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Spring 2007 Edition

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 9 regular meeting - "The Immigration Trail"

Regardless of our ethnic roots, living in Canada means your family roots began elsewhere. For some, it was over 10,000 years ago; but for most it was within the past 300 years. There are people here from every country on earth. As genealogists and family historians we need to understand the history of immigration to Canada in order to find the paper trails to document our family trees. Presentation by Michelle Rusk.

MEETING INFORMATION

Place: St. Frances Catholic School, 2141 McPherson Avenue
Dates: The 2nd Wednesday of each month except for July & August.
Time: The Library is open from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.

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

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

Library Website: <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 as a Portable Document Format file (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. Please submit by the third Wednesday of the month prior to publication month.

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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

The New Year has started with an eventful approach to our scheduled meetings. It seems that every meeting thus far has seen snow. We are now underway into Spring, leading to Summer and hope that this does not continue. Our question should be, will this continue.

Our objective for the year is to increase our membership thru advertisement. Our Vice President, Tammy, is currently writing a series of articles that are being published in "The Neighbourhood Express". We are attempting to make ourselves more visible within the community, thru advertisement in the Sunday Sun. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatchewan Provincial Council, who will hold their spring conference and AGM on Saturday 12 May, has contacted us. We have been invited to do an introductory session of about 1 hour on getting started with your family history and what Canadian information sources a person could use. Tammy Vallee will be facilitating this session.

Some of the programs may seem repetitious, however, information whether it is new and fresh, or has been heard before is vital to the learning process. If we have heard the information before there is always some fact or item that may have been missed, overlooked or just forgotten. Reviewing previously learned material is important.

You may have noticed a slight change in the format of the meetings. The business portion is being kept to a minimum, with time for discussion of success, roadblocks, research tips and hints. This has proven to be not only helpful, but gets the members interacting and sharing ideas. There is a lot of knowledge among our members and the only way to tap into this knowledge base is thru discussion.

From the online survey and the questionnaire, the opening of the library will once again take place. The library will be open on Saturday May 5th from 1 - 4 pm. A Genealogy Beginner class is being scheduled for September 22, 2007. Further details will be announced closer to the date.

We will again be hosting a Steak Night. Since this venue has proven popular and is relatively an easy to hold function we are asking each member promote, sell, or buy tickets. The Steak Night will be on June 2, 2007 at Rodeo's. Ticket costs are \$12.

We thank all the members for their dedication and commitment. There are still some positions on the executive that have not been filled. If you could devote a couple of hours a month, you are asked to let one of the executive members know.

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.

Steak Night Fundraiser

The Saskatoon Branch of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society is hosting our annual fundraising Steak Night on **June 2nd at Rodeo's Bar & Grill** behind the Travelodge on Circle Drive.

Come enjoy an evening out with family & friends.

There will be 50/50 draws and numerous raffles.

For more information and tickets contact:

Delores Maduke: 384-2510

A REVIEW OF JOHN D. PIHACH'S UKRAINIAN GENEALOGY

Ukrainian Genealogy, John D. Pihach. Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press www.utoronto.ca/cius, Toronto - Edmonton 2007, ISBN 1-894865-05-7 (paper). \$34.95 + 12% shipping and handling (minimum \$6). You can order online by sending an e-mail to cius@ualberta.com with your billing address, item(s) ordered, and credit card info. More information is available at the Website cited above.

This is the first book in English I've ever heard of that is devoted to helping researchers trace their Ukrainian roots. The author has visited Eastern Europe often to do genealogical research at various archives, and has authored a number of articles on Galician genealogy. He has also been a prominent member of the East European Genealogical Society, to which he has contributed his services in various capacities. (In the interest of full disclosure, I should mention that I edit the Journal of that Society, East European Genealogist. I have never met John Pihach in person, but have corresponded with him occasionally, and those contacts have always been amiable.)

The book runs 272 pages, measuring 10 inches high and 8 inches wide; and I must say, I am impressed not only with how much information Mr. Pihach was able to pack into it, but also how well he organized it. As I was paging through it, I kept asking, "Did he cover this? Did he remember that?" In every case, the answer was yes. More important, it's put together in such a way that you can find exactly what you need, as long as you have enough sense to consult the Table of Contents and the Index.

It opens with a chapter designed to help novices, giving practical suggestions on exactly how to get started with research. The next chapter gives a background in Ukrainian history, which is of huge importance to most North American researchers, who -- let's face it -- aren't likely to know a whole lot about this subject. Chapter 3 is devoted to given names and surnames (wise man!). Chapter 4 discusses church records in Canada, which is presumably home to much of Mr. Pihach's target audience. He does not neglect those of us living in the United States, however; Chapter 5 covers U. S. church records.

Chapter 6 deals with the immigrants' path from Europe to North America; chapter 7 covers the vital step of locating your ancestral home in Ukraine. The next chapter deals with regional history; then metrical records get two chapters of detailed attention. Chapter 11 is on Austrian land records, a prime source easily overlooked; and the final chapter deals with "Other Overseas Resources." Appendix 1 provides help with languages, Appendix 2 with "Other Ethnic Groups with Roots in Ukraine," and Appendix 3 lists helpful Websites. The book closes with a bibliography and index.

I suspect you're getting the idea: the author covers all the bases. And along the way there are plenty of maps, illustrations, sample documents, and other graphics to illustrate the points he's making.

The author of this sort of book must walk a narrow path between two extremes. Providing too little information leaves readers without everything they really need; but providing too much can overwhelm them. I think Mr. Pihach navigated this tricky path well. For instance, as a linguist I would like to see more information on Ukrainian and other languages. Yet I must admit, he showed good judgment in this regard. The book isn't meant to be a treatise on Ukrainian grammar, after all. He provides enough information to give non-linguists a fighting chance with understanding documents, but not so much as to leave them drowning in details only a grammarian could love.

Now it's sort of a rule among reviewers that you must find something to criticize, or you risk being dismissed as a lightweight or, even worse, a shill. But I had a hard time finding anything I didn't like. If I absolutely had to suggest a change, I'd advise the author to give the post-World War II Akcja Wisla, "Operation Vistula," a little more prominence. He mentions the post-war forced relocations of Ukrainians, but does not mention Operation Vistula by name; and it can be hugely important to researchers. I've known more than a few people baffled to find their Ukrainian relatives living in western Poland, far from where you'd expect them to be. A little attention to those relocations might save researchers some headaches.

But really, that verges on nitpicking. I think any reasonable reader will come to the conclusion that this is a wonderful book, one that succeeds in doing precisely what it set out to do. If you have roots in Ukraine -- and many, many "Poles" do -- this book is a bargain.

(If you'd like a second opinion by a gentleman with far more knowledge of Ukrainian research than I have, read Matthew Bielawa's review at http://www.halgat.com/pihach_book_review.html.)

Written by Fred Hoffman wfh@langline.com Previously published by Gen Dobry!, Vol. VIII, No. 3, 31 March 2007, PolishRoots(R): <http://www.PolishRoots.org/>.

21 Census Questions

By Tammy Vallee

We all search the census with hope of finding at least one ancestor and wishing that the census would give us more information. What if one day the person running the show down at the census office was a diehard genealogist? Perhaps we would see a census with more beneficial questions for the genealogy community.

Maybe (if we were so lucky) a new separate Genealogy Census would appear every 2 years and contain 21 questions that would make searching the family tree so much easier in the future. A new census that was ran by an office separate from that of Stats Canada office and available without the current restriction we now face. This is my version of the Genealogy Census:

Genealogical Census

1. Full Name
2. Birth Date & Place
3. Parents' full names
4. Parents' date & place of birth
5. Siblings' names, dates & place of birth
6. If married give place & date of marriage
7. Names of people living with you, relationship, birth date & place
8. Where were you living during the last three censuses?
9. Names of ancestors who came to Canada, with arrival date & place & where they came from (town, county, and country specific).
10. Name anyone in your family who has died since the last census - include date & place of death & place of burial, name of funeral home and/or church that handle the funeral, and newspaper in which obituary appeared.
11. Give current address of all those named in questions 4 & 5 and other names that they may be known as.
12. Current occupation of all those residing in the home
13. Schools attended for each person in your family, give school, name location and years attended.
14. Are you currently a member of a genealogical society or historical group?
15. Have you or your family been included in any local history books? Give name of book and year of publication.
16. Has anyone or are you currently farming any land? Give land location, method of obtaining land and years on each specific piece of land.
17. Name any church that contains records of christening or baptisms, marriages or burial for your family and which records the church may have for each person.
18. Name any other historical records that may be found in archives, libraries or society that were completed by you or contain information on your family and the current location where held.
19. List the places you have lived since birth and the years in which you resided at each place.
20. Have you ever been missed on a census, give year and reason why?
21. Attach 5 generation pedigree chart to back of census for each person living in your house.

I know we may be along way from ever seeing anything like this, but it doesn't hurt to dream....

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

- SK SGS S 221 SASKATCHEWAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN 2007 - Volume 38, No.1
- Pioneer Questionnaires
- That's Crofter Land! Part Two
- Blahoslovenie Creek Commemorate-Kylemore Doukhobors
- Internet – Boom or Ban?
- GEN E 225 EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER 2007 - Mar/Apr
- Obsolete Names and Abolished Countries
- The Numerical Index- Another Land Record
- The Richard Schellens Collection
- Net Family History-Including:The Best Genealogy Photo Sites on the Internet, The U.S. Genweb Project, Guide to Finding Canadians in Canada, Directory of Genealogical Societies and Libraries Part Two
- BC J 15.2118 JOURNAL OF THE VICTORIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, THE, 2007- Vol. 30, No.1
- Escape from Cracow: Part II
- Health in the Nineteenth Century
- The Longevity of Historical Documents
- MAN M 514.14 MENNONITE HISTORIAN. Published by the Mennonite Heritage Centre and the Centre for MB studies in Canada 2007 – Vol. XXXIII, No.1
- OTTAWA ON
OTTA O 202.01 OTTAWA BRANCH NEWS. Ottawa Branch of OGS, 2007-Vol.40,No.2
- GEN
D 15 DATING OLD PHOTOGRAPHS 1840-1929
Published by Moorhead Magazines Ltd. 2004
- GEN M 415 MORE DATING OLD PHOTOGRAPHS 1840-1929
Published by Moorehead Magazines Ltd. 2006
- CAN O 3 ONE CANADA Memoirs of The Right Honourable
John G. Diefenbaker. The Tumultuous Years 1962-1967. C 1977
- CAN K 19 KNOTS IN A STRING. An Introduction to Native Studies in Canada. Peggy Brizinski. 1989
GEN M 2 MY BACKYARD HISTORY BOOK. DAVID WEITZMAN c 1975
- MAN P 15 PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE. Mennonite Heritage Village 2002-Vol.9,No.3,4

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SK G 15 GOLD AND OTHER STORIES AS TOLD TO BERRY RICHARDS
Saskatchewan Mining Association 1986

SASKATOON/SK SASKATOON BRANCH SGS HANDBOOK
S 2

SASKATOON/SK SASKATOON BRANCH SGS MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE AND GENERAL MEETINGS
S 2 SEPT/1992 TO NOV./2002

The Library of Congress (<http://www.loc.gov/>) can be a great resource for information. There are a number of different areas that they cover. Send your queries to the Ask a Librarian. One of the areas that they have information on is that of maps and geography. They have maps from many differing time frames and from all over the world.

In the past I have sought maps for specific areas during a specific time span. Unable to find these maps I utilized the resources for the Library of Congress. They responded to my email, indicating they were checking their resources.

My original query had been about Neche, North Dakota in 1900. They sent a lengthy write up entitled "North Dakota - A guide to the Northern Prairie State", North Dakota Place Names, Origins of North Dakota Place Names, Geographical Dictionary of Neche, detailed map of the streets for Neche (1907), plat map of the county in 1905 showing landownership, map of North Dakota from 1880, and a map of industry in 1900.

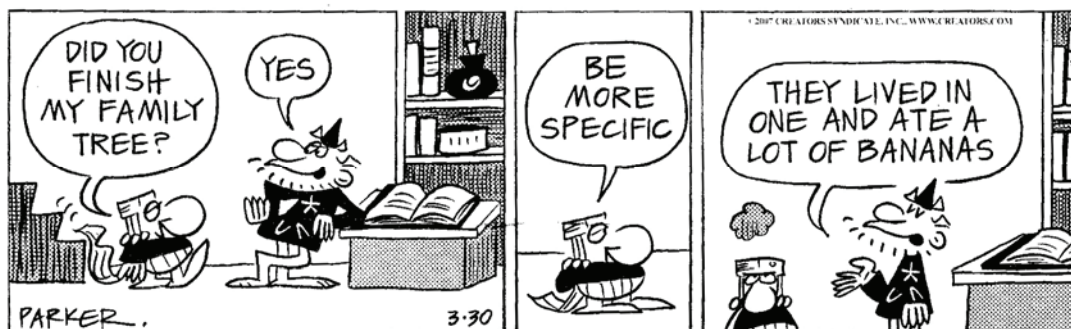
"Galicia and Bukovina: A Research Handbook About Western Ukraine, Late 19th and 20th Centuries", published 1990, by Prof. John-Paul Himka from University of Alberta (Canada) is accessible to read in its entirety on site: <http://www.ourroots.ca/e/toc.aspx?id=1563>

Chapter VI (page 141) of this very well researched publication covers Currency (exchange rates and samples of the agricultural goods prices).

Above prices have been extracted from the publication of "Rocznik Statystyki Galicyi (1889-1891) (Annual Review of Galicia Statistics) by Tadeusz Rutkowski, Lwow 1891. (It is listed in Prof. Himka book bibliography as position 220.) Perhaps you should review source publication.

More information on Prof. Himka and his work can be found at his website:
<http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/historyandclassics/john-paulhimka.cfm>

WIZARD OF ID



Resources for Researching Ukrainian Ancestors : Feb. 2007

I. Online Resources

1. <http://torugg.org> : An excellent site for both the beginning and more experienced researcher for Ukrainian ancestors.
2. <http://lemko.org/genealogy/galicia.html> Scroll down to 'File Index by Locality' to search for the 'Vital and Marriage Records From Greek Catholic and Orthodox Parishes in Former Austrian Galicia, Former Malo Rus, Ukraine, Poland, and Belarus (former Byelorussia)' as microfilmed from the L'viv Archives by the Latter Day Saints. These films can be ordered and viewed at the Family History Centers of LDS
3. <http://www.infoukes.com> Has many links to valuable information and maps.
4. <http://www.familysearch.org> The sprava numbers obtained from the <http://lemko.org> site OR from microfilm #1921625(available at the Saskatoon LDS Family History Center) can be matched to the film #s for a specific village online at www.familysearch.org or at the FHC
5. www.halgal.com Genealogy of Halychyna/ Eastern Galicia ; another good resource for researching ancestors; includes means for searching for films for village records.
6. polishroots.org Information for searching for ancestors in Poland.
7. <http://www.fallingrain.com/world> :worldwide index of cities and towns; good for getting different spellings for villages as well as neighbouring villages, etc
8. <http://www.mapquest.com> Has printable maps of most countries
9. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Galicia_Poland-Ukraine Join the mailing list and ask questions that experts and other list members can answer.

II. Print Resources

1. Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia by Brian J. Lenius : includes over 14,000 place names. This 345 page book also includes 22 maps and is based on 1896-1914 information. Can be ordered from 'Books' on <http://torugg.org> site. Also available at the library of the Sask. Genealogy society, Saskatoon branch.
2. Ukrainian Genealogy: A Beginner's Guide by John D. Pihach, 2007
 - A research handbook with a lot of useful information in 1 package.
 - Can be ordered through the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press for \$35.00 or bundled with 'Ukrainians in Canada' for \$68.00 ;
www.utoronto.ca/cius/publications/books/ukrainiangenealogy.htm

Prepared by Lorraine Samborsky; lolky95@hotmail.com

Wedding Bells

By Delores Maduke

On a glorious winter day on 25 February 1913 the marriage of Ludwig Drager and Florentine Friedenberg took place. The groom was nattily attired in a navy seersucker suit and vest. This was complimented by a white shirt, silver tie, and white corsage of lily of the valley. The bride was a vision of loveliness in her long white gown of peau de soie overlaid with white georgette. The chin high bodice of Florentine's gown was trimmed in French lace, and satin covered buttons. The tight fitting sleeves were $\frac{3}{4}$ length. The floor length tulle veil was attached to a floral headpiece. The bride carried a bouquet of lily of the valley and fresh flowers. Family and friends were in attendance for this joyous event.



I could go on and write a lengthy description of the wedding party and festivities, but that would not be accurate. What can be described with accuracy is the date of their wedding and some facts about them. The accompanying photo is all that remains in remembrance of this couple and a momentous occasion in their lives.

Ludwig Drager was born 7 May 1889 in Kreis Rowno, Volhynia, Russia. He emigrated with his parents Adolph and Emilie (Donat) Drager and siblings to the Neche, North Dakota area in 1895. Adolph along with his family was granted United States Citizenship on 28th February 1906. On 6 November 1907 Adolph and family take up homestead on the SE section 12 Twp.37 Rge 4 West of 3 Meridian, near Saskatoon, in what became known as the Bergheim District. At the time of his marriage Ludwig (Louis) Drager would have been 23 years of age. He had a minimal amount of education in English, but was fluent in German, was a hard worker and was of the Lutheran Faith. He was of German ancestry.

Florentine (Florence) Friedenberg, spoke German, was well educated, and was a very religious Baptist woman, her father being the Baptist minister in the area. Her father may have performed the ceremony. One of Florentine's conditions prior to marriage was that any children would be brought up in the Baptist Faith. Florentine, as any young lady of that time period and even today, was concerned with fashionable dressing, and wore a bustle. Florentine was born in 1894 and would have been 18 at the time of her marriage. It is not know if Florentine was born in Volhynia, Russia but one could assume so. The names of her parents are unknown, just that they were ?? Friedenberg and ?? Kuyath (Kujat). This information seems to be lost through time as Florentine's daughter is unable to recall the names of her grandparent's.

Both Ludwig and Florentine lived in the same area of the Bergheim District near Saskatoon. They were probably neighbours and that is how they would have met. Their marriage that started out with so much promise was not to have a happy ending. Florence died on 7 March 1926 leaving Ludwig with young children. Florentine is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Saskatoon. Ludwig soon remarried. Florentine's parents moved to the United States not long after her death. There was no happy ending for this young couple, who married with so much joy and many dreams and plans.

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Meet the Members

René James Stock

I was born in August, 1953, six weeks after the death of my mother's youngest brother by a sniper's bullet at the end of the Korean War. I was named after him. I'm the fifth child of seven born to Tom Stock and Juliet Michaud, who farmed near Young, Saskatchewan.

My mother was born near Gravelbourg in 1919, to Louis Philippe Michaud and Delia Anne Tessier. She was the sixth of twelve who survived childhood. We found out very recently that twin boys had been the first born to the couple, but had died at birth. The next oldest was a girl who had died at age 8 in a local epidemic. When Juliet was 12 the whole family moved to a farm near Makwa to escape the ravages of the drought of the Thirties. This is where she met Tom, who also had moved north from the Young district in the early Thirties to homestead north of the Loon River in 1933 at the age of 26.

Tom's parents, William Stock and Jane Hussey, had moved west from Ontario in 1906 to prove the homestead he had claimed in 1905 near Young. Tom was the oldest of 8, and was the first baby born in the Young district, in 1907.

Tom and Juliet married in November 1940, and had two sons born at Makwa, before deciding to sell out and move back to Young. They purchased a farm, and Tom went into purebred polled Hereford beef cattle.

By the time I was born, the only grandparent left to me was my paternal grandmother Jane. Since I was not born with the genealogical bug (I had to be introduced to it!), I was not yet into questioning family roots before Grandma died when I was 15.

Much of my youth was spent working on the family farm. 4-H was a big part of my Dad's agricultural training plan for his children; the beef club was the priority. Dad would talk to us mostly about cattle, but occasionally about his youth. He had visited his paternal grandparents in Ontario when growing up, but I do not recall ever hearing a town named. He always referred to his nationality as Irish.

After completing high school at Young, it was expected that I would attend university in Saskatoon. I wanted to go into Agriculture, but my older brother convinced me to take computer science. I attended one year, and did quite well considering I had never seen a computer before, but I did not like the city nor the prospect of living in one the rest of my life. A neighbouring grain farm was for sale, and with the backing of my folks, I bought it.

In 1973 I married Joan Teneycke, my high school sweetheart. She was teaching at Young. Our first child Monique Renée (named after a lady we had met at a cattle sale) was born in 1976. Her brothers Michael Thomas and Geoffrey Herbert were born two and four years later.

Near our farm was an 800-acre reservoir, part of the Diefenbaker Lake/Gardiner Dam project of the late fifties/early sixties. I could not resist the temptation of being able to water crops to increase production, so I developed 320 acres, growing crops ranging from fababeans, to corn for grain and silage, and alfalfa for hay. Unfortunately it was not long before the 10% interest rates and the 60 cent diesel fuel that made my irrigating budget feasible, became 22% and \$1.20 respectively, and along with grain prices in general, profitability fell through the floor. We stuck it out as long as possible, but in 1989 I returned to University to take Agricultural Economics, and we left the farming industry. My father passed away at age 82, while I was going to University.

I graduated in 1993, just prior to my daughter starting college. Since graduating I have worked primarily in marketing agricultural products, from cattle to grain to hogs, and recently started with a company involved in biofuels.

We moved to Saskatoon in 1996, three weeks before the birth of Ashley Marie, our afterthought.

My studies of agricultural marketing led me to a keen interest in working with data and databases, and eventually to data on the Internet. My father's youngest sister, knowing of my abilities with the computer, challenged me to take on the task of recording the family's history. From my experiences working with data, I thought it advisable to search for existing applications, preferably modifiable, before starting to build one from scratch. I found an internet-based genealogical application, accessible by password, which would allow relatives to view or even enter/edit data from

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 11)

anywhere that the internet is available.

I had very little idea of how to proceed with finding information to enter into that terrific application, though. I started with what Aunt Louise knew about her ancestors along with my dad's write-up in the Young history book, and with what genealogical research my mother's sister-in-law had for my mother's side. That line followed the surname only. I located and purchased a copy of the history book produced by the Ellice Township committee, and gathered much valuable information from that publication. Next I went to the Frances Morrison library to pore through census records from the Stratford, Ontario region, and did locate the Stock families in Ellice Township. I got to know the message boards at Rootsweb, and began communicating with possible cousins, obtaining much valuable information from them. I found one young lady searching for information on her gg grandfather John Stock, and from what information I had by then, suspected her John to be a nephew of my gg grandfather John Stock. After following the trail of her dead email address, we finally connected, with the bonus of both of us living in Saskatoon. She is a fourth cousin, and has been my guest at a few Society meetings.

From there I learned how to use parish records and the LDS library, and have spent many hours there. It was particularly interesting to me to find my English Catholic ancestors getting married in Church of England parishes, and no baptism records showing up at the same parish. An ardent genealogist, who enlightened me as to the surname of my ggg grandmother Grace, originally from very near to Liverpool, also indicated that I should look at the marriage laws in England from 1753. All marriages had to be performed by clergy of the Church of England from 1754 until civil registration began in 1837. This explained why I would find no baptisms in the parish where the couple was married.

My paternal grandmother had been born in Ashfield Township, Huron County, Ontario, so I purchased the history book for that community, and was able to locate many ancestors from that, as well as living cousins. It turns out my dad was 3/8 English and 5/8 Irish.

My mother's side was much easier. The French in Canada have done an excellent job of record keeping. An added bonus was Abbé Tanguay's seven volumes, in which he has put families together from the marriage and baptism records of many Québec parishes. Once I got back about 3 generations, I was able to connect to many published sources. Most of my French Canadian ancestors have been in Canada since the 17th century. One researcher has traced one of my direct lines back to Jean Radulph, born before 1300 in the Comté Languedoc, France. Another line traces to Louis Hébert who is credited with being the first colonist of New France in 1617. Apparently his friend, Samuel de Champlain, had suggested that he move his family from Acadia to the superior farming soil at Québec City. Apparently Mom's surname is unique; anyone with that surname in North America is related, as Pierre was the only Michaud immigrant from France.

A community celebration at Young in 2005 was particularly interesting. A good childhood friend of my older brothers was accompanied by his brother-in-law, surnamed Michaud. This friend is also keen on genealogy, and was sure we could establish a relationship between my mother and his brother-in-law. I showed him my website, and after some research we made the connection, eighth cousins, once removed. This same fellow has also been working on a line to which my wife belongs, and has sent me a database of 2,700 people to add to the 8,300 I already had.

In the summer of 2005 I took my mother to Gravelbourg. She had not been back there since she had left in 1931. The tour guide at the Cathedral was Raymond Michaud, the same surname as Mom's. He consulted with his grandmother, and I was able to make the connection. We are eighth cousins, once removed.

I intend to devote the next stage of my family history research to 'fleshing out the bones', with stories, photos and histories, whenever and wherever I can find them. This will include attending reunions when someone else organizes them, and organizing them when none are planned.

When I first started researching my family history, I had no idea how intriguing this pastime could become!

DID YOU KNOW?

Tom Sukanen, a Finnish immigrant, built an ocean-going boat near Macrorie during the middle of the dust-bowl years. He was 15 miles from the South Sk. River. He intended to take a load of wheat back to Finland. He hand made every part, including boiler and steam engine. He died before completion. The assembled ship can now be seen on Highway 2 south of Moose Jaw.

Wynyard is the chicken capital of Canada because they export the highest amount of chicken per capita. Every summer during the carnival days they host the "chicken chariot race" where chickens are hooked up to a homemade chariot and they are raced down lanes to see which one is the fastest.

Regina is in the Guinness Book Of Records - It has the longest bridge (Albert Street Bridge) over the shortest body of water (Wascana Creek).

The railway track from Regina to Stoughton used to be the longest stretch of perfectly straight track in the world.

The very first Dairy Queen was started in Melville Sk. in 1953. The original owner was Donald M. Patrick..

Turtleford, Saskatchewan has a giant Turtle in the town.

In Saskatchewan there are over 100,000 lakes, rivers, and bogs. The Province has three major river systems all of which empty into Hudson Bay; the Assiniboine, the North and South Saskatchewan and the Churchill. Over one-half of the province, or approximately 3,450,000 sq km, is covered by forests. Of the total forest area, 2,165,000 sq km are classified as commercially productive forest land and contain both hardwood and softwood species.

Famed theorist/physicist Albert Einstein played goal for the Canwood Canucks one winter while sojourning north to Canada to "find peace and silence" for his work on the Theory of Relativity. He had played hockey in his younger years in Germany.

Dr. Ballard of dog food fame was a veterinarian in Wolseley which, incidentally, was also the home of the very first Beaver Lumber.

Dad's Cookies were once made at the former roller skating rink in White City.

Brett Hull lived in a little log house a few miles out of Whitewood.

Gordie Howe was born near Saskatoon.

Saskatoon was supposed to be named by some settlers after the yummy Saskatoon berries growing along the river but saskatoons weren't in season at the time, they were eating something else (cranberries maybe?)

Saskatchewan has several waterfalls (the most interesting is probably Hunt's Falls) and the only active sand dunes in Western Canada (just like the Sahara) although both of these are up North and no one has ever seen them so they may be a government conspiracy to make our travel brochures look interesting.

There's a beautiful round stone barn by Indian Head.

In the 20's Moose Jaw's (aka "Little Chicago") River Street was the home of gambling, prostitutes and the bootleg center of booze running into the States. The tunnels under the streets there connected the various businesses" and were used by various gangsters, and rumour has it, including Al Capone. The tunnels were believed to have been dug years earlier by Chinese immigrants as a way to escape. (Canada had Chinese concentration camps although no one ever brags about that)

W.O. Mitchell, who wrote *Who Has Seen the Wind* and *Jake and the Kid* (both of which are regularly read in classrooms across Canada) grew up in Weyburn. In 1976 the town of Arcola was the site of the filming of *Who Has Seen the Wind*.

Saskatoon was not named after the berry. It was originally a plains Cree word that means "gathering place." The Indian people in the old days used to gather here to trade goods and eventually it was settled by the white populace.

Estevan is the sunshine capital of Canada.

Saskatchewan has the largest kimberlite field, (diamond-bearing rock) in the world! (Near Prince Albert, where DeBeers & other companies are working now).

Wilkie is home to the world's largest Grasshopper - which everyone hates because it IS a farming community. Apparently you can fit eight people and three cases of beer comfortably on his back..

A small town called Saltcoats (16 miles south of Yorkton) has been titled the salamander capital of Canada. The town is nestled on the side of Anderson Lake which is where thousands and thousands (varies from year to year) of salamanders also call home. On rainy nights they can be seen making their trek from the water to land. It is a crazy sight to see so many

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lizards running across the roads. I will not tell you what it sounds like as the cars drive by.

Manitou Lake is not in fact the 3rd "saltiest" body of water - The others are The Dead Sea and The Great Salt Lake in Utah. There are many bodies of water in Sask. that are saltier, but none have the mineral content of Manitou. No one knows for sure where Manitou gets the minerals from. In fact, in 1946, there was a team of doctors commissioned by the Province to do a medical study on Manitou, ("the lake of the healing waters)". The doctors didn't complete their study however, because at the time, they felt the lake may dry up.

The Anglican Church at Stanley Mission is the oldest wooden building in western Canada.

Saskatchewan has the most miles of highway for the least amount of population of anywhere in the world (mile of road per capita)...and perhaps in the poorest condition???

The original railway stations along the main Canadian National Railway line (former Canadian Northern Railway) are in alphabetical order (Ituna, Jasmin, Kelliher, Leross, Lestock, etc.) There is a lot of speculation why there were 2 towns named with the letter "L", and none with "M, N, or O".

The town of Punnichy was named after the store owner who was bald, the Natives called him "Bird with no feathers."

Regina is at its present location because the citizens in Qu'Appelle bought up the land because they thought the railway would have to go through their community.

Quill Lake is known as the Goose Capital of Saskatchewan and has a Canadian Goose (quite large) in its town limits.

Watson is the home of the ORIGINAL Santa Claus day and boasts a tall statue of Santa Claus waving at passersby on its main highway through town. There is a sleigh by him and a cutout of two elves where people can go and put their head through the head holes and have photos taken.

Tisdale has a huge honey bee sitting at the junction of the main highways that run through that town. Its town motto is "The Land of Rape and Honey".

Carrot River is the home to "Big Bert" the prehistoric dinosaur skeleton that was found near Pasqua Park. It was the first find of a dinosaur skeleton that was amphibious in nature to prove that the northern part of Saskatchewan was once covered by an ancient salt sea.

Koender's located in Englefeld has a giant pig located on the roof of their building. The pig stands between 4-6 high and 8-10 feet long. It has curly eyelashes which are easy to see.

The dyslexic capital of Canada - Wakaw...

Kindersley - home of the world's largest Canada Goose; Cutknife - home of the world's largest Tomahawk Danceland - at Lake Manitou near Watrous - world's only horse hair padded dance floor.

Moose Jaw - The former Joyner department store was the western distributor of Levis jeans. The stock would sometimes exceed one million dollars. It has been recently reopened as a Gift/Craft/Souvenir store. Tragically, this store and several nearby historical buildings recently burned down. This store also owned the largest Cash Cable Car system (over 1,000 feet in length) that was still operational. The only other one in working order is in Europe or China and is between 600 and 700 feet. Disney had offered the Joyner family \$600,000 for the system so they could put it into their Euro-Disney complex, but the family honored the wishes of the original store owner that the system remain in Moose Jaw.

The town with the "world's largest lily" is Parkside, Saskatchewan. (Highway 40 between Leask and Shellbrook)

Macklin is near the home of a 30+ foot high Bunnock (a mushroom looking thing that is really supposed to be a horse's anklebone - there is a Plains Indian game called Bunnock).

John Diefenbaker, former Prime Minister, lived in Wakaw and PA.

And, of course, Sir Wilred Laurier, W. L. Mackenzie King and John Diefenbaker were all elected to the House of Commons from the Prince Albert constituency. Laurier had run in two seats and ran in Prince Albert as it was a "safe" Liberal seat. He gave that seat up and represented his seat won in Quebec. King represented Prince Albert from 1925 to 1944. Not a well known fact. Dief's story is well known.

Melville once had the largest Buffalo, a land mark, manufactured by the late Hugh Vasos, of Melville. Purchased by the Kinsmen Club to be placed at the North entrance of the Melville Regional Park, which was destroyed by fire by vandals, Replaced in 2004 with a metal silhouette of a Buffalo in the same spot as the original one once stood (not quite as large).

Melville has the largest hockey stick in Saskatchewan, mounted on the front of the Stadium, which was built in 1958.