



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

Newsletter

Sep/Oct-2005

Editor: Jim McNamara

GENERAL MEETINGS:

This Month – Sunday, 25 Sep 2005, 1:00 PM to – about 5 PM

Kay Ronald Devonshire - *Intermediate Scottish Research Seminar*

See Calendar of Events page 4 for details

Next Month – Sunday, 23 Oct 2005, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick - *Forensic Genealogy*

See Calendar of Events page 4 for details

English Study Group – **Janet Thomas**

Parish Registers

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:

Two weeks have set on our seminar, and have heard great things already. Many members have told us that they have hit pay dirt using the information from the seminar and syllabus. It is reassuring, thanks Linda for a great group of lectures. I am always impressed and amazed at how much new information you uncover each time out.

Many thanks are also due three key people, Annie Lloyd, Janet Thomas, and Nancy Bier. Without the efforts of these three people, this seminar would not have happened, and would not have been so successful. Many books were sold, the food was great and plentiful, and nearly 80 people were in attendance. Several door prizes were handed out, and I won one of the subscriptions to *Reunions* magazine. Some of the attendees came all the way from New Zealand, and during our breaks I enjoyed the opportunity to talk with all the people I met. A great way to spend a day.

Please complete the enclosed ballot and return by mail or in person at our November meeting. Also, see the enclosed surname registry and consider that many people are getting very positive results in a very short period of time, see Sue's story below.

Best regards to all,

Jim McNamara

Any and all comments welcome – JPMTCC@aol.com

COME ONE, COME ALL - JOIN THE SURNAME REGISTER!

By - Sue Wilson

All members have the opportunity to submit their surnames to the Surname Register. This form is enclosed in this newsletter. Entries are not limited to the British Isles. Your submissions will be printed in the BIFHS-USA Journal and placed on the Society website. Recently, I was contacted by a new cousin, Caroline Hall, who found my Catherine Campbell listing on the Surname Register. Gloria Hanks was also recently contacted by a new Canadian cousin for her Lynn family. If you prefer, you can obtain a Surname Registration Form at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/memberform.html>

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SEMINAR CHAIR

When I took on the responsibility of being Co-Chair along with Janet Thomas and Nancy Lee Bier, I knew we had a great seminar coming up because Linda Jonas was going to be our speaker. I want to thank all of you who came to the seminar. I know that you all enjoyed yourself. The food tasted so good. The attendees left the Rotunda Room with their arms filled with books - and I never made the book table!

Thanks,

Annie Lloyd

British Isles Family History Society – USA welcomes new members:

Name of New Member	City	State	Comments
Pam & Jean Cameron	San Pedro	CA	
Barbara Revo Brown	Port Hueneme	CA	3-year membership
Liz Stookesberry Myers	Alamitos	CA	Lifetime membership
Linda Jonas	McLean	VA	Renewed as a life member

President's Message:

This is a trying time for our country. Our prayers are with those in the path of Hurricane Katrina and all those whose families are affected by it.

We have elections coming up so I will be turning over the reins to someone else soon. Remember to send in your ballot or bring it to one of the meetings before November.

We had a very successful seminar in August with Linda Jonas speaking to us on Colonial Connections. I especially wish to thank Linda, Nancy Bier, Annie Lloyd, and Janet Thomas for all of their hard work. We also had many others working to make it a success - we'll have to do it again next year.

Sincerely,

Nancy Carlberg n_carlberg@hotmail.com

Antelope Valley Genealogical Society, Inc. Presents:

The 25th Annual Kin-Dig, Saturday, September 24, 2005 at the Antelope Valley Inn. For more information contact Helen Mendler (661) 270-9642 or at helemendler@earthlink.net
Or see Web Site: www.rootsweb.com/~caavgs/

North San Diego County Genealogical Society's Fall Seminar:

Five Genealogical Mavens present Case Study Journeys, features Carol Baird, Everett Ireland, Larry Brooks, Dorothy Miller, and Margaret Read. Saturday, September 24th, from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM, seating is limited. Location: Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, CA. Contact Fred Spong (858) 453-8469 or email Fred at: fspong@san.rr.com

British Isles Genealogical Research Association (BIGRA events):

Wednesday, September 21st at 12:30 to 3:30 PM. Program Meeting - *British Parish Records: Beyond the Basics*, presented by **Debby Horton**, professional genealogist, teacher, lecturer and volunteer, and Vice-President of the Southern California Chapter--Association of Professional Genealogists. **Location:** Joyce Beers Community Center in the Uptown Shopping District of Hillcrest, one block north of University Avenue. Free, lots of free parking.

Reservations are not necessary.

Saturday, October 8, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Fall Seminar presented jointly with San Diego Genealogical Society. *Smart Sources for Genealogists*. Paul Smart, who previously supervised the British area of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City for the past 23 years and has managed many other Family History Library operations, will discuss British periodicals, Colonial and British Isles research sites on the internet, hidden sources on www.FamilySearch.org, and family and local history Societies in Great Britain. **Fee:** \$25. for SDGS and BIGRA members, \$30 for non-members, includes catered lunch. **Reservations required by September 26th.**

Location: St. Andrew's Lutheran Church Hall, 8350 Lake Murray Blvd., San Diego. For information call Peter at 619-296-4456 or e-mail steelquist@aol.com. Flyers will be sent to local genealogical societies.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Sep-2005

7-10 FGS Convention at the Salt Lake Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah
If you are attending please let Nancy Carlberg know if you are able to help staff BIFHS-USA's booth. Thanks

25 **BIFHS-USA Program** Kay Ronald Devonshire speaks on **Intermediate Scottish Research**. This seminar will be a continuation of one she gave on beginning Scottish research in August 2004. She will cover further reading, five or six categories of records where one may have a good chance of finding one's ancestors, and the writing necessary to advance. This program will run a full 2 hours, so be prepared to really learn something.

Kay Ronald Devonshire has been involved in Scottish research for almost forty years. A member of the British Isles Family History Society-USA since 1988, she has served as both Program Chair and leader of the Scottish Studies Group. She is an annual lecturer for our society and a frequent contributor to our Journal.

While Kay learned about Scotland at her father's knee and on her many trips to Scotland, she earned a master's degree in modern European history and another in Teaching English as a Second Language. She will draw on those studies and her experience researching in Great Britain for her seminar, Strategies for the Intermediate Researcher Doing Scottish Family History.

Sep 30 to Oct 2

The Kelowna & District Genealogical Society in Kelowna, **BC, Canada** invite you to an outstanding genealogy seminar "Harvest Your Family Tree" on September 30, October 1, 2, 2005. Location: First Lutheran Church & School, Kelowna, BC. Acclaimed speakers from Scotland, England and Western Canada. Reception and panel of experts; 24 concurrent lectures, genealogical marketplace, guided tour of Kelowna City Cemetery. Online registration and brochure:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~bcdgs/seminar2005.htm>

Oct-2005

6-23 Research trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland
Nancy Bier will lead the annual trip into Ireland in the fall. There will be four days of research time in Dublin and four days in Belfast. Those who wish to sightsee on those days will be accommodated. The other days will be spent in the areas early reservations indicate are needed. Reservations are now being accepted. So far we

know we additionally will try to be in Cork and Mayo. Every effort will be made to individualize for research needs or interests.

Information and reservations through:

Ginger Aarons, CTC Time Travel
P.O. Box 23908
Portland, OR 97281-3908
Phone: 503-590-7127 Fax: 877-787-7807 (toll free) Cell: 503-421-0029
www.timetraveltours.com

23

BIFHS-USA Program - Forensic scientist and genealogists share the same goal - to find out who was who, and who did what and when. **Forensic Genealogy** emphasizes the creative parts of an investigation over the mechanics. It offers new ways of getting the most from your old references materials. Have you ever thought of looking at the edges of old photographs to find out if they are from the same roll, or the backs to place them in chronological order? Have you considered looking at a city directory to figure out if your ancestor and his wife lost any children? How about using DNA analysis to tie your family to the history and politics of a religious conflict? Forensic Genealogy can tell you how. Come join us to hear Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick, author of Forensic Genealogy, speak on this exciting new field of genealogical research.

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., is a recognized expert in optical laser measurement techniques, with many years experience developing innovative technologies for NASA, the National Science Foundation, and the Department of Defense. She received her B.A. in physics from Rice University, and her M.S. and Ph.D. in nuclear physics from Duke University. Dr. Fitzpatrick is co-owner of Rice Book Press, publishers of Forensic Genealogy. As one of the coordinators of the Orleans Parish (New Orleans) Rootsweb site, she has co-managed the transcription and posting of all the vital record indexes for New Orleans held at the Louisiana State Archives in Baton Rouge, allowing free internet access to over 2 million records. In Forensic Genealogy, Dr. Fitzpatrick shows that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to get the most from your genealogical materials.

15-16

DAR Library -- Conference on Early American Genealogical Research in Washington, D.C.,
Web: <http://www.dar.org/library/>
Email: egrundset@dar.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS, Cont'd.:

Nov-2005

27 **BIFHS-USA Program - Sharing Your Family History Experiences**

Traditionally, this program has been one of the best of the year. Come prepared to share keepsakes, successes and other uplifting experiences in your family history and in your research. In the past, we have seen wonderful family photos, documents, quilts, and many other items. Perhaps you have recent research success story to share with the group. Start thinking about what you would like to present now. Everyone has something to share.

Dec-2005

10 **Saturday - Annual BIFHS Holiday Potluck Party - Games, songs, good food, great times.**

In lieu of our regular December meeting, we will have a Christmas Party, with games and entertainment supplied by the members. This will be a potluck, and each member is asked to bring one of the following for dinner: a vegetable, salad, or dessert, the more "ethnic" the better. Identify it with a little card with the name of the dish you brought, with your name, so folk will know who made the delicious food.

As always, we will have a ham and turkey to provide the base for your accompaniments.

Virginia Genealogical Society Events - 2005

See: <http://www.vgs.org/events.htm>

- ☐ October 7 to 8, Fall Conference
"From Maryland to Virginia and Back Again...", in conjunction with the Maryland Genealogical Society and the Frederick County Genealogical Society in Frederick, Maryland. Contact info: 5001 West Broad Street, Suite 115
Richmond, Virginia, 23230-3023
Phone: (804) 285-8954, Email: mail@vgs.org

Suggestions for interviewing family elders and writing family histories at:

<http://www.birley.org/>

Surname Distributions Maps of Ireland, Scotland, and parts of UK:

<http://baz.perlmonk.org>

Note: scroll to bottom for these maps, scroll about half way down to see Scottish and Irish distribution maps in US

NEW 'Find Living Relatives' Service

Living Relatives is a unique system that enables you to tag a digital document so that all future users viewing the document will know there is a living relative associated with it. If they think there is a relationship they can make contact with you through a secure confidential email service. Living Relatives enables you to search for living relatives through the archive of tagged documents or view the image and read the notes to determine if there is a relationship between you and the person who has left the tag. If you think you have found a connection you can send a secure email, your email address is not revealed.

This announcement was from the National Archives, England at www.nationalarchivist.com/login.cfm

This service is free. You can freely search many of their databases.

Catholic University/Fenian Brotherhood

Database: <http://www.aladin.wrlc.org/dl/>

A summary of *Writing Your Family History – A Practical Guide* by author Deborah Cass follows:

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to notify you of a new book for family historians *Writing Your Family History - a practical guide* by Deborah Cass.

The book aims to inspire family historians not only to trace their family history but to write their family history, both for ease of reference and to distribute the story of their family amongst family members.

For family historians who have ever wished to see the story of their family in print, this book shows how to bring all your findings together and turn the names on a family tree into meaningful personalities to tell the story of your family.

Sections include: Wills, War Graves and Memorials, Surname Studies (including Geographic Distribution, One Name Studies, Changes and Variations in Surnames), Local and Social History and the value of the work of social reformers, Newspaper Archives, Personal Possessions, Visits to Ancestral Places,

Picture Postcards, Photographs, Family Anecdotes and Oral History, Diaries, Video Recordings and Home Movies, Describing Your Ancestors' Home, Married Life, Relationships between Parents and Children, Crime and Punishment, Health, Wealth, Migration, Emigration, Sensitivity and Sentimentality, Family Fables, Introducing Your Story, Spelling and Grammar, Chapters or Parts, Designing Your Cover and Publishing Your Story. All the above sections, and more, provide a guide to the family historian for gleaning as much information as possible from their research to write a comprehensive family history.

The book has been subject of several good reviews in *Your Family History*, *Practical Family History*, and various writing magazines. In April this year, the *Mail on Saturday* used the book for their feature on writing family history, using quotes from various sections to illustrate the feature.

As the author, I have been researching my family history for more than 25 years and wrote the book when I could not find anything on the market to satisfy my own need for advice and guidance when writing my family history. I have a passion for history and the past and write for the Mass Observation Archive at Sussex University.

I would be very grateful if you might inform your members of the book at any future meetings or feature it in any book lists or library your group may have. It can be viewed from the publisher's website at www.crowood.com (under Writing) and is available from Waterstones bookshops at £9.99. Amazon.uk (£6.99) and the publisher's website (£7.99) advertise the book at discounted prices and free delivery for multiple orders. I would also welcome any feedback on the book.

I hope you won't mind my approach, but I genuinely believe that recording a family's story is as important as researching a family line and is often overlooked in the desire to see how far back a family can be traced.

Yours sincerely,

Deborah Cass

Thanks to Annie Lloyd for the following on Castle Garden Port of Entry, NY

On August 1, New York State's first immigration processing center, Castle Garden, will celebrate its 150th birthday. To commemorate this Special occasion, the Battery Conservancy will launch its new website – www.CastleGarden.org - where researchers can do online searches of the expansive database of Castle Garden passenger lists!

Castle Garden first opened its doors on August 1, 1855 and would see 8 million immigrants pass through her doors in her 34-year reign! The passenger lists pertaining to these 8 million immigrants are currently found at the National Archives, and they are *not* indexed.

This monstrous project has been led by Dr. Ira Glazier, former Director of the Center for Migration Research at the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies and Immigration.

To learn more about the Castle Garden website, and to be notified of its official launch, please see: <http://www.CastleGarden.org>

Truly a dream come true for all those whose ancestors passed through the Castle!

Thanks to Annie Lloyd for forwarding the following from FFHS:

Today's edition of the Times included a report that, according to the Registrar General of England and Wales, there are to be changes to the way marriage registers and certificates are completed. A newly married person previously described as a "spinster" or a "bachelor" will in future be described instead as "single". Divorced men or women will continue to be described appropriately, as presumably will widows and widowers.

This will be effective from December 5th when the new Civil Partnership Act becomes law, as part of the Government's reforms to bring marriage law into line with the Act.

Geoff Riggs,
Director of Computer & Internet Facilities,
Federation of Family History Societies
www.ffhs.org.uk

[Submitted by: Annie Lloyd]

The Lancashire Registration District was created on 23rd May 2005 by the merger of the following "modern" Registration Districts:

- Burnley & Pendle
- Chorley
- Fleetwood & Fylde
- Hyndburn & Rossendale
- Lancaster
- Preston & South Ribble
- Ribble Valley
- West Lancashire

All events registered after the above date are being registered as the Lancashire District. For the purposes of family history research the original reference number and the 'old' district names will be retained.

Records from the old offices have moved into a new building, whose address is:

Lancashire Registration District

Certificate Services
Quayside Court
Chain Caul Way
Preston
PR2 2ZP

Following the merger, the District is currently experiencing an abnormally high demand for certificates. The Registrar staff are working through the orders as quickly as possible but would ask the applicant to be patient. It would help the staff if applications for historic certificates addressed to the office were accompanied by the local reference that is in use: for those registers already indexed as part of the UK BMD Project www.ukbmd.org.uk and can be obtained by visiting: www.lancashirebmd.org.uk

Thanks to Jane Lyons for the following at From-Ireland.net:

- Names of Immediate Lessors and Occupiers of Ballyroan Parish from the Griffiths Primary Valuation at: www.from-ireland.net/griffiths/laois/ballyroan.htm

- Names of Immediate Lessors and Occupiers of Ballyadams Parish from the Griffiths Primary Valuation at: www.from-ireland.net/griffiths/laois/ballyadams.htm

- Names of Immediate Lessors and Occupiers of Davidstown Parish from the Griffiths Primary Valuation at:

<http://www.from-ireland.net/griffiths/kildare/davidstown.htm>

- Extracts from Cooke's Memoirs of Youghal, 1749. Published in the Journal of the Cork Archaeological & Historical Society, 1903:

<http://www.from-ireland.net/history/cork/cookeyoughal.htm>

- Transcribed articles from the first few issues of King's County Chronicle at:

<http://www.from-ireland.net/news/off/kingsindex.htm>

Libraries and Archives Canada now has 1911 Census on-line and searchable at:

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/index-e.html>

Click on the 'Search Archival Materials' link to get access to available resources, some of which are:

List of Research Tools

- Colonial Archives
- Courts-Martial of the First World War
- Diaries of William Lyon Mackenzie King
- **Documentary Art**
- **Census Research Tools**
 - Census Microfilm Reels from 1666 to 1901
 - Census of Ontario, 1871
 - Census of Canada, 1901
 - Census of the Northwest Provinces, 1906
 - Census of Canada, 1911 [NEW]
- Film, Video and Sound
- **Government of Canada Files**
 - Cabinet Conclusions
 - Métis Scrip
 - Orders-in-Council (1867-1882)
 - War Diaries of the First World War
- Home Children (1869-1930)
- Immigrant Records (1925-1935)
- **Photographs**
 - Canadian Nurses
 - War Records Manufacturing Series (WRM)
- Prime Ministers' Fonds
- Soldiers of the First World War (1914-1918)
- Soldiers of the South African War (1899-1902)
- Western Land Grants (1870-1930)
- **Maps, Plans and Charts Research Tools**

From:

British Isles FHS – USA

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

Sep/Oct – 2005 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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