

# ARMCHAIR GENEALOGIST



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*April Snow Showers Bring May Flowers*

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 15th:** Regular Branch Meeting: Featuring guest speaker Bill Waiser, U of S History Professor, on the topic of "Hidden Homesteaders," an examination of the role of women in the Saskatchewan homesteading experience."
- June 19th:** Regular Branch Meeting & Dessert Social: Featuring SBSGS members Merle Ward & Eleanor Ritchie who speak on: Are you planning to do Family Research during vacation? Perhaps you will attend a Family Reunion or other Community Celebration or maybe visit a cemetery? Some tips will be offered for doing summer genealogy.
- Sept 18th:** Regular Branch meeting: Featuring SBSGS member Harold Baker with a presentation on "Self-Publishing My Family History". Here I am, with boxes of files, a computer filled with family history information, hundreds of relatives wondering whether they will ever hear from me, and asking myself, -- dare I wait any longer for those few tardy responses that just might lead to the perfection. I crave? My conclusion - It is time for action NOW and my timeline for publishing must be firm!

## MEETING INFORMATION

**Place:** Albert Community Centre, 610 Clarence Avenue S.  
**Dates:** The 3rd Thursday of each month except for July & August.  
**Time:** The Library is open from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.  
 The Meeting runs from 7:15 - 9:30 PM. 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 fourth Wednesday of the month prior to publication month.

### SBSGS 2008 BRANCH EXECUTIVE

<b>PRESIDENT:</b> Tammy Vallee tamw25@shaw.ca Phone 668-1380	<b>GREETERS:</b> Cindy Paradis Peter Geres	<b>NEWSLETTER:</b> Cliff Rusk c.rusk@shaw.ca 384-8813	<b>REFRESHMENTS:</b> Dawn Keddy—Brezinski
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b> Delores Maduke deloresstevens@sasktel.net Phone 384-2510	<b>WEB MASTER:</b> Gus Morrow gustaveous@mail.com	<b>MEMBERSHIP:</b> Gina Reid reidg@shaw.ca	<b>FUNDRAISING: VACANT</b> “volunteers are required”
<b>TREASURER:</b> Rene Stock rene@stockfamily.ca	<b>LIBRARIANS:</b> Georgiana Chartier g.chartier@sasktel.net Phone 652-1286	<b>Alice Schneider</b> Jschneider@sasktel.net	<b>CEMETERY COORDINATORS:</b> Merle Ward merleward@shaw.ca Susan Leitch
<b>SECRETARY:</b> Bev Gutenberg	<b>PROGRAMS:</b> Terri Chappell Michelle Rusk Eleanor Ritchie	<b>PHONERS:</b> Mabel Evans Phone 343-7379 Gina Reid Phone 343-9982	<b>Facility Coordinator:</b> Cliff Rusk  <b>Education Coordinator:</b> Bev Gutenberg
<b>MEMBERS-AT-LARGE</b> Michelle Rusk		<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS:</b> Cindy Paradis	

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

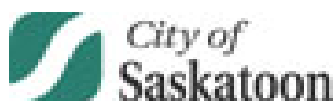
### Housekeeping Rules:

Everyone is requested to assist with setup and re-stacking tables and chairs.

We must leave the facilities clean and tidy so please come prepared to help clean up after each meeting.

We are expected to set up and take down all tables and chairs for every event held at Albert Community Centre.

WE GRATEFULLY  
ACKNOWLEDGE THE  
FOLLOWING  
ORGANIZATIONS.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well I want to start with saying "Well Done" to the Prince Albert Branch for their seminar on April 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. For those who could not attend they had Virtual speakers for seminar. This was a step in a new direction for the genealogical community in Saskatchewan and something we will likely see more of in the future. The weather may not have been totally on our side that weekend but I still enjoyed the trip!

In April I sent an email out with an article I had written on the importance of cemetery recording. It has run in several newspapers around the province. I hope those of you who read it would consider venturing out to record a cemetery or two or three this summer. It can be where ever you end up: visiting family, your hometown or by the lake where you are staying. I never consider it as work instead I look at it as a nice bit of quite time for myself where ever I am staying. The SGS does have forms but they will accept it in other ways, such as typed, hand written on loose leaf, or photocopies of the cemetery registers if you have access. You don't have to have a personal connection to a cemetery to record it, just consider your act as giving someone else a genealogical helping hand with their family!

At the April meeting I mentioned that our cemetery committee is looking for a little help. The last couple years have been spent organizing, updating and adding to our cemetery collection. The project is still a long way from complete, I am asking the members to give Merle and Susan a hand. Offer some time to help type up the cemetery information that has been recorded. A little help can go a long way and these two gals have put in countless hours let's work at easing their workload! Also if there is anyone who can translate Ukraine, Merle would love to hear from you!

Since this is our last newsletter before the fall I wish you all a great time this summer. Please remember that June is our dessert social the more the merrier!

### November 2008 Program Notice

The program planned for November 2008 is on "**How to take care of your Photo Collection**". Some of you may have some particular questions that you want answered. The Resource person is an experienced archivist, especially in cataloguing photographs. It would help the planning of this program if we knew what you would like included. I will be coordinating that program.

So please forward your ideas to me, either in person or by e-mail at [eritchie@sasktel.net](mailto:eritchie@sasktel.net)

*"A new cousin a day, keeps the boredom away."*

### \*\*\* MY DNA JOURNEY \*\*\*

Have you ever been curious about what your DNA might tell you about your heritage? Well, I was! I had been hearing a lot about the new interest in DNA testing within genealogical circles and thought it would be interesting to know what was lurking in my ancient past. A couple of years ago I ordered a Y-DNA test kit from Family Tree DNA (FtDNA), which was one of the early entrants into DNA testing for genealogists; it had been recommended by a friend as reliable and trustworthy. Y-DNA traces genetic mutations within the male line to determine your ancient ancestral roots. The test involves a simple cheek swab, which is mailed back to the FtDNA offices in the postage-paid envelope included with the test kit. It took about 6 weeks to get my results back via e-mail.

Since I have traced my paternal line back to late 18th century Poland-specifically, the Bialystok region-the haplogroup R1a results were not very surprising. According to Wikipedia, "R1a likely originated in the Eurasian Steppes, and is associated with the Kurgan culture and Proto-Indo-European expansion. It is primarily found in Central Asia, South Asia, and the Slavic peoples of Eastern Europe." Since I can confirm that my family is Eastern European, the test validated my genealogical research and also gave me a strong sense that my family has been grounded to place for a very long time. Since about 56% of Poles are supposed to be R1a (and 60% within Lithuania's Aukstaiciai or Highlands region), why were there no matches to others who had been tested? FtDNA offers a secure service which will alert you to others with matching DNA results, yet I was the only one with my specific genetic markers.

Fast forward to 2007, when I was contacted by Larry Mayka, who heads the Polish Project at FtDNA, asking that I join his DNA research group. Once your test results are posted online at the FtDNA site, you can join research groups such as specific surnames, ethnic, or geographic. One of the nice things about a research group is that there are often discounted rates for DNA test kits. I went ahead and joined the Polish Project. A couple of days later Larry contacted me again asking if I would be willing to have a full 67 Y-DNA marker test done, since my 12-marker test had matched none of the other members of the Polish Project or the more than 64,000 other samples. With the 67-marker test completed, I would know whether I was still unique or if there were others with similar DNA markers. You guessed it, the 67 marker Y-DNA test still provided no matches with other FtDNA participants. Larry then asked me to contact other Szumowskis and solicit their participation in the Y-DNA testing. This would have a twofold purpose of expanding known Polish DNA samples as well as confirming whether my DNA test was a fluke or a pattern. Some believe that \_szlachta\_ (the Polish nobility) are descended from the Sarmatians, which might explain my unique Y-DNA pattern.

During my first trip to Poland in 1989, I befriended a Szumowski family from Ostrolęka. Over the years we have tried without success to determine how our families are connected. Since both Szumowski families lived only 25 miles apart for generations, our assumption was that we were related, but just couldn't figure out how. I contacted my "cousin" Tadeusz Szumowski to find out if was interested in participating in this study. After a little persuasion, he agreed, and I had a test kit sent to him by FtDNA. His DNA results have just come back and Tadeusz is a haplogroup N. This haplogroup appears most commonly in the Finnish population within Europe. While the Y-DNA test tells us that our Szumowski lines are not genetically related, we have forged a family bond that pure blood cannot break.

I hope you have enjoyed my journey through Y-DNA and recommend that you visit the Polish Project at FtDNA (<http://www.familytreedna.com/public/polish>) and contact Larry Mayka about participating in this exciting personal and scientific journey. Once your test has been completed you will be offered the opportunity to have your DNA results sent to the National Geographic Genographic Project, which is yet another way to play a role in the wonderful world of science.

Written by Don Szumowski [DSzumowski@PolishRoots.org](mailto:DSzumowski@PolishRoots.org) Previously published \_by Gen Dobry!\_, Vol. IX, No. 3, 31 March 2008, PolishRoots(R): <http://www.PolishRoots.org/>. Submitted by Delores Maduke.

**NEW MATERIAL SASKATOON BRANCH SGS LIBRARY***Submitted by Georgiana Chartier , Branch Librarian*

- GB F 144            FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE 2008-Vol. 24, No.5  
                          - Cobblers – Shoemakers of Yesteryear  
                          - British Empire Overseas Trade  
                          - Life Circa 1800  
                          - 900 Years of Family History  
                          - Discover Your Heritage –England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland  
                          - King of the Castle – Ukrainian Ancestry Explained  
                          - Registrars & Registers  
                          - Condemned! Convict- Transportation
- GB F 114            FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE 2008 Vol.24 No.6  
                          - Finding My Mother –After Two Decades  
                          - Family Bibles – List of Names to Find  
                          - Heroes – 100 Years of the Territorial Army  
                          - Discover English County Record Offices  
                          -Name Study – the Clue Carved in Stone  
                          - Grandparents on Holiday- Grand Tour or Busman’s Holiday?
- GB F 114            FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE 2008 Vol.24 No.7  
                          - Homeless after WWII  
                          - Factory Girls – risking Life & Limb  
                          - Tuning into Our Family- A Long Lost Radio Inventor  
                          - Edwardian Era – Life Circa 1900  
                          - Pirate Blood in Your Veins?  
                          - New online – Irish Births, Marriages  
                          - Find Out About Your Landholders – Records Through the Ages  
                          - Ancient London – Burials Explored
- GB/ENG            1861 Census West Derby(Part), Lancashire  
 B.D.A.                Parish Records-Canon Frome, Herefordshire  
 F 9                    Back Issues FTM April 2002,PFH April 2000  
                          Custodian - Demo Software for your Family History  
                          Special Bonus-Deeds that Thrill the Empire  
                          PC & Mac    **Disc 44    APRIL 2008**
- GB/ENG            1871 Census Worcester, Worcestershire  
 B.D.A.                Parish Records-Irby-Upton-Humber, Lincolnshire  
 F 9                    Back Issues FTM May 2003,PFH May 2001  
                          Roots magic - Demo Software for your Family History  
                          Special Bonus –The Children’s Story of the War  
                          PC & Mac    **Disc 45    MAY 2008**

*continued on pages 6 & 7*

- GB/ENG 1871 Census Wortley, Yorkshire  
 B.D.A. Parish Records-Bristol Cathedral Gloucestershire  
 F 9 Back Issues FTM March 2001,PFH March 1999  
 Software Legacy - Demo Software for your Family History  
 Photoplus 8 Full Software Repair and Touch Up Your Old Family Photos  
 PC & Mac **Disc 43 MARCH 2008**
- GB/IRE IRISH ROOTS Issue No.65  
 I 189.200-2008 - Daniel O'Donnell on His Own Family Tree  
 - Genealogy and Getting Started in 2008  
 - Irish Proverbs – What They Really Say About Us  
 - Louth Man to Grand Marshal New York's St. Patrick Day Parade  
 - Removing the Cousin's Mystery  
 - News from the World of Genealogy
- EURO/EE E 119 EAST EUROPEAN GENEALOGIST.  
 2007 - Vol.16 No.2
- GEN E 225 EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER 2008-March/April  
 - How to Archive Genealogical Research Trip Success  
 - Interview the Living Before It's Too Late  
 - The Civil War Era  
 - Germanic Research  
 - Military Research  
 - Net Family History
- BC C 14 CARIBOO NOTES. Quesnel Branch British Columbia Genealogical Society .  
 2008 – Vol.25, No.1
- BC THE OKANAGAN RESEARCHER. Newsletter of the Kelowna  
 O 18 and District Genealogical Society 2008- Vol. 24, No. 3
- BC A 20 ANCER TREE .A Quarterly Newsletter of The Nanaimo Family History Society  
 2008 – Volume 29, No.1
- ON/LEEDS/GREN NEWS AND VIEWS. Leeds and Grenville Branch OGS  
 N 22 2008 – Mar/April
- OTTAWA ON OTTAWA BRANCH NEWS. Ottawa Branch of OGS.  
 OTTA O 202.01 2008 Volume 41, No 2
- SASK A 18 ARMCHAIR GENEALOGIST: Saskatoon Branch Newsletter 2008 Issue 55
- BIG B 97 BIGGAR ROOT BOOSTER Newsletter Biggar Branch of the SGS.  
 2008- Vol.14, No.1

- CAN F .113      FAMILY CHRONICLE 2008-March/April
- Adding DNA to Your Family Tree
  - The Other Passenger Lists
  - 15 Ways to Find a Maiden Name
  - Indentured Servitude
  - Guild of One-Name Studies
  - Small Town Newspapers
- MAN M 514.14      MENNONITE HISTORIAN. Published by the Mennonite  
Heritage Centre and the Centre for MB studies in Canada  
2008 – Vol. XXXIV - No.1

### FOLLOW-UP TO APRIL 17/08 PROGRAM

At the April Branch meeting, Lindy Kasperski of Regina, gave a very interesting presentation on the Polish Communities in Saskatchewan which included a brief history of Galicia and immigration to Saskatchewan of other peoples as well, namely German and Ukrainian. An important part of the talk focused on research materials: books, maps, gazetteers and CD.

He has since e-mailed me a comprehensive reference bibliography of internet links and print materials. I would be happy to forward these lists to anyone who would like them. E-mail me at [eritchie@sasktel.net](mailto:eritchie@sasktel.net). I have made a paper copy of these references and placed them in the Branch library.

One resource that he mentioned was a CD: *Slownik Geograficzny Krolestwa Polskiego* ( Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and other Slavic countries.) This CD is available from the Polish Genealogical Society of America. It is described at their website <http://www.pgsa.org/Towns/SlownikReview.htm>.

If you wish to order a copy, info is at <http://www.pgsa.org/Books/cdorders.htm>  
Lindy has a website which might be of interest to you : <http://www.lindykasperski.com/>

“Am I the only person up my family tree? Sure seems like it....relatively speaking!  
Eleanor Kroczyński Ritchie”

### \*\*\* POLISH VILLAGES \*\*\*

Based on the recommendation of someone on another list I bought the book *\_The Man Farthest Down\_* by Booker T. Washington. Yes, THE Booker T. Who knew or who remembered that he traveled abroad and wrote about in the early 1900s? There are at least three chapters in his book which describe life in Polish villages just after the turn of the 20th century.

Chapter XIII - "Cracow and the Polish Jew"  
Chapter XIV - "A Polish Village"  
Chapter XV - "A Russian Border Village"

Washington traveled through Europe and wrote about his impressions. Keeping in mind that Washington wrote this book in 1910 and 1911, all of these chapters give wonderful insight into Polish village life back then -- though I've seen the same wagons Washington describes on the roads today.

You don't have to purchase the book. I'm sure it's at your public library or you can read it online:  
<http://www.questia.com/PM.qst?a=o&d=1449600>

Written by Debbie Greenlee [daveg@airmail.net](mailto:daveg@airmail.net) Previously published *\_by Gen Dobry!\_*, Vol. IX, No. 3, 31 March 2008, PolishRoots(R): <http://www.PolishRoots.org/>. Submitted by Delores Maduke

## Who Do You Think You Are Advocacy!

From: Janice Nickerson - Upper Canada Genealogy  
Subject: Who Do You Think You Are? cancelled by CBC

Dear Friends,

I have just learned the sad news that CBC has decided not to renew the genealogy series "Who Do You Think You Are?" for a second season. This is really disappointing for those of us who worked on the show. We all enjoyed the experience and were proud of what we accomplished. The ratings for the show were very good, but the CBC has decided that it doesn't have "room" in its schedule for the show. If you enjoyed the program and would like to see it continue, why not contact the folks at CBC and let them know how you feel? If enough people express their disappointment, perhaps they will change their minds.

Here are a few people at CBC you can contact:

Commissioning Editor/Senior producer: Linda Laughlin [Linda\\_Laughlin@cbc.ca](mailto:Linda_Laughlin@cbc.ca)  
<[mailto:Linda\\_Laughlin@cbc.ca](mailto:Linda_Laughlin@cbc.ca)> (416) 205-2402

Area Executive Producer, Independent Documentaries: Michael Claydon  
[doczone@cbc.ca](mailto:doczone@cbc.ca) <<mailto:doczone@cbc.ca>> 416-205-2778

Executive Director, Documentary Programming: Mark Starowicz:  
[Mark\\_Starowicz@cbc.ca](mailto:Mark_Starowicz@cbc.ca) <[mailto:Mark\\_Starowicz@cbc.ca](mailto:Mark_Starowicz@cbc.ca)>

Or go to the following web page to send a comment:  
<http://www.cbc.ca/contact/index.html> <<http://www.cbc.ca/contact/index.html>>

Also, if CBC won't pick it up, perhaps CTV would! Send a note to them at <[programming@ctv.ca](mailto:programming@ctv.ca)>

In the meantime, reruns of season one will be running on CBC News World on Sundays at 1:30 and 4:30.  
Tune in and show CBC that you really do care!

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Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2P7  
[www.uppercanadagenealogy.com](http://www.uppercanadagenealogy.com)

### ***DID YOU KNOW?***

Here is a little nugget of information which was new to me and I thought might be new to others as well, especially "newbie's". The SHIP PASSENGER LISTS can be searched on line. Go to <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/index-e.html>. Click on [Canadian Genealogy Centre](#) (box on the right side of the page) Click on [Immigration and Citizenship](#) (in section of Most requested records) Click on [Passenger lists 1865-1935](#) (in column on the left side of the page) Scroll down to [Passenger lists 1865-1922 NEW](#) (about half way down the page) Click on [SEARCH](#) ( upper left hand corner) Enter the information you have to find the ship lists you are searching for.

Good luck in your search in the comfort of your home at any time of day every day of the week.

*Eleanor Ritchie*



## Preserving Our Past

Our history is preserved in many ways it has been passed down through our culture, our stories, captured in pictures, and written on paper. As hard as society works to preserve the pieces of our past there are certain places that can go unacknowledged. Many don't realize the importance or the significance that these places hold until they start to work on their family's history. These places are the cemeteries, the final resting place for ancestors.

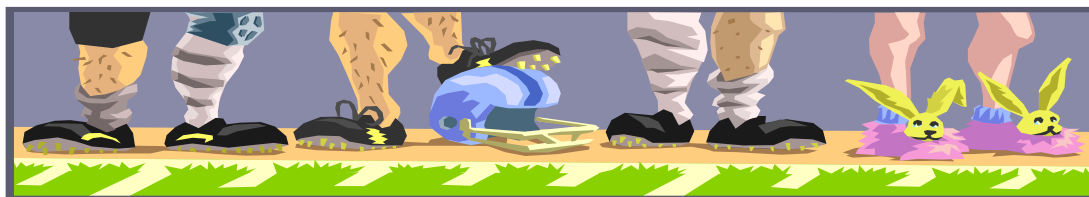
In Saskatchewan there are over 3400 cemeteries that the genealogical community has been working towards preserving the information found on the headstones during the last 30 years. The Saskatchewan Genealogical Society is the depository in Saskatchewan for the cemeteries that have been recorded. With over half the cemeteries recorded it is growing more difficult for the genealogists to keep up. Some cemeteries have not been updated for more then a decade while others have not been done at all. Those who have set out to record these cemeteries are working at preserving the information found on the headstones before nature, neglect or worse of all vandals take their toll.

As important as the information from the headstones is there are many unreadable stones or unmarked graves that can be over looked unless access is granted to the cemetery's records or burial information. In many rural locations the local cemetery committee takes on the upkeep and preservation of these records. Which makes tracking them down a little harder for someone outside of the community. For those cemeteries where the records no longer exist the information may lie in the memories or stories that have been passed on from an older generation.

Take some time before the snow returns later this year, whether you are at home or on holidays to record the places of history near you. They may not hold your family but the information you write down maybe the key to someone else's family. The Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (SGS) has an online index of "known" cemeteries in Saskatchewan. [http://www.saskgenealogy.com/cemetery/Cemetery\\_Index.htm](http://www.saskgenealogy.com/cemetery/Cemetery_Index.htm) This index gives the land location, cemetery information, if it has been recorded and when. The indexed can be search by community, RM number or name, owner or religion. Spend some time on this site to see if the history from your area has been documented. Cemetery recording sheets are available on request from the SGS.

Cemeteries are more than the final address where our ancestors reside. They represent our ancestor's last event in life, their burial, while ensuring their place in history. The search for this information can be one of the most difficult tasks a family historian can take on but in Saskatchewan the more people who tackle this job the greater the benefits for all those involved. You do not need to be working on your family tree to take an interest in your local cemetery. By realizing it's importance in our history and taking the time to commemorate it for future generations and genealogists you will be helping to protect these pieces of our past and insuring the memories of those buried there lives on.

Tammy Vallee is a Genealogical Speaker & Educator;  
Certified Saskatchewan and Aboriginal Researcher.



My idea of foot notes .....

## Researching Other Family Names

By Delores Maduke

A chance remark by my grandson on a Friday morning led to an amazing discovery in just one weekend. James had asked me if I had done any genealogical research of his mother's father's side. Of course, I had to admit that I had done nothing about my ex-husbands side of the family. During this conversation I could only tell my grandson that one of the family names that I remembered was LeFurgey. I jokingly said this may translate into "The Frog", but that I would try to find out some information for him.

In looking at the name I found that LeFurgery/Leforgee/Laforgee may have been related to blacksmithing, or in the use of arts and crafts, such as silversmiths etc.

I looked at the documentation that had been given to me by an ex-brother-in-law a number of years ago. The information provided was that a Lorena Jane LeFurgey born on 24 December, 1900 in Moncton, New Brunswick married a Robert Wesley Laird who was born 25 September, 1880 in Alma, New Brunswick. This couple would have been my daughter's great grandparents. That was my starting point.

Using Lorena LeFurgey I went to the 1901 Canadian census for Moncton, NB. I found the LeFurgey family:

John b. 9 September 1858 – age 42

Lottie b. 5 February 1874 – age 27

Jennett b. 9 October 1886 – age 14

Calvin b. 1 March 1892 – age 9

Gracey b. 3 July 1895 – age 5

Isaac b. 17 December 1897 – age 3

Lerina b. 24 December 1900 -

The census related that John, the head of household was English, Baptist religion, a Blacksmith and having earned \$600. in the previous ten months. That was as far as I went with that information. I assumed this Lerina was the Lorena that I had been looking for. Little did I know what would happen the next day?

On Saturday evening I looked up the New Brunswick Genealogical Society on the Internet. Their membership lists the area of research and I found two individuals who were researching LeFurgey and Laird. By Sunday morning both individuals had responded with information on these two families.

The responder to the LeFurgey request was able to provide me with the information that indeed Lerina and Lorena were the same individual. Information provided to me indicated that this family were French Huguenots that had settled in the USA, fought as loyalists and then left the USA coming to Canada where they received land grants for being loyal to the British Crown. She informed me that the founder of the family line, one John Lefurgey had lived in New York State, moved to Prince Edward Island and married someone named Joyce. She did not concern herself with all of John's children but focused on line that led to Lorena Lefurgey. This was a lot of information to assimilate at once. The last email that I received from her asked if my daughters intended to attend the family reunion and she sent some pictures of tombstones.

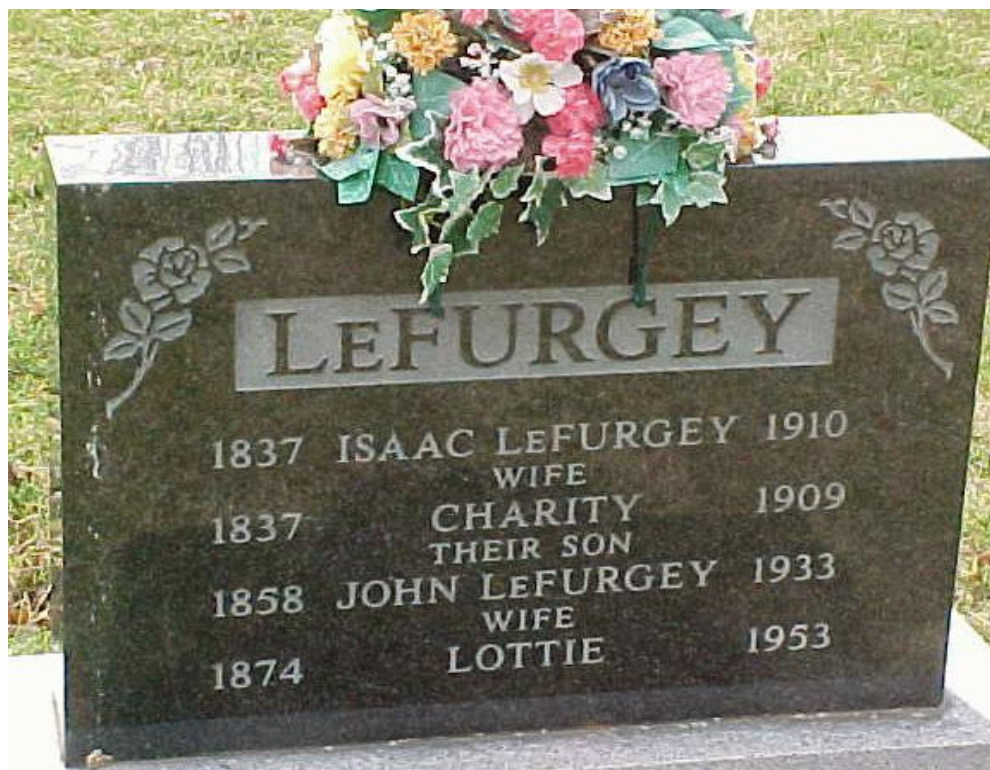
From the names that I was provided I did some further research on the internet. I came upon a site "Remshieg Loyalists 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary". There I found an article about the parents of John Lefurgey, and their being Huguenots from France. This article gave me the parents of John, being Adrian Leforgee and Janet Post. John Leforgee/Lefurgey was born about 1752 on the Philipsburg Manor in Westchester County, NY.

I did some further research to find out the sort of habitation Philipsburg Manor might be and found that it provided provisions for the Atlantic sea trade and was an international headquarters for shipping, of which slaves were one of the commodities. Europeans and Enslaved Africans made up the workforce of this manor.

John LeFurgey and his father fought in the loyalist army and along with other Loyalist families of Westchester County they moved to Nova Scotia. While waiting for a land grant John married in Springhill, Nova Scotia. Remsheg Land Grant dated 16<sup>th</sup> June, 1785 grants John Lesargee (s = f) 200 acres of land , lot 76 in Remsheg Bay, Nova Scotia. This area is now known as Wallace Bay. This area is located between Pugwash and Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia.

John LeFurgey and family moved to Prince Edward Island where a number of children were born, but in particular one James Lefurgey born in Wilmot Valley, PEI in 1804 (died 13 Nov, 1871), married in 1830 to Rachael Hamilton. Child of interest is Isaac.

Isaac LeFurgey born 1 April 1837 in PEI, married in 1858 to Charity??. In 1881 Census they are located in St. Martins, NB. Isaac died 20 January, 1910 at the age of 73. Both are buried in Elmwood Cemetery in Moncton, New Brunswick. Child of interest is John



John Wesley LeFurgey was born 5 February, 1858, was married twice (to sisters) and is the father of Lorena LeFurgey.



Lorena (Rena) LeFurgey born 24 Dec, 1900 married Roberty Wesley Laird in about 1917. It is this couple that are the parents of ex mother in law, Greta Alma Laird Stevens.

In one weekend I was able to trace back my daughters' family tree back seven generations. Found out that they were of French protestant descent and that they had been United Empire Loyalists. Found that they had originally received a land grant from King George III for their loyalty after leaving Westchester, NY and moving to Nova Scotia. Also found that they moved from Nova Scotia, to Prince Edward Island and then to New Brunswick. The original location in France of the LeFurgey's is not known at this time. What a significant find for one weekend.

The reunion mentioned by the responder of the LeFurgey information is being held for the descendants of the Remsheg Loyalists in Wallace, Nova Scotia on June 28 – June 30, 2008 at the Wallace and area museum. More information can be obtained from their website at <http://remsheg225.wetpaint.com>

1. 1901 Canadian Census – New Brunswick, Westmorland, Moncton City, C-4, pg 26
2. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French\\_Huguenots](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_Huguenots)
3. <http://remsheg225.wetpaint.com>
4. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French\\_Huguenots](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_Huguenots)
5. <http://remsheg225.wetpaint.com/page/Lafargee/Laforgee/Lefurgey-John>
6. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/philipsburg\\_manor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/philipsburg_manor)
7. <http://remsheg225.wetpaint.com/page/Remsheg+Grant?t=anon>
8. [http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/maps/reference/provinceterritories/nova\\_scotia](http://atlas.nrcan.gc.ca/site/english/maps/reference/provinceterritories/nova_scotia)

## Our Trip to Galicia

"Part One"

*Submitted by Jaclyn Shanks*

In September 2007 we began our trip to present day Poland and Ukraine. We flew from Toronto to Warsaw to Krakow, where we met the rest of our tour group. The group consisted of 17 people from Canada and USA.

Many years ago when I first learned my father, Jakob Daum was not born in this country, it seemed as if something just clicked, and from that day on I was looking for information to find his story. He was just a small boy when he came, and he remembered little of his life in Austria. His oldest sister was 18 when she came, the perfect age for remembering. She could tell me about their village, their home life, but nothing of their extended family. Later on I would find out why she knew nothing of her grandparents. She was very excited that I was going to do this research.

Sophie told me that grandfather always said he was one of seven sons. He had been married twice and the name of his first wife was Margaretha Klement. She had several children - Johann, Elisabetha, Katharina, and Wilhemina (known as Minnie), and died when she was quite young. Then he married my grandmother Katharina, who had Sophie, Julia, Philipp, Michael, and my dad Jakob (known as Jack). My grandmother raised all his children because the children from his first marriage ranged from a few months to nine years when their mother died. The village name was Rottenhan (meaning red hen). They belonged to the Evangelical Reformed Lutheran church and attended church and German school in Rottenhan. When she was 15 Sophie left school to help her father in the fields. They had an apple tree and dried apples for winter. The house had a large oven which was accessible from in the house or outside. In the winter they would let the fire die down at night and a straw mattress would be put on top and the small children would sleep on it. It was many years before I found anything more about them

My first big find was the baptism certificate for my father. It was among his papers at the bank which my mother found after his death in 1983. It was an official looking document and I doubt he knew what it was, but had obviously had been told to keep it. When I had it translated, it gave his birth date (which was not what he thought it was, but close), his baptism, his parents names and maiden names and villages, and his grandparents names and villages. Now I was going to see those places where they had lived, gone to school and worked their farms. I had never expected to see those places.

My cousin Phil Daum, from Vancouver, who I finally got interested in my research, contacted me about this tour and was determined I should go. When I decided I would, I found he had already submitted our villages and my name. Dorothy Lee said she would go too, so Dorothy and I set off on this adventure together to meet up with the rest in Krakow.

Our days were planned to include sightseeing of the area as we went along. We followed a route that got close to villages of interest, where some people would go off with an interpreter and guide and driver to explore the village while the rest of us explored around the location where we would be staying.

We stayed in Krakow for two nights. During the first day we explored the city, starting with the Wawel castle and fortress of Polish nobility. We spent time in the historic Market Square surrounded by interesting buildings and with many cathedrals. That evening we had dinner in the Jewish section where Schindlers List was filmed. We saw historic buildings and a synagogue. The restaurant had a wonderful dinner and a lively Klezmir trio. We headed back to the Demel hotel to rest up for an early start the next day.

In the morning we started off southeast for Sieniewa. The countryside was busy with people harvesting the potato crop by hand. There were stalks of corn and cabbages in the fields too.

There was much road construction now that Poland has joined the European Union. They have received money to upgrade their road system to help accommodate trade and tourism. The best roads are just two lanes with narrow shoulders. Most houses are brick with red roofs. The newer ones have tile roofs, some in different colors.. We stopped to film a Renaissance Castle at the top of a hill.

Our bus was a large new vehicle with lots of leg room, air conditioning, a bathroom, a fridge which was kept full of water bottles we could purchase from our bus driver, and two door access for convenience. We were a group of 17 so each one of us could have had a double seat to ourselves. . The bus had a fold down chair for a guide or translator, at the front by the door and a microphone to inform us about points of interest.

At Rzeszow some people left for separate trips with local guides and translators. The rest of us split up for lunch and to explore. We met at three and continued on to Sienewa Castle to check in. We met at 7 for a dinner in a stunning dining room set with silver and candles and a beautifully decorated table. The castle was full of marble, and lovely rooms with half oval windows. It had no elevator, just several strong men to carry our luggage.

The next day we went to Lezajsk to visit the Bernadine Church and Monastery. Here we viewed the stunning wood carvings done by monks and heard a short organ recital on their immense organ. After lunch we went on to Lancut to a Baroque residence which had belonged to some of the royal families and is now a museum. This residence has unique Chinese and Turkish apartments with collections of art objects and paintings. There was also a museum of horse drawn carriages, used by Polish royal families of the 18th century. Then we went on to Przemysl a fortress very steep and old. It was the third largest in Europe after Antwerp and Verdun. This is where I think my uncle Johann's regiment withdrew to in 1918 before the final battle in which Poland won back the area from Austria. I have a picture of him in his uniform, standing in front of a large rock with two fellow soldiers sitting on top. In the background you can see barracks up the hill among trees. This picture is on a postcard he sent to his daughter on Pentecost Sunday. It was censored and the ID of the photographer and the location were removed from the picture. After this we went back to Sienewa.

We left early in the morning, to be the first in the bus line for crossing the border into Ukraine. Our bus driver submitted all his documents to the very stern looking guards. It seemed his passport was a couple of days shy of the 6 months after we were going to be leaving. After much negotiating and phone calls to the bus company, we had to go back into Poland. There we parked in a pull off space while our driver made phone calls. We were given the choice of going back to Przemysl on the bus where the company would have a temporary permit for our driver, or having a smaller bus and driver pick us up there. We really liked our driver and bus, so we decided to stick with him, and our bus. Back we went and they had not been able to get a pass yet so we were treated to lunch at a nice restaurant. In the end we had to take another bus and driver to Lviv where our driver would meet us the next day. At the border the bus driver's papers were approved. They came on the bus and took our passports. We had to go in a building and go through a check in. We held our breath and we all got through and went back on the bus for a short space. There we stopped at a Kantor to exchange money. My cousin Phil took a couple of pictures. He was immediately set upon by a yelling guard. We thought he was going to be arrested! After much translating by the bus driver, and the erasure of the pictures, he was allowed back on the bus. We proceeded on to the Opera Hotel in Lviv. We were met by our guide Alex and did a short drive around as we were rather late getting in. Lviv is a city of 800,000 with another 300,000 coming in to work each day. There are few lights, so everyone rushes into the intersections until it is total gridlock. Then the horns start, and the arm waving, and fist shaking. A small car tried to drive up the hill between two streetcars. He was forced back. All this was accompanied by the comments in good English by our guide Alex about what idiot drivers there were in the city. Since there are few places to park, everyone just parks on the sidewalk or any other niche they can squeeze their car into. Our hotel was new, and just across the street from the Lviv Opera house one of the World Heritage sites in Lviv. We checked in, figured out how to get our door open and lights on, and meet for supper at 7.

Our Hotel has a rooftop restaurant which overlooks the city, with a open balcony area with tables. You have to reserve early to get in there. Our meals are in the main dining room.

The next day was our day to tour our 3 villages. The village of my grandfather, Philipp Daum is actually two villages with a road between two small hills. The side facing south is the village of Rottenhan (red hen). This is the Austrian village which had their Evangelical Reformed Church and German school. The other hill facing north, is Porzecze Janowskie (area near the water). This is a Polish village, and was where his house was located.

The first villages are about 6 km from Lvov, but because of bad roads it is a little farther. Our guide and translator was Igor, a young man whose full time job is as a tourist guide. We have a small square white van looking rather like our old milk trucks. It is a bit higher off the ground and is ideal for where we are going. The driver handles it well. We got off to a bad start as Phil had been out late and did not get his wake up call. He had to leave without breakfast or coffee. We headed west and soon pulled in at a roadside store. Phil got coffee and Igor went to talk to a number of men who were waiting for the store to open. One of the men said he had once lived in grandfather's house and wanted to come with us. Igor declined, but I wished I had asked Igor to ask him more questions. We were pretty sure he was just trying to hitch a ride, and as things developed later on, we were quite sure of that. We turned south on a gravel road and followed it until it petered out. We stopped by a body of water where a man was fishing. Igor talked to him, and we proceeded on. Soon we could see houses on two hills across from each other. There was a rough trail going there, which we passed before realizing that it must be the road going in. We backed down the hill and followed the two track trail, with grass growing between. As soon as we got to the bottom of the hills I took out my village map which was hand drawn in 1939, the year the German speaking villagers were all evacuated into Poland. Each house had a name on it, so we knew exactly where to look for home, church, school and cemetery. We encountered an elderly couple in a one horse cart, likely starting off for work in the fields. Igor asked them questions, and explained why we were there. He showed them my map. The little "babushka" was more interested in how old I was, so Igor had to explain to me that she hadn't answered any questions, only kept asking how old I was. He looked rather embarrassed. I supplied my age and the conversation continued. He showed her my pictures taken of my family in 1906. She did not know too much, but gave some directions. We quickly found the church, now Ukrainian Catholic and the foundation for the bell tower was there. Next was the lot where the school had been and a building was going up there. The cemetery was down by the creek and now is just a meadow, with the base of one monument left. At least five of grandfather's children are buried there. It would have been nice to find some markers.

We next looked for grandfather's house. On the map it looked like it was right beside the store which was next to the road. Two Ukrainian women were watching us with interest as we walked up the hill, and when Igor talked to them, they said that they remembered the German house was up the hill a bit. They were only children then and they thought the house had been gone for about thirty years. We were disappointed but climbed up on the lot and took pictures of the Ukrainian house next door. Afterward I said we should have looked for any traces of stone steps leading to a basement. Sophie said the house had once been a pub and there were stone steps to the basement where they kept the liquor. We also forgot to look for the apple tree. Some houses still have the apple trees that were planted by the Austrians. We walked the distance between the house locations and school. One of my uncles said they used to carry their shoes and put them on at the school door. My aunt Julia said a boy picked a water lily for her on the way to school and I noticed a pond with lilies at the back of the schoolyard property. The store that was on the map just has a front and side wall still standing. It was a moving experience to think we were walking where they had walked. It was hard to leave, but we were leaving with an understanding of their life there.

The next village we went to was Josephberg, It is about 70 km straight south of Lviv. Our first ancestor who emigrated to Galicia was assigned to this mother colony. He went there in 1784 with his wife and five children, his sister, and a labourer. They were the first settlers at Josephberg #76. To get there we had to re-trace our steps to get back on a good road again, and then head south.

It did not take long and as soon as we approach the main street we see the first of the 5 large wells that were built in the 1700's. They are still there and three of them are working smoothly. We cranked them up and down and saw the pails on the rope. The outside cement casings have German print on them. We continued on to the church which is now also Ukrainian catholic. The two story school which had classrooms on the bottom floor, and teachers residences on the top is gone. We continued on to the cemetery location. It is on the side of a small hill on the edge of a large meadow with extensive fields on the other side. The cemetery is totally overgrown but we could see the outlines of several graves. We found one headstone and cleaned it off to see the inscription. The fields on the other side of the meadow looked rich and fertile with slightly undulating surfaces. The air was soft and lovely. Geese and chickens roamed freely. Women would take their cow on a chain along ditches of deep grass, where they would feed. The women all wore kerchiefs on their heads, and one carried a small 3 legged stool to sit on while her cow was grazing. It seemed as if we had stepped back in time. The original house was gone and the location is an empty lot of grass. Once again I wished we had looked closely for traces of a foundation.

The last destination was the location of the former village of Ugartsberg. It was the village of at least four generations of our family. My grandfather was born there in #24. His father was a blacksmith and died from cholera before grandfather was married a second time. His mother had died before his father, just a few years after he left home to marry at Rottenhan. This explains why none of his children knew anything about the grandparents. We followed an almost invisible trail to between two potato fields. In the north field you can see something white standing out of the crop. It is a well kept memorial to the German people of Ugartsberg resting in Ukrainian soil. It has a white statue of Mary overlooking the small plot. On the south side of the trail is a mechanized potato operation with large machinery and trucks loading potatoes. I had a map of the village so we knew where the church was and also the cemetery. The inhabitants of this village fled in the middle of a Sept. night leaving almost everything behind. They drove in haste in open wagons pulled by horses, because they had been warned the Soviets were quickly advancing, and they were desperate not to be caught behind Soviet lines. They were placed in camps in Poland. The Soviets established a large communal farm at the Ugartsberg location and forced Ukrainians to work there. The Ukrainians were not happy with this. A couple of years later Austria took this land again. They did not keep it long and when it was lost the Ukrainian underground burned it to the ground, before the Soviets could re-establish the communal farm. Soon this place will be very hard to find.

We made our way back to the highway and to Lviv. Before we had started out on our day, I had showed Igor a picture of the interior of a coffee house called the "Roma". The photograph had been taken in 1923 and belonged to my cousin Josie's father's family, the Wendels. I don't know why I took it along. The chance of finding a hundred year old coffee house in a city of 800,000 was rather remote. Igor recognized it at once as a very famous coffee house, where once writers, scientists and mathematicians used to meet. The mathematicians used to pose problems to the others to solve. Sometimes the problems were so difficult it would be a year before someone found the solution. The winner would be presented with a prize from the others. As they discussed the problem, they would write all over the marble table tops and the waiters would be very angry, as they had to clean the tables. Finally a large book was purchased for them to use. One of this group won a Nobel prize and was out of the country for the presentation. After he was presented with the Nobel Prize, he was also presented a live goose by his friends for solving the math problem. Of course he could not take it home, so he had it cooked and hosted a dinner for his friends.

All this Igor had learned from a book in the archives devoted to old businesses in Lviv. The place is still in business as a coffee shop and was close to our hotel. He would take us there on the way back. When we walked in it was like walking into the picture. The chandeliers are different and there is one less row of tables. The tables are now covered with snow white tablecloths. The owner was sitting at a back table and Igor showed her my picture. She had seen some early pictures, but not that one. She did not speak English so Igor translated. We sat down at a table and had coffee. We also took pictures. The side of the room is floor to ceiling windows, so Phil returned the next day to take pictures in a different light. We returned to the hotel to get ready for supper. This would be a day I would never forget! *To be continued...*