

MESA DWELLERS



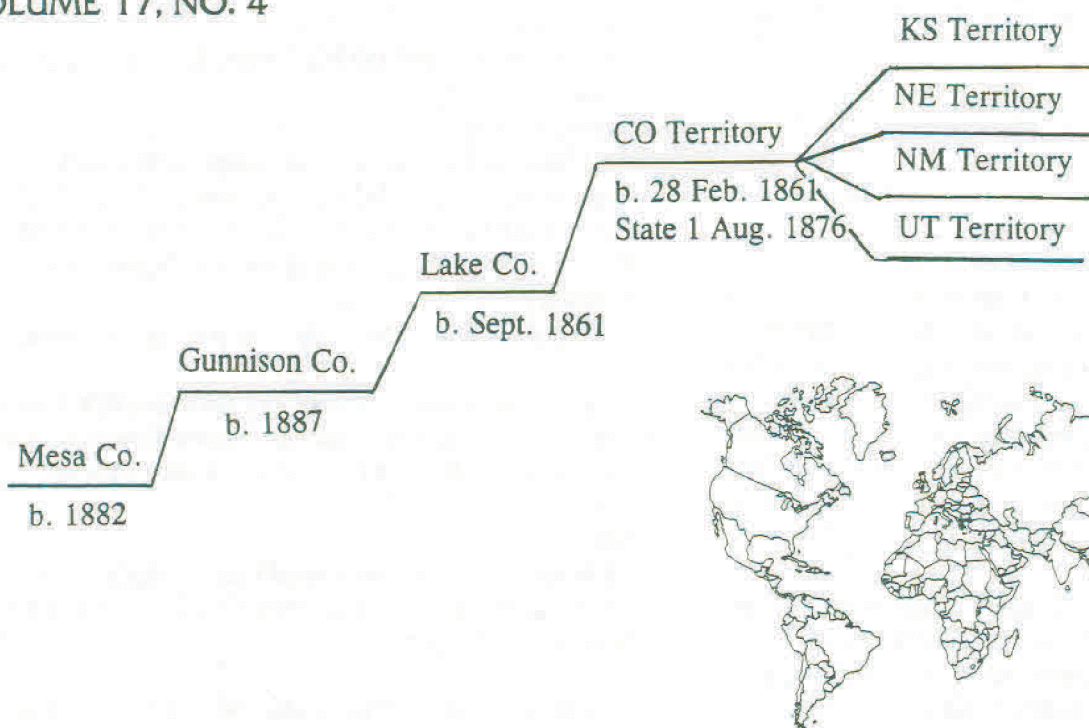
A PUBLICATION OF THE MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1506

GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81502-1506

DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, 1997/98

VOLUME 17, NO. 4



MESA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1506

GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81502

CELEBRATING OUR 17th YEAR

MESA DWELLERS

December, January, February, 1997/1998 Vol. 17, No. 4

1997/1998 OFFICERS

President	Joan Chaffin	
Vice President	Donna Roberts	
Secretary	Gloria Heitsman	
Treasurer	Betty Grosskopf	
Corr. Sec'try	Wynona Hennessey	

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Two Year Term	Norm Kronvall
Three Year Term	Dianna Sheldon

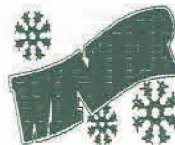
COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AGLL Librarian	Betty Grosskopf	
Historian	Jeanne Edwards	
MCGS Librarian	Gloria Heitsman	
Membership	Betty Dougherty	
Programs	Dennis Jenkins	
Computer Editor	Rick Sheldon	
Web Page Editor	Russ Herre	
Newsletter Editor	Juanita Moston	

Annual Dues: \$10 Singles; \$12 Family. Membership period is March 1st to April 30th. Those with **UNPAID DUES** (after April 30th.) will not receive the Newsletter. **Send a SASE to receive a current membership card if you do not attend regular meetings.**

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, or [REDACTED]. The Society disclaims responsibility for statement of fact or opinion made by contributors and will not accept material with obvious errors.



*** CALENDAR ***

NOTE: All society meetings are held at the C.D. Smith Building, 5th and Ute. **PARK AND ENTER** on the west side of the building using the ramp at the corner of the parking area.

December

11 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY. Donna Roberts' home.

January, 1998

8 Using the Internet for Genealogical Research.

Rick Sheldon is back by popular demand. **MEET AT THE CITY MARKET TRAINING CENTER AT MAIN STREET AND FIRST AVENUE.** Enter at the Main Street door.

February

5 Quarterly Board Meeting. 7:00 p.m., at Laveta Kay's home.

11 Did your Ancestor homestead on/or purchase land from the Federal Government? Learn How to Find and Use the Records. Dennis Jenkins tells all. Museum, 7:00 pm.

March

12 Program To Be Announced Later. Meeting is at 7:00 pm, at the Museum. Contact Joan Chaffin [REDACTED] for program information.

NOTE: Mark your 1998 calendar. **May 6-9, 1998 National Genealogical Society Conference in the States, to be held in Denver, CO.** A detailed brochure is not available at this date, however, to receive one when it is ready write: NGS '98 Conference Registration Brochure, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399, or call 1-800-473-0050.

REFRESHMENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

December Christmas Party

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER
Don't miss a thing! Send your check today.

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President's Corner

By Joan Chaffin

As 1997 draws to a close it is time to thank everyone for all the support that they have given me in my two years as your President. Thank you one and all!

Now it is time to look forward to your next president. Please, give your next president the same support that you have given me. As the nominating committee sets out to put together a new board please say yes if asked. Serving on the board has been a very rewarding and interesting time. We always need new members to keep the group lively. If the same people just keep exchanging jobs the board will grow stale. Please help our Society to keep moving forward.

I want to thank Liz Mustee and Pat Blackburn for putting together a great display at the Mesa County Public Library. They did a fantastic job. I hope you were able to get by and see it. A **BIG** thanks to Liz and Pat.

December will be our Annual Christmas Party at Donna Roberts' home. I hope that a lot of you can come and pull up a chair and sit a spell. We usually have a nice get together. It does give some of us a chance to catch up on the news of the latest great resource for research. I have been to several and have always enjoyed myself. Y'all come.

Keep researching and keep digging and please remember that when you help someone, often in return they will help you.

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!

In Colonial Virginia the Anglican Church was the State Church, as it was in England. As the State Church everyone in Virginia paid a tithe, regardless of their church affiliation. There was no requirement to be baptized in the Anglican Church but a heavy penalty was imposed if an individual refused to pay the tithe. In reality it was a head tax for living in Virginia.

To get information on steamship records you must have the name of the ship, the date and port of arrival, but you can get a copy of the manifest page by writing: Passenger Arrival Document, General Reference Branch, National Archives and Records Admin., 7th and Pennsylvania Ave.



N.W., Washington, D.C. 20408. To order the Form 81 (passenger arrivals) go to <http://www.nara.gov> you can then order all forms needed for research, including military service forms.

The LDS Family History Library has the information on microfilm, for \$2.00 you can order a copy of the page your ancestor is on.

The Colorado Genealogical Society reports the Colorado Motor Vehicle Department now has *Colorado Pioneer License Plates* available. You need to have proof of descendency to qualify. Such documents may include, but are not limited to, birth, death, marriage, census, deeds, newspaper articles, etc. A brief explanation of the proof is recommended.

To obtain an application contact Zoe Hubbard, 709 Tundra Place, Longmont, CO 80501, (303)776-8311. She initiated this special recognition campaign. Cost is a one-time \$35 fee, in addition to the regular vehicle license plate fee.

A new Internet genealogical group has been formed. The purpose is to assist Posen researchers in locating towns and villages, doing translations, finding resources for research, and matching up persons researching the same surnames. You may contact the group by e-mail at scheff1960@aol.com

Internet rumor: A branch of the Census Bureau will assist researchers in obtaining census records from the 1930-1990 federal returns for any person for whom you can supply proof of death. Age Search will, for \$25, search any two census records.

The search is limited to the person for whom you are requesting information, but you may ask for other family members to be included for a \$2 per person fee.

The full line of information from the census return will be provided with payment of a \$6 fee. The basic fee includes an official document stating the person's name, age, place of birth, citizenship and relationship to the head of the household.

Form BC-600, which is required, can be obtained from any local Social Security Office or by writing: Bureau of the Census, "Age Search", P.O. Box 1545, Jeffersonville, IN 47131.

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GERMAN-ENGLISH GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY

CO Pal-AM reports that finally, a comprehensive German-English genealogical dictionary is available.



Thode's new dictionary will replace the dozens of reference books, glossaries and word-lists genealogists have been using to translate myriads of German documents. It covers Germanic Latin which is found in Catholic and Protestant church records and some medieval records. This dictionary covers the most often encountered categories, such as ecclesiastical terms, family relationships, days of the week, months, cardinal and ordinal numbers, Roman numerals, geographical terms, occupations, abbreviations, military ranks, illnesses, and male and female given names. Also included are abbreviations used in the dictionary, German alphabet and script variations, German genealogical terms and symbols, suffixes, and a reverse suffix index.

Available through Lineages, Inc., P.O. Box 417, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-0417, for \$29.95 plus \$3 S/H. Order toll free: 1-800-642-4303, or E-mail service@lineagesnet.com

ENGLISH: A CRAZY LANGUAGE FOR SURE.....

Sometimes it seems that all English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins were not invented in England nor French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down; in which you fill in a form for filling it out and which an alarm clock goes off by going on.

That's why you drive on a parkway and park on a driveway and why they have Interstate Highways in Hawaii (think about that one). It's why there's only one television, but it's called a "set".

English was invented by people and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course isn't a race at all). That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out they are invisible. And why, when I wind my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it.

(Taken from the Historic Dumfries, Virginia, Inc. Newsletter)

ORIGIN OF MIDDLE NAMES

People have not always been allowed to have as many names as they wish. Only 400 years ago not even a middle name was allowed in England. It was illegal. The old English law was definite and admitted no infraction of its ruling.

The only exception made to this regulation was in the case of persons of royal rank. If they really wished it they could boast a middle name. Woe to the person of ordinary rank who was sufficiently unwise or obstinate enough to insist on having more than a first and last name.

For the first offense, he would very likely be tied to a whipping post and severely lashed. For a second offense he would endure some more lasting punishment - perhaps the removal of his thumb or his ears. If he still persisted in his stubbornness, he would be hanged.

There is a case on record of a poor man, in all probability half demented, who insisted in signing four names every time he wrote his signature to any paper. He passed through all of the above stages of punishment - and was hanged.

(Editors Note: could this account for some of those elusive ancestors we have been looking for The Cheshire England Mostons have so many Bettys that the Parish records would lead you to believe Betty was one busy girl - what with all the marriages and children assigned to that name.)

CD-ROM RECORD STORAGE DEBATED

Seems everywhere you look these days there are ads touting the idea of putting your ancestor's photos and records onto a computer diskette or CD-ROM.

However, professional archivists continue to prefer the storage of data on microfilm, rather than converting to the diskette or CD format.

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Eric Erickson, speaking for the Genealogical Society of Utah, says that their vital records and family histories are stored in microfilm and are expected to last 500 to 1,000 years.

On this same preservation theory, most historians and genealogists are concerned about what will become of their collections of books, manuscripts, magazines, etc., acquired during a lifetime of research after their death.

You can have a short paragraph added to your will, leaving no doubt as to your wishes regarding both your personal library and the product of your research, the family histories you have compiled, but not published.

The following is a suggestion from the Whittier Area genealogical Society Newsletter:

"I direct my executor/executrix to box the following genealogical publications for donation to the (insert name) for appropriate disposition/retention by that library/society for the benefit of family history researchers." They recommend you let the group know of your request first. A family member or other person could be substituted as the recipient for your material.

- ▶ "All family history materials of which I am possessed.
- ▶ Only my library of printed reference books and materials.
- ▶ The unpublished family history manuscript materials on which I was working.
- ▶ The address of the intended recipient is (insert name, address here)."

DECEASED PHYSICIAN RECORDS AVAILABLE

The National Genealogical Society has an incomplete file from 1878 to 1905, but comprehensive records are available from 1906 to 1969. Information in the database usually includes the date and place of birth and death, medical school attended, place of practice, hospital affiliation, and an obituary. This covers AMA deceased physician files only.

Surnames "A" through "L" are now available. Include in your request the first and last name, the time period, and the location if known. Research fee is a prepayment of \$15 per name. Write National Genealogical Society, Attn: Physician Research, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

NEW LOCAL HISTORY OF GRAND VALLEY AVAILABLE

The Mesa County Historical Society has published an original manuscript *THE BULL AND THE BEES: Or the History of the Plateau Valley*, by Reuben



Pitts. The book covers the late 1800, early 1900 period in the Collbran, Colorado area.

Pitts was born Nov. 29, 1887, in Beulah, CO, and was the fourth of six children. His parents Oliver C. and Elizabeth Pitts came to the Plateau Valley in 1881 by way of Vinton, Iowa and the Chalk Creek/St. Elmo mining area of Colorado.

A captivating story-teller, his family spent many an after-dinner hour listening to his tales of the 'early days'. He knew first-hand of the hardships, triumphs, and tragedies of the pioneer family. At the age of 86 years, with the encouragement of his children, Reuben wrote down his memories of days gone by. Reuben had a one-room school education but you will see in reading this history of the Plateau Valley he knew his way around writing an interesting and humorous story. Being a curious youngster, Reuben managed to find himself in the middle of the action and he tells us of many of his childhood escapades.

Reuben's family was involved in a number of businesses in Collbran. They also ran the *Plateau Valley Voice* newspaper where Reuben learned to set type. He gave up the newspaper business for the cattle business, calling his home the Rock Springs Ranch. Reuben loved music and taught himself to play the fiddle and the drums. Along with his brother Ben, Reuben played in dance bands in the Collbran area for many years.

The Bull and the Bees includes stories of Reuben's school days, the early cattle days and sheep wars, land speculators who would build a town by selling outsiders worthless land, and the 'salt of the earth' people of the Plateau Valley. You won't want to be without this piece of Plateau Valley history in your library.

The book features a complete index of the many names of early settlers talked about in the book. It is a good companion piece to *Skin and Bones* by Helen Hawxhurst.

The book is available at the Museum of Western Colorado and other Mesa County bookstores for \$15. For

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more information contact the Mesa County Historical Society, P.O. Box 841, Grand Junction, CO 81502, (970)434-0953.

FIRST ABERNATHY ARRIVED IN AMERICA

By Juanita Moston

One phone call in late February, 1997 resulted in finding my grandmother's line back to 450 A.D!

I had placed an inquiry on the NC GenWeb page for information on Robert Abernathy in Lincolnton, NC. I wasn't real sure who he was and was hoping to get some response.

Almost immediately Debra Fowler, volunteer for the NC GenWeb page wrote that she would be doing some research in the library in Lincolnton and would see what she could find. Now bear in mind Debra lives in Stockbridge, GA and is the volunteer for NC.

She wrote again to say that the head librarian was an Abernathy and offered the name and address of a man in Hamilton, TX who had written a book on the first Robert Abernathy to arrive in America in 1650 from Scotland.

I called Mr. Abernathy and in our conversation found out he is 94 years old and has done histories of all four of his grandparents! After determining I was indeed related to this particular Abernathy line, he allowed as how I was "a good person" because the Abernathys were a "fine, upstanding group of people".

You have to understand what a good feeling this gave me because until I started with this hobby I had no idea I had any ancestors who were involved in the forming of this country, let alone ancestors who had such a huge involvement in the history of any other country.

Robert Abernathy was captured in the war between "Bonney" Prince Charles and Oliver Cromwell, and due to his lower rank he was deported by Cromwell to the new world as an indentured servant. Others were not so lucky; some were sent to prison, or executed, depending on their rank. Robert arrived in Prince George County, VA in 1650. He distinguished himself and upon the end of his five year indenturehood he was able to buy property and later serve on several 'juries' and serve in various ways in the local government.

Later ancestors served in some interesting campaigns in both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War.

The origin of the Abernathy name is interesting. The

family is of Celtic-Pictish origin and lived in what is now Scotland long before it was called Scotland, and before surnames were used. For over thirteen hundred years members of the various Abernethy (there are two accepted spellings - the other is Abernathy) families were prominent in early Scottish history.

The earliest records show the family settled near the confluence of the Earn and Nethy rivers, in what is now known as Perthshire, Scotland. Here, where the Nethy River flows into the Earn, or mouth of the Nethy, (Aber is the Celtic word meaning mouth), hence the name Abernethy. Many of the family were held in great favor by the old Pictish Kings as the Abernethy family was known for their morality, bravery and loyalty to their country.

The ancient town of Abernethy, in the Shire of Fife, was in existence as early as 450 A.D., but all that remains today is a 75 foot-high tower built in 850 A. D. for the Celtic Abbey, of which a branch of the Clan Macduff were hereditary Abbots. These Abbots led the clans into battle.

The Robert Abernethy Family, by Arvord M. Abernathy has a 20 page, 4 column, 9 font size type index of names to go along with the 159 pages of family information. It is a wealth of information and I would be happy to do lookups or furnish history to anyone who may be interested. Anyone researching the Aberne(a)thy line will be related to someone in this book. I also have a good reference book on the Tilghman/Tillman line. If I can help contact me at 641 Starlight Drive, Grand Junction, CO 81504, (970)434-0953, jmoston@aol.com.

OLD NAMING PATTERNS

This may be old information to some, however, I think it is worth the reminder.

There is a website that explains the naming pattern quite explicitly. The 18th Century PA German Naming Customs included naming of seven boys and seven girls per family, and the different patterns that may have been used.

Of course, not everyone used the following naming pattern but it's something to keep in mind when looking for your ancestor.

The 1st son - named for the father's father.

The 2nd son - named for the mother's father.

The 3rd son - named for the father.

The 4th son - named after the father's eldest brother.

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The female line follows the same pattern, i.e., the 1st daughter named for the mother's mother, etc.

To check out the website:

<http://www.kalglo.com/germname.htm>

TRAVELS IN GERMANY - FIRST HAND

By Betty Grosskopf

On my last trip to Germany, two years ago, I was too chicken to rent a car, so I rode the train to the villages of my grandparents.

To begin with, they only met in this country; they married in Lawrence, Mass. I am very fortunate that I knew the names of their towns and was also able to find some information on my Grandfather Muller's family on films in the Salt Lake City Family History Library; but none from my Grandmother Anna Kuster.

Going by train, two years ago, was a really nice experience, but it wasted a lot of time because of the connections and I was able to do only my genealogy research. This time I wanted to see more of Germany, so I took a tour first that went to Munich, Oberammergau and different areas. We went to Germany, Austria and Hungary. The returning tour group left from Budapest for Newark, New Jersey and I took the train from there to Leipzig, Germany. During this trip I think my passport was checked seven times - each way!

I was dreading driving on the Autobahn and when I picked up the rental car and showed my map of the villages I wanted to visit to the woman at the window she took one look at my grey hair and said, "The Autobahn is very fast and dangerous" - she then directed me through the villages on my way. What a relief and a delight.

Apolda was my destination for a room at a Holiday Inn, my home base. I had some trouble finding the Inn as a Bierfest and Zwiebelmarkt were in progress and the streets were blocked off - when I asked an older couple for directions they finally decided to get in the car and take me to the place I was looking for. Since this was late Friday and the church offices were not open I just toured Apolda again, so I wouldn't waste any time finding my way around later.

I went into a shop and bought a souvenir plate - when the owner heard I was from Colorado he told me Apolda had a sister city in the United States - Rapid City, South Dakota.

On Monday morning I went to the Pfarramt

(Superintendent) and was able to add to the information on the Kuster family. Also, most important, I got the name of a genealogist there who also spoke English, so I can write to him. Monday afternoon found me driving to Kayna, where my Grandfather's mother, Fredericke Fugmann came from. The church there was closed, no pastor, and no one could tell me where the records are kept.

Thank goodness for the Salt Lake records. I had found copies there but I wanted to get further back. I walked the cemetery there, but sadly no luck.

I was disappointed that many of the churches were closed due to the fact there is a lack of pastors. I especially wanted to go to *Gram's* church, but that too was closed.

Tuesday I ventured to the town of Zeulennoda - I had no trouble finding the towns, except that each trip I had to go through Weimar and because of detours and construction I got lost all the time. Other drivers were nice though when I'd find myself going the wrong way on a one-way street. When I was lost in Zeulennoda I asked two men who were coming out of a factory for some help. It was a lucky thing, they also got in the car and took me to the Pfarramt. I'd have never found it without their help.

I only found one bit of information on my 2x great grandparents there. At all the villages I visited I took pictures of the churches my ancestors attended and were married in.

Wednesday found me in Remda - lost again in Weimar. I had corresponded with a woman there who had sent me information and made an appointment to meet her on Thursday. This meeting got me more information on the Kusters - back to 1773.

The last time I was in Germany I was able to make Xerox copies of original records. This time, even if they had a copier, they would not allow copies to be made. They have discovered it's not good to handle these old records. Now you have to make hand copies. I can't read the script, but I managed to write down what they dictated - they, in their pigeon English and me in my limited German. Records in the Registry Office (Standesamts) were only started in 1876.

The people are friendly and very willing to help. Except for getting lost, because of the detours, I had no trouble driving and I had a good journey.

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Betty reports this sign was on a pole outside a village she visited and it translates into "Have a Good Journey" in German.

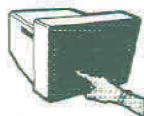
GOOD RESPONSE TO SOCIETY WEB PAGE

The Society's Web Page lists the names of all cemeteries - except the Indian School cemetery - in Mesa County. As a result of this listing Wynona Hennessey reports that she has - on average - 5 to 6 e-mail requests for obituary look-ups per week. Since the Society went on-line a year ago the number of requests has increased over those received by snail-mail.

When a request comes in, Wynona will check the Public Library obituary file and if there is any information send it back to the requesting party. She found one person in Delta County and two in Montrose County, even though the party requesting the information thought the people were in Mesa County.

The Web Page has had over 800 'hits' to date, and considering we are not linked to any of the big lists, this is a respectable number of hits. Russ Herre and Rick Sheldon have plans to get the Society's page linked to other sites in the future.

You might consider putting your query on - you never know who may be looking. Wynonna reports she had an inquiry from Spain recently.



COMPUTER CORNER

Rick Sheldon, Editor,

Wow, this year is almost done. In reviewing a couple of things that have taken place over the last twelve months, the Mesa County Genealogical Society web page has been in existence for one year this January, at last count it had received over 800 hits. Now that may not seem like much, but it breaks down to over 66 visits a month. Sixty-six visits a month, from people all over the world who found us and checked out our site, and who otherwise would not know anything about the Mesa County Genealogical Society. If we could get the Colorado Society to update their page we would increase even more. We are now referenced on several individuals web pages, listed in Internet Search engines, and linked by Russ Herre's County GenWeb pages which gives us an avenue to the national GenWeb group. We are also listed on the Mesa County Community web site which can be accessed from the Grand Junction Chamber's Web Page. Not a bad deal.

In these articles over the past issues, we have discussed how to do inquiries, searches, posting notes, referencing mail lists, and reader groups. Quite a vast assortment of different paths to chose just by accessing the Internet. Just like when we discover a new source of information at the Family History Center or in Salt Lake City we continually add to the tools at our disposal. Some of you have "cornered" me and let me know about your successes or your stumbling blocks, but for each of you who can and do use the availability of the Internet, congratulations. No matter what resource we use, there are brick walls out there and what we have to do, utilizing every tool we can, is figure out how to go over, around, or find the crack through the wall and widen it so we can break it open and get on the other side.

Success or luck comes in the strangest places. In the past two months I have found or rather, was contacted by two new "cousins". The neat thing about this is that both of these gentlemen have even more knowledge about our Sheldon family, plus all the branches that they are involved in. Consider this, how long, and how hard would I have had to look, plus where, to find these relatives. How many random letters would I have had to send to get any response. And the great thing is because of what

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we've done through the Internet, the links, the inquiries, the postings on all the different county and individual pages, plus our own home page, these people found me. And one of the gentlemen was born and raised in Eldora, Iowa. And his mother still lives there. Now that is as good a resource for county histories and family stories that you can get.

This item is even more exciting. Dianna has been conversing by e-mail with an "Internet cousin" from Ohio. This gentleman informs her that he has some copies of documents relating to their common relative and inquires if she would be interested in copies of the documents. Hey, is this a no brainer or what?

She, of course, answers "gee, yes I would". One of these documents just happens to be a Marriage Bond "Certificate" from Kentucky. After getting some information about the document she coyly asks me "Didn't you have a relative by the name of Thomas Tarvin?" (she already knew the Tarvin name) Thomas Tarvin was my great-grt-grt grandfather.

So the day arrives the mail lady finally gets here and lo and behold here is a copy of the Marriage Bond. Checked it out, right year,... right county,... right town,... right name,... right profession(minister).! Whoa, think of the odds. Her ancestor's fiancée 150 years ago stood in front of my ancestor, shook hands, exchanged money, and signed the same piece of paper. Isn't life amazing. My Thomas Tarvin held the Marriage Bond of her Great Great Grandmother. So, now, thanks to my wife we both have a valuable piece of history for the two families (which by the time you are reading this you should be able to view this piece of history on our web site www.gj.net/~rsheldon, under family genealogy and either Tarvin or Watson history and stories. What a shameless plug.)

The thing that I marvel at is that here I am stuck for the most part in western Colorado, hundreds of miles away from any link to my family history and in the few years that I have been involved in this, (dragged screaming by my wife) through the society and the history center I have made new friends and acquaintances, and gathered a wealth of information about my ancestral family. But thanks to the Internet I have "found" almost a dozen distant relations, gotten stories of family trials and tribulations, found three assured Family Associations and their respective newsletters and the access to parts of

family history that would have taken years of searching, researching and expenditures. And quite frankly my success pales in comparison to what Dianna has been able to accomplish and discover. Now I don't want to belittle other types and means of research, fact of the matter is that currently we are planning our next vacation to the home states of our family purely for the dusty, cobweb, research. But the advantages that both of us have gotten and the wealth of knowledge from as they say "the privacy of your own home" is outstanding.

Now I know that several of you have had the same or similar experiences in finding that common relative that, had it not been for the forays onto the Internet, you might not have ever found. I know that in conversations at our last meetings that several people have either found or been contacted by someone who shared a common ancestor. And you also have relayed that the e-mail capability has improved some correspondence because of the fact people after reading a electronic letter have the tendency to reply right then and there. Not everyone, but we do get that warm and fuzzy feeling on the number of replies that we get at a much quicker response time due to the ease of e-mailing.

Now comes the good part, as most of you know I have *volunteered* to do another presentation on the Internet in January. Russ calls it "back by popular demand", so I need the help of those who plan to attend. Tell me what you want to know, what you want to see, and what it is that you have questions about concerning the use of the Internet. I'll be going thru some of the new places that we have found that seem to be helpful in our endeavors and hopefully can help you also. The January meeting has been moved for this one event. We will be meeting at the CITY MARKET ACCOUNTING ANNEX. It is located on the southwest corner of First and Main Street right across First Street from the Sport's Page restaurant, and the door that we will be using is on First Street.

So if any of you get the newsletter and read this before the December dinner find me and let me know what you would like to see. If you miss me or can't make the dinner or heaven forbid don't read this until after the December get-together my e-mail address is [REDACTED] and my phone is 2[REDACTED]. Drop me a note or give me a call. In order to make January beneficial I am open for any input on questions, sites, how do I's, or other

MESA DWELLERS

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problems you may have run into.

Oh, yes, Merry Christmas!

Rick

FAMILY HISTORY FAIRE 1998

We hope you will be attending the 7th Annual Family History Faire, *Where In The World Is My Family?* The '98 Fair will explore family roots and customs from several different countries as well as presenting ideas from family solidarity for today's families.

There will be some classes offered on Friday, Feb 27th. The main event is February 28, from 10 o'clock to 6 o'clock at the Grand Junction Stake Center, 543 Melody Lane (Orchard Ave. At 28 3/4 Road). The time, speakers, and subjects will be announced later. If you have suggestions about classes you would like please call 242-1044, 434-4458 or 242-6969, before December 15th.

There will be displays and exhibits from many local businesses and organizations. Visitors may tour the Family History Center, see demonstrations of computer genealogy and genealogy on the Internet, and attend classes on a number of interesting topics. Other events will include Beginning and Intermediate Genealogy workshops, and a Creative Memories workshop.

Food will be available. The Faire is free.

Flyers and further information will be available by contacting Dorothy Roper, [REDACTED]

PAF CLASSES OFFERED

PAF3.0 Genealogy Software classes will be offered by Mesa State College Continuing Education on three Saturdays, January 17, 24 and 31, from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm at the new UTEC computer lab just off 25 Road.

You must have the PAF3.0 program before the class starts. The course will include such things as: management skills, custom reports, recording and making the best use of Sources, new things you can do with notes, and more.

Cost is \$49 for first timers, \$39 for those who took the Beginning 3.0 class. Class limit is 15 people. To register call 248-1476. Dorothy Roper is the instructor.

MUSEUM OFFERING INTERMEDIATE GENEALOGY CLASSES

Beginning January 14, the Museum will offer six weeks of classes designed to instruct in the use of land records, military information, church records, how to build family groups, and much more.

Classes are from 7 to 9 pm each Wednesday and cost \$45 for museum members, \$50 for non-members.

Pre-register at the Regional History Museum at 248 S. 4th. St., call 242-0971 for more information.

NO CEMETERIES IN SAN FRANCISCO

In 1903 a city law was passed stating there would be no people buried in the County of San Francisco. All the dead had to be removed to other cemeteries outside the county. Next of kin were notified if they could be found; otherwise the dead were reburied in a mass grave in Colma Cemetery in San Mateo County just south of San Francisco County.

Look at a city map for San Francisco and you'll see a large cemetery area just south of town.

Genealogy Bulletin, #40, July/Aug. 1997 pge 25.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS HAS BRITISH RECORDS

Since 1905 the Library of Congress has been copying materials in British archives, libraries, and the Public Record Office (PRO) that relate to American history. For example, the Library of Congress has PRO records of individuals and families emigrating to America; original correspondence regarding America and the West Indies; and documents regarding American Loyalists. All the microfilmed English materials relating to America can be used through Interlibrary loan.

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

