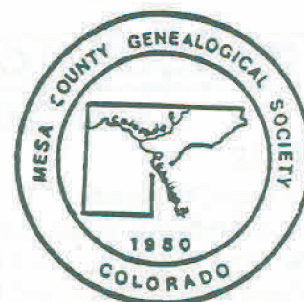


# MESA DWELLERS NEWSLETTER

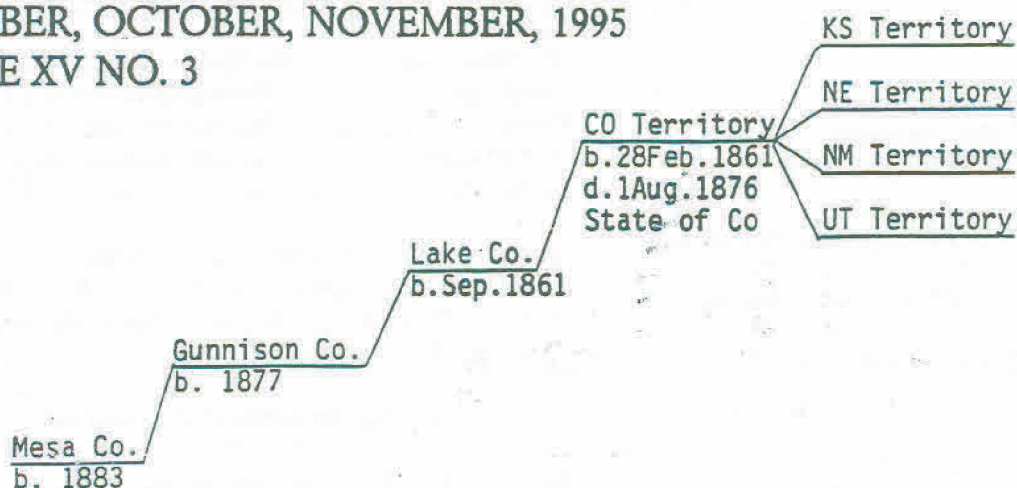


A PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

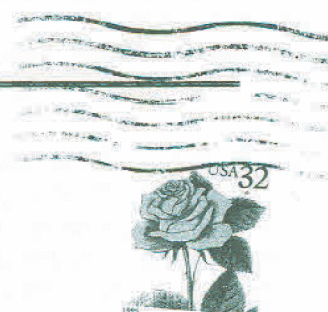
P.O. Box 1506

GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81502-1506

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, 1995  
VOLUME XV NO. 3



MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 1506  
GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81502



CELEBRATING OUR 15th YEAR



# PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## \*\*\* CALENDAR \*\*\*

### SEPTEMBER

- 4 Labor Day Observance
- 14 *General Meeting, 7:00 Museum*  
*Fruita Times Editor Gene Thomas, The Use of*  
*Newspapers for Historical Research*
- 25 Rosh Hashanah

### OCTOBER

- 4 Yom Kippur
- 9 Columbus Day Observance
- 12 *General Meeting, 7:00 Museum*  
*Betty Jane Grosskopf, Highlights of her trip to*  
*Germany*
- 31 Halloween

### NOVEMBER

- 7 Election Day
- 9 *General Meeting, 7:00, Museum*  
*Lois Lashbrook, Handwriting Analysis*
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 11 **FOOTHILLS GEN. SOC. ANNUAL SEMINAR**  
Jeffco Public Library, 10:30-12:30 p.m.  
James Jeffrey. 1:30-3:30p.m. Betty Brown.  
\$10 all day, \$6 half day  
Contact Barbara Olson (303)425-8733
- 23 Thanksgiving

### DECEMBER

- 7 Pearl Harbor Day
- 14 *Annual Christmas Party, 7:00 Museum*
- 18 Hanukkah
- 25 **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

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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 & Ute, Grand Junction, CO at 7:00 p.m., on the second Thursday of each month. Visitors are welcome.

Contributions of neatly typed or written stories, requests for/or giving information, queries, or other information of importance to the membership are welcomed. Please direct your information to Editor Juanita Moston, [REDACTED] Grand Junction, CO 81504-4219. The Society disclaims responsibility for statement of fact or opinion made by contributors, and will not accept material with obvious errors.

## 1994/1995 Officers

President.....	Norm Kronvall, .....	[REDACTED]	3
Vice President.....	Joan Chaffin, .....	[REDACTED]	8
Recording Sec'try	Gloria Heitsman.....	[REDACTED]	9
Treasurer.....	Betty Grosskopf.....	[REDACTED]	94
Corr.Sec'try.....	Wynona Hennessey.....	[REDACTED]	5

## ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

One Year Term.....	Bertie Albers
Two Year Term.....	Donna Roberts
Three Year Term.....	Laveta Kay

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Historian:	
Membership:.....	Betty Dougherty, [REDACTED] 89
Programs:.....	Dennis Jenkins, [REDACTED] 2
Publicity:.....	Juanita Moston, [REDACTED]
Newsletter:.....	Juanita Moston, [REDACTED]
Librarian:.....	Dorothy Inscho, [REDACTED] 5

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

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## Meeting Refreshment Volunteers for 1995

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

\*\*\*

## BIG NEWS!

The Museum of Western Colorado has scored a **big coup**. They are sponsoring a genealogy conference featuring Dr. George K. Sweitzer on Saturday April 13, 1996, at the First Presbyterian Church in Grand Junction. Cost is \$20, and reservations are required. For many years Dr. Sweitzer's hobby has been genealogy, and although he holds three doctoral degrees he is also the author of a number of books on a variety of genealogy topics, ranging from military genealogy, sources and techniques, German genealogy, colonial genealogy and genealogical research various states.

Seating is limited and reserved seats are necessary. Need more information? Contact the Museum of Western Colorado, 4th. & Ute, Grand Junction, CO 81502, or call 242-0971.



## PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

### ARE YOU AN AMERICAN INDIAN?

The Southeastern Cherokee Confederacy was incorporated in the State of Georgia November 12, 1976. Members with 1/16 or more Indian heritage are being accepted. You do not have to be Cherokee to be accepted in the Nation. Their goals include: all American Indians step forward and become one Nation and work together. Contact the Southeastern Cherokee Confederacy Tribal Office, Rt. 4 #120, Albany, GA 31705, or call (912)787-5722. (Source: The Family Tree April-May, 1995)

###

If you are researching Indian lineage you might want to write for: Cherokee Blood Newsletter, PO Box 22261, Chattanooga, TN 37422; Cherokee Family Ties Newsletter, 516 N. 38th St., Mesa AZ 85205; Cherokee Heritage CENTER, PO Box 515, Tahlequah, OK 74465; or the Chickasaw Indian Nation, PO Box 1548, Ada, OK 74820.

(Source: The Family Tree, Dec '94 - Jan '95)

### FREE OHIO LAND SEARCH AVAILABLE

In Ohio, land office research services are free of charge. Thomas E. Ferguson, the Auditor of the State, considers such services a taxpayer service. Copies are provided at cost.

To begin your search: If you have early Ohio ancestors who may have received their land from the federal government, write to the Auditor, who will search the index of land patents and record books for original entries under the surname you provide.

The service is free but you will need to send a long SASE. Give your ancestor's full name, possible location and date. Limit your request to one surname per letter. Sources are cited if information is found; the report will refer you to the proper agencies to secure copies of the land entry file and original patent.

Send requests to PO Box 1140, Columbus, OH 43216-1140. It takes six weeks to reply.

### FIRST BLOOD SHED WAS FROM COLORADO BY K. Don Thompson

The first American blood shed during the conquest of the Philippine Islands during the Spanish-American War was on July 30, 1898, when Private W. H. Sterling, Company K, First Colorado was wounded while marching down a road.

A bullet that the enemy had fired high struck him in the muscle of the upper part of his left arm. While it stung and bled, the bullet did no

serious damage and he was soon back at his duty station.

The troops of the Colorado National Guard were mobilized for duty on April 27, 1898. After several days in a camp in the City of Denver they boarded trains for San Francisco, arriving on May 21st. The troop trained in California for a period of time before shipping off for the Philippines, arriving at Manila Bay on July 16.

(Mr. Thompson is retired from the Colorado National Guard and has written a history of the organization; as well as having a fine collection of military books and records on Guard personnel. He also collects military patches and memorabilia. He can be reached a (970)245-4610.)

### HEALTH INVENTORY - UNUSUAL IDEA

This idea comes from a story in *The Family Tree*, and is copied from the *Aurora Genealogical Society of Colorado, Jan-Feb. 1995*.

The story suggests creating a health inventory - to be used by your own physician and to be kept with your genealogy. Include uncles, aunts, cousins, as well as direct lineage and children. A sample might read: "Maternal Aunt: living age 91. Alert, active and living alone until age 90 when she had an apparent stroke. Now living in convalescent home. Moderate diabetes controlled by diet, diagnosed at age 55. Cataracts both eyes, age 88, right lens implant at age 90, successful. Several small strokes with residual left side weakness in 1993, also several seizure episodes. Brother: Living at age 67. Left-handed. Good health."

The story suggests that this information may not be of much interest today, but would be invaluable to future genealogists. Think how thrilled we would be today to have that sort of information on our ancestors.

### JUST SAY "CHARGE IT"

The U.S. Post Office is now accepting your personal credit cards for the purchase of postage, envelopes, and the other items they offer.

**Help!** I've lost my  
Census...



# PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## MESA COUNTY, COLORADO POST OFFICE LIST

Prepared by Charles Teed, Grand Junction Stamp Club, in 1985.



Arlington	5/25/83 - 8/12/84 - Was called Jones
Bernard	1/27/96 - 5/31/05
Cameo	12/14/07 - 2/28/69
Carpenter	6/11/90 - 8/3/91
Clifton	6/18/00 onward
Clover	2/1/95 - 11/8/95 and 2/28/98 - 9/30/02
Collbran	1/9/92 onward
Copper	5/9/98, later changed to Ionia
De Beque	Was Ravens and Ravensbeque
Eagleite	12/3/85 - 8/26/01, later changed to Plateau City
Escalante	9/3/03 - 12/5/03, Rescinded
Escalante Forks	10/16/16 - 1958
Excelsior	2/18/99 - 10/16/90 ?
Fruita	3/4/84 onward
Fruitvale	7/1/48 - 8/24/50, now rural station of Grand Junction
Gateway	4/25/03 - 7/29/03, and 7/16/04 onward
Gavin	9/26/16 - 7/31/17
Gilsonite	5/17/87, later established as rural branch of Fruita
Glade Park	11/11/10 onward
Grand Junction	5/26/82 onward. Originally was Ute 2/3/82 - 5/26/82 then Grand Junction
Harlow	5/17/90 to 4/7/91, located on Rapid Creek above Palisade, CO
Hawxhurst	8/25/82 - 5/3/92
Heiberger	10/30/08 - 2/14/25
Hope	4/22/96 - 3/3/00
Ionia	3/2/99 - 10/1/99, formerly Copper
Jones	4/3/83 - 5/25/83, changed to Arlington
Leon	4/13/83 - 9/3/83
Loma	9/2/05 onward, formerly Mainard
Mack	4/21/04 onward
Mainard	5/24/01 - 10/15/02 and 1/6/05 - 9/2/05 changed to Loma
Mesa	4/12/83 - 9/2/05, changed to Fruita
Mesa	4/29/87 onward
Molina	4/25/95 - 9/1/96 and 5/3/06, formerly Snipes
Mountainvale	9/14/84 - 8/31/03 first mention in 1886 postal guide
Orson	10/3/82 - 1/3/83 and 12/15/90 - 6/20/94
Palisades	1/26/91 - 11/1/24, then to Palisade
Pine Bluff	6/6/13 - 12/31/14
Plateau	11/23/83 - 10/27/87
Plateau City	8/26/01 - 1/41, formerly Eagleite
Ravens	2/5/85 - 5/21/86 Post office moved to Ravensbeque
Ravensbeque	5/21/86
Rocky	8/12/05 - 11/25/05
Sinbad	Listed as in Montrose, Mesa, Montrose CO 12/19/14 - 2/33
Skyway	6/4/27 date closed unknown. First mentioned in the 1943 (?) Postal Guide
Snipes	1/9/97 - 5/3/06 changed to Molina
Tunnel	10/10/02 - 12/31/03
Unaweep	8/21/83 - 9/18/90 and 4/25/95 - 9/22/98
Vega	5/23/91 - 4/15/14
Whitewater	10/9/84 onward.



# PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## SURNAME CARD FORMAT

Members are asked to submit a card like the one shown. Cards can be obtained from the Membership Chairman, or at the Museum of Western Colorado. Please follow the example used below.

### SURNAME FIRST

ROSETTE, Charles W. M

Surname Given Name(s) Sex

Father Rosette, George G.

Mother Egan, Ann Eunita

B 2 Jan 1818 Place Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio

M 11 Oct 1842 Place

D 29 Sept 1876 Place Richwood, Union, Ohio

Spouse Milligan, Mary

Spouse's

Parents Milligan, Elija - Smith, Sara

Your Name Betty A. Dougherty

Address [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Grand Jct., CO 81504 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Current Date 11 Feb 1995 List children, etc., on back.

Mother's Maiden name only.

City, County, and State.

Telephone number.

Person in your direct line marked with an asterisk (\*).

### MEETINGS, AND OTHER EVENTS

\* **Friday/Saturday, Sept. 15-16, 1995,**  
 Denver Washington Park United Methodist  
 Church, 1955 E. Arizona Ave. \$25 Registration  
 Friday 5:30 pm potluck, 7:30 meeting,  
 Saturday 8:00 - 5:00 Door prizes.

Brian Mavrogeorge, system operator of the  
 oldest bulletin board system in the world nd.  
 former editor of the NGS Computer Interest  
 Group's *Digest*. Program includes: Technology  
 and Genealogy. Internet, CD Rom, and Bulletin  
 Board Services. Speakers, workshops,  
 demonstrations, and vendors.

Contact CGS/SIG 6437 W. Arbor Dr.,  
 Littleton, CO 80123-3827.

###

For \$10 you can join the Colorado Council of  
 Genealogical Societies Family Recognition  
 ogram. If you can prove your ancestor came  
 to Colorado prior to 100 years ago you can  
 receive a certificate in one of three categories  
 showing the county in Colorado and the date of  
 residency. You do not need to be a Colorado

resident to apply.

The categories are First Family: ancestor born  
 or settled in Colorado before 28 Feb 1861.  
 Territorial Family: Ancestor born or settled in  
 Colorado before 1 Aug. 1876. Centennial Family:  
 Ancestor born or settled in Colorado at least 100  
 years prior to the date of application by  
 descendant.

Send a SASE legal size envelope to Family  
 Recognition Program, Colorado Council of  
 Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 24379, Denver,  
 CO 80224-0379.

###

The Colorado Chapter of the Ohio  
 Genealogical Society, Longmont, is offering a pre-  
 publication announcement offer for "INDEX AND  
 ABSTRACT OF OBITUARIES FOR INDIVIDUALS  
 WITH TIES TO THE STATE OF OHIO PUBLISHED  
 IN COLORADO NEWSPAPERS 1987-1994". The  
 publication contains 177 pages of obituary  
 details on 882 individuals.

Cost is \$19.95, SH \$2.50 each copy.

###



## PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Banner Blue Software, PO Box 119, Buffalo, NY 14207 advised your editor they now have a handy brochure that lists all the CD-Rom offerings they have, as well as the price.

The material is too voluminous to list in this publication so you may want to contact them directly to see if they have anything you are interested in.

###

*Order of Descendants of Ancient Planters.* The term "Ancient Planter" is applied to those persons who arrived in Virginia before 1616, remained for a period of three years, paid their passage, and survived the massacre of 1624. They received the first patents of land in the new world as authorized by Sir Thomas Dale in 1618 for their personal adventure. Founded 13 Oct 1991 in Raleigh, North Carolina.

If you think you are eligible contact Mrs. Ruby Carlton Sharber, 7909 River Ridge Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587-9355, (919)266-0403

### MUSEUM OFFERS INFORMATIVE PROGRAM ON HISTORIC CHURCHES

"Faith In High Places: Historic Country Churches of Colorado", Sept. 6, at 7:30p.m.; the program is free.

Jean Goodwin Messinger and Mary Jane Massey Rust, co-authors, will present slides of rural and small-town churches scattered throughout Colorado. The program will present little-known historical anecdotes about the structures, people, and places associated with them, and the colorful, often heroic, itinerant preachers who brought religion to the frontier.

Grand Junction churches are not included in the program.

The book *Faith In High Places* is available at the Museum bookstore for \$16.95.

### WESTWATER: RAILROAD CAMP

By K. Don Thompson

Shortly after my parents, Harvey and Lorraine (Gerry) Thompson, were married in 1926, my father's work with the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad required them to relocate to Westwater, Utah; a railroad settlement which was established as a construction camp, and provided a maintenance force along the vast portion of the railroad from Grand Junction, CO to Thompson, Utah.

Westwater really came of age years before when it was utilized by Japanese, Chinese, and Mexican workers hired temporarily to work on

the Ruby Tunnel; named for Ruby Canyon. This tunnel was to be used by the narrow gauge railroad that was trying to forge its way West. That attempt went broke, but when the Rio Grande came it was decided to revive the camp. A number of railroad families lived at Westwater and in addition there were families on the surrounding ranches. In addition to the residences there was a store, school, water tank, stock yards, and an ice storage cellar.

Neighbors included the Maylon and Sansosti families.

All the men were employed by the railroad and went off to their assigned work each day. The women would gather together after doing their daily chores to sew, watch after the children, work in the garden or participate in small talk, or gossip. It was a real event if one of the families went to town, as it would provide them with hours of conversation about the things they had heard while either in Cisco, Price, or Grand Junction. Life was fairly calm and organized and most of the women's energies were devoted to the care of their families.

When the workers were required to go to construction locations miles away from home the railroad provided a work train which included housing for the families. The railroad cars, converted into living quarters, were spartan by any standards. Blankets were hung in the right places to make walls, a barrel stored water, and lighting was by kerosene lamps. In the summer months during periods of extreme heat, these cars were like ovens; while in the winter months, with no insulation they could have been used to store meat. Adults as well as children adapted and there was no complaining as all experienced the problems equally. Many an open car door resulted in a child taking a five-foot tumble down onto the railroad bed. This was considered to be one of the events that each would experience while growing up. Also, imagine if you can, a speeding steam locomotive passing your home, almost within arms reach, and have this happen at all hours of the day and night. The smoke and noise must have been intense.

The local school hired a teacher, but after a couple of years she left. My Grandmother, Carrie (Lord) Gerry took on the task of educating the local youngsters. This only lasted a couple of years and my older sister (Beryl) and brother (Gerry) attended school in Cisco. The store was a company store, but carried most of the basic items needed by the railroad and ranching families. The stock yards were used to house,



## PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

sort, and ship cattle and sheep and also used for hearing of the local sheep herds. The children could play around the wool bags and the end result was that they had ticks on them most of the time. During the winter months the crews cut ice blocks from the river and stored them in a specially constructed ice cellar. During warm winters ice was hauled in from areas of higher elevations such as Pando, near Leadville. The ice was used the next spring and summer when it was placed into the refrigerated cars full of vegetables and fruit that traveled thru Westwater.

With no form of communications with the outside world other than the telegraph, the people of this community relied on the train crews to keep them informed of the happenings. Occasionally a hobo, tramp, or an individual temporarily down on his luck would get off the train and spend a day or two in the area. These individuals were always a good source of information which could be talked about around dinner tables for days. Not everyone who stopped by, or, for that matter, not all those employed by the railroad were honest law abiding citizens. Saturday nights were especially difficult, as some of the workers or drifters would drink and fights would break-out. My father was quite adept with his fists and had the ability to bring an abrupt halt to some belligerent drunks' antics. Some of the workers would venture into town where they would become drunk and invariably have their shoes stolen. Many a poor soul worked bare-footed for a week or so, in the hot desert, until he had enough money to buy a new pair of shoes from the company store. In the camps it was the responsibility of the workers to enforce their own rules. Local law enforcement was miles away and besides, the law had very little interest in what occurred in the remote canyons and deserts. In later years it was rumored at least one murder occurred which authorities ignored.

Kids' play was simple. There was hiking, climbing hills, cliffs, or trees, and swimming for those that were old enough. My father constructed a combination teeter-totter/merry-go-round near the school. It was used by all the children and was considered quite unique. One of the favorite occasional pastimes was playing in the sticky reddish-brown mud that was deposited in the gully bottoms after a local cloud burst, which would send torrents of muddy silt rushing down from the surrounding hillside into the Colorado River. When the water drained from the gullies this tempting red goo was more

than the children could resist and they would run, crawl or dive into it until there was no way to tell the difference in color between them and the mud.

Transportation to and from town was limited; besides walking there was the motorcar, a small handcar which used a single cylinder gasoline engine for propulsion; it offered no protection whatsoever from the elements. If an immediate need arose family members could ride in the caboose with the crew. Due to the remote locations of these camps the women learned home remedies and other skills which they would use in the time of sickness or accident. They became the community doctors and nurses.

Daily chores required of our parents included cutting kindling wood, bringing in coal, hauling water, keeping the trash picked up and keeping the kerosene lamps fueled and maintained. In most areas the weekly chore of washing clothes required extensive time in heating water in preparation for the actual washing. This was accomplished by heating large kettles of water over outdoor fires or over the kitchen cook stove, but not in Westwater. On wash day the women patiently awaited the arrival of the train. When the train stopped to take on water the train men would fill the local cistern with hot water from the steam boilers. A cistern full of hot water was sufficient to do all the loads of washing required by these families. The only drawback to this convenience would be the complaining of the men and children about the warm drinking water for the next twelve or fourteen hours. In many of the remote railroad settlements delivery of water by the train crews was the only way potable water was available.

My two sisters Beryl and Wyoma Lee, or Mickey as we called her, and my brother Gerry were raised in this environment for the first few years of their lives. In 1934 my family moved into permanent railroad housing in Austin, CO, which would be my parents home until 1972. It was there that I was born. In a move to reduce costs the railroad sold the Austin section house to my parents in 1966 for \$1,800. In the following years my mother worked as a telegrapher and as depot agent in Austin. My father retired in 1965 after 44 years of railroading. During his career he was the foreman in charge of removing the narrow gauge line from Montrose to Gunnison in the 40's and the change over from narrow gauge to standard gauge from Montrose to Ridgeway in the early 1950's.



## PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Additional information on the Westwater community can be found in the out-of-print book "Grand Memories", by the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

(Mr. Thompson retired from a 30 year career with the Colorado Department of Transportation, as well as serving 30 years with the Colorado National Guard. During his career with the DOT he worked on many highway projects.)

### NEW BOOKS

### NEW BOOKS

#### SOCIETY ACQUISITIONS'

Anita Cheek Milner, Newspaper Indexes: A Location and Subject Guide for Researchers, Vol. I and Vol. II.

Bertram Hawthorne Greene, Tracing Your Civil War Ancestor.

Mary K. Myer, Ed. Meyers Directory of Genealogical Societies.

Index of Revolutionary War Pension Applications in the National Archives.

Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, Virginia's Colonial Soldiers.

The Redbook 1994 Index of Funeral Homes in USA and Canada.

Frank J. Doherty, Settlers of the Beckman Patent, Dutchess County, New York. An Historical and Genealogical Study of All the 18th Century Settlers in the Patent.

Gertrude E. Gray, Compiled By, Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants, 1694-1742.

Edith F. Axelson, A Guide To Episcopal Records in Virginia

New Family Histories: Hill; Van Huss; Moyer; Mahew; Brewer

#### FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

Roy C. Turnbaugh, Jr., A Guide to County Records in the Illinois Regional Archives, 1983, Illinois State Archives, State of Illinois.

Charlotte Erickson, Invisible Immigrants. The Adoption of English and Scottish Immigrants in 19th Century America. 1972, Cornell University Press.

Burton W. Spear, Search for the Passengers of the Mary and John 1630. Vol. 18. West County Ancestries, 1620-1643, Part 2. 1992, The Mary and John Clearing House.

Donald M. Hehir, Ohio Families: A Biography of Books About Ohio Families, 1993, Heritage Books, Inc.

Kentucky Families: A Biography Listing. 1993, Donald M. Hehir, Heritage Books, Inc.

Michael J. Anuta, Ships of Our Ancestors, 1983, Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore

\*\*\*

## QUERIES

**Wynona Hennessey**

**140 Marlan Ave.**

**Grand Junction, CO 81502**

**(970) 243-5415**

Looking for information on G. W. Blecher, in the Pomona District of Grand Junction, CO in 1908-1915. Wife's maiden name was Hawkins. Daughter Georgia, b. May 1910, d. Oct. or Dec. 1910.

Buried at Loback (Crown Point) Cemetery, headstone shows her name to be Georgie. 1910 Census says her name was Addie

###

**K. Don Thompson**

**582 Sycamore**

**Grand Junction, CO 81504**

**(970) 245-4610**

Looking for information on Hiram Goatley. Married Ada Seaman b. Mar. 1859, Cowley County Kansas. Living in Cripple Creek, Colorado from 1876 to 1880. Daughters Mary Ella and Cora D.

Ada living in Canon City, CO on 1880 Census.

\*\*\*

*Address your Quiries to Juanita Moston, 641 Starlight Drive, Grand Junction, CO 81504-4219 by the 20th of the month preceeding publication.*

## ILLINOIS MASTER INDEX IN THE MAKING

The Illinois State Genealogical Society in cooperation with the Illinois State Archives is working to create a master index of all marriages in Illinois prior to 1901. The published sources and abstracts of original county-level records are being used to create this computerized index. The database, as of June 1994, contained over 500,000 marriages. As of June 1994, not all of the 102 counties in Illinois are represented and some counties have not had all their records entered.

The microfiche index is available in the Dallas Public Library.

\*\*\*

## IRISH PRAYER

*May those who love us, love us;  
And those that don't love us,  
May God turn their hearts;  
And if He doesn't turn their hearts,  
May He turn their ankles,  
So we'll know them by their limping.*

\*\*\*

