



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

Newsletter

May/Jun 2007

Guest Editor: Annie Lloyd

GENERAL MEETINGS

This Month: Sunday, May 27th, 2007, 1:00 to 3:00 PM

BIFHS-USA General Meeting

Researching Immigration into Canada

Debby Horton

(see page 9 for more information)

Scottish Study Group – 3:30 to 5:00 PM

Jill Kirby, Group Leader

Next Month: Sunday, June 24th, 2007, 1:00-3:30PM

BIFHS-USA General Meeting

Time Lines: A Tool for Family Historians (English and Scottish)

Kay Ronald Devonshire

(see page 9 for details)

No study group this month

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 (email addresses on back page).

Visit the BIFHS–USA website at www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa

Guest Editor's Note:

When Jim McNamara mentioned he was leaving in late March 2007 for a trip to Ireland and Scotland he said he had to find someone to do the newsletter for May/June 2007. I said if you can't find someone, I'll do it for you. So, I'm guest Editor this month. I've heard from Jim and he's having a great time. He was spending a couple of days in Swansea, Wales.

I was very pleased this past month to find my father on a passenger list leaving the UK in March 1913 from Southampton, England into the Port of New York. I had known for years the date my father left for America (it was written in the Bible that he brought with him, which I still have.) I have a copy of the manifest of the ship arriving in the Port of New York but it is still nice to see his name listed on the departure records. When I was a child, I asked my father what he thought when he arrived in the USA. He said the ship, (Cunard Line S. S. Mauritania) sailed into New York Harbor and he saw the most beautiful statue he had ever seen — the Statue of Liberty. At the time he came, everyone was leaving the Old World for the New World. These people who immigrated at that time, did not go back to the Old World. It was old and out of date, whether it was or not, they thought so. For that matter, my father having come to the USA with a position as an Electrical Engineer with the Edison Company of Detroit, Michigan, never returned home. He had three chances to return in the late 1940's and early 1950's aboard the Queen Mary, First Class. He said he wanted to remember his home town in South Wales as it was so we didn't go.

Usually when the immigrant will not return home, his child does as I did, in July 1989 when I went back to see where my father came from. Once I saw the town in one of the valleys of South Wales, I knew why he didn't return. I wouldn't have gone back myself. The house where my father had been born, had been torn down years before. But, I was able to see the building that had housed my grandfather's store – he was a Master Draper, which meant he owned his own clothing store. I saw the Chapel where he had been a Deacon (Elder) that was being torn down. I was able to find my grandparents' graves and the grave of my Uncle Emrys. There were other relatives buried in that cemetery that I should have looked up but I didn't. I went back once to put flowers on my grandparents' grave. It was a strange experience looking at that large black slate gravestone and realizing that I never knew these people. I have a photo of my grandmother who died in 1897 and one of my grandfather taken before he died in 1908. There is no one left alive who can tell me anything about them. Oh, I have their birth, marriage and death certificates, my grandfather's will, my grandmother's Letter of Administration, I have them on the censuses and I know the names of their parents and grandparents, brothers and sisters, but I don't know what their personal lives were like. That's what makes family history so interesting — the little things your ancestors did. For instance, one of my ancestors could jump on his horse, without a saddle, at over age 80. I know this because a third cousin of mine told me so. No one on my side of the family ever knew that.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter as much as I did doing it for you. I have tried to spread the news around through all four countries — England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales – as well as some American.

And I want to thank Dorothy Losee for proofing this paper. I miss you, Dorothy.

Sincerely,

Annie Lloyd

1st Vice President (Programs)

vp-programs@bifhsusa.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In April, we had a good crowd for the outstanding **IRISH LECTURE** by the renowned Irish genealogist **NORA M. HICKEY**, who is currently touring the country. I would like to thank all those who made a donation to help defray the cost of her visit.

Also at our April meeting, this year's **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** was established. A huge "thank you" to **Dolores Andersen** <dorsie2@pacbell.net>, **Lee Norwood** <lbnorwood@aol.com>, and **Fran Smith** <fsmith@dslextreme.com> for their willingness to serve on this important committee. Don't wait for one of them to contact you. If you're available to serve on the Board, please express your interest.

Plans for this year's **SEMINAR** on August 25th are shaping up nicely, and we look forward to a spectacular event featuring renowned genealogist, author, and lecturer Dr. Arlene H. Eakle in her only Southern California appearance this year. We are also pleased to have our very own experts Nancy Ellen Carlberg and Jim McNamara offering sessions on beginning Irish research and Internet resources. A seminar flyer with registration form is included with this issue of the newsletter. Early registration is advised — not only to take advantage of a lower price (\$55 to BIFHS–USA members if postmarked by July 21 vs \$65 to members July 22-August 10) but also to be sure of securing your place at the event. Dr. Eakle has a dedicated following, and she'll be advertising via her own mailing list within the next week or two. The maximum number of attendees will be 80.

Also in this issue, we're pleased to introduce **SOCIETY EMAIL ADDRESSES** (@bifhsusa.org) for selected positions. Thanks to Terry Brown's suggestion and Bruce Hamilton's implementation, you can now send email to an officer at a standardized address — such as president@bifhsusa.org. The new addresses are listed on the back page of the newsletter. They're easy to remember, and they don't have to be changed when new people take office.

On page 4, you'll see an announcement of the availability of **SOCIETY MERCHANDISE** at www.cafepress.com/bifhsusa — apparel, housewares, hats, bags, and more — all with the society logo. We hope you will purchase these items to "show the flag" for the society, and to help us financially. A dollar or two of each purchase comes to the BIFHS–USA. Thanks to Terry Brown for setting this up, also to my wife, Gail Said Johnson, for recreating the society logo in two versions (color, and black and white) for use on merchandise as well as publications and — soon — the society's website.

Ivan C. Johnson
president@bifhsusa.org

IN MEMORIAM

Heartfelt condolences to family and friends of **Lowell "Pat" Patton**, a BIFHS–USA life member and former director of the L.A. Regional Family History Center, who passed away on Monday, April 2, 2007, following a lengthy illness.

IN DESPERATE NEED OF JOURNAL ARTICLES



In a volunteer organization such as ours, there is no easy way to ensure that there is sufficient material to fill an issue of the journal every six months. Unfortunately, the first issue for 2007 is behind schedule because too few articles have been submitted. If you can help out, please send your article(s) to journal@bifhsusa.org (we don't know you have something to say unless you tell us). Thanks.

— **Gail Said Johnson**, Journal Editor

BIFHS–USA MERCHANDISE



These items (AND MORE!) now available at www.cafepress.com/bifhsusa
(For additional information, see "President's Message" on page 3.)

LIBRARY DONATIONS

Exchange Journals. BIFHS–USA regularly receives journals from other societies, which are added to the collection at the L.A. Regional Family History Center (LARFHC). Recent additions include journals from the following organizations: Bedfordshire FHS, Birmingham and Midland FHS, Bristol and Avon FHS, British Columbia FHS, Cardiganshire FHS, Dorset FHS, Glamorgan FHS, Glasgow FHS, Gwent FHS, Herefordshire FHS, Huddersfield FHS, Manchester FHS, North West Kent FHS, Suffolk FHS, and Sussex FHS. Copies of the tables of contents have been posted on the society's website at www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/journal/exchange. Thanks (again) to Terry Brown for scanning the tables of contents and to Gail Said Johnson for updating the web pages.

Books. The society recently donated the following books to the LARFHC. (Please note that it can take some time for donations to be cataloged and placed on the shelves.)

- Arcott, David, *East Sussex Events* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2003)
Chitham, Edward, *Rowley Regis: A History* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2006)
Hoskins, W. G., *Devon* (The Federation of Family History Societies, Ltd., 2006)
Hunt, Julian and David Thorpe, *Gerrards Cross: A History* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2006)
Hylton, Stuart, *A History of Manchester* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2003)
Jeremiah, Josephine, *The River Nene: A Pictorial History* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2003)
Leppard, M. J., *100 Buildings of East Grinstead* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2006)
Litton, Pauline M., *Basic Facts about Family History Research in Yorkshire, Second Edition* (The Federation of Family History Societies, Ltd., 2006)
Maryfield, Pamela, *Staines: A History* (The Federation of Family History Societies, Ltd., 2006)
Mitchell, W. R., *Skipton and the Craven Dales* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2006)
Standing, R. W., *East Reston & Kingston: An Illustrated History* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2006)
Taylor, Alan, *Stoke-on-Trent: A History* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2003)
Toms, Carel, *St Peter Port: People & Places* (The Federation of Family History Societies, Ltd., 2003)
Trinder, Barrie, *Beyond the Bridges: The Suburbs of Shrewsbury 1760-1960* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2006)
White, Andrew, *Lancaster: A History* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2003)
Williams, Judith, *Wickford: A History* (Phillimore & Co., Ltd., 2006)

ANCESTRY.COM

Ancestry.com has provided free access of its system to the LDS Family History Centers. As of April 1, 2007, the service was discontinued by Ancestry.com. According to what your Guest Editor was told, Ancestry.com wanted the LDS Church to pay a fee for each of its centers to use their system. LDS wanted the Centers to independently purchase the system but Ancestry.com refused to do that. Ancestry.com will still give free access to the 1880, 1900 and 1920 US censuses, a full name index for the British 1841 thru 1891 (England and Wales only), the World War One Draft cards index and some other databases.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The LDS Church is asking for volunteers to index the 1900 US Census. When this census index is completed, it will be placed on their website: www.familysearch.org and anyone may look at it for free.

WANT TO LEARN THE IRISH LANGUAGE

Jim McNamara has asked that this link be put in the newsletter: www.philo-celtic.com/. It's a society for the advancement and learning of the Irish language. They may be a charge for the material and likely for memberships. Serious researchers will have a strong interest in being able to have a source to advice for translations.

1911 CENSUS

The National Archives is delighted to announce that Scotland Online will partner with the UK Government's official archive in the forthcoming project to put the 1911 Census for England and Wales online. Scotland Online was established in 1995. In partnership with the General Register Office for Scotland (GROS), Scotland Online established what is now one of the world's leading genealogy websites: ScotlandsPeople (www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk). The 1911 census is huge: it has info on approx. 35 million people then living in England and Wales. The public will have full access of the entire 1911 census starting 3 January 2012.

WALES-OHIO PROJECT

The National Library of Wales has started work on the “Wales-Ohio Project” ([//ohio.llgc.org.uk/index.php?lang=en](http://ohio.llgc.org.uk/index.php?lang=en)) and would like to hear from any of our readers who have Welsh ancestors who came to Ohio. Thanks to Barbara Garrett for this information.

WELSH SITE

Welsh Mariners — an online index of 22,000 Welsh merchant masters, mates and engineers 1800-1945 compiled by Dr. Reg Davies. See: www.welshmariners.org.uk

PRE 1841 CENSUS FOR HACKNEY

At the March 2007 BIFHS-USA meeting, someone asked where the pre-1841 censuses were for Hackney (London). The 1811, 1821 and 1831 censuses are at the Hackey Archives, 43 De Beauvoir Road, London N1 5SQ or email: archives@hackney.gov.uk. Personal name indexes of the 1811 and 1821 censuses have been published by the East of London FHS. However, be sure and look at the Family History Library Catalog as LDS has filmed these records.

NEW MEMBERS

November 2006	Peggy Park Bernal of Rowland Heights, CA
January 2007	Gerald & Arlene Dain of Goleta, CA (A 3 year family membership) Kathleen M. Smith of Los Angeles
February 2007	Ann Middlekamp of Pueblo, CO
March 2007	Rita C. Akers of Santa Monica, CA

Thanks to Terry Brown our Second Vice President-Membership for this information.

THIS WAS ON THE INTERNET

A DIVORCE in England and Wales could only be secured by the passing of a private Act of Parliament until the Matrimonial Causes Act of 1857. There was no official system of ADOPTION before 1927, although the word itself was used for guardianship or fostering. What is the difference between a christening and a baptism? A CHRISTENING happened soon after the birth. A BAPTISM could happen months or years later.

SAIL INTO THE PAST ABOARD THE QUEEN MARY

**Attend the 20th Annual British Isles FHS–USA Seminar
to be held the 7-9 August 2008 in Long Beach, CA**

An impressive lineup of internationally renowned speakers – including Michael Gandy (England), Fintan Mullen (Ireland), and Judith Eccles Wight (Scotland) – will lecture on all aspects of research in the British Isles, of interest to the beginner, intermediate and advanced researcher. Other topics will include UK Internet Research and Colonial Connections.

More information to follow...

NEW IRISH RESEARCH INDEX

Dome Shadow Press (www.domeshadowpress.com) has a new pre-famine source for Irish social and geographic history. "Tithe Applotment Books of County Longford (1823-1835)" has a full name index of over 12,600 male and female tithe payers, consisting of landlords, immediate lessors and tenants. Lots more as well.

COMMON NAMES FOR DISEASES

Good site that translates some common names for diseases: <http://eponyms.net>

TRANSCRIPTION OF IRISH RECORDS

Transcription of exactly 100 pages of birth, marriage and death records from Quaker registers for the counties of Carlow, Cork, Dublin, Laois, Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford has been done by volunteers from Y-IRL and IRL-Carlow. Covers approx 3,000 records mostly from the 1700's to the early 1800's. See: <http://tinyurl.com/y9ekf9>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 16-19, 2007: NGS Conference and Family History Fair (Richmond, Virginia). See www.ngsgenealogy.org/

May 27, 2007 (1:00PM): BIFHS–USA Meeting – Researching Immigration into Canada. Speaker Debby Horton's genealogical education includes advanced courses with the National Institute for Genealogical Studies at the University of Toronto, in the fields of American, Canadian, English and German Records. Debby specializes in internet research, research methodology, and British and French Canadian records. Also: **Scottish Study Group** (3:30PM).

June 8-10, 2007: SCGS Jamboree and Resource Expo (Burbank Airport Hilton and Convention Center) will feature some of genealogy's most respected and entertaining speakers; also, an intense Family History Writers Conference (on Sunday, the 10th). More information at www.scgsgenealogy.com

June 16, 2007: Irish Genealogy Conference (Ridgewood, New Jersey) featuring Fintan Mullan and Dr. Brian Trainor. See www.rootsweb.com/~njgsbc/

June 24, 2007 (1:00PM): BIFHS–USA General Meeting – Time Lines: A Tool for Family Historians (English and Scottish). Our speaker, Kay Ronald Devonshire, has been involved in Scottish research for almost forty years. A member of BIFHS–USA since 1988, she has served as both Program Chair and leader of the Scottish Study 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 on her experience researching in Great Britain for this talk.

June 24-29, 2007: Ohio Genealogical Society Summer Genealogy Workshop (Mansfield, OH) will include presentations on Pennsylvania, Virginia, New England, and Scots-Irish research. For details, see www.ogs.org/2007workshop.php

August 15-18, 2007: FGS Conference (Fort Wayne, Indiana) includes a "British Isles Track" (August 18) with presentations by Dean Hunter, Paul Milner, and Steven Myers. See www.fgsconference.org/program.php

August 25, 2007: BIFHS–USA's 19th Annual Seminar – Chasing Your Ancestors 'Round the U.K. & Ireland: Origins and Migrations. Location: Veterans Memorial Complex, Culver City. Speakers: Dr. Arlene H. Eakle (in her only 2007 Southern California appearance), Nancy Ellen Carlberg, and James McNamara. Flyer and registration form included with this newsletter. See also www.rootsweb.com/~bifhsusa/seminar

September 19-October 1, 2007: Dick Eastman to be the featured speaker on a 12-day Legacy Cruise to Hawaii. See: www.legacyfamilytree.com/Cruiseinfo_2007.asp

September 22, 2007: Fife Family History Fair (Rothes Hall in Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland) features speakers from England, Ireland, and Scotland who will highlight the differences in how records have been maintained, what information can be found, and where to find it. See www.fifefamilyhistoryfair.org.uk

From:

British Isles FHS – USA

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

May/Jun 2007 Newsletter

“First Class”

To:

Please look at mailing label for your membership expiration date and renew promptly. Individual membership \$25; family \$30; individual life \$250; family life \$300. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

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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