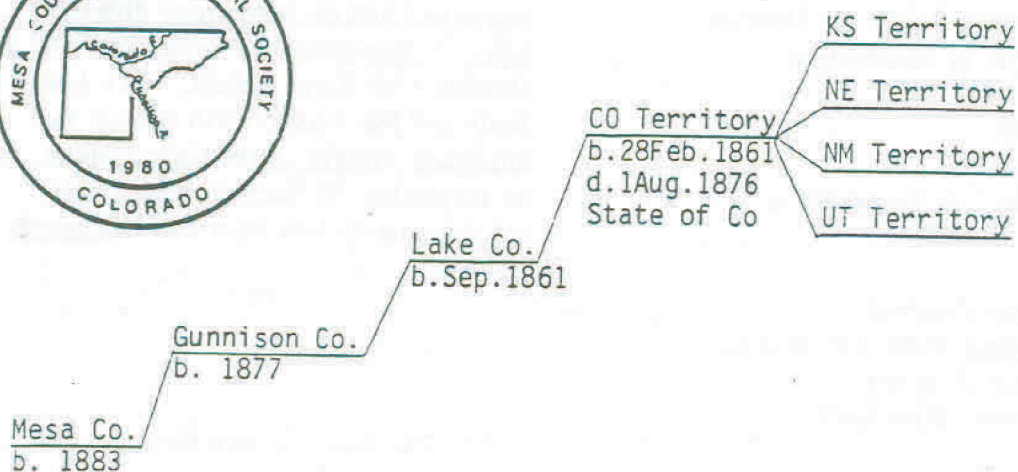
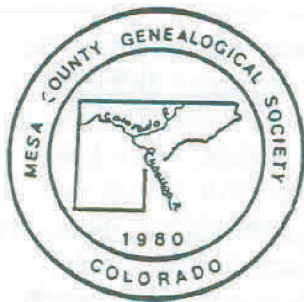


Mesa Dwellers



A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE
MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, 1994

VOLUME XIV, NO. 3

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

A PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

*** CALENDAR ***

SEPTEMBER

- 5 Labor Day
6 Rosh Hashanah
8 *General Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Museum*
Origin of Types of Embroidery
15 Yom Kippur
21-25 Salt Lake Trip
23 Autumn Begins
25 "Color Sunday" on Grand Mesa
-

OCTOBER

- 10 Columbus Day observed
13 *General Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Museum*
U.S. Migration Patterns
30 Daylight Savings Time Ends
-

NOVEMBER

- 8 Election Day
10 *General Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Museum*
Swedish Records Research
11 Veteran's Day
24 Thanksgiving Day
28 Hanukkah
-

MEETING REFRESHMENT DUTIES FOR 1994

September -
October- Wynona Hennessey, Gloria Heitsman
November - Betty Jane Grosskopf
December - Christmas Party

MEETING TOPICS AND SPEAKER SUMMARY

Wanda Dodson will tell about the origin and history concerning different types of embroidery on September 8th; on October 13th Bertie Albers, Mary Lou Kelly and Pat Wassam will discuss the migration patterns in the United States; and on November 10 Norm Kronvall will enlighten us on how to research Swedish records.

The Mesa County Genealogical Society was established 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, [REDACTED]
VICE PRESIDENT: Betty Jane Grosskopf, [REDACTED]
RECORDING SECRETARY: Mattie Severson, [REDACTED]
TREASURER: Mary Lou Kelly, [REDACTED]
CORRESPONDENCE SEC'TRY: Wynona Hennessey, [REDACTED]

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

One Year Term: Mary Kronvall
Two Year Term: Bertie Albers
Three Year Term: Donna Roberts

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

HISTORIAN:
PROGRAM: Dennis Jenkins, [REDACTED]
PUBLICITY: Bertie Albers, [REDACTED]
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Juanita Moston, [REDACTED]
LIBRARIAN: Dorothy Inscho, [REDACTED]
CALLING: Mary Kronvall, [REDACTED]

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 PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Norm Kronvall

Once again our annual summer picnic and workshop was well attended and received.

The Friday evening picnic hosted by Donna Roberts was enjoyed by more than thirty people. A real good time of food and sharing of our summer genealogy efforts was had by all. Our *thanks* go to Donna for being our hostess.

The Saturday workshop consisted of the morning lecture by Barbara Wetherell of the Mesa County Public Library's Oral History program and the afternoon lecture by Ronna Lee Sharpe of the Museum of Western Colorado. The lectures covered the taking of oral histories and research and recording of family folklore and histories. I would like to thank these two speakers for a fine presentation on a subject that is often neglected in our genealogy pursuits.

MESA COUNTY OBITUARY FILE UPDATE

Volunteer members of the Mesa County Genealogical Society have been extracting obituaries and death notices from the Daily Sentinel for several years. These records include the person's name, spouse, birth and death date, and the newspaper date and page the information appeared on. The records are available at the Mesa County Public Library. The Public Library is in the process of transferring the information from the card file into a computer, and is also entering the current obituaries.

The year 1915 should be finished shortly and work is progressing on the 1917 records. Some six years of the 1900's are still to be completed.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this labor intensive job. It has been fun and has helped many who have been looking for ancestors to complete their work more easily.

*A thought to ponder.....If at first you do succeed,
hide your astonishment.*

DPL UP-DATING MARRIAGE RECORDS

The Denver Public Library is looking for volunteers to help up-date the marriage records for the entire state, up to the period of 1930. This will involve the use of a computer and the ability to use D-Base software. The Library will not provide the software.

In the 1930's the WPA compiled 250,000 of these records in order by groom's name. The hope is to enter this on a computer and cross reference it in order by the bride's name as well.

If you are interested in more information, or in ordering as many of the records as you feel you want to work on, contact: Bette Peters, 1205 So. Ivy Way, Denver, CO 80224, (303) 765-4563.

Carolyn Howard, with the Museum of Western Colorado, has been working on this project for a while and can give you further information as well, and would welcome any help you may want to give her on her records.

The Society published a book of Mesa County marriage records costing \$10. Contact Gloria Heitsman at (303)245-2269 if you are interested in purchasing the book.

CALIFORNIA PROPOSES BILL THAT WOULD LOCK UP RECORDS 100 YEARS

California State Assembly Bill 3170, effective Jan. 1999 would "improve document security by making vital records confidential." Records would not become public until 100 years had elapsed from births, or 50 years from deaths, marriages, and dissolution, or annulment of marriages. This bill would adversely affect all genealogists and historians.

Write Senator Milton Marks, 711 Van Ness Ave., #310, San Francisco, CA 94102 to express your opposition to this Bill.

A PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

MY MOTHER TOLD ME SO!

by Juanita Moston

What words of wisdom do you remember from your mother? What is the one expression that was repeated to you over and over in an effort to 'mold' you into an upstanding citizen?

Do you remember "This too shall pass", or did someone say to you when you refused to do a chore "it will build your character".

"Everything comes to he who waits" may give us some comfort today, but as a child *patience* was not exactly what we wanted to come to us. How many of you lived in a two story house and were constantly told, "Don't go up empty-handed."

"Do the dreaded job first, so you'll have the rest of the day to look forward to." "Don't let little worries get you down." "Don't worry about things you can't change." "Happiness is not having what one wants, but wanting what one has." These are just some of the things I found had been passed down to friends from their parents.

One you may not hear used much today is "If someone asks if you can do something, say "Sure I can" and then get busy and learn how."

In today's throw-away, run-to-K-Mart, charge-it society, we seem to have lost the knack of taking care of what we have. Material things can be replaced easily. "It's not what we have, but how we take care of it that's important" falls on deaf ears today.

As a child, growing up was full of all sorts of "good advice" that we hated to hear because it seemed to always be associated with having done something wrong; therefore, we may have forgotten the pearls of good advice each of us got in our formative years. Consider putting your ancestor's favorite sayings in your notes about them. It will give a small insight into what their philosophy of life may have been.

Many of these sayings are humorous and evoke a smile when we hear them; they bring back a picture of a loved one who is gone now. The greatest of all the good words ever given however, was the simple "I love you." It will never become dated, and I bet if you try it, it will bring a smile to your lips and a warm feeling to your heart.

A SEAFARING MAN?

If your American ancestor went to sea in the 1800s, he may have applied for a certificate to protect him from impressment (forced into public service) by Great Britain and other foreign powers. The certificate program lasted from 1796 to 1897. For information write Archives Division, National Archives, Washington, DC 10408.

LIBRARY NEWS

- As you know, the Mesa County Genealogical Society collection of reference books is in its new home at the Museum of Western Colorado, and each Friday afternoon a Society member is on duty to assist researchers. At this time there is a need for volunteers on Friday afternoon, so if you can spare help contact Gloria Heitsman to set a time. Look at it as an opportunity to spend some time getting familiar with the book collection, do some of your own work when you have spare time, and help out another researcher while you are at it.

- While our library is now accessible, the Denver Public Library will not be. The Denver library is planning to close on December 23rd 1994 and not reopen until the end of March 1995, at which time they will be in the new building. There will be no phone or other service available during that period. The Genealogy Collection will become a part of the Western History Collection and other Special Collection, and will be located on the 5th floor of the new building. They anticipate having up to three times as much room as they had in the old building.

- The Mesa County Oral History program is in need of people to listen to the oral history tapes to categorize and summarize the topics talked about, and to transcribe the tapes. This can be done in your own home on a computer, or typewriter. If you are able to spend a little time listening to some very interesting people talk about all types of things we need you. Contact either Donna Roberts at the Museum or Juanita Moston with the Society for more information.

MONTROSE COUNTY CEMETERY RECORD BOOKS AVAILABLE

These books come in six different volumes and range in price as follows: #1, \$21; #2 \$18; #3 \$9; #4, \$13; #5, \$13; and #6, \$27; all require \$2.50 postage and handling each, or you can purchase the complete set for \$74, postpaid.

At this printing there is no information as to what each volume covers, so you will want to contact Fore-Kin Trails Genealogical Society, 8508 High Mesa Road, Olathe, CO 81425 for more information.

A PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

DID YOU KNOW?

A will in Virginia, prior to 1786, did not have to name the wife or eldest son of a deceased man, because their inheritance of real estate was set by law. The widow was to receive one-third as her dower, and the eldest son would receive the remaining two-thirds, unless otherwise specified by his father's will. The eldest son also received his mother's one-third should she die. If the eldest son had died, the eldest grandson of the whole blood became the heir-at-law, not the second son. If an unmarried man died, his heir-at-law was designated to be his eldest brother, not his father or uncle, unless his will specified otherwise. (Source: Foothills Gen. Soc. May/Jul, 1994)

Iowa Old Age Assistance records for 56 counties, compiled during the 1930's, is now available from the Iowa Genealogical Society Library, 6000 Douglas, Des Moines, Iowa. It lists the names of Iowans 21-65 years of age subject to a tax to help care for the elderly. For each person listed, the names of parents, including the mother's maiden name is given.

(Source: Foothills Gen. Soc. May/July, 1994)

The following may help you in reading an inscription on an old headstone. Clean the stone with a brush with natural or nylon bristles (do not use a wire brush), using some vinegar in the water to help with lichen. Using a can of shaving cream, spray a small amount into the lettering, and use a ruler or other straight edged device to spread the cream, and remove the excess. The lettering will become much clearer. (Source: Ellen Payne Odum Library. The Family Tree, Oct/Nov, 1993)

To date a tombstone you need to know that slate or common fieldstone is the oldest (except for wooden, used by pioneers) form of marker, 1796-1830. Flat-topped hard marble, 1830-1849. Round or pointed soft marble with cursive inscriptions, 1845-1868. Masonic 4 sided stones began 1850 to present. Pylons, columns and all exotic type monuments, 1860-1900. Zinc monuments, 1870-1900. Granite now is common; it came into use about 1900. (Source: Rocky Mountain Buckeye, April-May 1994)

Original land patents issued by the U.S. Government dating from 1788-1905 are being automated by the Bureau of Land Management. There is a charge for copies, but this is what you can access now. States completed are AR, FL, LA and MI; soon to be completed are MN, MS, OH, WI, AL, IL, IN, IA and MO.

For the Bureau to do the copying write to Eastern States Office, Bureau of Land Management, 7450 Boston Blvd., Springfield, VA 22153. Include all pertinent names, dates, locations and legal land description. (Source: Foothills Gen Soc. May/June, 1994)

Adoption information may be found in record books where divorce and probate records are filed. Instead of placing them under "A", they are placed under "I" and listed alphabetically. Never ask for information on adoptions, instead ask for divorce or probate records. Under "I" you will find petitions to change names, petitions to adopt, etc. If adoptions occurred in the Superior or Probate Court, you may have access to your own sealed records. (Source: Ellen Payne Odum Library Newsletter, Jan 1994)

HOW MANY ANCESTORS DO YOU THINK YOU HAVE?

You begin with 2 parents, 4 grandparents, 8 great-grandparents, 16 great-great-grandparents, etc. doubling each generation backwards. Assuming there are 25 years more or less to a generation, we are now back to our 16th great grandparents of 100 years ago - or four generations. The figures doubling each generation would generate 256 ancestors 200 years ago, and would involve for many of us our Revolutionary ancestors in this country. Going back 300 years, our ancestors of 12 generations total 4,096. From here back the figures really begin to skyrocket. Sixteen generations, or 400 years ago, our ancestors numbered 54,536. Beyond that: 500 years/20 generations, 1,048,576 ancestors; 600 years/24 generations, 16, 777,216 ancestors; 700 years/28 generations, 268,435,456 ancestors; 800 years/32 generations, 4,249,2916 ancestors...and, 1250 years/50 generations, 3,162,500,000 ancestors! Someone at the Northeast Georgia Historical and Genealogical Society figured this out in 1992.

DATES. HOW DO YOU WRITE THEM

Julian calendar....Gregorian calendar....Muslim calendar; they give us fits when trying to figure out when something happened. Ten days were lost in the change from the Julian to Gregorian calendar; and the Muslims tend to use a calendar where the months do not remain the same but retrogress through the year every 32 1/2 years.

Now that we are fast approaching the turn of another century we face yet another problem. How will we write our dates when this century changes? Consider February 3, 2001: Those with computers may write 010203; Americans may write 2/3/1; our English friends may write 3/2/1; LDS will call it 03Feb2001; NATO will use 03FE01; our relatives will write Feb. 3/01. Legal documents may have -"On the third of February in the year two thousand and one."; or some other arrangement. Just another of those small problems we are forced to worry about; at least we have a while before it becomes a big problem.

NOSTALGIA: Life in the past lane.