

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

Volume 41 Number 3 – August 2013

Summary of Feature Articles

“Sheepskin Coats on the Prairies- Searching For My Ukrainian Ancestors” by Sharon Aney

With this article, Sharon was the 2012 winner of the Kenneth Young Award for Best Original Article appearing in a branch newsletter. She tells how, as a descendant of immigrants, she traced her lineage back to her ancestral roots. This is an excellent 'how to' story for similar researchers.

“Getting the Mail – Rural Mail Delivery Comes to Bardo” by Donald Kauffman

Donald recalls how mail was received in small town Alberta when he was a boy, and the excitement this event gave rise to. Especially with Canada Post now planning to cut back on service, this tale will bring back fond memories.

“Are You A ‘Mayflower Descendant’?” by Hans-Henning Muendel

Henning tells how his wife Bev, with his help, discovered and proved her Mayflower Descendant roots. The process is stringent and Henning sets out the sequence to follow for anyone else who thinks they have such roots.

“Your History of Homes and the History of Your Home” by Marilyn M. Astle

Marilyn poses the question: Do you ever drive by a former home? Do you still know the address? etc. She then sets out the spreadsheet method she used to chronicle her research into all the homes in which she has lived showing the provenance of each and its current status. This is an activity that would lend 'meat on the bones' to anyone's research.

“My Time with ‘Living the Poor Life’” by Ann Taylor

Ann volunteered with The National Archives, Kew, London on a project to catalogue correspondence between various boards and guardians of poor law unions across London. She was taken with the detailed accounts of local and labouring poor and paupers and their struggles. For anyone researching in London and possibly suspecting a poor relative in their past, this would be a very informative article to peruse.

“Checklist of Genealogical Research Resources” by Charles D. Denney

This is reprint of part of a list prepared by Charles Denney in 1989. His checklist remains current, which is why we decided to publish it in four parts throughout this year.

“AGS Memory – The Coat” by Frank Easton

Frank, one of our founding members, has many recollections to share. This is one from an early AGS meeting, sure to bring a chuckle.

“A Flower for Oliver, a Friend for Me” by Denise (Juchli) Daubert

Denise tells of an act of kindness that followed from her research to track the maternal grandfather of her aunt, born and raised in Birmingham, England. The search proved challenging until, through an Internet search, a kind stranger offered help; the gravesite was located and photographed - the quest completed and a new friend made in the process.

“United Empire Loyalists and Eventual Migration to Alberta” by Heather L. Traub

Heather provides some history into the UEL population along the eastern seaboard of the US and why and how they came to Canada. She profiles, in particular, her great grandfather, his military service and eventual migration west to Alberta. This is a tale so many Canadians can relate to of coming here because of political differences and/or persecution. Our forebears were strong people.

“The Horror of the Black Death in Europe” by Leanne Balfour

Leanne tells us of how serendipity played a role in her discovery of a book, written in Norwegian, that included a section on her Sillerud family. Once translated, it became clear that everyone on that farm had died of the ‘Black Death’. Leanne tells us about that epidemic in Norway and its spread across Europe - a very interesting bit of cultural history to round out her family history.

Book Review

Something to Remember Me By, reviewed by Lesley O’Neil

A little book that tells of mementoes given to a child by her grandmother as something to be remembered by. It will no doubt bring back fond childhood memories for many of us.

Other Titles Encouraging Youth to Explore – a short list prepared by John Althouse to encourage young people to develop an interest in genealogy

Visiting Alberta’s Past

Germans from Russia in Medicine Hat and the POW camp there.

From the Branches

- Lynn Fogwill profiles Edmonton Branch participation at this year’s ELLA program. This was a first and a very successful venture. John Althouse lists some other recent branch events and positions filled.
- Drayton Valley’s recent activities were provided by Miriam Roberts.

Marilyn Hindmarch/Peter Staveley
Co-editors – Relatively Speaking