



JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, 1994

VOLUME XIV, NO.2

Mesa Co. Genealogical Society P.O. Box 1506 Grand Junction, CO. 81502



*** CALENDAR ***

JUNE

0

General Meeting, 7:00, Museum of Western Colorado, "Using the Family History Library's International Genealogical Index (IGI)", Karol Hoaglund.

JULY

14 General Meeting, 7:00, Museum of Western Colorado, "Redland's Realty Company, 1918-1920", Ila May Keithley.

<u>AUGUST</u>

11

ANNUAL PICNIC Location and theme to be determined by Picnic Committee.

MEETING REFRESHMENT DUTIES FOR 1994

JUNE - Bruce Kolisek JULY - Open AUGUST - Annual Picnic SEPTEMBER - Mary Kronvall OCTOBER - Wynona Hennessey, Gloria Heitsman NOVEMBER - Betty Jane Grosskopf DECEMBER - Christmas Party *** HAVE FUN ! ! ! BE HAPPY ! ! !

Pet a dog... Plant a flower... Smile at the Bus Driver ... Go barefoot ... Pick up someone elses litter ... Look for funny shapes in clouds ... Visit an old person... Stop an argument Warm a heart ... Call up an old friend ... Wash a Window Take an ordinary object and find beauty in it... Show a child how to whistle ... Think of three good things that happened to you yesterday ... Forgive a mistake Do what someone else wishes to do ... Be PATIENT Put yourself in someone elses place... Say "Thank You" with meaning ... Look for Truth... Inspire someone Lower your voice ... Make time for a young person ... Let your kindness come out ... Erase worry and fear of the unknown... Have some FUN BE A FRIEND!

The Mesa County Genealogical Society was established in 1980 as a non-profit organization to promote an interest in genealogy. A Newsletter is published in March, June, September, and December. Regular meetings are held at the Museum of Western Colorado, 4th and Ute, Grand Junction, Colorado at 7:00 p.m., on the second Thursday of each month. Visitors are welcome.

1994 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Norm Kronvall, VICE PRESIDENT: Betty Jane Grosskopf, RECORDING SECRETARY: Mattie Severson, TREASURER: Mary Lou Kelly, CORRESPONDENCE SEC'TRY: Wynona Hennessey, ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS One Year Term: Mary Kronvall Two Year Term: Bertie Albers Three Year Term: Donna Roberts <u>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</u> HISTORIAN: PROGRAM: Dennis Jenkins, PUBLICITY: Bertie Albers, NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Juanita Moston, LIBRARIAN: Dorothy Inscho, CALLING: Mary Kronvall,

Annual dues: \$10 Single; \$12 Family. Membership period is March 1st to March 1st. Those with unpaid dues (after April 30) will not receive the Newsletter.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

At a recent meeting of the officers and board members of the Society one of the major items up for discussion was the status of the Mesa County Cemetery Listing Book project. As most of you know this project has been stalled for sometime due to technical difficulties. It was the recommendation of the board that this project be put into a priority position.

This recommendation was brought before the membership at the May meeting and was approved. The plan is to continue to pursue the possibility of correcting the technical problems by September 1, 1994. In the event these problems are not corrected we will be forced to start over with the source data that has ben compiled over many years by our members.

With the selection of a good computer data base program the data can once again be compiled and worked into a book we can be proud of. Please be thinking about what part you can play in this project when the time comes.

A LAND GRANT - A SHEEPSKIN DOCUMENT RECEIVED AFTER PAYMENT

In the Northwest Territory and farther west, patents were often called land grants, and were authorized only after payment in full at the land offices. These valuable documents were on sheepskins and signed by the president in earlier periods. Prior to 1821 most government land sales were by credit and patents were issued only after final payment to the government.

In 1821 and later, purchases were by cash and thereupon the buyer was eligible for a patent which usually came a couple of years later from Washington. It was recorded on the Register of Receipts of the land office and on the Tract Books thereof. If land was obtained by patent, it was not listed on the county indexes. In Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Kentucky there is said to be an index to all patentees in the state.

(Copied from Pass Finder, Genealogical Society of SW, Illinois, Vol 11, Winter 81/82)

USE 8870 FORMULA FOR FIGURING DATES

The following is another way to arrive at an unknown date. However, the date calculator in PAF is much simpler, if you are not mathematically inclined.

Using the 8870 formula to find a birth date can be a tremendous help to the genealogist when checking tombstone dates. If a tombstone records that a person died May 6, 1889 and was 71 years, 7 months and 9 days old, but no date of birth is listed, you can calculate it quickly using this formula:

18890506	died 1889 May 6
710709	 Subtract: age 71 years, 7 mo. 9 da.
18179797	TOTAL
8870	 Subtract
18170927	 Born 1817 Sept 17

(Copied from the Fore-Kin Trails Genealogical Society Bulletin, August 1990.)

SOCIETY TO CHARGE FOR RESEARCH WORK

An ever increasing number of requests for information are finding their way to the Society mail box, and it has gotten to the point we can no longer absorb the costs of postage and Xerox copies. The following is a summary of that letter: Society volunteers will handle requests received through the Mesa County Public Library and the Genealogical Society for a fee of \$7.50 per hour for research, plus photocopy charges and postage. A single copy of an obituary is \$2 per copy/per obituary if found in the Obituary File, or if an exact death date is given. A SASE is required with the payment.

The money will be used to enhance the collection of books and other material the Society currently has for research purposes.

BOOK AGREEMENT WITH MUSEUM SIGNED

The following is the Addendum to the loan transaction with the Museum and the Mesa County Genealogical Society. The agreement was signed at the March 10th. meeting.

Recognizing the Mesa County Genealogical Society and Museum of Western Colorado's desire to make the material in the Society's collection available for use rather than exhibition, the following restrictions will apply to the Society's collection while it is on loan to the Museum. The Museum will make the collection available for use under the following circumstances:

1. The loan will be transacted for a one year period, renewable at the end of that period if both organizations wish to continue this arrangement.

2. No books will be checked out to the public, museum staff, society members, or on interlibrary loan without prior written consent of the president of the Mesa County Genealogical Society and/or his authorized representative. If any books/publications are checked out, the Museum will not be responsible for the material while it is absent from the Museum.

3. The Museum will provide storage for the collection and exercise the same care it provides for its own library materials. However, it can not be responsible for damage and/or theft that may occur while the material is being used on site. Because of the lack of adequate staffing and a secure public use area, the Museum man not be able to guard against damage an/or theft.

4. The Museum will ask all researchers to fill out use forms. This will not only record how often the materials are being utilized, but should help determine who might have had last access to missing publications. Museum staff and Society members will be required to fill out research forms.

5. The Museum, with the assistance of the Society, will maintain an up-todate list of the material on loan to the Museum. Copies of the list will be kept with the collection and will be made available to Society members. All materials will be imprinted with the Society's stamp before they are placed at the Museum.

6. Generally, the Society's collection will be made available for use during the hours the Museum is open for operation. However, <u>UNLESS PRIOR</u> <u>ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE</u>, collection access and adequate work space can not be assured due to the present cramped quarters and limited staffing. THIS WILL PARTICULARLY APPLY TO SATURDAYS.

7. A list of Society members will be provided to the Museum, and will be checked before members are allowed access to the collection. All other researchers must be accompanied by Museum staff and/or Society members or they will not be allowed access to the collection.

OCCUPATIONS THAT MAY HAVE EVOLVED INTO SURNAMES

Alewife	Woman who keeps a tavern.
Apiarist	Bee-keeper
Apothecary	Druggist, chemist.
Artisan	One who is trained in a trade.
Bailiff	King's representative, agent of Lord of the Manor, Officer under a Sheriff to serve writs
Besom-maker	Broom maker.
Cakeman	Dealer in cattle cake.
Calender	Person who presses cloth or paper.
Carrier	Person plying for hire with a carat.
Cartwright	Man skilled in making wagons
Clother	Dealer or maker of cloth, master weaver.
Comber	Wool comber.
Compositor	Printer.
Copice keeper	One who takes care of small wood.
Corwainer	Shoemaker.
Culler	Gelder.
Cutler	One who makes or sells knives, etc.
Endholder	Inn keeper.
Framar	Farmer.
Ginerr	Joiner.
Gobar	Jobber.
Grecher	Grocer.
Headborough	Constable or deputy constable.
Hilliard/Hiller	One who covers houses with slate.
orman	Journeyman.
Aillow	Miller.
Vettir	Knitter.
loughwright	One who makes or repairs ploughs.
avant	Servant.
latter	Slater.
oyor	Sawyer.
awer	One who taws; makes hide into leather without the use of tannin.
hirdborough	Tithing man or deputy constable.
Whittawer	One who taws skins into whitleather.

RECORDS PRESERVATION IN BIG TROUBLE IN SOME STATES

As researchers we all know how important it is to have good records, and documentation to back them up. It has come to out attention that several states are experiencing huge problems that may not be solved in the near future.

The Virginia Genealogical Society Newsletter of Jan/Feb, 1994 tells the following story: There are enormous archival holdings that include county court records, solicited by the Archives from the county court clerks, that have not been inventoried, preserved or made available to the public. They continue to be inaccessible to those persons who have a legitimate research interest in

continued, next page

RECORDS, continued.

these holdings. Worse yet, there are no plans to inventory or preserve these records. As unprocessed records, they are destined to be stored off-site at a warehouse. These include, but are not limited to county loose papers and original volumes, tax records, original state papers, military records, land records, the list is endless.

They ask our help in writing their legislature and the governor to allocate funds and set policy, or they say, "if we don't, in the words of the current overseer, "Virginians will find their documentary heritage in irreversible jeopardy in 2007."

Virginia is joined by Kentucky in preservation problems. Records in several counties during the 1950s and 1960s made through a Thermofax process are beginning to fade, and even Xerox copies are showing wear, the letters are coming off the pages because of heavy use. There is a security, storage space and indexing problem. The high cost of microfilming is causing some to run the risk of having the original documents destroyed by fire, flood, tornado or other disasters.

Building damage in Junction City, Kentucky caused the loss of the plats to the city-owned cemetery, causing one official to say. "we don't know where to bury people." And 14 years ago original mineral and oil leases were destroyed by mistake and they are still trying to sort that disaster out.

Much of our lives are documented by the records kept in local county courthouses and city halls, as time goes by and the volume increases the problem of storage and security for that material increases as well.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY WILL LEND MICROFILM

Most of the microfilm held by the Kansas State Historical Society is available for interlibrary loan throughout the state and nation. A new "Guide to the Microfilm Collections of the Kansas State Historical Society" includes about 40,000 rolls of film, primarily of the Society's collection of Kansas newspapers but also of manuscript collections, state census records and other resources. The guide, which is unbound in a three-ring binder, will be updated as additional holdings are filmed. Loar requests for newspaper microfilm will be filled fron. call numbers obtained from the guide, or by using reference materials at the Society. A maximum of two reels may be sent at one time to a borrowing library, and the loans will be for two weeks. The only cost is return postage.

Preparation of the "Guide" was supported by a grant from the Kansas Library Network Board, and most libraries in the Kansas Interlibrary Loan Directory received one copy of the guide free of charge. Others interested in obtaining the guide may order copies for \$20, plus postage and handling (\$5) and state sales tax (\$1.05) if applicable. Orders for the guide or inquiries regarding loan policies may be directed to the Microfilm Loan Department, Kansas State Historical Society, 120 West 10th., Topeka, Kansas 66612.



CLUES TO FIGURING OUT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS

The first three digits reveal the state where the Social Security number was issued; they are: 001-003 - NH; 004-007 - ME; 008-009 - VT; 010-034 - MA; 045-039 - RI; 040-049 - CT; 050-134 - MY; 135-158 - NJ; 159-211 - PA; 212-220 - MD; 221-222 - DE; 223-231 - VA; Part 232, 233-236 - WV; Part 232, 237-246 - NC; 247-251 - SC; 252-260 - GA; 261-267 - FL; 268-302 - OH: 303-317 - IN: 318-361 - IL: 362-386 - MI; 387-399 - WI; 400-407 - KY; 408-415 - TN; 416-424 - AL; 425-428,587 - MS; 429-432 - AR; 433-439 - LA; 440-448 - OK; 449-467 - TX; 468-477 - MN; 478-485 - IA; 486-500 - MO; 501-502 - ND; 503-504 - SD; 505-508 - NB; 509-515 - KS; 561-517 - MT; 518-519 - ID; 520-WY; 521-524 - CO; 525 & 585 - NM; 526-527 - AZ; 528-529 - UT; 530 NV: 531-539 - WA: 540-544 - OR: 545-573 - CA; 574 - AK; 575-576 - HI; 577-576 - DC; 700-729 - RR. ***

FIRST FAMILIES OF MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO: RULES OF EVIDENCE.

The rules of evidence applying to the membership of <u>FIRST FAMILIES OF MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO</u> follow and are the standards by which all FFMC proof is judged. There are no exceptions.

The nature and extent of the evidence submitted as proof in all applications shall be sufficient to prove that the applicant is directly descended from the pioneer ancestor(s) named in "B" on the FFMC application blank, and sufficient to differentiate between any two persons of the same name residing in the same area at the same time.

BASIC RULES

1. Primary or collateral evidence from vital statistics, courthouse or other government records, church records, school records, etc., are usually considered excellent proof.

2. Secondary evidence, such as census records, newspaper clippings, old letters, Bible or other family records CONTEMPORARY TO THE FACTS REPORTED are considered almost as authentic.

3. Circumstantial evidence, implied facts or hearsay are NOT accepted as proof unless backed up by primary or secondary evidence.

4. Oral, written, or published family traditions may be wrong and are NOT accepted as proof.

5. Printed or manuscript genealogies, genealogical records or compilations, family group sheets and charts, family reunion records and similar material are not considered proof. Unsupported information from an amateur or a professional genealogist is not accepted, including such records printed in any genealogical, historical or similar publication.

6. Lineage papers, accepted or unaccepted, from other patriotic or hereditary societies by themselves are not considered proof. The document copies which were used to prove the lineage MIGHT be considered proof for FFMC if they follow these rules.

7. Material authored by the applicant or a member of his/her family cannot be considered as proof.

 Bocuments used as proof must, either alone or in conjunction with other acceptable documents, actually STATE THE FACT TO BE PROVED. Examples of implied proof which are not acceptable are:

 Unnamed individuals specified in court records as 'heirs' or 'heirs-at-law' unless it is known that applicable

- Unnamed individuals specified in court records as 'heirs' or 'heirs-at-law' unless it is known that applicable laws at the time included only bloodline/adopted descendants.
- B. Census records which show the name of the head of the family only, along with numbers of family members or others by age group, prove only the family head actually named. Nest door or close neighbors on a census or tax record do not prove any relationship by themselves.
- C. A father is not proved as being in an area just because his child was born there. The birth only proves the mother was there.
- D. Descent is not necessarily proved by owning the same land as an earlier owner by the same name, whether the land was inherited or purchased.

9. Documents written or printed in foreign language must be accompanied by a translation into English and the translation certified as a "true translation" by the translator (not the applicant or a family member).

10. Old letters or family records can be accepted as proof for only the facts that the writer could logically know as CONTEMPORARY KNOWLEDGE. Identification of the writer and the date is necessary. County histories or other published biographics also must have been written by someone with contemporary knowledge, not hearsay, to be acceptable.

11. Land or tax records are acceptable only if they specify that the individual was resident of Miami County, Ohio, since many early landowners and speculators never lived in Miami County, Ohio.

12. Female ancestors living in Miami County, Ohio before 1830 must be identified by their maiden names.

13. A direct line from applicant to pioneer ancestor must be proved at eery step. Collateral descent is not applicable.

14. All proof documents must state their source. Bible records must include a photocopy of the title page with publication date and owner's name. Photocopies from acceptable publications must include a copy of the title page showing publication date and publisher.

15. Typed, handwritten or printed copies of original documents must be certified as "true copy" by a courthouse or other official, or a librarian, etc. An applicant or member of his/her family cannot certify a document as a "true copy". Photocopies of original documents are acceptable as copied if there are no changes on the original.

16. Married female applicants must include a copy of their marriage record to prove their change of name.

17. Photographs of tombstones are acceptable for proof of birth and death dates and for relationships actually stated on the stone. Published compilations of tombstone readings are acceptable if no additional information has been written in, that is not on the stones themselves.

TRACING YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTORS

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is cooperating in a project with the National Park Service to help computerize the names of those people who served in the Civil War.

The Church is providing expertise and computer software that will develop a database to determine in which Civil War regiment and battle a soldier fought in. It is estimated there are up to one million people who are descendants of Civil War soldiers. The National Archives, the repository of war records, receives as many at 1,500 inquiries each week pertaining to the records.

In late 1993, volunteers began using the a software which resembles that used by the Church's extraction program, to transcribe military information into the computer database from copies of 5.4 million handwritten records made after the war.

By early 1996 records will be available to find an ancestors' links to the war by searching for their names and regiments on computers at the National Park Service's 28 Civil War sites.

In addition to the Park Service the project is being guided by the Civil War Trust, a non-profit foundation, with help from the National Archives, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and the Church Family History Department.

Until this information is available on computer you can write to <u>Director of the National</u> <u>Cemetery System, Veteran's Administration, 818</u> <u>Vermont Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 10420</u> to find out which national cemetery an ancestor was buried in during or after the Civil War. In your request include the date of death, and other information from death certificate. The NCS has a card catalog for most of the soldiers buried in national cemeteries and others under Federal jurisdiction.

If your ancestor was a prisoner of war, you might get help by writing to <u>Andersonville National</u> <u>Historic Site, Rt. 1 Box 84, Andersonville, GA</u> <u>31711</u>. Include the prisoner's name, which war, state, unit and any military information you may have, along with a SASE. Andersonville now has a Prisoner of War Museum for all wars which the United States was involved, with major focus on the Civil War.

(From Ct. Soc. of Gen. Newsletter, Jan-Feb, 1993; by way of Columbine Gen. & Hist. Soc. Newsletter, Fourth Quarter 1993)

IMMIGRATION THROUGH TEXAS INFORMATION AVAILABLE

If your ancestor came into the U.S. through the Port of Galveston, Texas write <u>Texas Seaport</u>, 1016 <u>Strand, Galveston, TX 77550</u>, include \$10 per surname and a SASE. This is a database set up by the Galveston Historical Foundation. If the ancestor is found some of the information you can expect is age, sex, country of origin, occupation, ship's name, date of arrival and port of departure.

(taken from Chicago Gen. Soc. Newsletter, Mar 1993; by way of Columbine Gen. & Hist. Soc. Newsletter, Fourth Quarter 1993)

TRACING YOUR ANCESTOR'S MIGRATION ACROSS AMERICA

The migration of your ancestors is documented in the statistical information you have written abou them but that information can be put into a far more interesting and easier to understand form by using the map on the following page as an example.

From the point of origin of the ancestor in the United States (or you an use Europe) to the point where that ancestor died can give a good idea of the reasons for the migration. Knowing this, along with the history taking place at any given time, you may be able to tell what it was that forced their moves from place to place. If you are not exactly sure why they made the move on it may be answered by the relationship between events at the place where the move was made. Was it the potato famine in Ireland the reason for your ancestor leaving that country; was it the end of a war, resulting in no jobs to support a family the reason for them to move on?

By developing a legend line for each family or individual you can see that paths could have crossed at various places and times allowing for them to meet, maybe marry, join in wagon caravans, etc.

