

ARMCHAIR GENEALOGIST



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New Year 2007 Edition

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 14th - Presentation on the resources at the Saskatchewan Archives Board. Always of interest to searching genealogists!

April 11 - Erin Romanyshyn, from the Saskatoon Public Library, will give a presentation on the Ancestry Library Edition database. This database includes fulltext census records, birth/marriage/death records, and military records from the U.S. and the U.K, and is a wonderful source for discovering more about your family's history. Erin will demonstrate the resources available in the database, and will suggest some useful search strategies.

OUR MEETING LOCATION

Place: St. Francis Catholic School @ 2141 McPherson Avenue

Time: The Library is open from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.

The **Meeting** runs from 7:15 - 9:30PM. We start with the Presidents' report and followed by member interest discussions, guest speakers or genealogical workshops.

Dates: The 2nd Wednesday of each month except for July & August.

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~sksgs>

Library: <http://www.sbsgs.org>

Mailing Address: Saskatoon Genealogy Society
Box 32004
3 - 402 Ludlow Street
Saskatoon, SK S7S 1M7

MEMBERSHIP & NEWSLETTER INFO

Branch membership fees are \$15.00/ year for new members and \$10.00/year if you are renewing your existing membership. There is a \$15.00 charge for all NSF cheques. Joining the Saskatoon Branch (SBSGS) requires that you also join the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (SGS) which has an annual fee of \$38.00 (senior rate) or \$40.00 (regular rate). Branch membership also includes 10 branch meetings, access to our Saskatoon Branch Library, access to the SGS Library and a copy of this newsletter 5 times during the year.

This newsletter will be published near the beginning of January, March, May, September & November, and it is available in either printed form or in a .pdf version via Email. For those members of our local branch who wish to have a printed version of the newsletter mailed out— please bring a self addressed, stamped large (9x12) envelope to a general meeting or mail them to the branch or newsletter editor. The number of self-addressed envelopes determines how many times a year the newsletter is mailed out to you.

Articles are always required for the next issue and future issues of the Newsletter.

SBSGS 2007 BRANCH EXECUTIVE

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VACANT

Our branch will only remain viable if volunteers step forward with fresh new ideas to assist in the running of our society. If you have some ideas on the direction the branch should take and are up to an interesting & rewarding challenge – Please VOLUNTEER!



THE FAMILY TREE

Housekeeping Rules:

Everyone must remove their street footwear at the front entrance doors, so bring along a pair of indoor shoes or slippers.

We must leave the facilities the same way we find them clean and tidy so please come prepared to help cleanup after each meeting.

The school doors will be locked at 7 pm, so come early. Remember we are guests of the school and should act accordingly.

WE GRATEFULLY
ACKNOWLEDGE THE
FOLLOWING
ORGANIZATIONS.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Here we are now into the first 2 months of the year. The Heritage Festival was a success as we had many visitors stop at our table. Thank you to Valerie Bruce who is our member on the Board for the Heritage Festival and she has assured me that she will continue in this position. Thank you to the members who volunteered to man the table at the Heritage Festival. Our existence depends on our members.

We have held our Library Open House, which was a successful venture. Thank you to all who turned out to the Library that evening.

Our previous issue included a questionnaire, and I urge you to fill them out. Give us some feedback on how we can make our branch more viable, or assist you with your research. Put your suggestions in an email, or just a piece of paper. You do not have to include your name. We want to know what you think, so do share your thoughts. If you have a brick wall that you are currently dealing with or there are areas where you need some assistance do not hesitate to let us know.

A new feature of the newsletter will be a section called Meet the Members. Members will have an opportunity to write a brief about themselves, their interests, how they got started and areas of research. This will start with the members of the executive.

Ancestry Demonstration

April 11, 2007 Erin Romanyshyn, from the Saskatoon Public Library, will give a presentation on the Ancestry Library Edition database. This database includes full text census records, birth/marriage/death records, and military records from the U.S. and the U.K, and is a wonderful source for discovering more about your family's history. Erin will demonstrate the resources available in the database, and will suggest some useful search strategies.

Note to Members:

Before summer 2007 we will be publishing a complete Members List. If you do **NOT** want your contact information please notify one of the Executive members.

Techno Expo

Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Annual Seminar & Annual General Meeting, April 27 and 28, 2007, Ramada Hotel & Convention Centre, 1818 Victoria Avenue – Regina, Saskatchewan. Early Bird Registration March 1, 2007

Youth & Adult 1-Day Workshop Proposal

I would like to see The Saskatoon Branch host a one day youth and adult workshop in the Spring of 2008. I have the ideas to handle the youth portion but require assistance from our members to co-ordinate the adult and workshop part of it as I have not had any prior experience with this.

If are any members with previous experience in this area or are willing to lend a hand please contact me in person, by email at tamw25@shaw.ca or by phone 668-1380. May is our deadline for a applying for a grant to assist with funding. If there is no interest by the members before May 2007 then the workshop with not be able to go forward for the Spring of 2008.

Researching in Saskatoon

Submitted by Tammy Vallee

We may not have ancestors from Saskatoon, but it is here we live or live close to. So here is where research our families from around the world. Knowing where to look for information and how to access it to benefit our research in key. This here is a brief look at genealogy in Saskatoon. There are three places in Saskatoon that can give you access to a mount of possibilities for information.

To start is the Saskatchewan Archives Board located in the Murray Building on the U of S campus. This small area holds a wealth of information on people in Saskatchewan. They have homesteads, census, passenger lists, the card index, just about anything that relates it our province. A great staff that is there to help you if you need it. Some things have changed over the last year at the archives and on the campus. The archives is still in the same place, but the lay out of the reading and microfilm room has changed. It is now easier to access for those who are in a wheelchair or have walking assisted devices, like walkers. They spent a great deal of time to change the washrooms, doorways, and general set-up of things to make it easier to access. There are still a lot of stairs if you come in the main door, but did you know that they do have access through the back for those with physical disabilities. You can call ahead and make arrangements for this. They also have a microfilm copier that arrived about a year or so ago. Copies are 50 cents a page. You are allowed to remove three films (newspapers, church records, or passenger lists) at a time and take them up to the film readers in the U of S library next door. The up side to that is copies are 25 cents and they have a new machine that you can use to email scanned images from the reader to your email, save on disk or UBS drive or burn onto CD. Remember the office hours at the Saskatchewan Archives Board are 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday. You can visit their web page at www.saskarchives.com

Outside the Archives things have changed too. Over the summer the U of S changed the parking area out front of Place Riel. There is no longer through traffic allowed, strictly for the buses. The parking lot entrance is now on Wiggins Road, and at the exit you will come out on Campus Drive. It is now express pay, no one there at the gate, but the cost for this lot is 50 cents for 15 minutes. If you don't mind a walk the parking is a little cheaper at the parkade on Stadium Crescent (the one next to College Drive).

Next on my list is the Frances Morrison Library and the Saskatoon Public library system is general. For those of us who do not have Ancestry subscription the library is the place to be. At some of the smaller branches you can book some computer time or just walk in. You can access all the wonders of Ancestry.com for an hour. Printed pages are 10 cents but be careful, trying to print what is on the screen is not easy. A lot of images will print in multiple pages so bring extra money. You also have the option to share images; here you can email the image to yourself, which is great. The down side is you are only allowed FIVE images pre email pre lifetime. (More or less that is how they explain it). Again you can save it to floppy disk, I can't say about CD or USB drive yet. That covers the small branches what about Frances Morrison?

Well now there you can access the microfilms of the censuses for Canada, the Ontario BMD indexes and some new films they have for Ontario (but I can't remember exactly what they are). They have a nice genealogy selection of books, some are reference only, but they also have photocopiers! You can inter-library loan microfilm from the Library and Archives of Canada at no charge and from other archives or libraries across Canada. Double check with interlibrary loans, places like Glenbow will cost \$5 and some places like the BC archives is a no go, they don't share their films. In the local history room you will find books and more books on Saskatchewan places or Saskatoon. Shelves and shelves of local histories and binders full of newspaper clipping. Also the Peel microfiche can be found there and city directories. Although the main library has great extended hours for evening and weekends, Local History has more

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limited hours. Parking is free after 6 pm and on Sundays. You can visit their website at <http://www.saskatoonlibrary.ca/>

The third place on my list is the Family History Centre located at the Church of later-Day Saints on the corner of Cumberland Ave and 10th St. Here you can search the drawers and shelves for the areas that interest you or order your own microfilms. If it is in their database you can see it and if there is a film number you can order it. Remember to check your numbers against the films in the drawer before you order it. The cost of a film is now \$7. The process is to place your order and wait: generally a few weeks for it to arrive. The cost of \$7 you just paid will keep it here for a month. Not ready to let it go back yet, pay another \$7 and it stays for two more months. If you don't want it to go back then the final renewal (cost \$7) will keep it at the Family History Centre. The total cost works out to \$21 to have the film stay at the center. There are several microfilm readers and fiche readers and two computers with Internet access. The microfilm/fiche printer has been out of service for some time.

The new way to get copies of the goldmines of info you may find is to bring you digital camera. My camera has a little flower symbol on it; this is for close up pictures of documents or photographs. Here are some tips: flashes will ruin you image, turn the flash off if you don't have a little flower setting. Use a piece of white paper under the image you want; the paper will help eliminate the glare of the over head light on the big microfilm readers. The staff is there to assist you, but if there are others working on their films they will usually pipe-up with suggestions too. Since my first visit five years ago the hours have been shortened. The hours are now Thursday 10am to 9 pm, Friday 10am to 2 pm, and Saturday 10 am to 3 pm. Parking is free and the people are great. If you need more information about the Family History Library visit their website at www.familysearch.org or call the Saskatoon centre at 343-6060. It is here that you can access all types of records from all over the world.

Now these are the three places that I think those starting out should know about. There are other great places here in the city that are more specialized in the information they have in Saskatoon.

NOTE: The Family History Centre is looking at a SIX MONTH CLOSURE this year for renovations. The closure dates are still being determined, when it is confirmed the closure dates will be published in the newsletter and announced at the meeting.

Take you chance to come out to the FHC on February 21, 2007 for a tour and a chance to work.

March 14th, 2007 come out to our meeting to hear Ken Dahl talk about the wonders at the Saskatchewan Archives.

Update on the Saskatchewan Vital Stats Index (Feb 14, 2007)

Saskatchewan Vital Statistics has advised that the Death Index, up to and including 1916, will be online soon. The remainder of the Index will be uploaded in 10-year increments. It is anticipated that the complete index will be online by the end of 2007. They appreciate your patience as they work through the IT process.

NEW MATERIAL IN SASKATOON BRANCH SGS LIBRARY*Submitted by Georgiana Chartier*

- BC C 14 CARIBOO NOTES. Quesnel Branch British Columbia Genealogical Society
2006 – Vol.23 – 2,3
- ON/LEEDS/GREN NEWS AND VIEWS. Leeds and Grenville Branch OGS Newsletter
N 22 2005 – July/Aug,Nov/Dec
- BC G 181.16 GRAPEVINES – NEWS FROM THE SOUTH OKANAGAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
2007 – Vol.15,Issue 1
- OTTAWA ON OTTAWA BRANCH NEWS. Ottawa Branch of OGS.
OTTA O 202.01 2007 – Volume 40,No.1
- FAM/COM MILESTONES AND MEMORIES 1900 -1980
M 135 OUTLOOK-BRODERICK-BRATTON-GLENSIDE
Compiled by Outlook-Broderick History Book Committee
1980. Donated by Tammy Vallee
- FAM/COM DYNAMIC DINSMORE 1979
D 4 Compiled by the Dinsmore Historical Committee
Donated by Tammy Vallee
- GB/ENG/WALES GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES
G 18 David E.Gardner and Frank Smith.12th Printing 1977
Volume I. Donated by Corla Quinney
- GB/ENG/WALES GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES
G 18 David E.Gardner and Frank Smith.12th Printing 1976
Volume II. Donated by Corla Quinney
- GB/ENG/WALES GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES
G 18 David E.Gardner and Frank Smith. Revised Edition 1966
Volume III . Donated by Corla Quinney
- MAPS PARISH MAPS OF THE COUNTIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES
GB/ENG/WALES P 13 Compiled by The Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies.1977
Northgate, Canterbury, Kent, England
Donated by Corla Quinney

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Canadian Alliance of British Pensioners Letter to Members

submitted by Gus Morrow

Dear CABP Member:

CABP, along with the other members of the International Consortium of British Pensioners has been working closely with MPs in the UK to produce and file an EDM (Early Day Motion) in the House of Commons that will bring Parliament's attention to the unjust and immoral freezing of state Retirement Pensions (SRP) for over half a million overseas pensioners around the world.

We need you to support these efforts by sending a letter to the MP that represents your old constituency in the UK. You can find out who your MP is by referring to the instructions below under "Finding The Name of Your MP".

Provided below, under the heading "Sample Letter to Support EDM 856", are some examples of what you should include in any letter you write to the relevant MP. Points 1 through 4 provide details that you should be sure to include.

Please understand that your letter needs to be kept as short as this. I cannot stress too strongly that MPs have an enormous in-tray of emails and letters each day, therefore they pay attention to short messages that affect their constituency. This particular EDM is deliberately highlighting the injustice of the government's policy. A tremendous amount of work has been put into working with the MPs who are sponsoring this EDM, and who represent all three major parties in the House of Commons. The MPs who we have talked to and who are prepared to sponsor this EDM have provided us with good advice on how we should provide written support on this topic. Please let's show them that we appreciate what they are doing by heeding the advice they have given so freely and so passionately.

PLEASE do NOT get into long emotional dissertations about immorality, particular case studies, etc.

We are advised that we need 200+ MPs to sign this EDM if we are to get the government's attention. We need your help to get us there.

Thank you all so much for helping us with this project

Sincerely

Tony Bockman

Chairman, CABP

The 1, 2, 3 procedure for following Tony's request:

1. Read the EDM statement that will be put before the MP's.
2. Write a letter to the MP of your old constituency. The section below the EDM statement provides some sample words to choose from, depending upon your circumstances. Take care to include the points that Tony makes.
3. Follow the instructions in the third section to determine your MP's name and address, complete your letter and mail as soon as possible.

Section 1. EDM: 856 Frozen Pensions

That this house notes with concern that 520,000 British pensioners living abroad have their pensions frozen in value and are thus not increased when the pensions in the UK receive annual increases; believes the practice of freezing these pensions is wholly unfair, discriminatory and irrational; believes that all pensioners living abroad, many of whom have made life long mandatory payments to their state pensions, are deserving of this annual increase; and urges the government to bring forward proposals to end the evident unfairness in the current arrangements. Follow this link to see who has signed already.

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=32559&SESSION=885>

Section 2. Sample Letter to Support EDM 856

" Dear.....

1. I am a pensioner living in where I receive a UK State Retirement Pension of £xx per week which has been frozen at this amount since (year) ... or for xx years The first words above can be suitably modified to reflect your circumstances, such as: 'I am a widow' .. or .. 'My wife and I' .. or .. 'Some other alternative introduction'

OR .. If you are not yet a pensioner but know that you have enough years of NI contributions to qualify for a partial or full pension, you could say, 'I am a future overseas pensioner living in ...whose pension will be frozen when I eventually reach pensionable age.'

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2. Prior to leaving the UK, I was resident in your constituency from toand at that time I worked for (or .. 'my family are living in your constituency' .. or .. 'and I have members of my family still living in your constituency' .. or ..members of my family have lived in your constituency for x years .. etc).

OR – If it is less than 15 years since you emigrated from the UK you can say something along these lines, 'I left the UK x years ago and am therefore eligible to vote in the next general election when I shall be sure to register my disappointment by voting for a party that I believe will right this wrong.'

3. I have made my mandatory contributions to the State Pension scheme during my lifetime. I therefore find it extremely unjust that the British Government has seen fit to freeze my pension because I live in, whilst some 45% of overseas pensioners living outside the UK have their pensions uprated in line with those pensioners resident in the UK

4. I would ask you to assist in bringing an end to this injustice by signing EDM 856.

Yours faithfully

Your Signature/s

Section 3. How to Find the Name of Your MP

For those with a computer and access to the internet

1. Using your internet browser, go to: <http://www.politics.guardian.co.uk/> (Guardian Unlimited)

2. On the menu bar, click on "Politics".

3. Down the left hand side, find "Ask Aristotle" and type into the box under "Find an MP"

a. The name of your old constituency in the UK, e.g. Mole Valley

OR – if you're not sure

b. Enter the name of the town or county you lived in (e.g. Leatherhead). Or the postcode of, even the first four characters (e.g. KT22)

OR – if that does not provide what you're looking for

c. Use the inter-active map or click on "How to use Aristotle".

When you have identified your MP write to him or her at the following address, which is the recommended way to write to MPs

Joe or Jane Doe, MP
House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA
United Kingdom

If the MP has a title other than Mr, Mrs or Ms, like "Rt Hon" or "Sir" or "Dr", then include it, as it may make the difference to whether the MP gets to read it or not. Sending your letter to the House of Commons means you do not have to research the constituency office address, it does not encounter the constituency office road blocks and it gets there quicker.

If you want to send your letter by email, then go back to <http://www.politics.guardian.co.uk/> (Guardian Unlimited). Follow the previous instructions except this time, instead of using the "Ask Aristotle" feature, type the name of the MP into the box under "Search Politics for MPs and issues" and click "GO". This will provide a page with a small central heading "People in Politics". Scroll down and you'll find an underlined link to the MP. Clicking on that link provides information on the MP and if you scroll down the page you will usually find an email address for him or her.

You should note that not all MPs provide email access details.

For those without a computer and access to the internet – snail-mailers

Talk to your children or grand-children and provide them the information above. If you do not have instant access to them, then take this sheet with the above instructions to your public library or some other public information body and they will be able to help. As a last resort, call the CABP National Office and the volunteers will try to help you.

**BUT PLEASE GET THE INFORMATION AND WRITE!
WE NEED YOU TO HELP US GET TO 200 MP SIGNATURES!**

Did you know...

That not only does the Saskatoon Branch of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (SGS) have the largest membership of any of the SGS Branches but also that the Saskatoon Branch is almost as old as the parent organization in Regina.

Founded in January 1971, the Branch has grown tremendously in size reaching its highest membership in 1999 with 102 members. Seven provincial conferences have been hosted by the Saskatoon Branch, the most recent being in October 2003. The first conference hosted by Saskatoon was specifically held in 1975 to raise funds for the Branch library, which opened in 1977.

Over the course of years and as the group has grown, six different locations have been used by the Branch but the Albert Community Centre has been "home" since 1985.

It takes many people to make a volunteer organization such as ours continue to thrive after 33 years. Many of you reading this can pat yourselves on the back for being a part of that group. The following people are just a small sampling:

Presidents:

James W. Hercus-1971
Jean Golonko-1972
Donalda McClung-1973
Arlene Lang-1974-1976
Arlene Lang/Leith Shearer/Georgie Katrusiak-1977
Georgie Katrusiak/Rob Payton-1978
John Nickel-1979
Dale Morrison-1980-1981
Dorothy Lee-1982-1983
Neil Ledray-1984
Marion Ghiglione-1985-1986
Barry Evenson-1987
Gayleen Whitely-1988
Donna Sealy-1989-1990
James (Jay) Dynes-1991-1993
Jean-Mark Voisard-1994-1995
Jean-Mark Voisard/Jay Dynes/Lynda Andrew-1996
Lynda Andrew-1997-2001
Michelle Rusk-2002-2003
Cliff Rusk-2004-2005
Karen Haffermehl-2006
Delores Maduke-2007

Submitted by Susan R. Leitch

Meet the Members

Tammy Vallee

For those who don't know me I am Tammy Lynne Vallee, your 2007 Vice-President. I was born in Central Butte, SK the day before Mother's day (May 10th) in 1975 to Bruce and Karen (Johnson) Williams. I spent my childhood exploring the farms of my grandparents in the Macrorie and Rock Point areas while calling Outlook home. I was about 10 when I took my first interest in the family. I questioned my family and made my first family tree.

In 1995 I became a mother to Mathew, by 1999 number two came along, Nathaniel, and in 2001 Steven became number three. In August of 2002 I married Roy Edward Vallee and became a step-mother to Roy's daughter Kaitlyn.

That family tree I made when I was 10 remained for 15 years tucked in a book unnoticed while my interest in genealogy lay dormant. That was until I was expecting Steven. I was trying to make his baby book and needed help filling in the family tree page. I began asking my family for information, and I got it; a mini history from the 1970's on the Dietrich family. It was outdated and missing information. As I looked at those papers I knew there was more to my family than this. At the moment I was bitten by that darn genealogy bug, it swooped in out of nowhere and before I knew it, surging through my veins was the desire to search out my ancestors.

I have worked for 6 years now, which may not seem long to some, but it has been my job, my passion or well, my addiction. I searched out my families in Canada, England, Ireland, USA, Austria and even Finland. While I have 963 different surnames in my family tree, the lines that get the most attention are Seida, Dietrich, Holappa, Lethola, Linden, Williams, Rundle, McGinley and Gallagher. I have also spent just as much of my time on Metis families from North-western Saskatchewan, studying the names Morin, Laliberte, Caisse, and Merasty, just to name a few.

I became a Saskatoon Branch & SGS member in 2003. I have completed the SGS courses of Recorder Searcher, and Aboriginal Research and the end is near for the Saskatchewan Researcher. On my genealogy journey I been able to visit England and Ireland to see the land my ancestors left behind for Saskatchewan.

I believe in promoting genealogy to all ages - to the young, to help give them the knowledge to ask the questions they need to help create their first family tree, to the teachers to help promote genealogy in a school setting, and to the public in general. As I work to promote genealogy I search for new avenues to pursue. I will be writing a series of genealogy articles for the Neighbourhood Express. The Neighbourhood Express can be viewed at <http://www.theneighbourhoodexpress.com/>

Delores Maduke

My full name is Delores Marion Maduke, currently the 2007 President. I was born on February 5th at about 11:55 pm, on what was a very mild day, to Jack and Violet (Wutzke) Maduke. My mother says it was nothing like it is this February with -30. I was born at City Hospital in Saskatoon and one of the nurses at the time was my Father's sister Gladys. Now wasn't I fortunate. I have lived my life in Saskatoon except for a couple years in Regina (what was I thinking!!), and a couple years in Alberta. I was homesick for Saskatoon, nothing can beat this city, so had to return to the place of my birth.

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Prior to my retirement, I was employed by Corrections Service Canada for over 25 years, where I worked as a staff nurse in providing groups and therapeutic one to one intervention for violent inmates. I worked with inmates from the Special Handling Unit (a super maximum facility) and other penitentiaries, at the Regional Psychiatric Center here in Saskatoon. I assisted in developing programs for these inmates. I am a Registered Psychiatric Nurse and a Registered Nurse.

I continue to be the Chair of the Professional Conduct Committee for the Psychiatric Nurses Association, a Volunteer Care Surveyor for the Dominion Command of the Royal Canadian Legion. I have been a Legion member of Branch 63 for 32 years.

I raised my two daughters as a single parent mother. My daughters are now grown, with both of them working at the Saskatoon Star Phoenix. The youngest; Jakki; is married and the oldest; Dawn, has no wish to marry. Dawn has provided me with one grandson, who is now 18. Neither of my daughters is greatly interested in Genealogy, but they assist me when I ask. I keep hoping to instill some interest in them.

My mother was born and raised in the Bergheim District, located between Aberdeen and Saskatoon. As a child we spent many hours visiting relatives in this area, so I thought I knew them all. I was surrounded by aunts, uncles, great aunts and uncles and numerous cousins. I even had 2 great grandfathers still living. My father was raised at Palo, Saskatchewan, but I always knew his parents as living in Saskatoon. Grandpa didn't have any family here at all. My grandmother was from Holland, coming with all of her siblings and parents in 1914 when she was a young girl.

I was not interested in Genealogy, having been told numerous times that my maternal grandparents were born in the USA and that my great grandparents were Germans from Russia. Visiting was not exactly fun for me. Sometimes there would be 20 or more relatives in one place at one time. I couldn't wait to get away from all those relatives.

I became interested in Genealogy after the death of my maternal grandmother Augusta Draeger Wutzke Hoffman on 6 January, 1999. After her burial my mother came into possession of documents that were going to go to the landfill if no one claimed them. From my mother I received these documents which included her parent's baptismal, confirmation and marriage certificates. The baptismal certificates dated from 1901 and 1903. It was while looking at these that I noticed my grandmother's father (Adolph Draeger) had the same last name as grandfather's mother (Amelia Dreger). This really peaked my interest.

Since then I have been researching the Dreger/Drager/Draeger, Donat, Wutzke, Belke, Friedenberg and Engwer names from North Dakota, Volhynia Russia (Ukraine) and in the area of Warsaw, Poland. These are my German ancestors. From Noord-Holland I am researching Kuijpers, Swaan, Zwaan, Bruin and Broertjes. My paternal grandfather remains a mystery, but I continue looking for him, Stanley Maduk (Stanislaw, Medwecke/Medwicki) born in Krywcze-gorne, Borszczow, Ternopil, Ukraine. Not a Ukrainian but Polish by birth.

My family research has been ongoing for 8 years now. Since retirement I have been able to concentrate more on the research aspect of Genealogy and would like to write a couple of books, which will compliment some of the articles I have written. From wanting to get away from all the relatives I now find that I contact them frequently. I am a member of Society of German Genealogy of Eastern Europe (SGGEE), and The Historical Society of Germans from Poland and Volhynia. I am unsure of how long I have been a member of the Saskatoon Branch - SGS, but think it is about 5 years now.