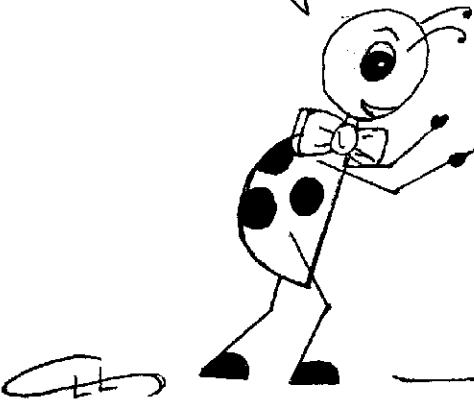
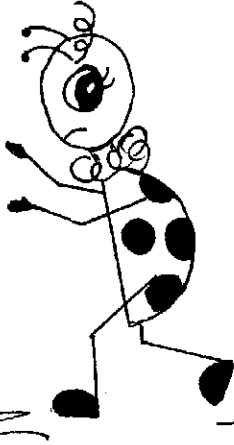


It's 2003! Do you know where your Great-Grandparents are?



2003						
JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



NEWSLETTER FOR THE YELLOWSTONE GENEALOGY FORUM BILLINGS, MONTANA JANUARY 2003

YGF FALL CLASSES HELD

Hello once again! Jason Herman here telling you a bit of what happened when the Yellowstone Genealogy Forum's fall classes were held on the following dates--October 12, 19, 26 and November 2 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 1000 Wicks Lane in the LDS Church.

Once again we covered a lot of information in a short period of time and the topics that were covered were: Church Records, Family History Center Library and Catalog, Internet Research and tidbits, Military Records (Civil War), Land Records (BLM), Researching Siblings, Court Records, Immigration/Naturalization/Passenger Lists/Ship Lists/Ports of Entry.

The following people attended the classes: Agnes Cowger, Virginia Alderman, Ellen Booth, Ralph & Sandy Cook, Shellie Ehrmantraut, Sydney Gabel, Joyce Hansen, Rick Hutchinson, Sharon Kennedy, Katherine Kucera, Linda Lang, Louise LaRue, Dottie Lowman, Deanna Marsh, JoAnne Miller, Lorraine Ondov, Kathryn Picket, Dorothy Porter, Carol Powalisz, Paul Reeder, Tina Standish, Mardi Steinbacher, Marien Stolzenberg, Donna Sweeney, Rose Sylling, Marion Taylor, Clarence Trushenski, Mary Whitmore, Georgene Wild, Sharon Wolske and Ruth Wood.

I would like to thank the following people who taught the classes: Suzanne McPherson, Athna May Porter, Al Page, PJ Smith, Sue-Ann Jacobson, Attorney Jim Thompson, and Ann Ferguson. Also Judy Cohen for her help and to Donna Jones for allowing us to once again use the LDS

Church to hold the classes.

In closing I hope that the classes that were put on helped you either get started or helped you to look in a different direction with your genealogy. In either case I hope you gathered lots of information to extend your research and to continue your quest to find your ancestors. Good Luck!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Each new year is a new beginning. It's like receiving an empty ledger. How will you fill the empty pages?

As members of the Yellowstone Genealogy Forum, we should be thinking of what ways we can help our society fill its pages.

Having the Library Bond Levy fail is a set back to enlarging our Gen-Room. However, there is much we can do. There's a need for:

1. Manning the Gen-Room and helping others use what we have.
2. Answering queries. Several people are needed.
3. Extracting the 1930 Yellowstone County, Montana Census film.
4. Becoming an officer of YGF.

It is hoped that each member will help make our "Forum" better by participating in some way. Can you fill a page or two?

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

It is the beginning of a new year. Interesting how it has come about. I didn't 'ask' for it, I didn't 'buy' it, I didn't make a 'trade' for it. Yet I couldn't help but assume that it would come, whether I deserved it or not. So now that the new year is here, genealogically speaking, what am I going to 'do' with it?

I'm not talking about every day research. I'm talking about a plan. What do you PLAN to research this year? Sometimes our plan is too general and we spend the entire year bouncing around from family to family. Maybe this is the year you will vow to learn something new about researching.

Carefully sit down with your pile of genealogy and get a plan together. To say "I'm going to work on the Johnson line" may be too general of a plan. How about this: This year I am going to learn how to research in Sweden starting with my Harry Johnson line. Now this is a learning plan. First you will make a 'time line' for Harry....work his immigration information such as naturalization and passenger records. Then hopefully finding the village that he came from in Sweden, you can begin to educate yourself about patronymic name practices, parish records and census records.

If you are assuming that NEXT year will come, you will be glad that you planned this year so well. Don't get caught without a plan.

Suzanne McPherson

STARTING THIS YEARS RESEARCH OFF RIGHT

Here are a few things to remember during your genealogical research:

- Don't Misspell the Word Genealogy
- Don't Trust Everything You See in Print
- Don't Be Satisfied with Names and Dates
- Don't Accept Family Legends Without Question
- Don't Limit Yourself to the Current Spelling of Your Surname
- Don't Neglect to Write Down Your Sources
- Don't Assume That Everything You Find On the Internet is Reliable
- Don't put Off Talking to Relatives

-----shared by Sue-Ann Jacobson

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN REPORT

by Shawna Valentine

Address changes since our last newsletter are included in the attached updated membership list. Our newest members are also included in the roster, but we would like to welcome them here as well.

Barbara A. Gibson, 8509 Harbor Club Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93312. Ph 661-588-2616. She is researching the following names: McDonald, Cain, Vincent, McIntosh, Cameron, Thomson, Johnson, & Poston.

Pam B. Wagner, 2813 Orchard Dr., Billings, MT 59102. Ph 248-6294. Pam is known to many of us from her work at the Belvedere Family History Center.

LIBRARY FUND

Although the Gen-Room is secure within the Parmly Billings Library for the moment, the YFG Board feels it is in our society's best interest to plan and be prepared for the future. If the library does move to another facility someday, it is very probable (and hopeful) that our new room will not be the exact dimensions as our current space so additional shelving will need to be purchased. It is also our dream, if we had the space, to supply our room with a copier. However, such improvements cost money and the best way to be prepared for the future of our Gen-Room is to start saving today. Consequently, a separate fund has been set up called the "Library Fund". This fund is similar to the NARA & Book Funds, which have been in place for years. Money earmarked for the "Library Fund" will be set aside and spent only for physical needs of the Gen-Room--NOT for books or any type of research materials. As is the case with our two other special funds, contributions to the "Library Fund" will go through the Forum's Membership Chairman who currently is Shawna Valentine. Checks should be made payable to YGF, but please note that it is a "Library Fund" contribution. The mailing address is: Shawna Valentine, 3420 Granger So. # 20, Billings, Montana 59102. Our Gen-Room is an essential research tool for our society. We need to start preparing today to keep it operational in the future.

Dear Professional Genealogist: "Please trace my genealogy back to Noah, and do you know when the Flood passenger lists will be online?"
--Anonymous



THE HIDDEN HALF OF THE FAMILY A SOURCEBOOK FOR WOMEN'S GENEALOGY by Christina Kassabian Schaefer, CGRS, Copyright and printed in 1999.

In South Carolina, divorce was illegal until 1949. In Maryland a marriage license was required after 1777, but not until 1877 in Illinois. What do these facts have to do with anything?

A woman's identity was usually under that of her husband. Ms. Schaefer provides examples of alternate ways of examining traditional sources for research. Discussed are Land Records, Guardianship Records, Probate and Will Records, just to name a few.

This splendid, easy to use book lists reference tools available for researching genealogy of women in the U.S. from the 1600's to the beginning of WWII, arranged by state. It is amazing as the information shows how women have been written out of genealogical history, informative because it demonstrates that identities can be recovered.

This sourcebook highlights laws that indicate when a woman could own real estate in her own name, sign a will, enter into contracts, etc. Discussed also is the subject of marriage and divorce law, immigration, citizenship, passports, military records, suffrage, welfare and census records. The introduction contains a time line of events since the American Revolution.

Whether the woman you are searching is listed under maiden name, married name, patronymic/matronymic, surnames or some other permutation or hidden under such terms as Mrs., Mistress, goodwife, "wife of" or "daughter of", it is clear that women are hard to find. The legal status at any point in time is the key to unraveling the identity of female ancestors.

Go to the Gen Room at the library and look at this book that is on the shelf on the west wall in the room. I found it fascinating!!

by Donna McKamy

NEW BOOKS IN THE GEN ROOM

by Ellen Cushing

1. Roosevelt County's (MT) "Treasured Years"
 2. Headwaters Heritage History (Three Forks Area, MT)
 3. They Gazed on the Beartooths (Stillwater Co. MT)
- Donated:
4. Coyote, 1954, 1957, 1959 (Chester, MT High School Yearbooks)
 5. Conejo Valley (CA) Surname Register
 6. A Dutch-English Odyssey: Stories of Brewer & Estey Families in North America 1636-1996

Reminder: A listing of the Gen Room inventory can be found on the Forum's website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mtygf/>

LATEST PERIODICALS FOR THE GEN-ROOM

October 2002--January 2003

by Athna May Porter

If you have unwanted periodicals that you would like to donate or would like to donate a subscription to a periodical, call Athna May Porter, 259-2552 or e-mail porter@imt.net

1. Family Chronicle - Nov/Dec 2002; Jan/-Feb 2003
2. New England Historical & Gen. Register - Oct 2002 #157
3. Family Tree Magazine -Feb 2003
4. Forum -FGS Society Quarterly -Summer 2001; Spring 2002, Winter 2002
5. Germans from Russia Historical Society Heritage Review - Dec. 2002
6. GRHS Newsletter - Dec 2002
7. Heritage Quest - Nov/Dec 2002
8. Heritage Quest Update Newsletter - August 2002
9. History Magazine - Oct/Nov 2002; Dec/-Jan 2003
10. Journal of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia Summer & Fall 2002
11. American Historical Society of Germans from Russia Newsletter Fall/Winter 2002
12. NGS Newsmagazine - Sept/Oct 2002; Nov/Dec 2002
13. National Genealogical Society Quarterly - Sept 2002
14. New England Ancestors -Holiday 2002
15. Daughters of the American Revolution - Owned by Parmlly

(continued on next page)

Three family newsletters
that we receive regularly

Bunnell/Bonnell Newsletter

Guest - Guest Quarterly

The Chandler Family Association Newsletter

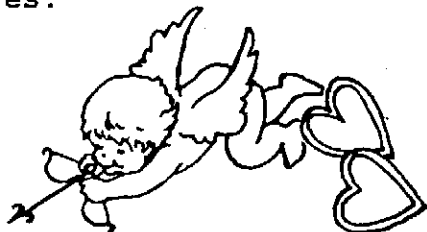
NEW MEMBERSHIP LIST

As per our usual January issue, please find the updated 2003 membership list enclosed. You should find it very useful so please keep it for handy reference near your phone or computer.

P. WILLIAM FILBY DIES

P. William Filby is a name most genealogy researchers recognize.

Mr. Filby died at Savage, Maryland on 2 November 2002. He was born in Cambridge England in 1911. In his lifetime he published many books. His Passenger & Immigration Lists Index series have helped many find an ancestor. In addition to publishing he was a popular speaker and wrote many genealogical articles.



IT'S RELATIVE

A mother took her son to visit his grandmother. When they arrived, the boy ran to a large pecan tree in the front yard, put his arms around the massive trunk and asked, "Is this the family tree?"

---Capper's Weekly

14th Annual

Montana State Genealogical Society Conference

Sagebrush, Soddies, and Steam Engines

Hosted by the Chester, Chinook, Havre and Cut Bank Societies



September 26-27, 2003

Best Western Great Northern Inn

1345 First Street

Havre, Montana

Featuring: Christine Rose, CG, CGL, FASG

Christine Rose is a certified national genealogical lecturer and full-time professional with many years of experience. She travels extensively and has researched in over 500 courthouses and in many repositories. She has presented lectures at national conferences and for many genealogical societies. She was an instructor at the Samford Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research in Birmingham, and she lectures extensively at local and regional seminars. She has several self-published books including *Nicknames: Past and Present* and the *Handbook for Family Associations: Organization and Management*.

Christine's four lectures during the Conference will be:

- ◆ Federal Land Records
- ◆ Military Records for Problem Solving
- ◆ Successful Courthouse Research
- ◆ Using Little Known and Neglected Sources: A Potpourri

Sylvia Murray, a local accredited genealogist, will also be a presenter.

Later this year registration forms will be available on the Montana State Genealogical Society web site: www.Rootsweb.com/~mtmsg

MSGS CONFERENCE FLYER

An early flier for the fall conference scheduled for Havre, Montana, September 26 & 27, 2003 is shown above. Post these dates on your calendar. ***

CUSTER CEMETERY ONLINE

Cleve Kimmel notified your Editor in November that the Custer Cemetery was placed on line at: <http://www.internment.net/data/us/mt/yellowstone/custer/custer.htm> (do not use the hyphen in the address)

Cleve commented that "The data doesn't match the data in our book. Both have names that aren't in the other one. There is quite a disparity. I have the site linked to our Cemetery listing." If you are familiar with the Custer cemetery, check this site out.

HOW I SOLVED IT

When I began my research on Julius LaDuke/LeDuc, I had information from various vital records and U.S. censuses for Julius and his children, which conflicted with Juilius' birth being either in Michigan or Canada. After three years of research for Michigan, and finding not one record to verify that he had even stepped foot there, I made the assumption that he had passed through Michigan to enter the United States. One family story is that while he lived in Colorado, he sent for his second wife, Celina Bouchee/Bougie as a mail order bride from Canada and that he father, Napoleon, and family came with her. After some in-depth studying of How to Research Canada books, I decided to take a plunge into the Quebec Canadian censuses that are in French. I felt that even though I could not read the language, it was time to get my feet wet with the easiest type of records and to learn as I go. (Isn't that what researchers do on every topic, learn as we go?) So what Canadian census should I order and from what town? I knew that Julius was born in the early 1840's and that he had married his first wife, from Iowa, about 1875. (Rumor is that he had murdered her...) Good genealogists always work backwards so I figured that the 1871 census would be my best bet to begin with. For which town to begin with, I knew that Julius had a brother named Onesine LeDuc and going through the International Genealogical Index found at the Family History Centers and on the Internet at www.familysearch.org, I found an Onesine, but he was too old to be my great-uncle. Because of the unusual name, I wondered if this man could be related. Therefore I ordered the 1871 Canadian census from where this older Onesine lived and by going line by line I found him listed. A good genealogist always looks at the complete county census, even after finding their families, and since I was impressing myself by learning the French words of the census, I continued on and ten pages later I hit pay dirt! Listed was not only Julius and brother, Onesine LeDuc, parents and other siblings, there was a second wife, Celina Bougie with her father, Napoleon. They lived just down the road from each other! (Some mail-order bride!) My assumption is that Julius sent for his brother, Onesine, to join him in the lumber business in Colorado and Onesine brought the Bougie

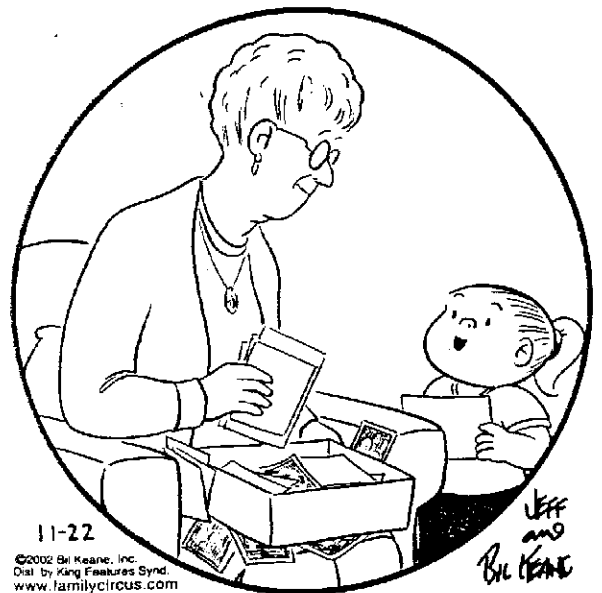
family with him. Since I located the family on an Island in the middle of the St. Lawrence River, my assumption that they came through Michigan holds a lot of water. Because of the Canadian censuses, Catholic Church records and lineage books, I have been able to trace the LeDuc line back to 1650 in France. The moral of the story is to use and analyze those priceless indexes that are at the FHC and on the Internet and above all do not be afraid of the foreign records. Some times you need to plunge in head first to learn valuable lessons that can work with your other roadblocks. I used this same technique with my German research. My village records were not filmed, but surrounding villages were. By doing those church records, I was able to put complete families together that tied in with my direct lines. I found that my families did not move very far down the road until their journey to America. Happy Researching!

Athna May Porter

COOKBOOKS

The Montana State Genealogical Society's cookbook, which many of us contributed our ancestor's recipes to, has been printed and is available at \$8.00 a copy. Please contact Verba Valentine if you are interested in purchasing a copy at 656-9840 or blgsmarket@aol.com.

FAMILY CIRCUS



11-22

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www.familycircus.com

"But it's not a color picture, Grandma. How do you KNOW your honeymoon dress was blue?"