



CHEYENNE GENEALOGY JOURNAL

A PUBLICATION OF THE CHEYENNE GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 7, Issue 1

September 2009

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

BY: WENDY DOUGLAS

I'm writing this as I prepare for my first research trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. I thank my fellow genealogists who have kindly provided hints, helps, checklists and advice to make the trip productive and fun. How lucky we are to have professional genealogists as members of our own society to assist us in our quests.

Having autumn arrive for me is like "taking a vacation" from the hot summer, as yard work winds down, days are cooler and more relaxing, its more fun to use the oven to bake, and celebrations increase--my family has lots of fall and winter birthdays. I think even in the "old days" a family member's birthday was a chance to gather together to enjoy each other and celebrate that person's talents and gifts. And for me, fall means getting back on the computer to pick up where I left off with those elusive ancestors. Genealogy for me is like a great mystery novel...clues are dropped along the way, but the most excitement is when you start to figure out the plot and the roles of the characters.

I hope you all are having a great assortment of fall activities and celebrations. October is Family History Month and a great time to get back to the research projects that you put on hold or that brick-wall you said you'd work on some day. We have great volunteers to help out, and a great line-up of Cheyenne Genealogy and Historical Society programs and activities to assist you in different areas of research.

- October 13, 6 p.m., CGHS Meeting and Program on Land Records and Patents-Locating Your Ancestors on the Map. Presented by: Venice Beske, Special Projects Librarian, Wyoming State Library
- October 1, Computer Interest Group, Restoring Photos
- October 6 & 15, Brick Wall Interest Group, helping each other over hurdles
- October 24, 2-5 p.m., Open House in the Genealogy Room of the Laramie County Library with refreshments, tours and volunteer assistance available.
- November 10, 6 p.m., CGHS Meeting and Program on Native American Research Presented by: Dr. Judith A Antell, Director of American Indian Studies, University of Wyoming

Mark your calendars now, and plan to attend and bring some guests!

Wendy Douglass, President, CGHS

LAKEVIEW CEMETERY LIVING HISTORY WALK

BY: WANDA WADE PHOTOS BY: MERLE SCHULTZ

Once again there was a great turn out at the Living History Walk at Lakeview Cemetery in July. The staff at the cemetery was most helpful in making this year's event a success and the cemetery grounds had been beautifully groomed.



These are a few of the Genealogical Society's members who enacted the lives of those historic figures with Sharon Field as narrator:



Chad Field as Sheriff
John N. Slaught



Bert Budd as
John Hunton



Sue Seniawski as
Mrs. E. Mason Smith,
First Laramie County
Librarian



Hank Miller as
Allen Thompson
Civil War
Medal of Honor
recipient

Thanks to all who came to the Walk
See you next year!

REPORT OF THE ACQUISITION COMMITTEE FOR 2008-2009

BY: SHARON FIELD

In 2008-2009 the Cheyenne Genealogical & Historical Society donated 449 books to the Genealogy Research Department of the Laramie County.

Thanks to the Society members, a total of 2,840 books have been donated to the Library from 1952 to 2009.

HISTORICAL TIDBITS

CONTRIBUTED BY: MERL SCHULTZ

What it took to get an 8th grade education in 1895.

Remember when grandparents and great-grandparents stated that they only had an 8th grade education? Well,

check this out. Could any of us have passed the 8th grade in 1895?

This is the eighth-grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, Kansas, USA. It was taken from the original document on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, and reprinted by the Salina Journal.

8th Grade Final Exam: Salina, KS - 1895 Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of capital letters.
2. Name the parts of speech and define those that have no modifications.
3. Define verse, stanza and paragraph
4. What are the principal parts of a verb? Give principal parts of 'lie,' 'play,' and 'run.'
5. Define case; illustrate each case.
6. What is punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of punctuation.
- 7 - 10. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

Arithmetic (Time, 1 hour 15 minutes)

- 1.. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft. Deep, 10 feet long, and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3,942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts/bushel, deducting 1,050 lbs. for tare?
4. District No 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find the cost of 6,720 lbs. coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per metre?
8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance of which is 640 rods?
10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt

U.S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
4. Show the territorial growth of the United States
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn and Howe?
8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

Orthography
(Time, one hour)

[Do we even know what this is??]

1. What is meant by the following: alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication
2. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following, and give examples of each: trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u.' (HUH?)
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis-mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.

Geography
(Time, one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas ?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America
5. Name and describe the following:
Monrovia , Odessa , Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S.
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

Notice that the exam took FIVE HOURS to complete.

Gives the saying 'he only had an 8th grade education' a whole new meaning, doesn't it?! Also shows you how poor our education system has become and, NO, I don't have the answers. Oh by the way Orthography is defined as - Spelling as a subject of study.

COMPUTER INTEREST GROUP

By: LESLIE VOSLER

Hi All,

Mark your calendar for 1 Oct 2009 (the 1st Thursday of the month), the date for the following CIG meeting, in the Willow Room, 1st floor!

We will work with and learn how to restore and reclaim old photos.

FUTURE? - 5 November 2009, Windflower Room, 3rd floor

WHERE - The in the Laramie County Library at about 6:30 p.m.

WHAT - Bring your LAPTOP (if you have one and want to do so). Plus bring your questions and problems, solutions and suggestions, 'new stuff and old stuff'.

If you have any desires for programs for the coming year please let us know.

If you have questions, contact Leslie Vosler
hm: (307) 635-5892 - fax: (307) 637-2893
cell: (307) 630-8864

Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

CAL ROGERS AND THE VIN FIZ

By: JACK MERWIN RICHARDS

Does the name Calbraith Rogers ring a bell? How about Vin Fiz? I'll bet my favorite hunting dog that fewer than three people reading this newsletter ever heard of either of Cal or The Vin Fiz. You should have because they played an important part in American history.

Cal Rogers flying the Vin Fiz was the first aviator to make a transcontinental flight across America.

The reason only a small circle of people are aware of this important historical event is due to an advertising promotion that totally flopped. Actually, there were three parties involved in this event. The two yet to be named were the newspaperman, William Randolph Hearst (think Citizen Kane) and the Armour and Company of Chicago.

Cal Rogers was born in 1879 and came from an influential family (think Kennedy). His grand uncle Oliver Perry was a hero of the Put-In-Bay battle on Lake Erie in the War of 1812; his grand father Matthew Perry opened Japan for trade with the West; and his father was killed fighting Comanche Indians in the Southwest. Because of a hearing problem, Cal was prohibited from making a name for himself in the military.

As the idle rich tend to do, Cal turned to other activities to pass away his time. He had a fondness for sailboats, race cars,

racehorses, and cigars. Then he heard of the activities of the Wright Brother at Kitty Hawk. He convinced the Wright Brothers to teach him to fly and acquired one of their new Model EX bi-planes.

In an effort to promote aviation (or maybe just to sell more papers), Hearst issued a challenge offering a prize of \$50,000 dollars to the first aviator to make a coast to coast flight within 30 days.

Meanwhile back in Chicago, the Armour Company had developed a new grape flavored soft drink which they had named Vin Fiz. They agreed to sponsor Cal's try for a transcontinental flight (think NASCAR). Cal accepted their offer and, in exchange, renamed his airplane "The Vin Fiz."

Before we go further in this story, consider the aviation industry in 1911. There wasn't one. There were no airports, no aids to flying, nothing. Landing in a cow pasture was standard provided you could clear the cows off the field. Takeoffs were more demanding on the levelness and room. In fact, once Cal's airplane had to be physically pushed and then ultimately carried four miles from the landing field before a suitable place to takeoff was found. Maps were lacking so railroads were followed from city to city.

Railroads were to play an important part in Cal's trip. With his family aboard along with gasoline, oil, and ground crew, a special train was assembled to follow his flight. Also on this train were a fully equipped machine shop, many spare parts, and machinists to install and/or make new spare parts. By the time Cal reached California, his plane had been completely rebuilt with only the oil drip pan and vertical rudder remained as original parts.

On September 17, 1911 Cal took off from Sheepshead Bay, N.Y. and headed west. On the evening of September 28th, Cal was scheduled to land in Akron, Ohio. However, the wind had blown him off course and, as it was getting dark, he decided to make an emergency landing just outside of Kent, Ohio.

I would like to be able to tell you he landed on my great grand father's farm but he didn't. He did however, land on the adjacent farm. The whole family got to meet Cal Rogers and to inspect The Vin Fiz. All the local newspapers published articles on the landing. Unfortunately, some newspapers got the information wrong. Thirty years later my uncle helped the American Aviation Historical Society clear up the confusion surrounding the landing at Kent.

Shortly into the event it became clear that it would not be possible to complete the trip within the 30 day time limit. Interest waned. In the public's mind Vin Fiz became associated with the airplane - not the soft drink. It appears that neither Hearst nor Armour made much an effort to correct this misconception. All in all, the Armour Co. experienced a large financial loss on their sponsorship.

Cal Rogers went on to complete the journey but not without a serious setback. He arrived in Pasadena, California on November 5. Actual flying time up to that point was 82 hours and two minutes. The best leg of the trip was 133 miles. He had 13 crash landings out of 68 total landings. Average flying speed was 51 mph.

The last leg from Pasadena to the coast ended quickly with a crash on takeoff that broke both legs and his collarbone. Finally on December 10, 1911 with both legs in casts, Cal landed on the beach at Long Beach. Calbraith Rogers had made the first transcontinental flight across America.

Who says history doesn't repeat itself? Cal Rogers died on April 3, 1912 when he collided with a flock of birds which caused him to

crash (think of the Miracle on the Hudson). He was the 49th licensed pilot in the nation, 127th plane fatality, and the 22nd America aviator to be killed.

Airline industry grew rapidly after this event and airplane reliability improved greatly. Several years later another chap would attempt a similar feat. He took off from New York in March of 1927 but turned east not west. He made it and we all remember his name - don't we?

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

2010 NGS Family History Conference Planned for Salt Lake City

Plans are underway for the 2010 NGS Family History Conference to be held in Salt Lake City on 28 April through 1 May 2010. Please note the conference will be held earlier than usual in 2010, so save the date.

Remember if you were planning a trip to the Nebraska State Historical Society

Beginning January 2009, the Nebraska State Historical Society (NSHS) headquarters at 1500 R will be undergoing a two-year renovation project to bring life/safety and HVAC conditions up to current standards. Researchers planning to work with collections housed in the facility should take note that there will be extended time periods during 2009-2011 that the **Reference Room WILL BE CLOSED** and that research materials will be unavailable. Some telephone reference will be available during the closure.

Please check the NSHS website often for updates on the closure of the Reference Room, or call 402-471-4771 or email lanshs@nebraskahistory.org for information.

We are sorry for this inconvenience, but we believe that the project will result in a safer environment for our staff, researchers, and the collections that we hold in trust for the citizens of Nebraska. We appreciate your patience as we invest in the long-term preservation of the historical materials that you use and value.

CHEYENNE GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S WEBSITE

Remember the Cheyenne Genealogical & Historical Society is up and can be located at cghswyoming.org

Otis Halverson is the new webmaster and he has done an excellent job of designing the new site. The Board has formed a Committee to review any requests to be posted on the site. If you have items of interest or searchable data bases to be considered please, e-mail the Board at: cghswyoming@gmail.com

The Index for Laramie County Marriages from 1868 through 1906 is also included on the website. This Index was revised as of April 2, 2009. Every attempt was made to transcribe these Marriage Records as accurately as possible and multiple data sources were used to verify this information. However, several conditions affect the transcription of old records: the style of the original handwriting; the quality of the original document when it was filmed and the quality of the micro-film. If you have any questions about the marriage records please contact Wanda Wade at WADE_27043@msn.com.

Also, work has been completed on a searchable index of obituaries that were printed in the local Cheyenne newspapers from 1965 through 2008 and the index is included on the Society Website.

WEBSITES THAT MAY BE HELPFUL IN YOUR RESEARCH

These web addresses can be copied and pasted into your browser to access these web sites.

Very cool graphisc developed by the New York Times on immigrant populations in the US:

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/03/10/us/20090310-immigration-explorer.html?ref=us>

NEW ARTICLES IN OUR LIBRARY PERIODICALS

Family Tree Magazine –November 2009

'Express Shipping' by Rick Crume
Save time and energy tracing immigrant ancestors. These four real-life examples show how to use online sources for smoother sailing in your search.

'Indian Territory' by: James W. Warren and Sharon DeBartolo Carmack
Does your family lore tell of an American Indian Ancestor? Use these essential resources to trace your family's tribal ties.

American Heritage – Fall 2009

History News –

Monticello Reborn by: Philip Kopper
Thomas Jefferson's famous Virginia home gets a visitors' center for the first time

Mystery of Meriwether Lewis

The famous explorer finally gets a proper burial service – but questions remain about how he died.

Civil War Chronicles by: Jason Emerson
John Brown did not act alone – but with the secret help of prominent northerners

SOCIETY MEETINGS

Cheyenne Genealogical and Historical Society

Members will be notified of locations prior to each meeting.

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|-------------------|--|
| October 13, 2009 | Land Records and Patents-Locating Your Ancestors on the Map.
Presented by:
Venice Beske, Special Projects Librarian, Wyoming State Library |
| November 10, 2009 | Native American Research
Presented by:
Dr. Judith A Antell, Director of American Indian Studies, University of Wyoming |
| December 8, 2009 | Christmas Party
Program and location to be determined |
| January 12, 2010 | Organizing Your Research
Presented by:
Melanie Bosselman |



Albany County Genealogical Society

Society meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month and are held at the First United Methodist Church in Laramie. Meetings start at 7:00.

Begin making your plans to attend our annual banquet to be held **Tuesday evening, October 13, at 6:30 at the Odd Fellows (IOOF) Hall at 431 South 21st Street** here in Laramie. The banquet is hosted by members of the IOOF and is priced at \$12.50 per person for a roast pork entree dinner. This will include a salad, roast pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, a vegetable, and dessert. Please send in your reservations and check made out to the **Albany County Genealogical Society** promptly to **Everett Spackman, 1132 Curtis St., Laramie, WY 82972** so we can get a "head count" for the providers of our meal. Deadline for meal reservations is **Monday October 5th**.

Dr. Phil Roberts, Professor of History, University of Wyoming, will be our guest speaker. His topic **"Was Great-grandma a Bootlegger?"** or **"What You Can Learn from Court Records"**. Dr. Roberts is an entertaining lecturer and we have enjoyed his past presentations. Come and enjoy the meal and entertainment.



Larimer County Genealogical Society

The Larimer County Genealogical Society in Fort Collins has many programs throughout the month. Please visit their web site for information about a program that might be of interest to you. <http://www.lcgsc.org>

CURRENT OFFICERS OF CHEYENNE GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President - Wendy Douglass	307-632-2533
Vice President - Judy Engelhart	307-632-2623
Secretary - Freda A. Wright	307-637-5218
Treasurer - Bert Budd	307-632-8256
Past President - Van Mellblom	307-635-0128

If you have suggestions for newsletter or areas of interest you would like to share please contact me at WADE_27043@msn.com or 307-638-3877.



If you haven't paid your 2009-2010 dues, you can mail your payment to the genealogical society at

P.O. Box 2539,
Cheyenne, WY 82003-2539

