

# Roots and Shoots

Camrose Branch – Alberta Genealogical Society

Spring 2025  
Volume 22, No. 1



2025 is our 25<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary!

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## Upcoming Events:

**Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup>:** Library Drop-in at Camrose Public Library, 6-7:30 pm. Come and get some genealogy help. See flyer on Page 4.

**Thursday April 10<sup>th</sup>:** Regular meeting with guest Christine Woodcock (via Zoom) discussing "In Search of Your Scottish Ancestors". 7 pm at Camrose County Ag Building.

**Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup>:** Spring Workshop at Camrose Public Library, 11:30 – 2:30 pm (see flyer on Page 5). Three great speakers!

**Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup>:** Gen Faire in Red Deer, includes AGM of Alberta Genealogical Society. So many great speakers to choose from. <https://rdfamilyhistoryfair.blogspot.com/>

## DAYS AND LOCATIONS TO REMEMBER FOR CAMROSE MEETINGS:

**Regular Monthly Meeting:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, 7 pm. Held at Camrose County Agri Bldg. 4238-37 Street.

**Members Helping Members:**  
1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month, 1 pm. Held at Camrose County Agri Bldg. 4238-37 Street.

**Military SIG:**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month, 1 pm. Held at Camrose County Agri Bldg. 4238-37 Street.

**Writing Your Family History SIG:** Every Monday at 10 am; Second Session - held every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month from 2-4 pm. Both sessions are held via Microsoft Teams.

## Fay Carlson Friday Social

On the last Friday of the month, we meet at the Days Inn (formerly Norsemen Inn) in Gravity Lounge at 5 pm for beverages and free snacks. See you there!



## Message from our Co-President - Deb Trout

### Welcome to the Camrose AGS Spring Newsletter!

After a two-month 'rest,' the group has resumed regular meetings, starting with our annual general meeting in March. Elections were conducted, and all incumbents were returned to their positions. Our meeting theme was Researching in Ireland.

2025 is the 25th Anniversary of our branch's formation, and we have some exciting events to celebrate. In addition to our regular summer events, we will hold a workshop in April and October and a celebratory dinner in September—more details to follow.

In 1999, 59 people interested in genealogy research decided that joining the Alberta Genealogical Society would be beneficial. In January 2000, the Camrose group was admitted to the AGS with 18 members. The new group negotiated an arrangement with the Camrose Public Library to use their meeting room at no charge in exchange for hosting two workshops per year.

We have evolved over the last 25 years. The pandemic caused us to move to using Zoom for meetings, and now we host hybrid meetings and workshops. Meetings have moved to the Camrose County Agricultural Services buildings due to changing operating hours at the library. Three Special Interest Groups have been created - *Writing Your Family History*, *Researching Military*

*Ancestors* and a group helping members with questions called *Members Helping Members*.

AGS Camrose has been a part of numerous community events. Community Registration Night, Founders Days events from 2004 to 2018, and Flagstaff Gathering of the Clans. A major project undertaken was the indexing of the Camrose Canadian Births, Marriages and Deaths. Three volumes have been printed to date up to 1945.

It has been a busy 25 years for the club and hopefully another 25 more.

Please join us for our celebrations if you are able. The workshops will be streamed via Zoom. Contact me at [president@camr-abgenealogy.ca](mailto:president@camr-abgenealogy.ca) for the link.

-Deb

I was born by myself but carry the spirit and blood of my father, mother and my ancestors. So, I am never alone. My identity is through that line.

**Ziggy Marley**

## Family Ties:

by Deb Trout

In October of 2024, my brother Garry and his wife Lorna and I visited with my sister Gloria. The siblings don't often get together without extended family, so it was a special and fun visit. We stayed overnight at Gloria's house and sat up talking late into the night. I learned some interesting family facts that I hadn't previously known.

Here is a photo of the three of us taken the next day. This photo proves that even at 82, brothers can still be jerks.



L to R: Gloria, Garry, Deb

### Brick Wall HELP! and Family Ties sections

To add your *Family Ties* stories/photos or *Brick Wall* questions to the next newsletter.

contact either –  
[camrosegeneo@gmail.com](mailto:camrosegeneo@gmail.com)  
OR  
[moester56@yahoo.com](mailto:moester56@yahoo.com)

by Maureen Scrutton

This March I had the pleasure of meeting my 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin for the first time. I was familiar with him as he had done a lot of online research and added a lot of it to Familysearch.org. His name is Nick Post, and he is my grandfather, David Oliver 'D.O.' Kelly's, sister's grandson.

We had been in touch before and when he messaged me saying he would be in Edmonton visiting his daughter for two months I thought this would be a great opportunity to meet. He lives in Oshawa, Ontario. I have met very few of my Ontario relatives, as I have always lived in the west and haven't visited often.

We picked a date to meet in Edmonton, and knowing my dietary restrictions, he and his wife, Kathy, nicely offered to host me at his daughter's place for brunch.

It was like I had known him for a long time. We talked about our shared and unshared ancestors. Talked about Loyalist ties, Peterborough County, and how he, even though being in Ontario, had not met many of our shared relatives. He is also taken on the project of recording the gravestones of all our relatives at Maple Grove Cemetery in Havelock, ON.

For some who have grown up and been around their extended family all their lives, meeting a second cousin may not seem very exciting. In my case, though, it was very satisfying.



L to R: Maureen, Kathy Post, Nick Post




# Drop In & Chat



With members of the  
Camrose Branch of the  
Alberta Genealogical Society

Connect with local family historians to discuss research tips and tricks, including how to get started and how to avoid common pitfalls.

We want to hear your family history story!



Drop-In on Tuesday, April 8th,  
between 6:00pm - 7:30pm  
at the Camrose Public Library  
We'll be at a table in the non-fiction section

*Our Christmas and March Meetings!*



# Camrose & District Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society

SPRING WORKSHOP – SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025  
AT THE CAMROSE PUBLIC LIBRARY

(Downstairs meeting room)

**11:30 AM**

Live webinar with Gordon McBean  
"Where have all the Obits Gone?"

Gordon McBean is a member of the Manitoba Genealogical Society. He has served as the President and the Vice President of Information Technology from 2011 to 2017. During his tenure, he played a key role in developing the MANI online database, which now contains over 1,500,000 indexed records.

Gordon will join us live from Manitoba, and we invite you to join us. Since the presentation will begin promptly at 11:30 a.m.,

**we ask participants to please arrive 5-10 minutes early.**

**Followed by**

Charlotte Curtis  
"Obituaries and Eulogies of Flagstaff County"

Charlotte Curtis is a dedicated member of the Camrose Branch of the Alberta Genealogical Society. Her passion project—self-described as an obsession—has significantly grown over the years. She collects obituaries and eulogies for individuals who lived, worked, or had some connection to Flagstaff County. In addition to her extensive collection of several binders, she has also created a comprehensive database.

**1:30 PM**

Adele Goa  
Researching In Norway

Adele Goa, long-time member of the Camrose Branch, will share her extensive experience in researching family history in Norway. She will guide the audience through the available databases and resources, helping participants understand the unique quirks and nuances of conducting research in this Scandinavian country.

Bring your lunch  
and beverage(s)



There is no charge for this workshop!  
but space is limited – preregistration is required  
please email to guarantee your spot!

[president@camr-abgenealogy.ca](mailto:president@camr-abgenealogy.ca)

Zoom attendance available





## Family Research and Gardening by Janine Carroll

People who know me well know that I love two activities - family research and gardening. I inherited my passion and love for gardening from gardeners in my family tree, and there are quite a few!

My great-grandparents, David Montgomery Barker (1876-1955) and Annie Alberni Clarke (1880-1960), are in one of the pictures featuring their prize potato patch. The couple moved from Victoria, BC to a farm near Stony Plain in 1911 with their three children: Leslie, Gladys, and Muriel. A few years later, they welcomed another daughter, Elsie.

The Barker family transformed a wilderness area into a thriving garden and operated a market garden, serving the folks with cottages at nearby Edmonton Beach. The photograph was taken in the mid-1910s.



As I gaze longingly out my window, waiting for planting season, I can't help but imagine my great-grandmother doing the same thing over 100 years ago.

David and Annie's daughter, Gladys, my grandmother, later married John Morris and moved to his farm in the Rabbit Hill region (now part of Edmonton), where she created another large garden. A lifelong gardener, she won numerous prizes for vegetables, canning, and baking at community fairs.

As a little girl, I fondly remember listening to conversations between my grandmother and mother about propagation, growing, and harvesting, and working beside them, planting and weeding. I credit both for passing on their knowledge, passion and green thumbs to me.

In the photo titled "The Barker Garden," my grandma is second from the left. Beside her are her sisters, Elsie and Muriel, picking raspberries. This photo dates to the early 1920s.



*The Barker Garden*

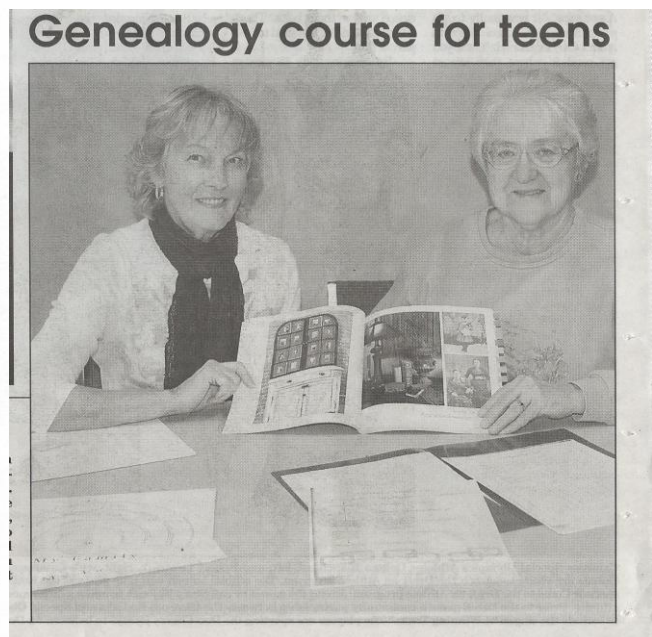


**25 Years of Camrose Branch Photos**



*Some Camrose Branch members at Founders Day  
Alora Nelson, John Stoddart, Fay Carlson, Sharan  
Dermott and Bev Webster.*

**2008**



**2012**

# The LEEDS Method

*Organizing DNA Matches by Ancestor* by Leanne Broughton (taken by permission from Cariboo Notes Spring 2025, Quesnel Branch of the BCGS)

The Leeds Method is a useful tool for those using AncestryDNA, 23andMe, or other DNA testing services, as it helps to identify grandparent lines and other shared family connections. While basic spreadsheet skills are helpful, the method can also be done with pen and paper.

Step-by-Step Guide to the Leeds Method (this example uses AncestryDNA)

## 1. Filter DNA Matches

- Open your DNA match list and filter by centimorgan (cM) range.
- Select matches between 90 cM and 400 cM, as these typically include second cousins or closer. This removes distant matches and keeps the focus on relevant family connections.

## 2. Set Up Your Spreadsheet

- Create a spreadsheet in Excel, Google Sheets, or another program.
- Column A: List all filtered DNA matches.
- Additional columns will represent different family clusters.

## 3. Assign Colors to Create Clusters

- Start with the first DNA match and assign them a color in Column B.
- This person is your first reference match.
- Compare other matches against this person—if they also share DNA, assign them the same color.

## 4. Continue Grouping DNA Matches

- Move to the next unmatched person and assign a new color in Column C.
- Compare this new reference person to the remaining matches.
- Continue assigning colors for each distinct genetic cluster.

## 5. Interpret Results

- Ideally, your matches will fall into four main clusters, representing each of your grandparents' family lines.
- If your matches have family trees, you can check if common ancestors appear.
- In cases of endogamy (family intermarriage), some clusters may overlap or appear more complex.

## 6. Refine and Analyze

- Use the clusters to trace common ancestors, surnames, and geographical origins.
- Reach out to matches to confirm relationships and gather more family history.
- Reorder your spreadsheet so all members of the same cluster appear together.

|  | B      | C   | D       | E     |
|--|--------|-----|---------|-------|
|  |        |     |         | Beath |
|  |        |     | Douglas |       |
|  |        | Dye |         |       |
|  | Fuerst |     |         |       |

This spreadsheet is just one example of how one's spreadsheet, might look. Column A being the list of surnames. (not shown here)

Matches neatly clustered into four groups, corresponding to each grandparent's lineage.

Matches can be reordered so that they are all grouped together in the spreadsheet. (as shown here)

The Leeds Method is simple yet powerful tool for anyone working with DNA matches. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced genealogist, this method can help bring clarity to your family tree and uncover hidden connections.

**For more information about this method check out <https://www.danaleeds.com/the-leeds-method/>**



## WE ARE 25!

Here are some upcoming events!

Use these dates as a placeholder in your calendars. You don't want to miss the information and the fun.

In addition to our April events, here is a list of our future meetings and events for the Camrose Branch for this important anniversary year.

- The regular branch meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) will have a Mother's Day Theme.
- The regular branch meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday) will be a Father's Day theme.
- Our summer events include a visit to Kingman's Regional School Museum and the Summer Social will be held at the Scandia church and graveyard (Instructions on locations and dates to be forthcoming as the summer gets closer).

### *Anniversary Party*

*Sunday, September 21, 2025*

Will be held at the Camrose Senior Centre in the Mirror Lake Centre (5415-49th Avenue, Camrose) from Noon – 4 pm.

We will be having a catered buffet by Mad Platter. **Pre-registration will be in effect for this event.**

### *A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) Workshop*

*Saturday, October 4, 2025*

Being held at Camrose United Church (4829 50 St, Camrose) from 11:30 am – 2:30 pm.

As well as our streamed talk by Thomas MacEntee on AI, there will also be a presentation on photos by our branch experts.

**This is a free event and there will be door prizes.**

## Upcoming Webinars



### **Solving Your Picture Problems** with Allyson Maughan

April 3, 2025, 5 pm (MDT)

What do we do when pictures have problems! No writing on the back? Too many conflicting names and dates? Unfamiliar faces? Come learn the antidote to these dilemmas and finally use those pictures in your research.

<https://ogs.on.ca/april-webinar-solving-your-picture-problems-allyson-maughan/>



### **Beautifully lay out and print your family history book on any budget** with Rhonda Lauritzen

April 16, 2025, Noon (MDT)

Whether you have finished your writing project, or you are just beginning, learn how to beautifully present your work.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/beautifully-lay-out-and-print-your-family-history-book-on-any-budget/>



### **Finding and Fixing Tree Inconsistencies** with Wayne Shephard

May 13, 2025, Noon (MDT)

*Finding and Fixing Tree Inconsistencies* focuses on the honest mistakes we might make in recording data, how we can recognize them and what we can do to correct them.

<https://familytreewebinars.com/webinar/finding-and-fixing-tree-inconsistencies/>



### **Family history: Tracing your Irish Ancestors** with Jessamy Carlson and Brian Gurrin

June 20, 2025, 7 am (MDT)

The National Archives is a leading partner in the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland (VRTI), a project working to track down surviving copies of the records destroyed a century ago.

<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/visit-us/whats-on/online-events/>

## **Genealogy Gleanings:**

**Women's History Month: 9 Ways to Find Female Ancestors in Newspapers**

<https://blog.newspapers.com/womens-history-month-9-ways-to-find-female-ancestors-in-newspapers/>

**Amy Johnson Crow on YouTube**

[23andMe Filed for Bankruptcy – Here's What You Need to Know](#)

**A Tour of the FamilySearch Research Wiki**

<https://familytreemagazine.com/websites/video-familysearch-research-wiki/>

**New tool puts access to old residential schools online**

<https://www.aptnnews.ca/national-news/new-tool-puts-access-to-old-residential-schools-online/>

**Conquering PIP Census'**

<https://genohistory.com/2023/09/18/conquering-pip-censuses-not-pre-1850/>

**Instant access to English and Welsh birth and death records — and for less money**

<https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?p=41411>

**How to Pick the Best Software for Your Genealogy Goals**

<https://familytreemagazine.com/resources/software/meeting-your-match/>

**5 Common Genealogy Errors (and How to Avoid Them)**

<https://familytreemagazine.com/research/5-common-genealogy-errors/>

**Preserving Our Ancestor's Military Medals and Ribbons**

<https://agenealogistinthearchives.blogspot.com/2024/05/preserving-our-ancestors-military.html>

**The Irish Fenian invasion of Canada in 1866**

<https://www.irishcentral.com/roots/history/irish-fenian-invasion-canada>

**Ancestry Adds Canadian Pacific Steamship Company Records, 1897-1981**

<https://www.anglocelticconnections.ca/2024/06/24/ancestry-adds-canadian-pacific-steamship-company-records-1897-1981/>

**Hidden Meanings of Gravestone Symbols**

<https://familytreemagazine.com/cemeteries/hidden-meanings-gravestone-symbols/>

**More British Home Children records now available and free to access on Findmypast**

<https://genealogyalacarte.ca/?p=43457>

**Using ChatGPT for Genealogy — Accurately**

<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/using-chatgpt-for-genealogy-accurately/>

**\*\*\*If anyone has found a link to a website you'd like to share, or any other items of interest, please send it to me for the next newsletter! [camrosegeneo@gmail.com](mailto:camrosegeneo@gmail.com) or [moester56@yahoo.com](mailto:moester56@yahoo.com)**



Thank you to our contributors to this edition!

**AGS Camrose Branch**  
**Mailing Address: 6130 39 Ave**  
**Camrose, AB T4V 3B1**

**[camrosegeneo@gmail.com](mailto:camrosegeneo@gmail.com)**  
**[facebook.com/CamroseGenealogy](https://facebook.com/CamroseGenealogy)**  
**[www.abgenealogy.ca](http://www.abgenealogy.ca)**

**Camrose Branch Executive**

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Co-President      | Deb Trout        |
| Co-President      | Janine Carroll   |
| Secretary         | Lilyon Lundy     |
| Treasurer         | Alora Nelson     |
| Director at Large | Bev Webster      |
| Webmaster         | Deb Trout        |
| Membership        | Wendy Roth       |
| Event Coordinator | Cindy Mailer     |
| Newsletter        | Maureen Scrutton |

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