

RELATIVELY SPEAKING
Summary of Contents
Volume 44, Number 1 – February 2016

Regular Features

- Announcements
- Call for Papers
- Editor's Comments: The world of genealogy blogs *by Wayne Shephard*
- From the Branches – Brooks, Edmonton, Fort McMurray, Red Deer, Wetaskiwin
- Index – February 2016
- Letters to the Editor
- Library Notes *by Claudine Nelson*
- President's Message *by Susan Haga*

Special Items

- AGS Facebook Pages
- Articles of Interest in 2015 AGS Branch Newsletters
- Conferences, Seminars & Workshops
- GenFair and 2016 AGM
- In Memoriam
- Online Resources

Feature Articles

- **Gardeners at Government House: Tools for the task** *by Gloria (Kennett) Cathcart*
Gloria found a reference to the husband of her grandmother's sister (a grandaunt) in an article published in the August 2015 issue of *Relatively Speaking*. From that limited information and through consultation with the author of the paper she was able to uncover a great deal more information about the origin of that branch in her family tree.
- **Inadequacies of Online Sourcing** *by Celia Heritage*
Celia has been researching information in many online databases for years. While she appreciates the quickness with which she can find information now in online databases, she laments the quality of the citations and notes that accompany these sources. The inconsistencies and errors in descriptions often make it difficult to explain or defend where important genealogical information originates.
- **What Is and What Is Not on the FamilySearch.org Website?** *by James L. Tanner*
James explains that the records on the FamilySearch.org website include: microfilm and microfiche; books; and images of scanned, digitized documents. Using the catalog is the best way to determine the content of record collections recognizing that nothing is perfect and the whole collection continues to expand. Users should also consult the Research wiki for more assistance and information.

- **Top Three Ways to Use Social Media** *by Amie Bowser Tennant*
Amie shows how Facebook, Pinterest and Twitter can be used to hunt down information and connect with people who can help with family history research.
- **East European Records Online** *by Joe Everett*
Joe explains how to go about finding genealogical resources in East European countries. He notes that many are still not indexed or listed online and that researchers need to be diligent in sourcing the databases available. An accompanying list of sources by country is available on the AGS website.
- **RootsBid.com: Overcoming Roadblocks in Your Family History** *by Amie Bowser Tennant*
Amie describes a resource by which individuals may help other individuals through a marketplace of researchers in various specialities or regions of the world. RootsBid allows people to solicit help from others through a bid-based system.
- **Where on Earth did they go?** *by Jayne Thompson*
Jayne describes the problems that can be encountered when using census information, especially when families seem to “disappear” from one decade to the next. Looking at different spellings of names or places, recognizing how mistakes can be made in indexing or looking for friends and neighbours of ancestors might help in locating them.
- **For the Want of a Waistcoat: Searching Criminal Records in England and Wales** *by Deborah Was*
Deborah was successful in tracing an ancestor from newspaper reports and criminal databases. She also learned a great deal about the treatment of people caught up in the legal system in the 19th century.
- **Answering the Help Call from Northern Ireland** *by Larry Johnstone*
Joe connected with relatives in North Ireland and, through the use of many online sources of data in Canada was able to help them trace common ancestors who had immigrated here. In the process, he also learned more about his Irish ancestors.
- **It All Started With “Dick”** *by Sandra Ratch*
Using a collection of old postcards sent to and saved by her great-grandparents, Sandi was able to discover the history of one particular soldier, a friend of the family, who had died during WWI. Starting with the information he provided in his own hand, she was able to unravel his beginnings and ending.
- **A Database Experience That Inspires You to Keep Searching** *by Lyn Meehan*
Lyn describes a new search application for genealogists that can quickly find entries based on just a portion of a name or place. This is a boon to people who do not always know the exact spelling, and/or where indexing has been less than stellar. The system is active with the AGS Grande Prairie Branch databases.

RELATIVELY SPEAKING
Summary of Contents
Volume 44, Number 2 – May 2016

Regular Features

- AGS Library Notes *by Claudine Nelson*
- Announcements
- Call for Papers
- Editor's Comments: "The value of belonging to more than one family history society" *by Wayne Shepherd*
- New Release in the Genealogy for Youth Project
- News From the Branches
- Index – May 2016
- Letters to the Editor
- Past-President's Message *by Susan Haga*
- President's Message *by Bob Franz*
- Quality Quirks
- Spinning Webs *by Denise Daubert*

Special Items

- AGS Branch Libraries
- AGS Facebook Pages
- Articles of Interest in 2016 AGS Branch Newsletters
- Conferences, Seminars, Workshops & Other Events
- GenFair and 2016 AGS Annual General Meeting
- Online Resources
- Research Centre of the Société généalogique du Nord-Ouest
- The Original "University of Calgary"

Feature Articles

- **Bricks and Mortar as Building Blocks for Provincial Identity: Genealogy and the Provincial Archives of Alberta** *by Michael Gourlie*
Michael describes genealogical resources available to researchers at the Provincial Archives of Alberta. He presents a brief outline of what is in the 48 kilometers of textual records, approximately 1.5 million photographs and significant volumes of maps, plans, audiovisual materials, microfilm and library books
- **Exploring School Records: Post-1921 Records You Can Access Now** *by Patricia Greber*
Using the files of the South Peace Regional Archives, Patricia shows the value of archives to family historians looking for old school records for their ancestors.
- **Copying at the County Courthouse** *by Gloria (Kennett) Cathcart*
County courthouses are prime resources for land and vital records. She describes her experiences in reviewing volumes of old records in several locations in the southern U.S.

- **Keepers of History: Seasonal Museums Around Alberta (Preview)** by *Denise Daubert*
Denise summarizes information about the museums around Alberta that are open for the summer. The full article is on the AGS website.
- **Discovering the Past at the Public Library** by *Christine Hayes*
Most public libraries have wonderful collections of historical documents, photographs and other material of interest to genealogists. Christine illustrates one such collection – postcards – that can be used to unravel the history of families.
- **Library and Archives Canada: The National Bricks and Mortar Site** by *Nicole Watier*
The LAC is the prime source of historical information for the nation. Nicole outlines what sorts of data are available and how to research the archives' records.
- **Quiet Defiance** by *Suzanne Maynard*
Suzanne tells how she discovered the story of the marriage of her ancestor, Thérèse Ménard, and the difficulties she faced in having the church in early Québec recognize her relationships in her family.
- **Untold Treasures** by *Brian Langkaas*
Brian describes how to go about readying for a visit to an archives, library or museum in search for information about your family.
- **The Society of Genealogists Library** by *Penny Allen*
Libraries accessible through genealogical societies can be great sources of information. Penny outlines how to source important data from one of the largest international groups based in England.
- **It's a Real Challenge: Finding and Accessing Physical Archives in a Digital World** by *Louisa Blight*
Record offices in Britain contain important collections of old documents of great interest to family historians. Louisa understands how to help people navigate the kinds of records and archives which are traditionally not available online.
- **Online Cemeteries: The Art of Sharing Pictures and Stories of Ancestors Using Gravemarkers as a Guide** by *Nancy Archibald*
Nancy describes how she uses cemetery records online to find important information about her family members.
- **A fresh look into AGS summer website projects!** by *Lyn Meehan*
Lyn outlines what is on tap over the next few months to bring several new pages of information to the AGS website.

RELATIVELY SPEAKING
Summary of Contents
Volume 44, Number 3 – August 2016

Regular Features

- Index – May 2016
- President's Message *by Bob Franz*
- Quality Quirks
- Spinning Webs *by Denise Daubert*

Special Items

- NWMP Regimental Service Numbers
- Some photos from NWMP stories in the SGS *Bulletin* and the MGS *Generations* journals
- Special Joint Venture Project – Families of the NWMP: Distribution of Stories (between *Relatively Speaking*, the SGS *Bulletin* and the MGS *Generations* journals)
- The AGS Alberta Homestead Index: Reformatted *by Lyn Meehan*

Feature Articles

- **Frederick Augustus Bagley (R.S.N. OS 322, NS 247): Maverick** *by Dale H. Bent & Penelope D. Bent*
Dale and Penelope relate the history Dale's grandfather, NWMP officer, soldier, notable musician and regimental band leader.
- **Honest John Herron (R.S.N. OS 378): Policeman, Plainsman and Politician** *by Gordon Tolton*
This republished story of John Herron by historian and writer, Gordon Tolton, traces his life and accomplishments primarily following his later career as a NWMP officer and pioneer rancher in Alberta.
- **Robert Belcher (R.S.N. OS 13, NS 3, 101): One of the 'Originals'** *by Gail Benjafield*
Gail tells of her family's experiences and enjoyment of Colonel Belcher's old holiday cottage at Gull Lake, Alberta and what she learned about the man.
- **Sergeant John Joseph Marshall (R.S.N. 1287)** *by John J. Marshall*
Jack Marshall outlines some of the background and history of his grandfather describing a part of his legacy and listing his descendants.
- **Staff Sergeant Joseph Harvey Price (R.S.N. OS 202, NS 4))** *by Carol Anne (Price) Marshall*
Carol, wife of Jack Marshall, tells us a bit about her grandfather, also a Staff Sergeant with the NWMP and his life after service with the force.
- **The Search for Ernest Kroesing** *by Bob Franz*
Bob is still searching for a connection of his ancestor with the NWMP only suggested in a postcard sent to the man at the Fort Macleod RNWMP Barracks.
- **Frederick Mortimer Gray (R.S.N. 4218): People We Meet** *by Gori Elder*
This story of a former NWMP officer was published in an Estevan, Saskatchewan newspaper in 1960 and relates the experiences of the man in his main occupation as a veterinarian.
- **From the Little Bighorn to Alberta and Back** *by Michael Peters*
Mike tells about his discoveries of a Western Canada family whose ancestor once owned an historic Custer battlefield Colt Single Action Army revolver.