



Wetaskiwin Branch
Alberta Genealogical Society

Roots & Branches

Vol. 12 No. 1

October 2013

BRANCH MEETINGS

3rd Tuesday of the month,
7:00 pm at
LDS CHURCH, 5410 – 36 ave
except Dec., July & Aug.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joan Krueger

I hope everyone had a great summer.

I would like to thank Claudia Malloch and Alice Hoyle co-chairs of the Workshop who worked so hard on this project. Also thanks to their committee. We all appreciate your efforts. I invite you to join us for a great day: October 19, 2013.

Thanks also to Alice for doing the programs for the regular meetings.

Now that fall is here and soon the white flakes will arrive, it will be a good time to catch up on searching and putting to use what you have learned from the programs and workshops.

I wish our snowbirds a good trip south, a good winter and when it is very cold here we will be thinking of you.

I know it is a little early but would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and all the best to you and yours for 2014.

**We Remember
Shirley Brazier**

May 8, 1929 – Aug 9, 2013

COMMITTEES

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LIBRARY

Located at
City of Wetaskiwin Archives

Open: Tuesdays 1 – 3 pm

(Branch volunteers at library)

Library resources available during regular
Archives hours

Contacts:

Alice Hoyle : 780-352-2150

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Bobbi McPherson

~ ~

WETASKIWIN FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints,

5410 – 36 Avenue, Wetaskiwin

Thursdays: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

& 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

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ROOTS & BRANCHES is

published three times per year
by and for the members of
Wetaskiwin Branch of AGS

EDITOR'S CORNER

Sharon Aney

I would like to send my personal good wishes and those of the members of our branch to Peter Stavely, editor of the AGS Relatively Speaking, and to his family as he deals with the treatment and recovery from his illness.

~ ~ ~

GERMAN HISTORY IN ALBERTA

(highly condensed from an article in the Edmonton Journal, September 21, 2013)

Manfred Prokop, a retired professor of German language and literature has been archiving and collecting records of Alberta's Germanic people, searching libraries, archives and century-old German language newspapers. Later this fall he will release the 5th volume in his history of the German communities in Alberta traces the earliest German settlers who settled north of Wetaskiwin up until 1911.....The bulk settled in Edmonton-area communities. Some created communities with Germanic sounding names: Bruderheim and Josephsburg, Fredericksheim and Hoffnungsau (Stony Plain) to the south and west, while others joined Wetaskiwin, Leduc and Camrose or settlements nearby.....

"It won't make the Okotoks-based author the next Herman Hesse: two years of research nets him a few dozen sales. He'll donate a few dozen more to libraries across the country".

Note: If I had a drop of German blood in my family tree I would be breaking down doors to find this book! SA.

~ ~ ~

Congratulations to Linda Winski, our AGS Office Co-ordinator, on receiving a "Daughter of the Year" award recently in Edmonton for her work in combatting gender discrimination.

~ ~ ~

Family: Valuable, Cost: Priceless

RECAP OF MEETING PRESENTATIONS

May 2013 – Elaine Young told us about the research trip that she and her sister Arlene Hedlund from the Drayton Valley branch took to Ithaca, New York, near Syracuse. They tramped many cemeteries and attended service at the church where ancestors had been members. They were able to photograph documents at the Tompkins County public library and the Cornell University Library. Elaine also recommends the **website Old Fulton County Postcards for newspaper articles from New York State**. **Secondly**, members reported upon the sessions they had attended the AGS conference in April.

June 2013 – As is usual, at final meeting of the season the members shared their genealogical triumphs and tribulations. **Carole Koop**: An OGS volunteer checked a cemetery for her, leading to the Irish roots of her grandson's Doherty family. **Bobbi McPherson** appreciates the helpful members of our branch leading her back to roots in the early 1800s. **Mavis Nelson** was able to solve the puzzle of an aunt's marriages on ancestry.com, but still has a brick wall regarding a cousin's death. **Lee Koop** is following Icelandic ancestry through Manitoba Vital Statistics and hopes to tap into the complete Icelandic genealogy. **Bob Maynard** is almost done his mother's memoirs. **Don Brozius** has found where his German information is located and would like to search the local archives. **Diane Strohschein** is organizing her information. **Claudia Malloch** was in Nova Scotia where she met a genealogist who connects to her family for many generations back. **Elaine Young** has transferred information from binders into a computer program. **Sharon Aney** attended the EEGS workshop in Winnipeg where she received some assistance re: her great-grandfather's family in Galicia/Ukraine. **Alice Hoyle** deferred her comments to a future meeting in the interest of time. **Tom Gray** emailed that the best thing that happened in his genealogy year was joining the Wetaskiwin branch of AGS.

Sept. 2013 – John Althouse has requested genealogical stories from Wetaskiwin area for future columns in *Relatively Speaking*. We hope to hear more about this when he is at our workshop on October 19 as a presenter. For the educational part of the meeting **Sharon Aney** led a group discussion, "We Remember", from our school days as a kick-start to writing family histories. It was fun and intended to give members the experience of having the memories of others trigger some of their own. The incidents could be noted down as "bullets" if people were hesitant about writing long paragraphs and many pages.

VOLUNTEER RESEARCH

Alice Hoyle

I had a request for information on William and Dorothy Phippen, both deceased. The researcher wondered where they were buried, and I was able to provide the information that they were both buried in the Old Cemetery in Wetaskiwin, including the plot numbers. He was contacting the City of Wetaskiwin Archives to request their obituaries from their archival records. He has since asked me for more information on his extended family, and he has sent a 3 page document outlining the history of the Phippen family. I have printed the document, and it is now in the family histories section of our WGS library.

One person contacted me, asking me to refer him to Sharon Aney as he saw her article in RS and felt they had a "Kochanowicz" connection. **From Sharon**: After analyzing his family lore, the information I had received from my researchers in Poland several years ago, and visiting the Polish Genealogy Society of America website and www.familysearch.org data base, I was able to determine that his gr-grandfather and my gr-grandmother were siblings.

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# **11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENEALOGY WORKSHOP**

**Saturday, October 19, 2013**

**Norquest College, 5502 – 49 Ave**

## **“From Stump to Tree: Expand your Family Tree!”**

### **Feature Presenters:**

**Lyn Meehan: Where do we Start?**

**Exploring 19<sup>th</sup> Century US Records**

**John Althouse: Using Maps in Your Genealogical Research**

**But I am Not a Writer!**

**Registration: 8:30 am**

**Workshop: 9:00 am – 3:30 pm**

**Fee:** \$ 10.00 for members of Wetaskiwin Branch of AGS

\$ 25.00 for non-members of Wetaskiwin Branch

Fee includes hand-outs, a chance for one of many door prizes, & lunch

**Registration: Please by October 12**

Phone: Claudia @780-352-0685

Alice @ 780-352-2150

Email: [Wetaskiwin@abgensoc.ca](mailto:Wetaskiwin@abgensoc.ca)

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\$\$\$ Fund Raiser \$\$\$

And New Resources for you!

Used Book Sale at the Workshop: Oct. 19

We welcome a donation of any books that you no longer need, pertaining to some aspect of genealogy or family history: a region, an ethnic group, immigration, pioneer life, former occupations, etc. etc.

These kinds of books are sometimes hard to come by and they would be appreciated by other members...

if you no longer need them!

Contact Sharon Aney for more information

or to collect your donation

All proceeds will go to Wetaskiwin branch of AGS.

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**Note from the June 1 EEGS workshop:** We can look forward to archives of several countries in the former Russian Empire putting their holdings online in upcoming years. It will be a collaborative effort between the particular national archive, FHL and ancestry.com.

## RECORDING YOUR SWEDISH NAMES AND PLACES

Mavis Nelson

Our local "go to" person for questions regarding research of Swedish ancestors forwarded a note she received from a fellow researcher with advice re: typing the unique letters of the Swedish alphabet.

"When I used to write Swedish characters I had a file of the characters that I entered at the top of the page. Then, as needed I would copy and paste them. . Sometimes if one particular character repeated a lot, I would use copy and then only repeat paste."

Recently, I received a different way of obtaining the characters. You press down the Alt key and type the numbers corresponding to the letter using the number keypad at the right of your keyboard. Then release the Alt key."

å Alt + 134 or Alt + 0229

Å Alt + 143 or Alt + 0197

ä Alt + 132 or Alt + 0228

Ä Alt + 142 or Alt + 0196

ö Alt + 148 or Alt + 0246

Ö Alt + 153 or Alt + 0214

é Alt + 130 or Alt + 0233

É Alt + 144 or Alt + 0201

**Thank you Mavis!**

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LIBRARY REPORT:

Alice Hoyle

Since the last newsletter we have received the following:

Donated by branch member Sharon Aney:

- European History Atlas
- Map of the early Russian Empire
- Cemetery Transcription: Verkhniyaktivtsi, Borshchiv Rayon, Ternopil Oblast, Ukraine
- Understanding Meyers Orts – translating Guide for the Directory of the Towns and Places in the German Empire – Fay S. Dearden
- 971.2PIN Land of Pain Land of Promise – First Person Accounts by Ukrainian Pioneers 1891-1914, translated by Harry Piniuta
- Genealogical Proof Standard – Building a Solid Case by Christine Rose

Donated by branch member Elaine Young:

- The Land of Open Doors – Being Letters from Western Canada, 1911-1913 by J. Burgon Bickersteth

Donated by Friends of the Provincial Archives of Alberta Society:

- Ukrainian Archival Records at the Provincial Archives of Alberta: an Annotated Guide

Donated by Joan Krueger via Camrose Branch, AGS:

- A Light into the Past – A History of Camrose, 1905 – 1980"

Donated by AGS:

- New Leaves, V.II, History of AGS, 1998-2013

Donated by John Phippen:

- History of the Phippen Family of Buck Lake area

Donated by Mavis Nelson:

- Little Beaver Tales – Ferintosh and District History

We have received newsletters from numerous AGS branches and other Genealogical Societies.

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

MOORE FUNERAL HOME RECORDS**Wetaskiwin, Alberta****Operated by Eli Moore from 1924 – 1937**

We would like to express our thanks to the Moore family for sharing this valuable information with the Wetaskiwin Branch of AGS.

This partial information has been transcribed from our copy of the Moore Funeral Home record book. To obtain more recorded information contact the branch: wetaskiwn@abgensoc.ca

Name	1924	Date of Death	Age
Ambler, Wm		June 5, 1924	60 yrs
Anderson, Albin		July 4, 1924	63-8-10
Blakely, Suzannah		Nov. 15, 1924	79-9-4
Bredlow, Auguste		Dec 27, 1924	71-2-8
Cardinal, Mrs. S.		Nov 15, 1924	35 yrs
Carlson, August		Dec 31, 1924	80 yrs 10 yrs (sic)
Cartwright, Philomene Irene		Mar 24, 1924	4 mos. 26 days
Dotterer, James William		Mar 30, 1924	59 yrs 8 mos
Fee, Gladys		Aug. 23, 1924	20 yrs 2 mos
Firingstone, John		June 5, 1924	---
Forth, baby		April 3, 1924	1 yrs, 4 mos
Fowler, John Fredrick		June 23, 1924	64-4-12
Freeman, Baby		April 8, 1924	2 days
Freeman, baby Deane		Nov. 8, 1924	stillborn
Goves, Enoch		Oct 31, 1924	73-1-2
Hakanson, Dorothy Marie		Dec. 8, 1924	65 yrs
Hijyinson, L --?--, P?-		Sept 1, 1924	64 yrs, 4 mos
Kuori, Roosa		Dec. 13, 1924	52 yrs. 7 mos
Lee, Blanche Merrill		Dec. 7, 1924	10 yrs, 9 mos
Low, Leron		July 1, 1924	21 yrs
McCready, James		April 6, 1924	79 – 10-13
McElhinney, Matthew		Dec. 14, 1924	36 yrs
McRae, Mary		Sept 10, 1924	50 yrs
Newsted, Mrs. Norman		April 8, 1924	72 yrs
O'Neill, Austin		Aug 14, 1924	9 mos 10 days
Peterson, John		Aug 26, 1924	---
Peterson, Mrs.		Dec. 1, 1924	79 (?)
Peterson, Oscar Hildan		May 21, 1924	16 yrs
Pohl, Margaret Norma		Nov. 28, 1924	3 mos, 10 days
Rattlesnake, Francis		June 7, 1924	72 yrs
Redmond, MaryAnn		Nov 6, 1924	67-2-1
Ruttle, Daniel		June 24, 1924	84 yrs
Schaefer, Lilly Harriet		Sept 22, 1924	39, 6 mos
Sharlow, James		May 6, 1924	12 dys
Smallboy, Little		June 13, 1924	2 yrs
Smith, baby		Sept 7, 1924	36 hours
Stevens, John Earle		June 18, 1924	24 yrs
Stoney, ---		April 5, 1924	19 yrs
Tost, Amelia		Oct 16, 1924	79 yrs 2 mos
Vicklander, Elizabeth		Aug. 18, 1924	66 (?) yrs

Wefler, Foster T.	May 18, 1924	89-11-3
Welsford, Caroline	Dec 11, 1924	---
Whitfield, Arthur George	Oct 26, 1924	26 yrs 11 mos
Yates, Mrs	June 7, 1924	60 yrs

1925

Angus, baby	Apr 15, 1925	stillborn
Beifus, Fred	Apr 2, 1925	75 yrs
Calder, Bill	June 2, 1925	99 yrs
Dowler, Joseph	Apr 17, 1925	81 yrs 5 mos
Dudgeon, Eva	Apr 26, 1925	54 yrs 8 mos
Engstrom, Andrew	June 28, 1925	70 yrs
Finch, John alexander	June 6, 1925	62-9-7
Gates, William	Jan 12, 1925	70 yrs
Hanson, Carl Oscar	Mar 19, 1925	58 yrs
Henderson, Emma Margaret	July 3, 1925	17-2
Hope, Joseph	Mar 29, 1925	69-2-19
Howes, Micajah Johnathan	Apr 28, 1925	76 yrs
Jevne, Mable	Jan 3, 1925	7-6-15
Krause, Mrs. Jno	June 9, 1925	65 yrs
Lang, John	June 13, 1925	18 hours
Laughton, Margaret Isabel	Aug 8, 1925	73 yrs
McKenna, baby	July 9, 1925	1 day 4 hrs
Meyers, Ernest	Apr 5, 1925	85-7
Midtdahl, Johan	Mar 31, 1925	31 yrs 4 mos
Morris, Viola	Apr 29, 1925	69-6-3
Mullenm Philip Joseph	April 30, 1925	61 yrs
Palechek, Viola Evelyn	Mar 15, 1925	1 1/2 days
Palmer, Caroline	May 22, 1925	89 yrs 9 mos
Power, Dudley Joseph	Apr 25, 1925	9 yrs
Sald, John Johnson	Mar 4, 1925	73-2-12
Scott, Alexander Keith	Apr 12, 1925	76 yrs 6 mos
Spineer, Annie	Jan 14, 1925	76 yrs 7 mos
Steele, Thomas	Jan 19, 1925	35 yrs
Strohschein, Johanna Elizabeth	July 13, 1925	68 yrs 6 mos
Svensen, Stanley Clarence	July 12, 1925	4 mos 27 days
Theroux, Ferdinand	June 22, 1925	54 yrs
Thompson, George	Aug 2, 1925	76 yrs
Waterston, Katie Ethel	Jan 2, 1925	49-6-17
Weir, Hannah	May 13, 1925	57 yrs
Wilson, Delana Jane	June 15, 1925	---
Wilson, Mrs	Feb 7, 1925	72 yrs

Note: It appears that there are over 800 entries in the records. Over the next months I will be continuing to index the names and death dates - eventually posting them on the Wetaskiwin Branch website. Sharon Aney

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*Nostalgia isn't what it used to be.*

## 1921 CANADIAN CENSUS

Sharon Aney

It is now available to browse on [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca). It is not indexed yet, and in order to find your ancestor you will need to know the land description and the district of the province that the land was located in. Once you find the district, the sub-districts are on a drop-down menu with land descriptions listed within each sub-district, in order that you can choose the right one. Once into the sub-district you will browse through the complete hand-written pages. There is a wealth of information:

The following information was copied from the [ancestry.ca](http://ancestry.ca) website:

“We’re working on an index for the 1921 census that will let you search by name and other details. In the meantime, you can browse the census by province, district, and sub-district to zero in on your ancestor.

### What Questions the Census Asked

June 1, 1921, was the date for the 1921 census. Not every census form was filled out on that day, but questions were to be answered based on that date. For the 1921 census, enumerators recorded answers to the following questions:

- number of dwelling in order of visitation
- number of family, household, or institution in order of visitation
- name of each person whose place of abode was in the household
- place of habitation
- tenure and class of home (owned or rented, rent paid, class of house, house occupied by family)
- sex
- relationship of person enumerated to the head of household
- marital status (single, married, widowed, divorced, or legally separated)
- age at last birthday
- country or place of birth (if Canada, specify province or territory)
- country or place of birth for person’s father and mother
- year of immigration to Canada, if an immigrant
- year of naturalization, if formerly an alien
- racial or tribal origin
- nationality (country to which person owes allegiance)
- can speak English
- can speak French
- religion
- can read and write
- months at school since September 1, 1920
- chief occupation or trade
- employment other than chief occupation or trade, if any
- employer, employee, worker, or working on own account
- principal product, where employed (e.g., ‘in drug store’, ‘on farm’, etc.), or nature of work
- total earnings in past 12 months
- currently out of work
- number of weeks unemployed in past 12 months
- number of weeks unemployed in past 12 months because of illness



Am I glad that decided to browse the posting according to the land description! I would have had a hard time finding "Nakoneshny" on an index. My Ukrainian grandfather's surname was very clearly written as "Nykoncky". His nationality was recorded as "Austrian", an understandable thing since that was on his passport. But his ancestry and mother language were Ukrainian, not Austrian. Indexers will do it "correctly" and it will be wrong!

On the other hand, his father was enumerated at Dauphin, Manitoba: surname spelled correctly, ancestry and mother tongue recorded as "Ruthenian": a term that referred to East Slavs of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. It appears to have made a difference that the enumerator in Manitoba was familiar with people who came from Eastern Europe, and the one in Saskatchewan apparently wasn't.

Another very interesting benefit was the ease of finding information about the neighbors.

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A Stumbling Block or a Stepping Stone

R. L. Sharpe

Isn't it strange that Princes and Kings
And clowns who caper in stardust rings,
And common people like you and me
Are builders for eternity?

Each is given a set of tools,
A shapeless mass, and a book of rules,
And each must make, ere life has flown,
A stumbling block or a stepping stone.

WEBSITE OF INTEREST

Claudia Malloch

The Sears Catalog

If you want to check out fashions, household items and children's toys, etc. from the past check out the Sears catalogue online. Many people relied on that catalogue to obtain most of their non-food items for many years. For rural residents, it meant access to a department store without travelling long, difficult distances...and the items came right to your door.

The arrival of the catalogue was an anticipated event, especially at Christmas. I spent many hours poring over the possibilities and selecting the least expensive. It never seemed to get through to me that I normally got the ones I really wanted.

To take a walk down memory lane, check out these mail order department stores from the past.

Wish book: Web <http://www.wishbookweb.com> which includes the Sears Christmas catalog from 1933 to 1988.

Ancestry.com has a database entitled, Historic Catalogs of Sears, Roebuck & Co., 1896-1993 http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=1670&o_iid=46256&o_lid=46256&o_sch=Web+Property .

On the Sears Archive website <http://www.searsarchives.com/> you can find a timeline for the catalog as well as advertisements for Sears' houses. The concept of mail order houses is an interesting one.

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