



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

Newsletter

Jan/Feb-2004

Editor: Jim McNamara

GENERAL MEETINGS:

This Month – Sunday, 25 January 2004, 1:00-3:00 PM
Technology for Genealogists
By: Andy Pomeroy

Study Group 3:30-5:00 PM
Irish Famine, the Records
Led by: Nancy Bier

Next Month – Sunday, 22 February 2004, 1:00-3:00 PM
Open Censuses of England & Wales 1841-1901
By: Kay Devonshire

Study Group 3:30-5:00 PM
Simple Use of Power Point for Lecture & Family History Presentations
By: Jim McNamara

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:

"An Irishman's heart is nothing but his imagination."

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950), Anglo-Irish playwright, critic. Larry Doyle, in *John Bull's Other Island*, act 1. ¹

Some web sites I have seen have legend and research side by side. One such site recounts an oft-borrowed legend of the first McNamara being a golden selkie. I have since seen this same legend applied to other Irish and also to Scottish surnames. Going back to the origins of MacNamara, the name has evolved from MacConmara and prior to that from the forename 'Cunamara', which literally translates as hound (cu) of the sea (na mara).

Another legend of a boy warrior Cúchulainn, (pronounced koo-HOOL-in) is said to be the origin of the hound in Cunamara. Cúchulainn's own name was given to him by a druid for his taking the place of a noble hound he reluctantly killed thus becoming Culann's replacement hound, until such time as a he could train a pup to properly guard Culann's estate.

One woman I have met on the Internet has been in Ireland researching the MacNAMARAs and believes this sept is not of the Dalcassion tribe as is generally accepted but of the Eoganachts.

It is very subtle, which son of which Dalcassion King or was it Prince?, does the MacNamara line descend from? The last know MacNamara believed to be directly descended from Cormac Cas, died without issue, and was known as 'Fireball' MacNamara, the famous duelist. Fireball named his pistols and wrote poetry about them.

I have very recently heard from my Cleary cousins that our Clearys came from the 'Curragh' in County Kildare. Two Cleary brothers are said to have come from Kildare as grooms in the employ of the HERBERTS who owned much of the land near the family farm on the shore of Loch Derg near the borders of Counties Galway and Clare.

I have since heard the story of St. Bridget's cloak - [a Kildare story]. "Saint Bridget went to Clonmacnoise, where she wanted to buy land to build a monastery. She was told that she could have as much land as her cloak could cover. Saint Bridget spread out her cloak and it seemed to cover a large area of ground. The owner of the land then gave her that amount of land. On that land she built her monastery. Nuns and priests came to stay in the monastery." [See websites: <http://www.delfo.forli-cesena.it/orsini/irlanda2001/leggendedicastlebar.htm> & <http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/stb03002.htm>]

Such incredible legends! And all this just as we are about to head out to the Family History Library at Salt Lake City. At the other end of the spectrum, I have heard it said that anyone researching genealogy in Ireland prior to 1800s is writing fairy tales. Somewhere in-between lies the truth. With Nancy Carlberg and Nancy Bier as consultants at one of the best libraries in the world, as happened last January, I will make progress on my Irish-German-American research.

There always seems to be just one more clue showing up from here and there. Another new cousin has emailed me complaining that when he searches his German surname, he finds only my posts. (Sorry cuz.) Next step in that line is in a known town and parish in Alsace-Lorraine, and FHL has very good church records in that area... in German script.

Nothing worthwhile is easy. May all of the BIFHS researchers have great finds in SLC. I'm sure you will hear all about it, if not from me, then from one of your fellow members.

Best regards to all for a great New Year. Athblíán shona duit.

Jim McNamara

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

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President's Message:

Welcome to January. We made it through 2003. I don't know about you, but I barely got started on my to-do list. Now I'll try again. My goal this year is to catch up with myself. And then get organized.

I really want to thank those who came to our holiday party. This year we are scheduled for the 10th of December. I hope everyone had fun with the games and enjoyed the background music. I want to thank Mary McKinnon and Bob Hatch for cooking the ham and the turkey.

I'm looking forward to our meetings this year. Don't forget we are planning to go to Salt Lake for a big seminar in July 2005. And we may have a seminar in August at the Family History Center, we shall have to see.

Have fun with your genealogy this year!

Nancy Ellen Carlberg

Memberships and Renewals, (Proposed Changes, will be discussed at Jan's meeting):

We have been sending newsletters out for a couple of issues after your membership has expired, but we can no longer continue to do that because of the expense. So we are sorry but when your membership lapses, we will have to stop the newsletters. We are unable to send renewal notices because of the size of membership (and we don't have someone to do it either). Usually the date your membership expires is on the newsletter label. We will put a large print notice on the newsletter the month that you need to renew.

Your memberships will be dated as of the month the renewal is received. The newsletter cut-off date is the end of the month previous to the issue date of the newsletter because that is when labels are printed. You will receive the next issue of the newsletter to be printed after you sign up. For instance, if you sign-up in May, your first issue of the newsletter will be the July-August issue because the labels for the May-June issue are printed on the 30th of April, but you will receive issues through the May-June issue the next year.

Because of the need to know the number of copies of the Journal to make, the cut-off date for Spring-Summer issue will be April, for the Fall-Winter issue it will be October. Memberships after that time, will receive the next two journals (beginning with Fall-Winter if membership dates from May on, beginning with the next Spring-Summer issue if membership dates from November on.) If you want to order any issues that are missed, they can be ordered for \$10.00 each.

We do not have a Journal editor, so we are trying to catch up on the issues right now. If you haven't received issues yet, you will receive all of the issues you are entitled to when we can print them.

Family History Table: Please contact Glen E. Knoblock if you are interested in displaying your family history at any of the meetings. Glennark@worldnet.att.net

OCCGS & The Irish-Scottish SIG are hosting an Irish Seminar by **Kyle Betit** of Salt Lake City. Saturday, April 3, 2004, at 12:30 PM, [\$15.00 at the door, please bring correct change.]

Topics: Determining Your Place of Origin in Ireland, Griffith's Valuation of Ireland, Freeholders, Freeman and Voting Records in Ireland.

Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Street, Huntington Beach, CA, Room C – Lower Level

Contact: Muriel Fitzsimmons 714 962-4592 or genfitzvh@aol.com

Meet the Board [Jim McNamara]:

My parents met just after WWII, and were married at St. Alphonsos R.C. Church in Los Angeles, Jan 3rd, 1947. I was the fourth of eight children, and all of us attended Catholic School for 12 years. Although most of us went to various colleges, I was the first to get a four-year college degree after attending Rio Hondo College, and then transferring to California State Polytechnic University at Pomona to study Electronics Engineering. College gave me many new interests, including photography, tennis, basketball, backpacking, automobiles, electronics, computers, music, history, and writing.

I later became much more involved in many sports, including Tennis, Yoga, Tai Chi Chuan (a non-combatant martial art) and many Frisbee sports, mostly golf. I was on and off the PDGA (Professional Disc Golf Association) tour for more than 10 years, eventually becoming a 'scratch' golfer, and was invited to three World Championship competitions, once to Iowa in the Pro division, and also to Ohio and Arizona in the Masters division.

Upon graduating, I was hired by a bio-medical electronics firm as a Test Engineer, and still work for this same company after more than 26 years. I have been involved with many different types of projects. For the most part I have built test equipment, written test specifications, and solved production problems.

Currently, I am the Test Engineering Manager in the Quality Department. I oversee the Receiving, In-process, and Final Inspection areas. I write Work Instructions for the Production, Service, and Quality Departments. I also handle the Complaint System, as well as CAPA (Corrective Actions - Preventative Actions) System. I do technical support for our customers for the products I have special knowledge of, such as our digital Holter ECG recorders.

In June of 2000, I was sent to train people at our Brussels office and receive training from one of our suppliers in Germany. At that time I stopped off in Ireland for ten days, met about 20 of my CLEARY cousins, and was able to stay on the farm where my CLEARY grandmother was born. I also saw the McNAMARA ancestral home and farm. I did find out that my McNamara great-aunts and uncles did not marry, so I have no remaining McNamara first cousins in Ireland. All are here in US.

Very recently our firm was acquired by a UK company that is currently acquiring several medical equipment companies per year. We have been merged with our main European competitor in the Holter ECG business. In July of 2003, I was sent to receive additional training at our Hertford, UK office. Again, I found time to stop in Ireland and meet with my CLEARY cousins. My Sep/Oct-2003 editorial is an account of that visit.

I became involved with Family History research shortly after the death of my parents, dad in February of '96 and mom in March of '98. I started attending seminars the very first of which was the April 1999 Family History Fair at the Family History Center in Orange. The instructor of my first genealogy class was a HANNA(H) cousin. I did not find that out for at least another year. I just looked at the syllabus and see I took Irish research classes from Nancy Carlberg and a Scottish class from Kathy Kane. That must have been a very good foundation as I made much progress in a short time. I also studied whatever I could read on the Internet including finding the FamilySearch.org site. What a gold mine that site has been!

I have since attended many seminars and my favorites have been the British Isles Family History Society's Queen Mary Seminars, and the short classes at the Family History Center in Los Angeles. (This Queen Mary seminar was the main reason I joined BIFHS-USA.) My favorite lecturers have been Kyle Betit, Linda Jonas, Nancy Carlberg, Nancy Bier, David Dobson, Michael Gandy, and Barbara Renick. There are others, but their names escape me at the moment.

I became the Newsletter Editor for BIFHS-USA almost two years ago. As this is the eleventh newsletter, it will be two years exactly with the March-April edition. I have enjoyed putting together these newsletters, and hope everyone has enjoyed them as well. Nancy Carlberg has been my editor for this entire time, and that has been great. I have been given a free hand in the editorial page and have tried to relate my experiences with Family History events. There is always some new event or experience that I will continue to relate in the editorials. And if anyone has any suggestions for Newsletter features, I am all ears.

Best Regards to All
Jim McNamara – BIFHS-USA Newsletter Editor

Thanks to Nancy Bier for this page:

Scottish History

Although I have read a fair amount of history, with great interest in Stuart stories, I have just realized the burial of the last of the three Royal Stuarts, (Bonnie Prince Charlie), his brother the Cardinal of York, (Henry), and their father was St. Peter's Basilica, in Rome.

Across from them is a memorial or tribute to the wife and mother of these three men, Maria Clementina Sobieska. She was the niece of King John II of Poland. For a two-page article with many details of these Stuarts, please read pages 26 & 27 of "The Family Tree" of the Odom Library.

Irish Research

You may now search the Irish Famine Immigrants Database free online through the US National Archives. http://aad.archives.gov/aad/title_list.jsp
This material covers the port of N.Y. from 1846 - 1851 and the dates of passenger arrivals listed are 1/12/1846-12/31/1851. In the pull down subject menu CLICK on Irish then click on submit. Next click on "Famine Irish Data Files.1977?-1989?".

Be sure to look at the other subjects listed to see if you need to search another database before leaving the site. This gives some tremendous data and saves reading passenger lists to find the one you need. Over 604,596 persons are listed including women and children.

English & Welsh Naming Patterns (ca. 1700-1879)

- First daughter - after the maternal grandmother
- Second daughter - after the paternal grandmother
- Third daughter - after her mother
- Fourth daughter - after the mother's oldest sister
- First son - after the paternal grandfather
- Second son - after the maternal grandfather
- Third son - after the father
- Fourth son - after the father's eldest brother

Exceptions would apply if for duplications of given names. Then the practice was to skip to the next name on the list.

Welsh Research

Interesting history lessons on Welsh history can be found online. There is an eight-lesson course available by Dr. Peter Williams. It should be ready soon on <Suite101.com>

Research Tip

A new library was founded in 1959 called the David Library by Mr. Sol Feinstone. It is located in Washington County, Pennsylvania and contains one of the largest and best collections of Revolutionary War era records in the U.S.

Few genealogists are aware it exists and is open to the public at 1201 River Road, Washington Crossing, PA. Website can be found using Google. Some of the materials are not found elsewhere and there are British materials from the PRO and other repositories in England, Canada and Germany. (from Odom Library newspaper, "The Family Tree" December 2003/January 2004.)

All of the above information is from The Family Tree the newsletter of the Odom Library. December 2003/January 2004.

General Info - Research Tips

If you are trying to find the birthplace of male ancestors born between 13 Sep 1872 and 12 Sep 1900 you will want to try this research method. All men **both citizens and aliens** had to register for World War I if they were born between those dates. These cards will normally list full place of birth. Many men from the **U.K. and from Ireland** would have registered and can be found in these files. Information found on the cards for your ancestor may include exact date of birth, citizenship status, employer's name and address, physical description and many will also give the exact place of birth, dependents, father's exact place of birth, and other details helpful for genealogical research. These cards have been filmed and can be found by looking in the LDS catalog. You will need to know where your ancestor lived in 1917-1918 to facilitate the search. The cards are filed by location.

If you cannot find your ancestor, you may wish to consider hiring an expert in the field to locate the card for you. Researchers for this record can often be found advertising in genealogical newsletters or magazines.

Please Welcome BIFHS-USA December's New Members:

- Gregory R. Best westerner30@hotmail.com
1426 Van Buren Ave.
San Diego, CA 92103
619-296-0898

- Liz Odell lizod1@earthlink.net
9380 Monarch Ct.
Alta Loma, CA 91737
909-989-4797
Interests: Ireland (Cavan), England (Keswick & Liverpool)

Name Hints:

If you are searching for an ancestor with the name of Faragher, you might also want to search for Fargher, Farquhars or Carragher, because they are the same name. - Your Family History, November 2003

You are of Manx descent if you have ancestors with these names: Chisholm, Dent, Corrin., Kelly, Costain, Crowe, Cain, Jelling, Taggart, Moore, Cringle, and Cowley.

From UK-Family History News Digest: WEBPAGE REVIEWS

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~sarahhawkins/>

Regular readers of this column will know that I am a huge fan of websites that host small, or large, numbers of real transcriptions and records. This is what I feel is the best use of the Internet for Family History, and I have been fortunate enough to find a few in my time. This is another excellent collection of records, pertaining to South Somerset, and including the parishes of Barrington, Curry Mallett, Isle Abbots and more. There are both Parish Register transcriptions and census transcriptions on the site and they are free to view. It is a very simple, yet very effective website and easy to use. We should never be anything but thankful that researchers choose to share their work for free in this way.

Thanks from Annie Lloyd

"At the November 2003 BIFHS General Meeting, Nancy Carlberg was given some information to give to me on LLOYDS. I thank the person who gave this information as it has been very helpful."

Spinster, origins:

Where did the word "spinster" come from? What did it originally mean? We know that in the 19th century

the word "spinster" meant an "unmarried woman." But according to the October 2003 magazine "Living History" the word "spinster" has been in use from at least the 14th century and referred to the job of spinning. Spinning was traditionally **woman's work.**"

From Annie Lloyd: Connecticut Ships Database:

<http://www.mysticseaport.org/library/initiative/CuCustoms.htm>
This is the website of the Connecticut Ship Database. OK, does not sound very UK orientated does it? Well look and you will find! There is a vast amount of information on this website about ships and shipping in the US in the nineteenth century. There are men, ships and owners that come from the UK. If your ancestor went to sea, particularly as a merchant seaman this is a website to delight you. You have to be patient, it takes a bit of time to load, but the records are worth it, and there is a lot on line. Registers of ships, yachts and men. A super site which will be well worth a visit, or at least remembering!

From UK-FAMILY HISTORY NEWS Digest: <http://www.penllyn.com/1/Hanes/hanes.htm>

A very interesting website. Bi-lingual for many communities in Gwynedd in Wales. The site takes a little bit of getting used to because of the languages and also because the design of the homepage is, in my opinion, terrible (it gave me a headache looking at it) but once you are in there is a lot of information about the history of the area, as well as some documents and maps. This is not a site for anyone with less than good eyesight as it will be impossible to navigate but if you persist you will find some good, particularly good local history, information.

<http://www.chartists.net/>

The Chartists were a radical movement in the nineteenth century, which garnered the support of thousands of active members, particularly amongst working men and women in the industrial towns, but by no means limited to these people and areas. They were persecuted and often prosecuted for their beliefs, many of which have since passed into law (Universal Suffrage was a key element.) This website lists many names of people who attended conferences and signed petitions, as well as detailing information about the movement.

Thanks to Internet friend Jean Rice for her permission to print Part 4 of 4 on Walt Whitman:

SNIPPET: Thousands of Irish fought in the American Civil War for both the Union and the Confederacy. Walt WHITMAN (1819-1892) was nearly 42 years old when the ACW began. (See his letter below). Living in Brooklyn (NY) at the time with his mother Louisa, Walt contributed to the Brooklyn weekly "Standard" and was trying to find a publisher for his "Leaves of Grass" (poetry) which had been through three editions since its first publication in 1855. His brother George, ten years younger, had immediately enlisted in the 51st NY Volunteers. In Dec 1862, the Whitman family received notice that George had been wounded at the first battle of Fredericksburg in VA. Whitman immediately traveled south to find him, first stopping in Washington (DC). There Whitman searched the makeshift army hospitals that were being set up in churches, private mansions and government offices to accommodate the overwhelming influx of wounded soldiers. Though he did not find his brother - he saw for the first time the true cost of the War. He subsequently found George, whose wound had not been serious, at the front in VA. Here, too, he was surrounded by the wounded and the dying.

Whitman's patriotism - no less fervent than his brother's - exhibited itself in his passionate writings. Whitman stayed in Washington (DC) throughout most of the War, working as a government clerk and writing articles and essays for the NY newspapers, but he considered his real work tending the sick and wounded soldiers - Union and Confederate, alike - that came through the overworked and understaffed hospitals. He became a familiar sight on the wards, making his rounds, comforting soldiers, writing letters for them, reading to them or simply sitting by their sides. His own impressions he recorded in small notebooks he carried and which were later published as "Memoranda during the War (1875-76)."

Whitman was profoundly moved by the realities of war and his hospital experiences. A staunch Unionist, he worked in close proximity to the White House and Capitol and Whitman remarked that President Abraham LINCOLN, shortly before his death - "look'd very much worn and tired; the lines, indeed, of vast responsibilities, intricate questions, and demands of life and death, cut deeper than ever upon his dark brown face; yet all the old goodness, tenderness,

sadness, and canny shrewdness, underneath the furrows." Some of Whitman's letters refer to individual soldiers. Many of his poems were published circa 1865 in his "Drum-Taps" or "Sequel to DrumTaps" and later editions of "Leaves of Grass." At the end of war he wrote this letter from Washington (May 25, 1865) to his mother, Mrs. Louisa Whitman, in Brooklyn, NY:

"Dear Mother,

I received your letter of the 22d -- I feel uneasy about you all the time, and hope I shall get a letter to-day, and find you have recovered. Well, the Review is over, and it was very grand - it was too much and too impressive, to be described - but you can see with a great white building half as big as Fort Greene on a hill at the commencement of the avenue, and then through this avenue marching solid ranks of soldiers, 20 or 25 abreast, just marching steady all day long for two hours without intermission, one regiment after another, real war-torn soldiers, that have been marching and fighting for years - sometimes for an hour nothing but cavalry, just solid ranks, on good horses, with sabres glistening and carbines hanging by their saddles, and their clothes showing hard service, but they mostly all good-looking hardy young men - then great masses of guns, batteries of cannon, four or six abreast, each drawn by six horses, with the gunners seated on the ammunition wagons - and these perhaps a long while in passing, nothing but batteries, (it seemed as if all the cannon in the world were here) - then great battalions of blacks, with axes and shovels and pick axes, (real Southern Darkies, black as tar) - then again hour after hour the old infantry, regiments, the men all sunburnt - nearly every one with some old tatter all in shreds, (that had been a costly and beautiful flag) - the great drum corps of sixty or eighty drummers massed at the heads of the brigades, playing away - now and then a fine brass band - but oftener nothing but the drums and whistling fifes - but they sounded very lively - _(perhaps a band of sixty drums and fifteen or twenty fifes playing "Lannigan's ball") - the different corps banners, the generals with their staffs and c. - the Western Army, led by Gen. SHERMAN, (old Bill, the soldiers all called him) -

Well, dear mother, that is a brief sketch, give you some idea of the great panorama of the Armies that have been passing through here for the last two days.

I saw the President several times, stood close by him, and took a good look at him - and like his expression much - he is very plain and substantial - it seemed wonderful that just that plain middling-size ordinary man, dressed in black, without the least badge or ornament, should be the master of all these myriads of soldiers, the best that ever trod the earth, with forty or fifty Major-Generals, around him or riding by with their broad yellow-satin belts around their waists, - and of all the artillery and cavalry -- to say nothing of all the Forts and ships...

I saw Gen. GRANT* too several times. He is the noblest Roman of them all - none of the pictures do justice to him - about sundown I saw him again riding on a large fine horse, with his hat off in answer to the hurrahs - he rode by where I stood, and I saw him well, and he rode by on a slow canter, with nothing but a single orderly after him - He looks like good man - (and I believe there is much in looks) -

I saw Gen. MEADE, Gen. THOMAS, Secretary STANTON, and lots of other celebrated government officers and generals - but the rank and file was the greatest sight of all.

The 51st in the line Tuesday with 9th Corps. I saw George but did not get a chance to speak to him. He is well. George is now Major George W. WHITMAN, - had been commissioned and mustered in.. (Col. WRIGHT and Col. SHEPHARD) have done it, I think.) The 51st is over to the Old Convalescent camp, between here and Alexandria, doing provost duty. It, the old camp is now called Amgur General Hospital.... it is thought that the 51st will not be mustered out for the present - It is thought the Government will retain the reenlisted veteran regiments, such as the 51st -- If that is so George will remain as he is for the summer, or most of it -- The reason I haven't seen him is, I knew they had left provost duty in the Prince st. prison, but didn't know where they had gone till Tuesday - I saw Capt. CALDWELL Tuesday, also Col. WRIGHT Tuesday night - they said they all have pleasant quarters over there.

Dear brother Jeff,

I was very sorry you wasn't able to come on to see the Review - we had perfect weather and everything just as it should be - the streets now are full of soldiers scattered around loose, as the armies are in camp near here getting ready to be mustered out. -- I am quite well and visited the Hospitals the same. --

Mother you didn't write whether you got the package of 5 Drum-Taps - I keep thinking about you every few minutes all day - I wish I was home a couple of days - Jeff, you will take this acc't of the Review, same as if it were written to you."

Walt.

*It should be noted that General Ulysses Simpson GRANT's Irish connection is through his paternal great-grandfather John SIMPSON who was born near Dungannon (Co. Tyrone) in 1738 and emigrated to Bucks Co. PA in 1763.

Thanks to Annie Lloyd for the following URLs:

RAF Museum: www.rafmuseum.org.uk

Imperial War Museum: www.iwm.org.uk

National Army Museum:
www.national-army-museum.ac.uk

The Army Museum Ogilby Trust:
www.armymuseums.org.uk

Royal Marines Museum:
www.royalmarinesmuseum.co.uk

National Maritime Museum: www.nmm.ac.uk

Royal Naval Museum: www.royalnavalmuseum.org

Great and Second World War Casualties:
www.great-war-casualties.com
www.great-war-2-casualties.com

Commonwealth War Graves Commission:
www.wgc.org.uk

Bristol Information:
www.bristolinformation.co.uk/gene

British Library Public Record:
www.blpc.bl.uk

Burke's Peerage:
www.burkes-peerage.net

From Annie Lloyd continued:

For some of our readers who are just beginners on the Internet, there is a very good article in the December 2003 issue of "Your Family History" which tells you how to use www.familysearch.org

All you ever wanted to know about Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square, in London is on their website: www.londontouristboard.co.uk

For more information on Charles I of England, you may want to check this website: www.historic_scotland.gov.uk

There is a new British magazine out called "Living History" published by Origin Publishing Co., in Bristol, England. www.livinghistorymagazine.co.uk
In their November 2003 issue there are two very good articles: 1) on Hadrian's Wall and how it was built, 2) "Crisis in the Crimea" which talks about this "little understood" war that was fought by Britain, France and Turkey against Russia in the 1850's. Both articles have maps, photos, drawings, and mentions why the war was fought. Hadrian's Wall today looks out on a beautiful, peaceful countryside.

Thanks to Nancy Bier for the Following:

Coat of Arms

If you would like to have your coat of arms, Family Tree, or other piece professionally created, call upon FINEHAND at:

www.finehand.co.uk

This firm is highly recommended by Burke's Peerage & Gentry and is an Official Supplier to Burke's. They offer illumination and calligraphy service and can do your piece using the finest of materials.

Scotch-Irish of Western Pennsylvania

Four counties of southwestern Pennsylvania were settled by two main groups of immigrants in the very earliest years. Allegheny, Fayette, Green, and Washington Counties had heavy populations of both Germans and those known as the Scotch - Irish.

In Washington County you can drive down streets today that bear names referring to the intrepid Irish

and Scotch-Irish. Names such as Irishtown Road, Dublin, and Armagh invoke visions of the early settlers. (By the way, the name Scotch-Irish was chosen by the people themselves and is what they called each other). Those who insist the name must be called Scots - Irish are bowing to current political correctness. These are the persons whose ancestors were originally Scottish by birth, migrated into Ireland, stayed a relatively short time and then came to America. Check the census records of 1850 for these families. You will also want to read as many early histories of these counties as possible.

Many of the earliest settlers came into Fayette County by way of eastern Pennsylvania counties such as York or Bedford and many came from the south by way of Virginia. If you are tracing lines through this region, be sure to look at the families in and around Augusta County Virginia. A few also came in from Maryland.

Books or pamphlets for tourism, those listing historic places, early maps (in detail), as well as biographies, can be most helpful in your research. Don't overlook any avenue of printed material in your search for the Scotch - Irish settlers of early Western Pennsylvania counties.

Thanks to 'Rod Bush's Genealogy Gleanings From the WWW' ©, Volume 7, Issue 52 (December 26, 2003 issue), for the following:

ENGLAND. Windsor and Eton Express Newspaper (updated). Articles mainly concerned events in the towns and villages of Buckinghamshire and Berkshire, but there are also a fair number of entries from Middlesex, Surrey, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, with strays from Devon, Kent, Ireland and Scotland, etc. Transcripts and indexes from about 200 issues, which have been taken from 1826-1842 (so late Georgian to early Victorian); includes 13,000+ names. Click on the index at the top of the page and follow the link to the "Alphabetic Index."

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~dutilleul/index.html>

You can subscribe to Rod's newsletter by sending an email request to his email address:

rodubush@earthlink.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Jan-2004

21 **The British Isles Genealogical Research Association (BIGRA)** will meet January 21, Wednesday, 12:30 to 3:30 P.M. at the Joyce Beers Community Center. Karen Jarrard will present the program: "Everyone Has a Story". Learn how to write those wonderful family stories and anecdotes for family books, articles or newsletters. Free, non-members welcome. Joyce Beers Community Center is located in San Diego, on Vermont Street in the Uptown Shopping District, one block north of University Avenue. Free underground parking at the north end of Vermont Street.

For information regarding this event or the organization, call 619-465-0266

23 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Technology for Genealogists – Andy Pomeroy; Irish Study Group, Irish Famine Records – Nancy Bier

Feb-2004

22 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Open Censuses of England & Wales 1841-1901 - Kay Devonshire; Computer Study Group, PowerPoint Presentations – Jim McNamara

Mar-2004

20 Nora Hickey of Cork, Ireland will lead a seminar, "How to Find Your Irish Ancestors", at Carlsbad Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad, CA, sponsored by BIGRA & North San Diego County Genealogical Society. Contact Marilyn Hoffman, 760-476-9289

28 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Adventures in Genealogy – Lecture & Study Group – **both by Nancy Bier**

Apr – 2004

3 Orange County California Genealogical Society & Irish – Scottish SIG are hosting an Irish Seminar by Kyle Betit of Salt Lake City. Saturday, April 3, 2004 at the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Street, Huntington Beach, CA – Room C – Lower Level. Registration begins at 12:30 PM, Seminar begins at 12:45. Topics include Determining your ancestors place of origin in Ireland, Griffith's Valuation of Ireland, & Freeholders, Freeman and Voting Records in Ireland. Cost is \$15.00 at the door, no pre-registration is necessary. For additional information, contact Muriel Fitzsimmons at (714) 962-4592 or genfitznh@aol.com

Apr-2004 (cont'd.)

April brings a fully guided genealogical and sightseeing tour of Ireland, England, & Wales. Brought to you courtesy of Nancy Bier, genealogist, and Ginger Aarons, of Time Travel Tours.

16-17 **Jamboree** in Pasadena, CA

25 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Shortcuts in British Genealogy – **Nancy Carlberg**, Study Group - TBA

May – 2004

Look for the guided tour for those studying the history and genealogy of the Scots-Irish in America. Travel through PA & VA up the Shenandoah and experience their lives as they struggle to settle the East Coast of our land. Tour led by Nancy Bier & Linda Jonas.

16 Sail on the QE2 with Nancy Bier and Ginger Aarons. Includes the Chelsea Flower Show, lectures on history on board the ship; then to Ireland for a week of fun, gardens filled with flowers, and history.

23 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Topics, TBD

Jun-2004

27 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Topics, TBD

Jul-2004

25 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Topics, TBD

27 Cemetery Research – Nancy Carlberg, at Carlsberg Library, NSDCGS (see Mar 20th)

Aug-2003

22 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Topics, TBD

Sept– 2004

8-11 The Federation of Genealogical Societies, Texas State Genealogical Society, and Austin Genealogical Society are inviting lecturers and researchers to submit lecture proposals for a combined conference to be held in Austin, Texas, Sept. 8-11, 2004. The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2003. The theme of the 2004 conference is, "Legends Live Forever: Researching the Past for Future Generations." Details at <http://www.fgs.org/fgs-speakerpolicy.htm>. ***BIFHS-USA will have a booth here and volunteers are needed.***

26 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Topics, TBD

Oct-2004

24 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Topics, TBD

Nov-2004

28 **BIFHS-USA General Meeting**, Topics, TBD

Dec-2004

10 **BIFHS-USA, Holiday Party**

URLs

British Isles:

- England-Scotland-Wales: <http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk> –
- If your ancestors worked in the Welsh coal fields: www.agor.org.uk/cwm
- In the past people have complained about their research being used without their permission on other people's websites. In the December issue of Family Tree Magazine a software programme called GEDmark was mentioned that will help you retain authorship of your tree, even when sharing it with other researchers. At the moment it is a free download at: www.progenysoftware.com/gedmark.html
- National Statistics of UK: <http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk>
- This is an alphabetical list of libraries and record offices: www.archivesinfo.net.co.uk -
- Online nationwide database: www.genesconnected.co.uk
- British Telephone directories – covers all the UK: www.bt.co.uk/directory-enquiries/dq_home.jsp
- Searchable index into Scottish Wills and Testaments from 1500 to 1901: www.scottishdocuments.com/content/default.asp
- Foreign and Commonwealth Offices: www.fco.gov.uk
- International telephone directories: www.infobel.com/teldir/default.asp
- A website to help people with emigration to and from Britain: <http://home.clara.net/tirbach/HelpPageemigration.html>
- National Archives at Kew: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk
- Family Records Centre, London: www.familyrecords.gov.uk/frc
- Society of Genealogists: www.sog.org.uk
- Oriental and India Office Collections, British Library: www.bl.uk/collections/orientalandindian.html
- Minister of Defence, includes the Marines, the Navy, and the Army: www.mod.uk

Photography: Interested in dating old photos, you might want to look at the following websites:

- Date Victorian and Edwardian Ladies: www.cartes.fsnet.co.uk/date/main.htm
- A History of Photography: www.rleggat.com/photohistory

Canals: Do you have ancestors who worked or lived on canals?

- National Waterways Museum: www.thewaterwaytrust.co.uk
- London Canal Museum: www.canalmuseum.org.uk
- Waterfolk Museum (Brecon and Monmouthshire): www.canaljunction.com
- Canalia: www.canalia.com (directory of sites)

From Ancestors (in Corroboration with Everton.com):

- **Free Genealogical Charts (All PDF Format):** <http://www.byubroadcasting.org/ancestors/charts/>
Includes: Pedigree Chart, Family Group Record, Research Questions, Research Log, Source Notes, Record Selection Guide, Timeline, Sources Checklist, Activities Sheet, etc.

From Gareth: Based on an informative feature in the current (December) issue of Family Tree Magazine – UK, selections of URLs added to Help Page in Emigration section: <http://home.clara.net/tirbach/HelpPageemigration.html>

Research Site: www.pcug.org.au/~ronwells It provides lines of descent from over 3000 medieval families, including most of the ruling dynasties in Europe and the Middle East, with some going back to the 6th century BCE. Emailed corrections, additions, and comments will be welcomed.

Ireland:

- English-Irish Dictionary: www.englishirishdictionary.com
- RC Parish Maps by County, shows all filmed records for each RC Parish in Ireland. Click on county and then parish to see what records exist: <http://scripts.ireland.com/ancestor/browse/counties/rcmaps/>
- Parish History Books, click on Ireland at top, Ireland books from drop down menu, and from next page, go to bottom and click on Parish History Books link, fifty books have been recently added. <http://www.connorsgenealogy.com>
Many researchers have their surnames and place names of interest posted here for several counties of Ireland. Post yours free.

Editor's Note: Much thanks to Annie Lloyd for many of these URLs.

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

From:

British Isles FHS –USA

2531 Sawtelle Blvd., PMB #134

Los Angeles, CA 90064-3124

Jan/Feb – 2004 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,

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"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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