



PAST FINDER

DRAYTON VALLEY BRANCH
ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



**DRAYTON VALLEY BRANCH
OF ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
WILL BE HOSTING
GENFAIR 2016
APRIL 23
AT ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION HALL
5204-51ST DRAYTON VALLEY
(9.30 AM TO 3.30 PM)**

**Volume 22 Issue 1
February 2016
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Drayton Valley Branch
 Alberta Genealogical Society
 PO Box 115
 Rocky Rapids, AB T0E 1Z0

Meetings held 7:00 pm
 Third Wednesday of each month
 Except July, August and December
 In the library at Wishing Well Apartments
 5208 – 47 Ave Valley, AB

The Branch library and resources are located at Wishing Well Apartments and are available to members seven days a week from 9:00am to 9:00 pm. The library is on the second floor. Members are given an access code to open the key lock box which will give them access to the building and another key lock box by the library door will give them access to the library.

EXECUTIVE

President-	Connie Stuhl	780-542-9288
Past president	Colleen Andersen	780-542-2787
Vice President –vacant		
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Fund Raising	Vacant	
Volunteer Hours	Colleen Andersen	780-542-2787
Communication	Vacant	
Parliamentarian	Vacant	

TWIGS, BARK & KINDLING

Please send me some articles for the Past Finder, I need some input.
 I request anyone who will be celebrating 25 years as a member of AGS in the coming year, please notify the executive.

We are hoping to get some new members this year.

NB Past Finder will be published in Spring and Fall x 2 a year.

Upcoming Programme

March 16 and April 20 to be announced. April 23 Genfair see page 4

President's Report

Today, I was outside enjoying the beautiful warm February day. We have been very fortunate as far as the weather goes this year. I remember growing up there always seemed to be lots of snow and the months of January and February were the coldest. That part of winter I do not miss.

Since our last newsletter we have had a few different activities at our Branch. In October we were treated to a slide show of a vacation Miriam Roberts and her husband took. In November Mary Harrington spoke to our Branch about her time in England when WWII started and her experiences there. I could easily visualize as she related her time with her Aunt and hearing the bombers fly over their house, with the air raid sirens blaring. It makes one very thankful to be living in a peaceful country!

In January we hosted Genies in the Library, assisting some members and non-members with some research. The Father/Daughter that I was helping brought some challenges. They really did not know much about their family, and happened to be a common name, which presented even more challenges. We did find a border crossing from the US to Manitoba, which suggested that they came to Canada through the US and not through Nova Scotia, as they had believed. They were also directed to send away for the military file of the man's father, who served in WWII.

We have two new members, Linda Innis and Ingrid Winder. Welcome!

We are in the midst of preparing for GenFair 2016, which will be held April 23, 2016 at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Drayton Valley. There are three speakers that will present throughout the day. The keynote speaker at 1030 will be Ronald Kelland. His presentation will look at the role of place names in our culture, explore the connection between place names and genealogy and offer suggestions on sources for place name information. Susan Haga, President of AGS, will be discussing resources that the researcher can use to provide similar information that they would normally find in census records, such as directories, newspapers, tax records, voters lists, etc. Lianne Kruger will be speaking on how to use Google Search effectively and how to use Google Drive to store and share information, documents and photos with others. There will also be displays by other Branches, the German Special Interest Group and the Genealogy for Youth Project, developed by John Althouse. It should be an informative day, so plan to attend. The fee is only \$5.00. Look for more information further in this newsletter.

Colleen Andersen and I have also been attending the Drayton Valley and Area Legacy Project and are part of the committee. The purpose of this committee is to preserve the oral, written and photographic history of the area.

Connie Stuhl
President, Drayton Valley Branch

Alberta Genealogical Society

GenFair and 2016 Annual General Meeting

The Drayton Valley Branch of AGS is pleased to welcome you to
PULLING TOGETHER YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

Date: Saturday, 23 April 2016

Location: Royal Canadian Legion Hall

5204—51st Avenue, Drayton Valley, Alberta

Cost: \$5.00 per person (pay at the door)

GenFair Program to run from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

AGS Annual General Meeting to begin at 4:00 pm



10:30 a.m. Keynote Speaker—Ronald Kelland Historical Places Officer and Geographical Names Program Coordinator Historical Resources

Management Branch, Alberta Culture and Tourism Events in every human life are attached to the place those events happened. Knowing those places and their names makes it possible to trace past lives through time and distance. Ron Kelland's presentation will look at the role of place names in our culture, explore the connection between place names and genealogy and offer suggestions on sources for place name information.

1:00 p.m. Session Speaker: Susan Haga AGS President Topic: Between the Census This presentation discusses resources that the researcher can use to provide information similar to what they would normally find in census records, such as: directories, newspapers, tax records, voters' lists, etc.

2:30 p.m. Lianne Kruger AGS 1st Vice President Topic: Google Search and Google Drive for Genealogists This session will show how to use Google searches effectively and how to use Google Drive to store and share information, documents and photos with others. Participants are welcome to bring their laptops or tablets to use during this session, but they are not a requirement.

GenFair is a bi-annual 'open house' when members of the public may attend to learn about genealogy and obtain answers to questions they may have about their own family's history. AGS members and vendors will be on hand for one-on-one conversations, computer look-ups, and presentations.

For additional information contact Connie Stuhl: ags.dvbranch@gmail.com
or go to the Drayton Valley website: <http://www.abgenealogy.ca/drayton-valley-branch>
or go to AGS website: <http://www.abgenealogy.ca/2016-ags-genfair>

A Canadian Follow Up on Old Photographs come to life by Miriam Roberts #4339

I last wrote about this follow-up in the *Relatively Speaking* of August 2009 Vol. 37 No 3, and *Old Photographs Come to Life* in February 2006, Vol. 12 Issue 1.

Now the latest developments have been with living relatives also. I received a letter on August 10th 2013 from Murray Faulkner another 3rd cousin from New Zealand. He apologized for not writing sooner. He had been meaning to write after his Auntie May had died on 31st July 2011. He had received information from his 1st cousin Dennis Price who I was first in contact with at the time of the funeral, that had come from me. The email he had sent had not been delivered because my email had changed. Murray has added another totally different aspect of the family.

Murray had attended Edinburgh University in Scotland for 2 years after he had won a scholarship in 1967. While in the UK he went to Wales to visit the Jones Family. He saw 2 of my father's 1st cousins and some of his 3rd cousins in January 1969. He sent me some photographs of his visit to the family and asked some questions about the family and their relationship. He regretted that he had not visited Wales again, as he said the red carpet was rolled out for him, because he was the first of John Jones descendants to visit Wales after he left in 1885.

Murray threw a different light on the reason John Jones' daughter Margaret's middle name is "Wisconsin". He thought she was born on the ship "Wisconsin" and named after the ship. Originally I thought John and Ann Jones arrived on 31st May 1871, in New York. After receiving the information about the "SS Wisconsin" I had some research done about her voyage in May 1871, there are a John and Ann Jones as passengers but no mention of Margaret Wisconsin. I was told the births and deaths could be found at the beginning or end of the passengers list. I searched the list from start to finish without any success of finding Margaret. The ship arrived in New York on 9th of May 1871. Margaret's birthday was May 8th 1871, according to family from New Zealand. I sent to Brooklyn and New York for a birth certificate, but she was not registered there. We do not know where John and Ann went in the USA. The family did not stay long there because Chris Evan Jones was born in Wales on 6th February 1873.

I was also given some information about the state of Wisconsin, since the family were dairy farmers I thought they may have gone to the dairy state. I searched the www.wisconsinhistory.org/vitalrecords for births before September 1907, but Margaret's birthplace will remain a mystery.

I was reading an article in "Hel Achau" the journal of the Clwyd Family History Society in Wales written by Angharad Williams about some of her family who went to Clay County Iowa, they were also on the "SS Wisconsin". I emailed Angharad to enquire if there was a connection to her family, but we did not find one. However Angharad did find the death of Anne (sic) Jones at Henfaes, Nannerch, Wales, she was buried 22nd January 1880. John, Margaret and Chris were found at Henfaes, Nannerch, in the 1881 census.

I visited the www.northwalesbmd.org.uk/index.php website and found a Christmas Evans Jones. I sent for the birth certificate and Chris' middle name is Evans not Evan as told by the family. It is the right certificate because it has John Jones as the father and Ann as his mother. Her maiden

name was Roberts. They were residing at Moor Farm, Holywell where they were before going to USA.

Murray has itchy feet- it must run in the family! He emails me between trips and I answer when I return from my trips. Murray's mother's second name is registered as "Winsconsin" with the "n". He has told me about his first wife and family and his second wife and her children. He has also related about his adventures to Australia and Nepal and his trekking pursuits in N.Z.

He recalls his grandfather Chris sitting on "his favourite, well polished bench in the cowshed at milk time trying to teach him how to count in Welsh". He adds it must have worked because he can still count to ten in Welsh, although he admits "it was hard to conquer the Welsh accent". It is better than I did, my sons got hung up on 6 "chwech" (the "ch" is pronounced like the "ch" in loch) the 2 "chs" in one word was killer on my Canadian born sons' tongues, it sounded like "quake".

The family continued milking cows until Chris died in 1957. Murray said that he had to laugh when his parents moved in 1961 to Fielding N.Z. as they bought a house and a milk run! The milking of cows continues to run in the veins of the Jones descendants, my brother and family and others in Wales still sell milk, but of course it is all done mechanically and transported from the farm in a bulk tank.

Murray has been making enquiries to his cousin Gwen, about the location that the family first came to N.Z. She could not recall the location. Murray has been looking through his family belongings and recently found an old Bible which had what he thought was W. Jones, Taradale and Napier Hawkes Bay Dec 1890 written in it.

We have been having a discussion via email about the "W" handwritten in the Bible. I have the book "Second Stages in Researching Welsh Ancestry". It has a chapter on "Reading Old Documents". It states that "John" is sometimes written as "Jn" with a small "o" above the "n". At least we have established the places they resided in N. Z. Taradale is on the North Island near Napier. We still are not sure whether they lived on the South Island and which port and ship they came to N.Z.

I have also learned that after Owen John Jones, Murray' uncle served in WW 11, he was profoundly affected by it and was later diagnosed with schizophrenia, he did not go out much and he died in 1996. Murray's cousin Keith McLean died in 2006. He suffered all his life from Diabetes.

On May 15th 2014 my brother phoned me from Wales, he said Dennis Price who I had originally heard from in N.Z. was at his place and would like to speak to me. Dennis had had written at Christmas 2013 that he was going to London and would like my brother's phone number. While he was staying at my brother's place he was taken around the different farms and cemeteries that the family have connections in. He thanked me for the original contact I had made with him and was pleased to have been able to see the places the family had lived. There were questions I could not answer, but who knows? – the answers may come at a later date. A story came to light while they were visiting my cousin John and his wife Ceinwen, who gave me the photographs in

the first place. John recalled that his mother had said John Jones and family had left their furniture when they went to N.Z. at the farm where my aunt lived and years later my aunt received a letter asking them to sell the furniture and send the money to N.Z.

In the meantime I made a quick trip to UK and saw photographs of Dennis Price visiting The family in Wales. On returning from Wales Murray emailed me it sounded he wanted to go to Wales. He didn't go but his cousin Barry Mclean and his wife Yvonne went, they were on a bus tour of Wales, and they had a spare day while they were staying at Conway. My brother met Barry in Conway and drove him to the ruins of Foel Dda, Babell where our great grandfathers Robert and John Jones, lived in the 1860s. They were taken back to Conway after a meal with Ron, my second cousin.

I received emails after Barry and Yvonne returned to N.Z, they filled me in on their family. Their oldest son Kit and his wife who was born in Indiana and children live in Vancouver, Canada, a daughter lives in Melbourne, Australia and another daughter and son live in N.Z. Yvonne said Barry was quite emotional after he had seen where the family came from and after meeting family there. Barry was a quantity surveyor and Yvonne was a teacher before they retired, they had celebrated their 50th Anniversary in 2014. Two of the children couldn't make it to the celebration so Barry and Yvonne decided to visit them instead.

In May 2015, I received an email to say that Barry and Yvonne were coming to Vancouver and while in Vancouver they were going to visit friends at White Lake, which is near Salmon Arm. They wondered if we would like to come to meet them, we decided we would go down after finding out where White Lake is.

Kit which is short for Christopher, he was named that because his great-grandfather was called Chris, but his name was Christmas, they call him Kit because that is a Scottish version of Christopher, drove his parents down to Sorrento to meet us, where we were staying . After deciding what we were going to do we went to a restaurant to visit and break the ice over a drink.

Afterwards we were invited over for a meal at Kit's friend's house at White Lake, we enjoyed visiting them while waiting for our meal, we were sitting over looking the tranquil lake, which is nestled in the hills between two arms of Shushwap Lake. While having our meal we did find out where my son gets his big feet, it is an inherited trait of this family!

If you want to trace your family tree, run for public office or win the sweepstakes. (From Coffee News)

A Bible with a History that is part Mystery By Miriam Roberts #4339

I often receive newspaper clippings from Wales that have been passed on by my sister-in-law Nora who knows of my passion for Family History.

The North Wales newspaper the “Free Press” had published an article about a Bible that had been found in a bag of used clothes, which had been anonymously donated to the Nightingale House Hospice Charity Shop on Brook Street in Wrexham, North Wales.

The first owner of the Bible written in Welsh, which was printed in 1837, was John Parry of Tanymaes, Llanwddyn, now in Powys, Wales. The Bible had been presented to John by John Owens of Llanuwchllyn, now in Gwynedd.

It is fortunate that the volunteers working at the shop recognized the significance of an old Bible to family history. The Bible contained a family tree of the Parry family. A week after the find was published in the Free Press, a member of John Parry’s family noticed the article in the Free Press and phoned the number that was published with the article. It was John Parry’s great-great-grandson’s wife Heulwen Parry who called to say her husband Brian was related to John Parry and lives on part of the land of Tanymaes, Llanwddyn, the place the Bible started its journey.

In 1840 the Bible had been passed down to John Parry’s daughter Magdalen whose married name was Davies, she moved to England after her marriage. At some time the Bible had returned to Carno now in Powys, Wales.

The Bible had changed hands by 1925 it was at Whitford, Flintshire, Wales, and on January 14, 1961 there is an entry in the Bible by the “new” owner Arthur Wyn Lloyd 30yrs old of 4 Hendre which is thought to be the hamlet close to where I came from in Flintshire. I do not think there is a connection to my family.

In the article in the Daily Post of February 25, 2015 it states Brian Parry brought bills dating back to 1844 to prove his relationship to John Parry who rented the land which Brian’s son now farms.

Brian would like to find out where the Bible had been between the time it was found and when it departed from his known relative. Brian is very grateful to the staff of the charity shop of Nightingale House Hospice for taking time to locate the family of its original owners. This kind of find is a family historian’s dream come true, it would be a great family heirloom with a story all of its own.

North American Festival of Wales

This festival will be held from September 1st to 4th 2016, at the Westin Hotel, Calgary. Highlights:- Iona- Pan Celtic band, Colwyn Male Voice Choir from Wales, Eisteddfod (music and poetry competition) Hymn Singing (Gymanfa Ganu) for more information check www.nafow.org (First time for festival to be in Alberta).

Browsing Old Cemeteries

In London, England Cemetery:

Here lies Ann Mann, Who lived an old maid, but died an old Mann. Dec 8, 1767.

A Tour of Portugal, Azores and Madeira by Miriam Roberts #4339

We took this tour because we had not been to Portugal before. The Azores and Madeira did belong to Portugal at one time, but Azores and Madeira each became an autonomous area in 1976, a self governing region of Portugal.

The language they speak is Portuguese, and are in the European Common Market. We soon found out that many people on our tour as well as our guide were of Portuguese descent. Many coming from the islands of the Azores and one lady's mother's family came from Madeira.

The Azores are about 850 miles west of Portugal and about 1196 miles southeast of Newfoundland and were originally settled by the Portuguese after they discovered the islands in 1427.

The day we arrived at Ponta Delgada we were dazzled by the lush vegetation. We walked around the town first and went to the Roman Catholic Church there. We were driven around the island of San Miguel, the roadsides were lined with azaleas in bloom, along with other flowers, hydrangeas were starting to bloom. The following three days we found out why everything was so green, it not only rained the island became shrouded in fog.

Three of the people on our tour were on a quest to find family, they were De and her two cousins Donna and Mary who were sisters. Their grandmother was sent to Boston, Massachusetts at the tender age of 12 to work to help support her family in The Azores, she never returned to her homeland. De found out when she visited the church at Ponta Delgada she could return to find her grandmother's birth certificate, she also wanted to find out when her grandma when to the States and on which ship. The three granddaughters all live in the Central Valley, in California. There are other descendants in other areas of USA too. They did meet up with second cousins from Lagoa, they were their grandma's sister's children, who was only 2 when her sister went to the states.

De went to have a meal with her second cousins one evening, she didn't find out when her grandma arrived in the States, but she felt it was more important to get acquainted with the family. Some of the Azorean cousins are coming to visit family in Calgary next year, so De is reconnecting with the Azorean cousins and is hoping they will solve the mystery of her grandma's arrival.

Barb whose mother came from Madeira, went to Hawaii first to work in the sugar plantations and eventually found her way to California, where Barb now lives. Madeira was also discovered by Henry the Navigator in 1419.

Rhyme to Remember Kings and Queens of England Since William 1 (The Conqueror)

Willie, Willie, Harry, Steve,
Harry, Dick, John, Harry Three.
 Edward One, Two, Three Dick Two
 Henry Four, Five, then who?
 Edward Four Five, Dick the Bad
 Harrys Twain and Ned the lad.
 Mary, Lizzie, James the Vain,
 Charlie, Charlie and James again.
 William and Mary and Ann o Gloria
 Four Georges, and William, and Victoria
 Edward Seven, Georgie Five
 Edward, George and Liz (alive)

Mnemonic to remember the Royal House of England and Great Britain

Never a Plan like yours to study oral history so wisely,

Norman, Angevin, Plantagaent, Lancaster, York, Tudor, Stuart, Orange, Hanover, Saxon-
 Coburg, Windsor.

From www.britroyals.com
 Royal Family History

I have included this information because it will be Queen Elizabeth 11, 90th birthday on April 21st, 2016.

She is the longest reigning British Monarch and the world's oldest reigning monarch in world history.

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Metis

Canadians of mixed French and First Nations heritage(mainly concentrated in the Prairies) have experienced discrimination in the past, and in the late 1800s they rebelled with armed force. Their fusion reflects cultural and Spiritual aspects of both ancestries- a far cry from the outdated perception of mixed blood as a negative.

Inuit

Canada's Arctic and sub-Arctic are the home of 55, 000 Inuit, many of whom live in the Territory of Nunavut and speak their culture's language of Inukitut.