Saskatoon Branch of SGS

ARMCHAIR GENEALOGIST



ISSUE # 64 ISSN: 1484-8104

January -February 2010

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New Year 2010 Edition

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday February 7, 2010 12 PM—5 PM Heritage Festival, Western Development Museum. Details on Page 3

Thursday February 18, 2010 regular meeting: Topic: Sharing - Genealogy Show and Tell. The theme is "Your Experiences with Serendipity and Coincidence While Researching your Family History." Share stories of the amazing events that happened to you through serendipity or by following your intuitive 'hunches.'

Thursday March 18, 2010—Saskatoon Branch and Open House Genealogy Fair will be held on March 18th between 7-9pm. Bring your friends and come visit with other Saskatoon genealogists, ask questions and check out our library.

This Edition's Coordinating Editor is Bonnie Lymer

MEETING INFORMATION

Place:	Albert Community Centre, 610 Clarence Avenue S.	
Dates:	Third Thursday of each month, except 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.sksgs.tk	
Library Webs	ite: http://www.sbsgs.org	
Mailing Addre	ess: Saskatoon Genealogy Society	
	Box 32004	
	3 - 402 Ludlow Street	
	Saskatoon, SK S7S 1M7	

MEMBERSHIP & NEWSLETTER INFO

Branch membership fees are \$20.00/ year. 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 \$40.00 (regular rate) or \$50.00 (value-added 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.

PRESIDENT:

Eleanor Ritchie eritchie@sasktel.net Phone 306-653-1285

VICE PRESIDENT: Gus Morrow gustaveous@mail.com Phone 306-382-9355

PAST PRESIDENT:

Tammy Vallee tamw25@shaw.ca Phone 306-668-1380

TREASURER: René Stock rene@stockfamily.ca Phone 306-374-8507

SECRETARY: Brenda Armstrong Natalie Threlfall MEMBERS-AT-LARGE Trudy Fisher Gerry Threlfall Natalie Threlfall

GREETERS: Peter Geres

WEBMASTER:

Gus Morrow gustaveous@mail.com

LIBRARIANS:

Georgiana Chartier g.chartier@sasktel.net Phone 306-652-1286 Elsie Henry Mary Hudson PROGRAMS: Terri Chappell Marlene Campbell Marlene Stratychuk

NEWSLETTER:

SBSGS 2009 BRANCH EXECUTIVE

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FUNDRAISING: Gerry Threlfall

CEMETERY COORDINATORS: Merle Ward merleward@shaw.ca Phone: 306-652-0664 Susan Leitch

FACILITY COORDINATOR: 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!

and and and and	PRESIDENT'S REPORT Eleanor Ritchie
	Happy New Year! It is customary for many of us to make New Year's resolutions, presumably for self improvement. To add to those resolutions that you have already made I'd like to make a few suggestions. We are starting our year with a full executive and would like to see everyone participate to some degree. This year, resolve to be more active in the SBSG. Here are some suggestions:
THE FAMILY TREE	Offer to write an article for the newsletter: a short (or longer) description of your own research experience, a book review of a book that was helpful to your research, new & exciting links you have found on the Internet. You can
Housekeeping Rules: Everyone is requested to assist	probably think of more. Send it to Bonnie. What would you like to have in our programs? Give your suggestions to Terri.
with setup and re-stacking tables and chairs. We must leave the facilities	You may have a resource person in mind as well as a topicshare it with Terri and her committee. Remember that you might be that resource person yourself. Don't be shy!
clean and tidy so please come prepared to help clean up after each meeting.	Give the Executive feedback on how you see things going and how you think meetings can be more relevant. Talk to any Executive member about it.
We are expected to set up and take down all tables and chairs for every event held at Albert Community Centre.	Our library and meeting space is not optimal. Do you know of a place that would suit us better? Let us know and we can check it out.
	Join the British Special Interest Group. It's an opportunity to enrich your research and contribute to the group.
	Use our resourcescome early and browse the library. Search the collection to find the books, magazines and maps to expand your research. Did you know our library has the complete set of Henderson's Greater Regina Directories?
	The web page is under review. Give Gus some feedbackhe will appreciate your input.
WE GRATFULLY	I am looking forward to an exciting year for SBSGS. It will be busy as well.
ACKNOWLEGE THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS.	Our most noteworthy activity will of course be the final planning stages for the conference in April 2011 which is also the occasion to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Branch. Best wishes to us all for a successful year!
	The Saskatoon Heritage Festival
Saskatchewan LOTTERIES	On Sunday, February 7, the Saskatoon Heritage Festival will once again take place at the Western Development Museum. The festival will run from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free.
City of Saskatoon	A lot of great entertainment and activities are planned for this year's festival. Entertainment includes the Jervis Bay Sea Cadet Band, a Caribbean Steel Band, James Steele and Lionel Gilbertson's Toe Tappin' Tunes, and the Prairie Spirit West Jazz Band. There will be several entertainment options for children as well, with the Pooh Corner storytellers, Prairie Dog Bob, and much more.
	Many organizations will be exhibiting at the festival, including the Saskatoon Branch of the Saskatchewan Genealogical Society.
	If you are available, this is an excellent way to spent a Sunday afternoon. We hope to see everyone there!

Saskatoon Branch SGS MONTHLY MEETING Date: Nov 19, 2009

Call to order: By Eleanor Ritchie at 7:15

Minutes recorded by: Bonnie Lymer

President's Report:

Nominations and elections for the 2010 Executive were open. There was a slate of nominations but more nominations were needed, and there were three calls for nominations. Vacant positions included those of Vice-President, two Members At Large, and one person for Refreshments.

Gus Morrow was nominated for Vice-President, Marlene Stratychuk and Delores Maduke were nominated for Members at Large, and Mavis Wall was nominated for Refreshments.

Eleanor thanked all members for contributing to the success of branch in past year, especially the Executive members.

The program for 2011 conference was enthusiastically supported by the Provincial Society.

Executive for 2010:

President:	Eleanor Ritchie
Vice President:	Gus Morrow
Treasurer:	Rene Stock
Secretary:	Executive Meetings – Natalie Threlfall
	General Meetings – Brenda Armstrong

Greeter & 50/50 Draw: Peter Geres		
Webmaster:	Gus Morrow	
Librarians:	Georgie Chartier, Elsie Henry, Mary Hudson	
Program Committee:	Terri Chappell, Marlene Campbell, Marlene Stratychuk	
Newsletter:	Publisher—Rene Stock	
	Editor – Bonnie Lymer	
Membership:	Gina Reid	
Phoner:	Natalie Threlfall	
Publicity:	Tammi Vallee	
Refreshments:	Brenda Armstrong, Mavis Wall	
Fund Raising:	Gerry Threlfall	
Cemetery:	Merle Ward	

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: We are in the black, thanks to our recent Steak Night and registration for seminars and sales of other items We are in much better shape. A report is attached.

Membership: No report.

Library: No report.

Program: Our December meeting will be our Potluck Supper at 6;00 on Dec. 10. In January, we will have a DVD, and in February, Diane Wilson will give a presentation on Temperance era houses in Nutana.

Cemetery: No report.

Newsletter: No report.

Conference 2011 Committee: No report.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:50

50/50 Draw: Brenda Armstrong won \$28.50 and donated it to the library

<u>Tonight's Program:</u> Librarians gave a presentation the library – its available resources and how to find what you need.

Saskatoon Branch Saskatchewan Genealogical Society Comparative Income Statement for the Years 2008 and 2009

Meetings Coffee 91.21 99.4 Library Fines 0.00 14.0 Cookbook Sales 75.00 65.0 50/50 Draw 340.50 146.7 Silent Auction 266.50 62.6 Syllabus, Kits, Items Sales 212.50 32.0 Cemetery Lists 193.27 128.1 Fundraiser Revenue 3.389.62 0.0 Interest Revenue 3.22 36.8 Private Donations 127.50 0.0 Beginner Workshop 695.00 335.0 Total Revenue 6,064.80 1,488.7 Expenses 1 235.77 22.7 Event Supplies 46.37 0.0 Office Supplies 9.92 82.9 Event Registrations 90.00 50.0 Lecturer Fees 150.00 50.0 Lecture Handouts 30.78 28.7 Workshop Room Rental 174.25 168.1 Bank Charges 29.17 41.8 Newsletter Expenses 182.88	Revenue	2009	2008
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Event License 25.00 0.0 Fundraising Services 726.00 0.0 Meal Cost 1,022.20 0.0 Liquor Cost 537.93 0.0	Meeting Room Rental	1,340.84	1,305.48
Meal Cost 1,022.20 0.0 Liquor Cost 537.93 0.0	Event License	25.00	
Liquor Cost 537.93 0.0	Fundraising Services	726.00	0.00
	Meal Cost	1,022.20	0.00
	Liquor Cost	537.93	0.00
Total Expenses 5,286.61 2,339.8	Total Expenses	5,286.61	2,339.85
Library Purchases 504.36 1,407.0	Library Purchases	504.36	1,407.04
Net Income \$273.83 \$(2,258.11)	Net Income	\$ 273.83	\$(2,258.11)

2010 - JANUARY- NEW MATERIAL IN THE SASKATOON BRANCH SGS LIBRARY		
GB F 114	 FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE 2009 Vol. 26 No. 02 Tracing Family Before Parish Registers Searchable 30 Years Early - the 1939 National Register 800,000 pages of Welsh Wills Now Online and Free to View 	
EURO/EE E 119	EAST EUROPEAN GENEALOGIST 2009 - Vol.18 No. 1	
HUR R 151.5	ROOTING AROUND HURON. The Huron County Branch OGS 2009 Vol. 30 No. 4	
CAN F .113	 FAMILY CHRONICLE. The Magazine For Families Researching Their Roots 2010-01 Jan/Feb Family Bibles - We Show You How Your Research Can Benefit. Island of the Dead: Research Records of New York's Most Notorious Isle. Hairstyles in Photos: How Your Ancestors' Hairdo Can Help Date Your Old Photos! 	
WELL/ON T 20	TRACES & TRACKS. Newsletter of the Wellington County Branch OGS 2009 Vol. 9 No. 2	
GB/IRE I 189.200	IRISH ROOTS 2009 No. 72 - DNA Testing - Solving Mysteries and Uniting Families - Tracing Caledonian Irish	
CAN D 6	 DISCOVERING FAMILY HISTORY. A Guide to Exploring Your Genealogy 2010-01 Jan/Feb Picasso in the Family Tree. find Your Artistic Ancestors. Irish Family History Foundation. Family History for the Young'uns. Find and Understand Wills. Genealogy for Youth. 	
ND/USA R 18	RED RIVER VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 2009-10 October	
SK SGS S 221	SASKATCHEWAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN 2009 Vol. 40 No. 4	
SK SGS A 18	SASKATCHEWAN GENEAOLGICAL SOCIETY INC. Annual Report 2008	
FAM/COM D 13	DUNDURN MEMORIES. Dundurn and District History Committee. 1982	
GB F 114	FAMILY TREE MAGAZINE 2010 Vol. 26 No. 03	
MAN M 514.14	MENNONITE HISTORIAN 2009 Vol. XXXV No. 4	
ONT F 1.139	FAMILIES OGS Newsletter 2009 Vol. 48 No. 4	
OTTA O 202.01	OTTAWA BRANCH NEWS. Ottawa Branch of OGS 2010 Vol.43 No. 1	

Do You Have Christmas on the Same Day as We Do? or Attending a Genealogical Conference in the States

Submitted by Beverley Gutenberg

My family is German from Russia which means they are ethnic Germans but immigrated to the Odessa area of Russia in 1808 and lived there for almost 100 years before they immigrated to the "New World". Most of them lived for a short time in North Dakota and when homesteading opened up in Saskatchewan they immigrated once again to St. Joseph's Colony – namely Tramping Lake and Broadacres, near Kerrobert.

When I started researching my family history I became aware of a group in the USA namely, The Germans from Russia Heritage Society or GRHS. This group consists of German Russian descendants like myself who are researching their family histories. They are also working very hard to retrieve records from Russia. The group is very active – they bought a building in Bismarck , ND where their headquarters is located. The society is divided into Regional Interest Groups (RIG) according to where their ancestors lived in Russia. Mine came from an area called the Kutschurgan near Odessa in present day Ukraine. There are 6 'mother' villages where these folks settled in the early 1800's. My villages are Strassburg and Kandel. Each year the GRHS puts on a conference and this year I was finally able to attend the conference in Rapid City, South Dakota.

I hitched a ride with a fellow GR from Saskatoon, Merv Weiss and his wife, Patti. We drove as far as Bowman, ND the first day and because there was a lot of oil field activity we had to stay in separate motels but they were beside each other, we got the last available rooms. The next day we traveled through the badlands, near the site of Mt. Rushmore – where the legendary stone faces of American presidents are carved out of stone. Rapid City is a small city, about 50,000 souls. The conference was at the Ramdaka Hotel – a huge sprawling structure that had a maze of hallways connecting the venues. One practically had to pack a lunch to tide one over until you got to the dining room. Fortunately the way was well marked and we all got our daily exercise.

It was an absolute joy to meet my fellow German Russian researchers. I belong to a listserv devoted to researching in the Kutschurgan. Several of the people I met, were names I knew from that listserv and it was a pleasure to put faces to the names and meet the people behind those names I had corresponded with for years.

The GRHS had brought their library to the conference so in addition and sometimes instead of, attending the workshops one could do research in the library which was open all day. The workshops were varied – LDS sent a representative to discuss filming in Russia, there was an archivist from the Saratov Archives in the Ukraine who learned English especially for her presentation. A fellow Canadian, Anna Fischer, from Medicine Hat spoke of her experiences in the USSR during the famine of the 1930's when the German Russians were systematically starved by the Soviets and her wartime experiences during the Second World War. One of my fellow Kutschurganers, Val Wangler, spoke about the letters published in a North Dakota newspaper. Der Staats was a newspaper published in German which printed letters from the USA and Canada. This newspaper was a means the GR used to get news from Russia and later the USSR and the Russian Germans used to get news from the friends and relatives who had immigrated to the Americas.

The most enjoyable part of the day were the meals. It wasn't the food – indeed it seemed like the hotel was trying to support the local chicken farmers because every meal included chicken! When we did have beef it was in the shape of those frozen preshaped supermarket burgers. The joking around the table

was that the burgers were from Canadian beef. But I assured everyone that we don't have any such things here in Canada! There was a lot of laughter and teasing around the table. The makeup of the tables changed from meal to meal but the conversation was always good. My table seemed to be the last to leave every mealtime. (Maybe I talked too much.) I had been warned by Merv and Patti that I should avoid speaking about the Health System in Canada because most people are deathly afraid of it. Merv had done some research and armed me with some tidbits of info in case the discussion got too heated. (Canadians live longer than Americans.) The only folks I spoke to about it were some bar patrons on a smoke break and they thought medicare was a good idea. I didn't pass up a chance at the comment someone made about Canada taking over the USA. I told them that if that happened we would force medicare on them and everyone laughed.

The after dinner entertainment was good ... in the most part ... but honestly, I could have done without the loud opera singer who had her mike turned up full volume. There were award winning unicyclists, a singer imitating the accent of a German Russian from Strassburg, ND, an old time dance band, a skit put on by the local chapter of GRHS , and a couple of choirs and duets. God and country were the themes that were repeated in every group that sang. At the last banquet a barbershop choir sang the songs of each of the branches of the armed forces and the veterans who had served in that particular branch stood when the song was being sung. It was a moving performance. It made me wish we Canadians were more patriotic.

North Dakota and South Dakota are quite rural states and in many ways a bit less 'sophisticated' than us. Although there were people from Alaska, Texas, California and Washington and other states, I think we Canadians might have been an oddity to some people. A woman from rural North Dakota told me that I was just like someone from North Dakota. I can't quite figure out if this was a compliment or not. As we were leaving the last banquet and saying our goodbyes, this same woman asked quite candidly if we celebrate Christmas on the same day as they do.

A foot note to this was an email from a table companion at one of the suppers, he said he and his wife really enjoyed being my table companion and he could not imagine a convention without me. That email made my whole trip. I am already saving my American money for the conference in Bismarck next July!

Request for Articles

I am requesting that all members of the Saskatoon Branch consider submitting articles for publication in this newsletter.

The newsletter belongs to the branch members. It is published for you, but we desperately need your support in order to continue publishing the newsletter.

You may feel that you have nothing to contribute. Everyone has one or more stories to tell. Whether you are relating your research successes, your brick walls, or simply sharing your opinion on a particular piece of software or a book, your story will benefit other members of this group.

I am considering a "Letters to the Editor" area, where readers may comment on articles appearing in previous issues. This will be included in future issues, if letters are received.

Without articles, there will be no newsletter. Please consider sharing your experiences with us.

Any articles, book reviews, or comments may be sent to me at bonnie.lymer@shaw.ca.

I am looking forward to hearing from you!

Digital Books

Submitted by René Stock

A number of years ago, during my second round of college, I experienced my first use of scanner and OCR (Optical Character Recognition) technology. I had pages of data I wanted digitized for analytical purposes, and envisioned the hours required to type it all into the computer. Surely there was a better way! Unfortunately it took nearly as long to correct the OCR errors as it would have taken to re-type the data. The technology has improved manifold since then.

My first encounter with digitized books was through Archive CD Books. Rod Neep founded the project in 2000 in Britain, "to make reproductions of old books, documents and maps available on CD to genealogists and historians, and to co-operate with libraries, museums and archives in providing assistance to renovate old books in their collection, and to donate books to their collections, where they will be preserved for future generations", as is stated on their website. The company is operating in Britain, Ireland, Australia, Canada and the USA. The website link is http://www.archivecdbooks.org/ The catalogue includes many local and regional directories (Kelly, Pigot, Gore, Post Office), original census book reproductions, parish registers including Phillimore's publications, baronetcies and peerages (Burke), directories, almanacs, newspapers, pedigrees, wills and gazetteers.

My next experience with digitized books was through Quintin Publications. The company was founded in 1978 by Robert J. Quintin "as an outgrowth of his interest in French-Canadian genealogy". Many parish records from French Canada have been transcribed and published in digitized format by this company. I found the marriage of my great-grandparents in one entitled "The Marriages of Rimouski Diocese, 1702-1902", including their parents and married siblings. It is a transcription of the marriages of all the Rimouski diocese Catholic parishes, grouped by male surname. Numerical linkages are included to guide the reader to previous generations where available. The company has expanded its focus to include many other locales, states and provinces, and topics. The Saskatchewan collection includes Métis Scrip applications, Métis history, selected parish records, and histories from fur trading days. The current catalogue boasts over 10,000 titles. The site is located at http://www.quintinpublications.com/

Digitized books have also become available freely over the Internet. Many Canadian local history books are available on the Our Roots site, <u>http://www.ourroots.ca</u> which is a joint project of the Universities of Laval and Calgary. The project goal is to "strive to create the most comprehensive collection of Canadian local histories possible." Also included on the website is the statement, "Copyright clearance is required for every item placed on the site with the exception of those local histories in the public domain."

Copyright infringement has become a hot topic. The Internet search engine company Google, in its ongoing indexing of website information, has expanded its focus to digitization of printed material to include in its search database. Since 2004 Google has digitized millions of books – whether or not they were in print, public or private domain, or copyrighted. A class-action suit was launched by the Author's Guild and the Association of American Publishers, representing all authors and all publishers. An agreement was reached whereby Google could provide access to all these works, provided the company created a Book Rights Registry which was to be administered by the plaintiff parties to locate and distribute a portion of Google Books' profits to copyright holders. Authors were given until January 28 2010 to opt out of the agreement and have their works removed from the digital library. If an author stays in the agreement, he/she can "decide to exclude works, get into a different deal, and negotiate with us on that deal", claims Dan Clancy of Google Books. As a result of the agreement, Google now allows searching through over 7 million books.

<u>http://books.google.com/googlebooks/agreement/</u> and searching <u>http://books.google.com/</u> Lawsuits against Google are ongoing.

What use is this to genealogists? As one example, Sir Bernard Burke's "A genealogical and heraldic history of the landed gentry of Great Britain and Ireland" is online and fully searchable, and can be downloaded in its entirety in Portable Document Format (PDF). Many, many books that are out of print and very rare are freely available to anyone with Internet access. Others have only snippets available to view online, but the search feature allows the user to discover what material is available prior to purchasing a book or attempting to order through interlibrary loans.

ARMCHAIR GENEALOGIST

The Internet Archive is a non-profit that was founded in 1996 to build a digital Internet library. It offers access by the general public to historical collections that exist in digital format. An example of the offerings is the entire publication collection of the Catholic Record Society of Great Britain, which includes many parish records and recusant lists. The site contains media of all types. The Text section has collections from American and Canadian Libraries, Universal Library, Open Source Books, Project Gutenberg, Biodiversity Heritage Library, Children's Library and Additional Collections. At the time of writing, the Canadian Library held 240,200 items, and the American Library had 1.25 million. The Genealogy collection had 11,754 items from the Allen County Public Library, the Robarts Library at the University of Toronto, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library and the Boston Public Library. The website is located at http://www.archive.org

The following list, while not comprehensive, contains many of the websites that sell or house digital publications of interest to genealogists.

ABM Publishing-Family Tree Magazine & Practical Family History

http://www.family-tree.co.uk

AHDS History, UK Data Archive, University of Essex

http://www.ahds.ac.uk/history/about/index.htm Arkion (Swedish with English option) Back To Roots Colonial CD Books Danish Data Archive Devon Family History Society **Digital Archives Research Online** Family History Indexes Ancestry Store Goldbug genealogy.com Genealogy CDs Genfair Gould Genealogy Guild Press of Indiana Hunterdon County Historical Society Macbeth Genealogical Services My Censuses Naval & Military Press Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-1919 Oxfordshire Family History Society Past Books Piper Publishing LLC Quintin Publications Steve Garton Genealogy S&N Genealogy Supplies Search & Research Stepping Stones Sveriges Slaktforskarforbund Your Old Books And Maps

http://www.arkion.se/ http://www.backtoroots.co.uk http://www.colonialcdbooks.com http://www.dda.dk/ http://www.devonfhs.org.uk/publications.htm http://www.digitalarchives.co.uk http://www.researchonline.net http://fhindexes.co.uk/ http://store.ancestry.com http://www.goldbug.com http://www.genealogy.com/datalibraries.html http://genealogycds.com/ http://www.genfair.com/shop/system/index.html http://www.gould.com.au http://www.civilwaramerica.com/ http://www.rootsweb.com/~njhunter/hchs.htm#gazette http://www.macbeth.com.au http://www.mycensuses.com http://www.naval-military-press.com http://www.great-war-casualties.com http://www.ofhs.org.uk http://www.pastbooks.com http://www.piperpublishing.com http://www.quintinpublications.com http://www.stevejgarton.co.uk http://www.genealogysupplies.com http://www.searchresearchpub.com http://www.stepping-stones.co.uk http://www.genealogi.se http://www.youroldbooksandmaps.co.uk/