard, Perth Co. Ontario
28. The Chronicles of Crandall (Manitoba)
29. The Pioneers of Blanshard, Perth County, Ontario
30. The History of Blanshard, Perth County, Ontario
31. Minto Memories - Minto, Manitoba
32. Atlantic Hearth - Early Homes and Families of Nova
Scotia
33. Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario Cemetery Listing
34. Mount Pleasant Cemetery Toronto, Ontario
35. Tracing Your Scottish Ancestry by Kathleen Cory.

MOST WANTED ANCESTORS

FENDLEY

James FENDLEY M: Jane THOMPSON in England. They had three children that I know of. Lizzie FENDLEY, Sara FENDLEY and Robert William FENDLEY. All were born in England. James and Jane and children came to Canada, sometime before their children married, and settled in the Toronto/Brampton, Ontario area.

Robert William FENDLEY B:1865? D: 5 Aug 1932 M:18 Mar 1885 in Brampton, Ont to Amy DALE B:? D:23 May 1922. They had four sons that I know of.

1. James Edward FENDLEY B:14 Aug 1885 D: 19 Apr 1972 M:23 Oct 1907 to Ida May JACKSON
2. Charles Robert FENDLEY B:1887 D:1963 M:20, Oct, 1909 to Margaret Victoria McDermott
3. Frederick William FENDLEY B:29 Aug 1889 Brampton, Ont. D:?
4. George Henry FENDLEY B:4 Mar 1891 Brampton, Ont. D:?

James Edward FENDLEY and Ida May JACKSON had four children that I know of.

1. James Edwar FENDLEY B:1911, Toronto? D:1944 Holland. James possibly has two sons. George Edward FENDLEY B: Ont. and John Edward FENDLEY B: England
2. Dale Lewis FENDLEY
3. William Jackson FENDLEY
4. Edythe Francis FENDLEY M: George Archibald MARSHALL sometime in 1944 in Ont.

I would like more information on ancestors and descendants of this family and would like to get in touch with descendants. Any help would be appreciated.

Edith Pinder, Box 508, Redcliff, AB T0J 2P0
email: epinder@memlane.com

JOHNSON, George James Jr.

I have been attempting to tracing the name of JOHNSON. It is not the easiest name to search for. It's not like a surname that has been with a family over many generations. It generally has Scandinavian roots where the name changes with every generation ei: John

- son - of - Peter OLAFSSON would be John PETERSON or PETERSSON. So my search for George James JOHNSON's (or JOHONSON) family has not been successful so far.

According to the information we have, George was born in Bellville, St. Claire County, Illinois on 6 April 1866. There's also a possibility he was born in 1874 - this according to other sources. His parents names, according to his marriage registration, were: George JOHNSON Sr. and Minnie LOUIS, who were of Norwegian descent.

George apparently left home when about 12 yrs old. Was he an orphan? These are puzzling questions.

George wrote his surname as JOHONSON, but on some documents, I have, it is spelled JOHNSON.

I have a copy of his Naturalization papers for Canada.

Certificate of Naturalization # 3573 "A"

George JOHNSON, Junior, formerly of United States of America, now of Hilda in the Province of Alberta in the Dominion of Canada, farmer.

Date: 23 June 1914

I find it hard to understand how this would be all the information required to get a naturalization paper.

I wrote to the Department of Citizenship and Immigration to see if there was more information. The reply states: "the originals of records dated between 1854 and 1917 have been destroyed. However a nominal card index has survived, which provides information compiled at the time of naturalization, such as present and former place of residence, date of certification, name and location of the responsible court. *THE INDEX RARELY CONTAINS GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION.* Records created after 1917 are more detailed.

On his application for Entry, for a Homestead, dated 27 April 1912. He gives:

Age: 38

Country of birth: USA.

Sub Division of Country of birth: Minn.

Registration of Death

Date: 17 May 1938

Nationality: Canadian
Racial Origin: Norwegian
Place of birth: Bellville, Illinois, USA
Date of birth: 9 Apr 1866
Age at Death: 72 yrs, 1 month, 8 days.

[Death registration gives birth as 1866, Naturalization, Patent and Marriage dates would make it 1874.]

George came to the Medicine Hat area about 1909 with a herd of horses for someone. He had been with a crew taking horses from Nebraska to Texas and somewhere along the way some were sold to someone from the Medicine Hat area and he was one of the men who brought them here. I haven't been able to find out who the horses were for. I've checked North Portal Border Crossings and so far have found nothing.

George started ranching north east of Medicine Hat about 1909.

I've checked some US Census records for 1880 and 1900 for Illinois and Minnesota, and found nothing.

One family story was that George had been a deputy sheriff in Omaha or Lincoln, Nebraska before he came to Canada.

It's a shame that the 1911 Canadian Census Records are not going to be released to the public. Maybe that will change when the time comes in 2003.

The search must go on, there might be a record somewhere that fits into this puzzle.

Thanks to all the Countries who kept such good records for all the family researchers to find information on their ancestors. It seems when they got to USA and Canada it wasn't kept up as well. Perhaps because people were on the move so much the late 1800s and early 1900s.

If anyone has some further suggestions on how and where I could find further information on Georges family, I would appreciate hearing from them. I can be contacted through the Medicine Hat Genealogical Society.

Adele Johnson

Adele can be contacted through the Medicine Hat Branch of AGS, Box 971, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7G8.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD!

Submitted by Ruby Engler

We have members searching members in our Medicine Hat Genealogy group.

Rosina Braun found former member, Becky Weiss, was connected to her family. Rose's grandmother, Caroline (Hausauer) Schaffer and Becky's great grandmother, Rosina Bieber were sisters, they found out when Becky and Rose got to know each other. Becky has since died - Feb. 28, 1993.

Also, Rosina found out that Jocelyn McCauley, former member was a relative. Jocelyn's great grandfather, Johann Hausauer and Rose's grandmother, Caroline (Hausauer) Schaffer were brother and sister. Jocelyn has since moved to Kingston, Ont.

Joyce Deering joined our branch, and her husband, Johnny Deering is a first cousin to Rosina. Johnny's mother was Caroline (Schaffer) Deering and her sister, Christina (Schaffer) Ruch was Rosina's mother. Joyce and Johnny have moved to Calgary.

Then, another cousin, Rudy Hartman became a member. His mother was Magdalina (Ruch) Hartman and Rosina's father, Gottfried Ruch were sister and brother. Rosina Braun #868

Ruby Engler has recently found a connection with Mary Ann Wist - former charter member. Through the Kambeitz - Mary Ann is in the Wist family through Brigetta Kambeitz and Jacob Wist. Ruby is connected in the Marion Kambeitz and Sebastian Engler line, through her husband Gordon Engler - his grandfather was Sebastian.

Barbara Hilsendeger, former member and Ruby Engler are working on the Kambeitz families. Barbara's grandmother was Gunda Kambeitz and Ruby's husband, Gordon's grandmother, Marion Kambeitz were sisters. Ruby Engler #631

FAMILY HISTORY CENTRE FALL HOURS

Starting Sept. 8, 1998

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Sundays 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.