



British Isles Family History Society-U.S.A.

Newsletter

Mar/Apr-2003

Editor: Jim McNamara

GENERAL MEETINGS:

This Month – Sunday, 23 Mar 2003, 1:00-3:00 PM

What's New in Salt Lake

Jill Kirby

Jill is a board member and long-time member of BIFHS-USA. Born in Southampton, Hampshire, her search for her ancestors has taken her to Canada, South Africa, Mauritius, New Zealand, and Australia.

Welsh Study Group Meeting, 3:30-5:00 PM

"What is Wales? Where is Wales?"

Discussion will be on geography, history, patronymics, farm names, the Welsh language in relationship to genealogy and the steps to finding your ancestor in Wales.

Next Month – Sunday, 27 Apr 2003

No Meeting. BIFHS-USA will host the Seminar, '**Irish At Home And In Colonial America**' by Fintan Mullin, Director of Ulster Historical Foundation & Dr. Brian Trainor, Genealogical Research Officer. Subjects will include Scots-Irish in America, The Irish Manuscript Commission, which includes many volumes of Irish histories, American colonial records and much more.

(See Enclosed Flyer)

Notice:

All classes and monthly meetings are free. There is plenty of free parking. Everyone is welcome. You are welcome to do your own research at any time. Unless otherwise stated, all events are held at:

Los Angeles Family History Center (310) 474-9990
10741 Santa Monica Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Please contact a board member if you have any other questions.

Visit BIFHS-USA Website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa>

Editor's Note:

"In the name of God, Amen. I Archibald Hanna of the County of Westmoreland and the Township of Fairfield, a blacksmith finding myself to labour [labor] under some bodyly [bodily] disorders but blessed by God of perfect mind and memory do make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament." So begins my fifth great Scottish grandfather's will. This was one of my many finds on the Salt Lake City research trip.

Reading this will showed the many differences of our societies. The term 'she continuing my widow' was a pivotal point, and 'at her Death or Marriage' confirmed the meaning. Either death or marriage retracted her inheritance, the gifts of her benefactor being conditional. Even so, it was painfully obvious, he did love this woman. Not only did he will his house "and also she is to have the use of all the moveables [movables] that is contained in the House", he did also give her back her own property and prohibited his son from taking those items, "Except the Bedding and Dresser Furniture which belong to my wife...". Archibald also gave her the best cows, all the sheep and hogs, "and I do allow my wife two cows, the cow that carries [carries] the bell and the Black Cow, all the sheep and Hogs that is now on my farm and also I allow her Fourteen Pounds to be collected of my book accounts or a horse of that value with her saddle...". [Notice that in 1793 the currency in use was still pounds-shillings-pence, even though the first US penny was issued in 1792.] And his slave, "...and I also allow her my Negro Cato...". [Yes, slaves were used throughout the colonies, including Pennsylvania.]

Men did their best to provide for family members even in death. The farm went to the son, the son was to support his mother, and even a provision if his dear wife was not adequately provided for. "...if my son William should agree to work the land from and after my Decease and give his mother a sufficient Maintenance [maintenance] he may hereby have all that he can raise of the land, & if he do not give her a good living then she is to have the power of renting it to the Best advantage she can for her." Even this protection did not seem enough as Archibald stated. "I hereby disallow my son William to sell my land willed too [to] him or any part thereof During the Widowhood of his mother, I hereby appoint my friends James Pollock and James Brady Junior to be Executors of this my last will and Testament. And to prevent any ambiguity, "I hereby utterly Disallow or revoke and Disannul [annul] all other former Wills, Legacies or Bequeaths by me in any wise heretofore willed or Bequeathed. Ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and Testament in witness, where I have here unto set my hand and seal this seventeenth day of May in the year of our Lord one-thousand seven Hundred and Ninety-three."

This was such a comprehensive document, was Archibald the blacksmith-farmer that intelligent as to make such a document?, or to just smart enough to hire a quality lawyer? I am inclined to believe the latter as Archibald's signature did not match the writing of the will's text. Great information can be found in a will, and is very telling of the times and societal attitudes.

And more finds at SLC. A record of my second great grandfather, in which the physicians of Indiana County, Pennsylvania were required to report all births to the Register and Recorder at the County Court House between the years of 1852 and 1856. The will of Archibald's grandson (William) and codicil in which William disinherits his grandson. "Whereas in my last will I gave and bequeathed to my Grandson Charles Donahey the sum of one hundred dollars, And Whereas the said Charles Donahey has left me and refused to be under my control I do hereby revoke and make void said gift...". A death record of my third great grandfather, Thompson Hanna, showing his age to be 89, his occupation to be 'teamster', his place and cause of death, his date of death, and his date and place of interment. Much information found in a single line.

Then there was the Joseph Smith building, all of these HANNAs were baptized, endowed, and sealed to parents long after their deaths in the 1930s. I wonder what these Presbyterian Scotsmen would have thought about that, but am grateful to that descendant for this additional information. I did also find and record many family groups among the local county histories, some made by the local genealogical societies, and these histories stretched back four to six generations to the early and mid 1700s. So much more, but no more room...thanks again Nancy Carlberg and Nancy Bier, a research trip well worth the effort.

Jim McNamara

Any and all comments, information, URLs, event notices, are welcome.
Please send to: JPMTCC@aol.com

President's Message:

Here it is March already and Jamboree is behind us. Many thanks to those who helped out in our booth and in setting up, taking down, keeping track of money, etc.

We need some more help in the Society. For reasons of family and work, we have had resignations from our Treasurer and our Journal Editor. If you can help us with either job, see me, call, e-mail or snail mail me. Hopefully, the last fall-winter journal will be out this month, but if I can get some help it will be faster. The next journal is due out in June (and the next in Nov.) We intend for those to be on schedule.

Keep the cookies and other goodies coming for the meetings. Remember the April meeting is our Irish special program and don't miss the program on 6 May for the English. Put them both on your calendar.

Nancy Ellen Carlberg, President, BIFHS-USA, n_carlberg@hotmail.com, (714) 772-2849

A Letter to the Membership, from Glen Earl Knoblock

As Program Chair (1st Vice President) I wish to introduce myself as Glen E. Knoblock and provide information based on experiences that include President of the Los Angeles Genealogical Society. Genealogy has been a very important part of my life beginning as a teenager. At that time I was given a professionally-compiled history of my mother's family back to 1512 A.D. as provided by my uncle. This information was filed away with my personal records while I proceeded with college and a career in the telecommunication industry, it was then time to think about what to do with the rest of my life.

I began to develop a chronological history of my career. This was when it became apparent to me that I should also consider my family history as well. With the help of other people in my family I was able to create historical records on my father's family dating back to 1745 A.D.

These research projects caused me to develop an interest to assist others who wanted to accomplish what I had done concerning my family. Due to my previous managerial skills in the communication industry the opportunity to become the President of the Los Angeles Westside Genealogical Society was a coincidence that seemed to come at the right time in my life.

After five years as President of that Society I determined it was time to step down and give someone else the opportunity to experience this endeavor. After this transition took place a new opportunity to participate in another genealogy society became available to me as the 1st Vice President of this Society. This was a chance to continue my ongoing involvement in genealogy.

Concerning our monthly meetings I would like to recommend an addition to our meeting schedule. This addition would be a table that we would call "The Family History Table". This table would display different books and pictures. These applications were very successful in the other genealogical group that I was associated with.

Please let me know what you think concerning this recommendation. You can address your letters to me in care of:

British Isles Family History Society-USA, 2531 Sawtelle Blvd., PMB # 134, Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Glen E. Knoblock, Vice President of Programs, BIFHS-USA, gleneark@worldnet.att.net

MARIS ANCESTRY LAUNCHES NEW LOW-COST WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT SERVICE

This new service will be of use to anyone who has information about their ancestors in a family history database capable of exporting in GEDCOM format and who has free webspace (or a hosted domain) available.

Customers will first be asked how they want to customise the standard layout in terms of content, graphics, colours and font etc. They will also be asked to specify what database extracts they want to include.

We will then upload a mock-up of the site and ask for the narrative text (and optional images) to be emailed to us for inclusion in the final site.

By combining a standardized page structure with the use of style sheets, it is possible to customize a site very much more quickly and cheaply than starting from scratch.

The service is available now. Further information can be obtained by emailing us at: maris.ancestry@btopenworld.com
Or, by following the links below:

Maris Ancestry Website Design Service:
www.maris.ancestry.btinternet.co.uk/Develop/Sites.htm
See specimen sites at:
www.maris.ancestry.btinternet.co.uk &
www.maris.ancestry.btinternet.co.uk/Eaton/Index.htm

Book publisher website: www.jpgbook.com/
(From Annie Lloyd)

Books for Ireland, Scotland, Wales, England, Australia, Canada and USA.

CALL FOR SCOTTISH HOMECOMING YEAR
(From Megan Evans)

A leading Scottish politician has called for the creation of a Scottish Homecoming Year to celebrate Scotland and its culture. Deputy First Minister Jim Wallace suggested 2009, the 250th anniversary of the birth of poet Robert Burns, as the perfect time

for the festivities.

"2009 would be the ideal time to celebrate our nation by having a Scottish Homecoming Year that would encourage people from all over the world with Scottish roots to come to Scotland to see the heritage shared by our ancestors and theirs," he said.

"Burns is one of our country's most recognised figures worldwide and is one of Scotland's national heroes.

"It would also be an important way in which to promote our historic, cultural, environmental and sporting heritage and allow overseas visitors to have a taste of modern Scotland with all the new opportunities that are now available."

COSTA DEL ABERDEENSHIRE

The Scottish village of Aboyne was sweltering in the highest ever January temperature at the weekend when the thermometer reached 17.7C - hotter than the Costa del Sol!

The temperature in the Aberdeenshire village was warmer than many summer days in Scotland and beat the previous record of the highest January temperature of 16.7C in the Sutherland village of Lairg in 1971.

However the unseasonably warm weather, caused by warm winds from the Azores, is set to be followed by some very cold weather as the wind direction changes bringing snow and ice.

ARE YOU ONE OF SCOTLAND'S PEOPLE?

'ScotlandsPeople' is the official online source of parish register, civil registration and census records for Scotland and is a partnership between the General Register Office for Scotland and Scotland On Line.

With birth, death and marriage information from 1553 to 1951 and census information from 1881, 1891 and 1901, the database contains almost 37 million names making it one of the world's largest resources of genealogical information.

So, if you have roots in Scotland you'll find them here:

<http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/newsletter/index.php?trave1030130>

From Annie Lloyd:

- The government of British Columbia actually has a web site containing an index to BMD records. Some records are available in digital image format and can be ordered for instant delivery by e-mail. The site is located at:

http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca/textual/governmt/vstats/v_events.htm

- This Website shows various scams on the Internet:

<http://blacksheep.rootsweb.com/shame/index.html>

From the Los Angeles FHC newsletter:

Family Research Link: www.1837online.com

Complete indices for birth, marriage and death records for England and Wales. There is a charge to use the site, however.

Real Names and Abbreviations:

<http://freereg.rootsweb.com/howto/realnames.htm>

Please click on the back button on your browser to return to the previous page see also:

- [Latin names](#)
- [Latin words to recognise](#)
- [Numbers and dates to recognise](#)
- [FreeREG Home page](#)

When people search the FreeREG database, they will be searching for example, for the first name "William" rather than Wm., Willm., Gulielmus, etc. In the FreeREG database, however, we have gone a little step further than that. When recording data you may enter the Latin name or an abbreviation as it appears in the register, and anyone doing a search of the database for "William", will also see entries of "Wm.", "Gulielm", "Gul", etc.

Abbreviations and old forms of Christian names, this is not a definitive total list - more will be added.

New Jersey Event:

Saturday, April 5, 2003, Co-Sponsored with Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania at the New Jersey State Museum, West State Street, Trenton, NJ

Lecture/Speaker: George Redmonds, noted British historian, will be the Keynote Speaker presenting two lectures "Surnames, Genes, and Family Origins" and "Kith and Kin - Tracing Ancestors thru Their Names". Two other well-known speakers, John Konvalinka, CGRS, CGL and Colin Brooks, will also present

lectures - "Discovering London's Genealogical Resources" and "Which Way Did They Go? Scotch-Irish Research". Other highlights of the day will include tours of the New Jersey State Archives and the State Library and a book and vendor fair.
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~njgsnj/2003Spring.htm>

Reminders:

A few renewals have been received at the old rate. Remember, dues are now \$25 for Individuals and \$30 for Family, \$250 for individual life memberships.

E-mail addresses: If you haven't received a reminder of our monthly meetings, then we do not have your e-mail address. Please let us know when you change your email & snail mail addresses so we can keep in touch.

Check your expiration date on your Newsletter or Journal. If it has or is about to expire, please send in your renewal. We do not send a bill when dues are due.

Switchboard is a very good web site for finding phone numbers for individuals in USA. This site can be searched when the surname, city or given name is unknown. URL is:

<http://www.switchboard.com/bin/cgiqa.dll?MG=>

Announcing the launch of 'Ancestors Discovered':

I'm a qualified, friendly researcher living in Lancashire, England, with easy access to most of the Records Offices in Lancashire. So if you ever need any assistance from "across the Pond", just give me a call...Tel: +44 1772 324037, or check out my website: <http://www.ancestors-discovered.com>

- *Ruth Small*

Congratulations:

BIFHS-USA President Nancy Carlberg has released three new books:

- 'Names, Nicknames, and Misspelled Names'
- 'Tracing Your Colonial Ancestors'
- 'Goal Setting for Genealogists'

Remember to bring Nancy lots of sugar cookies to help celebrate her new books!!!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

March – 2003

- 18-23 Badenoch & Strathspey Music Festival, music, dance, piping Gaelic songs and more at this Invernesshire festival, Kingussie, Scotland. For info: 01540 661 797 or domine@globalnet.co.uk
- 22 Sonoma County Genealogical Society, CA Annual Spring Seminar at Sonoma State University in Rohnert Park. Sharon DeBartolo Carmack is scheduled to be the speaker. Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cascgs/carmack.htm>
- 21-23 Eight Annual Scottish Symposium sponsored by Caledonian Foundation USA, in Colonial Williamsburg, (800) 713-0507
- 22 Scottish Highland Games of Mississippi, at Forestry and Agricultural Museum, call (601) 948-7268 for information
- 23 Scottish Country Fair at Sumpter County Museum, Sumpter, SC (803) 775-0908
- 22-23 Scottish Heritage Festival at Hafer Park, Edmond, OK, Scottish Clans of OK (405) 844-3472
- 24 **BIFHS-USA, General meeting. Topic: What's New in Salt Lake. Speaker: Jill Kirby**, Board member and long-time member of BIFHS-USA. Born in Southampton, Hampshire, her search for her ancestors has taken her to Canada, South Africa, Mauritius, New Zealand and Australia.
Welsh Study Group Meeting – Annie Lloyd "What is Wales? Where is Wales? Discussion will be on geography, history, patronymics, farm names, the Welsh language in relationship to genealogy and the steps to finding your ancestor in Wales.

April – 2003

- 5 Scottish Fiddlers of Los Angeles present their 22nd Spring Concert with special guests John Taylor and SFLA founders Colin Gordon & Shauna Picket-Gordon, 7:30 PM, Hermosa Beach Playhouse, 710 Pier Avenue, Hermosa Beach, CA
- 18-20 Las Vegas Highland Games and Celtic Gathering, Freedom Park, Las Vegas, NV, (702) 433-2637, email info: info@Lvdhg.com
- 24-26 Utah Genealogical Association, Family History Conference in Salt Lake City. Plus, classes on British and Irish research. www.infouga.org
- 27 **BIFHS-USA** will host the Seminar, 'Irish At Home And In Colonial America' by Fintan Mullin, Director of Ulster Historical Foundation and Dr. Brian Trainor, Genealogical Research Officer. Subjects will include Scots-Irish in America, The Irish Manuscript Commission, Land record research, plus American colonial records, and more. Details in coming days. This will be an all day session, and it will replace the April regular meeting. There is a suggested donation of \$25.⁰⁰ plus \$5.⁰⁰ for afternoon tea.

May – 2003

- 3-4 Twenty-fifth Annual Scottish Clan Gathering and Highland Games, Prado Regional Park, 16700 S. Euclid, Chino, CA, gates open at 9:00 AM, see : www.lochprado.com or call (310) 375-3453
- 6 **BIFHS-USA English Special** – Colin Chapman, on 'Sex, Sin, & Marriage. See enclosed flyer.
- 17 'Journals of Another Generation', discovering and preserving your family history through documents, quilts, and photographs. Contact Donna Cuillard (805) 526-1983
- 20-31 Ten Days of Gardens and Genealogy in Ireland Contact Nancy Bier at nbierirish@aol.com or at www.timetraveltours.com
- 28-31 100th Anniversary Conference for the National Genealogical Society will be held in the new Convention Center, hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society. Contact: Barbara Braden Guffey, (412) 487-3907 guffeyb@sasd.k12.pa.us, www.wpgs.org

June – 2003

- 5-8 Third Annual North American Sheepdog Championship and Scottish Festival, sponsored by Drummand Ranch at Historic Fillmore, CA, see: www.herdingusa.com
- 21-22 San Diego Scottish Highland Games & Gathering of the Clans, Brengle Terraec Park, 1200 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista, CA, Free concert, Friday, June 20th – 7 PM at the Moonlight Amphitheater See: www.sdhhighlandgames.org

July – 2003

- 13-20 **BIFHS-USA Summer trip to Salt Lake City.** Contact Nancy Bier at nbierirish@aol.com. Please join us. Flyers at the meeting and next newsletter.
- 19 Sixth Annual Arizona Highland Celtic Festival, at Thorpe Park in Flagstaff, AZ. Sponsored by: The Northern Arizona Celtic Heritage Society. Saturday July 19, 2003 from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

August – 2003

- 2-3 Third Annual Long Beach Celtic Music Festival by the Sea, Sat. 11 AM - 8 PM, Sun. 10 AM - 7 PM, at the Queen Mary Events Park.

September - 2003

- 3-6 FGS 2003 Conference, **Orlando** FL Hosted by the Florida State Genealogical Society, Inc. Renaissance Orlando Resort, Seaworld, Orlando, Florida, USA For more information visit www.fgs.org
- 8-29 Ireland Genealogy Research Trip, contact Nancy Bier at nbierirish@aol.com or at www.timetraveltours.com
- 29-Oct 4 Ulster Historical Foundation Tour of Ireland Contact Nancy Bier at nbierirish@aol.com

URLs

Ireland:

- Covering parts of the counties of Donegal, Cavan (in 1836), Fermanagh, Louth, Monaghan and Tyrone.
- List of Parish names and Priests names in 1836 with some comparison to parish as named in 1931:
<http://www.from-ireland.net/diocs/dioceclagher.htm>
- Parishes and priests 1846 - <http://www.from-ireland.net/diocs/1846/dioceclagher1846.htm>
- Northern Ireland Genweb-County Antrim - <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nirantri/>
- Irish Ancestors Group - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Irishancestorsgroup>
- **Description of a bog burst** and the damage caused by such a disaster in Co. Kerry in 1896 (including the death of the Donnelly family). - <http://www.from-ireland.net/history/bogbursts.htm>

Scotland:

- Scots Origins is no longer serving in the capacity that it had been in the past. The Service has now been taken over by the Scottish government: <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/> You can still continue to use <http://www.scotsorigins.com> for IGI searches by parish, and 1861 & 1871 census indexes.

Australia & New Zealand:

- If you had relatives who migrated to Australia as nuns or who became nuns in Australia, this is a good place to look for them. Women of vision, ordinary women – extraordinary lives, index and history of nuns and sisters of the Catholic Church in Australia, 1838-1918. For the purposes of historical research or family history an alphabetical index of women who either became nuns in Australia, or who arrived in Australia as nuns, has been compiled. The index consists of approximately 14,000 entries and is the result of contributions from more than fifty Religious Orders or Congregations.
<http://www.stbedes.melb.catholic.edu.au/home/br/>

Australia:

- CAMPBELLS in Australia - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CampbellsAustralia>

"Cillin" - <http://www.churchtown.net/memories/08.htm> This was a place where unbaptised babies were buried in the past.

Passenger Lists & Immigration Records - <http://www.genswap.com/immigrate.html>

- INCLUDES NATURALIZATION & PASSENGER SHIP LISTS RECORDS (Many URLs)
- Here you will find a list of web sites that contain genealogy data online! We only include those sites that actually have data online. Many of these sites are frequently updated, along with our page of online sites. So check back frequently! Enjoy and good hunting! Just one note, we can not guarantee the accuracy of the data found on these sites (there may be typing mistakes, misread items, etc.). You should always confirm the data by obtaining the original source. Also, we have linked to the following sites to assist genealogists in finding online data. Please check with those sites before using their data for commercial purposes. Many of these sites only allow you to use their data for personal purposes and not commercial purposes.

Naturalization Index, Manhattan & Bronx - http://www.italiangen.org/southern_district_records_intro.stm

- A work in progress that will, when completed, have 500,000 records in the index, covers naturalizations from 1906 to 1949.

Date conventions, old and new, and the change to the Gregorian Calendar - <http://www.genfair.com/dates.htm>

A summary for genealogists long but well worth reading.

World Time Zones - <http://www.worldtimezone.com/index24.html>

Daylight Savings Zones Map, world wide - <http://www.worldtimezone.com/daylight.htm>

Alms House Admission Foreigners & Nativity Records (New York City, NY) - These records apply to immigrants to Quebec, Montreal, New York, Philadelphia, New Orleans and Boston. In the early 1800's port cities in the USA bore the burden of immigration. By the time they arrived, so many immigrants were tired, hungry and poor they ended up in the City Almshouse. The new records are from the years 1855 to 1858 and include the name of the ship each person sailed on (if they remembered it), the date they arrived, the ports of departure and arrival, their age, their place of origin and more.
http://www.rootsweb.com/~ote/ships/ny_alms1855.htm

Please contribute sites & info to: JPMTCC@aol.com

From:

British Isles FHS –USA

2531 Sawtelle Blvd., PMB #134
Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

March/April – 2003 Newsletter
"First Class"

To:

Please look at mailing label for your membership expiration date. Renew promptly to save the Society money. Individual membership is \$25; family membership is \$30. Thanks, Editor

BRITISH ISLES FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY – USA

2531 Sawtelle Blvd. PMB#134, Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

ALL MAIL MUST BE ADDRESSED TO: British Isles FHS-USA,
attention: person you wish to receive the correspondence.

"The PMB#134" and Zip+4, must be used.

(We use the "#" instead of "Box No" in order to receive UPS Deliveries)

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- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

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- June Hanson, jhanson@grossmont.k12.cas.us

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