



CHEYENNE GENEALOGY JOURNAL

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A Message from the President

Dear Friends and Society members,

This year has been a source of great pleasure for me. Being part of this society is just pure fun! Most of the enjoyment comes from you, the members. Everyone participates in some way and so many of you have such incredible genealogical and historical talents that I am often in awe. Yep, a good, good time!

On May 8 we have our Society Banquet and silent auction at the Holiday Inn. Preethi Burkholder will entertain us with ghost stories and music. Copies of her book Ghost Towns of the Rockies will be available for sale. Check the website for details. And while you are there, check out the valuable information available. The unique hits to our site continue to grow, so kudos to our webmaster, Otis Halverson, and all the members who contribute. It is also the source of Society information about upcoming events.

Don't forget to invite your family members, guests, anyone you see on the street to the annual Cemetery Walk in July. It is always the last Friday during Frontier Days. Sharon Fields has two new characters to visit, even though she will have to call them over from Mt. Olivet!

October 6, 2012 is our Family History Day in conjunction with the Laramie County Library. We are looking for program ideas, product and specialty demonstrators and good publicity. If you can help or have some ideas, please email or call me, Wendy Douglass or Virginia Walters.

Finally, don't forget our 1940 census workshop on April 16. There is still room available for a few more searchers. Elaine has created an information sheet on how and where to search that is available on the 3rd

floor and in the Special Collections room. Call the Laramie County Library to sign up.

.....my 1940 search has been somewhat successful. For the members of my husband's family who lived in rural South Dakota/North Dakota I was able to find one using 1930 information and one by diligently (and patiently!!!!) searching each enumeration district in the county. I am fortunate to have obituary information for most of them with lovely, long stories about their lives and fortunes.....

.....but my family sits in the middle of Denver and Colorado Springs and I haven't had the chance to play with them yet. Hmmm.....maybe April 16?

Judy Engelhart, President

What You Hope or Expect to Find on The 1940 Census Records

What do I expect to find in the 1940 Census?

I'm looking forward to finding people that I know in the 1940 Census as well as Ancestors that might have still been alive then.

I want to find the first Census that I will appear in. Who were the neighbors and are those names familiar to me? What kind of area were we living in, was it rural or in town? Margie Dreiling

Hi, what I hoped to find and did find was where my wife was living in April, 1940.

As a young girl (age 3 or 4) Kay 's family had moved from Decatur, Indiana to Huntington, Indiana. She wasn't sure if it was done in 1940 or 1941. All she could remember from living in Huntington was that her mother's cousin and his family lived on the same street

about two blocks away. I tried to follow the enumeration district layout but got lost.

Fortunately as I pursued the street address I found the cousin and his street address. Looking at higher and lower street addresses didn't reveal anything but I came across a 1941 Huntington city directory link and checked it out. Bingo! Parents name, occupation, street address were listed. Rechecked the 1940 Huntington census but found nothing. So it was backed to the Decatur 1940 Census and a slow slog through enumeration districts.

I knew the 1930 district number (1- 10) so started there but the district changed in 1940. (it became 1-11) She knew she lived on 3rd Street in Decatur so it was finding the street and after a bit her 3rd street memory proved to be correct and there they were. Her father, mother, and Kay along with the other census info.

This is my "to find" Hank Miller

Hi Wanda: This is one of the things I would like find.

I would like to find information about my husband as a child. He was born in 1929 and should have been on the 1930 Census. The enumerator wrote the family name and then it was crossed through!

I don't know when, but Bob's parents separated and in 1935 they divorced. I have a 1936 address for his father who avoided all contact with family and acquaintances.

In 1940 Bob would have been in St. Mary's Parochial Boarding School in Albany/Berkeley, CA. I have at least 8 possible addresses for his mother and him.

Ginny Rowland

Hi Wanda: Interesting question:

Well, I won't find myself, I've been lost for some time and won't be found for another 10 years.

I expect to find my parents as young newlyweds, as well as their siblings. Since they were both from small towns I expect to find them without the aid of an index...

unless Mom and Dad were already in Riverton, Wyoming where they lived briefly, but I think they were still in Nebraska somewhere around Mitchell or Scottsbluff. Even if I don't find them it won't bother me

much since I have no great expectations of learning anything new. Both grandparents were deceased before 1940.

Actually it is more of a curiosity for me than a major research find.

Best to all there!

Jane Carpenter

What I expect to find: The life changing events of 1940 for my parents

My mother was the 11th of 14 children and graduated from St. Mary's (Kansas) High School in 1939. She then went to a Catholic nursing school in rural Kansas where the students were boarded in the convent and worked in the hospital to earn their tuition. She has often said how lucky she was that this opportunity was available to her because she never would have gotten an education without it. She came out of this school two years later as a Registered Nurse. I suspect she was already at this school when the census takers came along in 1940. I don't know the name of the school and my mother is gone now but I suspect I might be able to figure this out with a little research. I may also have to wait until the name indexing is completed to find her but I'm looking forward to seeing her on the lists of student nurses along with some of her friends from school that she kept in touch with her entire life. My father, on the other hand, was in his senior year in high school in 1940 so I'll be able to find him with his family in St. Mary's. He entered the Navy as soon as he graduated so there is a possibility I might find him on a naval base somewhere if the census taker was a little late or my dad entered the Navy earlier than I thought. I'm also looking forward to seeing what my grandparents and great-grandparents were doing at that time. The year 1940 was a huge year of change for my family and my parents specifically, so I'm hoping to find something that sheds some light on their hopes and dreams as young adults. Elaine Hayes

ME!! Judy Wilson

Hi Wanda. This is a short one! My husband, Sam, had an Aunt living in Denver that is a bit of mystery--along with a son she raised alone after a divorce. The son was hit, crossing the street, and killed by a drunk driver. No dates for his death; just that family remembers he was a "young man" or perhaps a teen. I need to know if he was living in 1940, and where. His mother later remarried (perhaps), so would like to find her and new partner in the 1940 census. Can't seem to find their burial sites in Colorado, so am tracing their lives step by step. I'll find them in the 1940 census and maybe get another little clue. Sharon Fields

Wanda,

If I could find myself born 10 earlier, now that would be worth a glance at the 1940 census. Marshall Howard

Wanda,

In a word, ME. Lowell R Anderson

Wanda the only thing I was hoping for is that we can read the handwriting. I am fine with what I have found on the other census. I am not sure what I am to look for. Virginia Walters

A relative found through the
Genealogy web site.

I recently received this e-mail. I forwarded it to Judy Wilson and yes, they are related. Sometimes you find your family in unusual searches. Wanda

Greetings,

I am not a member of your society and not certain that I am writing the correct person. I just read a story on line from your May 2011 news letter.

The title of the story is "The 1859 Murder of Nancy Bender Hawk". It was contributed by Judy Wilson and like her, Nancy Hawk was my GGG Grandmother.

While I have been aware of the story for quite some time, I would like to exchange information with her on

the possible burial place of Nancy's husband, Daniel Hawk.

I would appreciate it very much if you could provide me with her contact information or forward this note on to her for her consideration.

Thanks in advance,

Herbert A. Beadle Jr.

Our Sincere Sympathy

The members of The Cheyenne Genealogical & Historical Society want to express our sincere sympathy to Peggy Stumpf and her family on the death of her mother Alicia S. Trevino on April 1, 2012.

History from the Wyoming Newspapers

By: Clint Black

Cheyenne – 125 Years Ago -- April, 1887
Reported by the Daily Sun Newspaper, E. A. Slack, Editor
Excerpts and Annotations by Clint Black

Preface:

Cheyenne was BOOMING!

Under construction:

Union Pacific Depot

Plastering had begun and contracts were let out for steam heating and plumbing. "The stone portion of the elegant tower...will reach forty feet above the present line and be surmounted by a wooden pinnacle. The first estimate of the cost of the building was \$60,000 but is now thought it will exceed \$75,000..." [Brick and stone masons were being solicited for a wage of \$5 per day.]

Capitol Building

"...to be the most ornate building in the city..."

The laying of the cornerstone was slated for May 18th.

Territory-wide invitations were sent out to organizations and citizenry. A parade and barbeque was planned. Fundraising quickly reached \$1,500; deemed more than adequate.

A Stupendous Announcement!

The Burlington Railroad was laying track into town.

Slack: "It is very safe to say that no city of its size in the country and few of any size will be provided with two as magnificent depots as Cheyenne when the new Union Pacific depot is completed and the Cheyenne and Burlington take possession of their quarters."

Real estate transactions skyrocket and fill nearly a column a day in the newspaper. Prices quickly appreciate. On one of the days, there was over \$200,000 in sales. Developers advertise additions on the city's outliers.

Just to keep up with advertising demand, The Daily Sun began publishing expanded editions two times per week of 6 and 8 pages from its customary 4. Slack: euphoric!

A streetcar system was inaugurated. All of Cheyenne's sewers were enclosed and potable water began to be filtrated with new technology.

City coffers were in the black. Optimists projected a population of 20,000 within 5 years.

1 April

Asylum Planning on Hold

"The site selected for the deaf, dumb and blind asylum is not satisfactory to many of our citizens, owing to its proximity to the cemetery. The commission will take this into consideration—removing the cemetery..."

"Lake Wahppeaulutah [transcribed as published] ...has been stocked with young fish and all persons are forbidden to fish therein for the space of three years."

W. N. Hunt,

Fish Commissioner Laramie County

Sloan's Lake originally had another name—of Indian derivation—but I do believe it to be this one.

Alexander H. Swan, et al

"A. H. Swan concluded a deal in Scotland by which he received \$350,000."

Swan was a livestock manager for wealthy Eastern and Scottish cattle investors as well as Vice President of the Cheyenne's premier bank, the First National. He is chronicled in history as a charismatic swindler. Lucky to be just more than one step ahead of the law, he quietly re-established a much humbler lifestyle in Utah where he died in 1905.

Cheyenne First National Bank was started by Amasa H. Converse, a shrewd capitalist who had a King Midas touch. It would be Converse who gave his hometown friend, F. E. Warren, his fledgling start. With Converse having died in 1885, the bank and his diverse interests became managed by his hand-picked successor, Truman B. Hicks. Hicks, a widower, married Converse's widow and became the executor of the vast estate of Converse's daughter, Fannie, until she married as a young woman.

Fannie and the Joseph Carey family were Cheyenne neighbors and close friends. During one Advent season, they patronized their neighborhood with a tree and gifts before preparing for a journey to the Carey ranch near Douglas for Christmas.

2 April

Spring Cleaning—with a warning

"If each individual would repair his sidewalk, as the law requires him to do, remove the large pile of ashes which have accumulated before the door to some place where it will fill a hole or grade a walk, burn the old papers, straw and sticks that are lying around in the districts, remove the manure piles and rubbish and get all fixed up before the warm weather comes on, then you will not be an object which the marshal must approach and impress these simple duties upon. If each man would look at his own surrounding, Cheyenne would be the most desirable city to live in the whole country."

Y.M.C.A.

Devotional exercises began at the Baptist Church, with a membership drive of \$2 to join; thereafter, \$5 per annum. By the end of the month, a sustaining membership of 100 was reached. The new brick annex next to Keefe Hall was leased with plans to build a gymnasium and upstairs apartments. A bowling alley was also deliberated.

3 April - Palm Sunday

A "Las Vegas" marriage

"The shortest courtship and quickest marriage on record has just taken place at Green River City. A correspondent writes the Sun that on Wednesday evening, R. Frank Tracy went into the U.P. restaurant for supper where he was taunted by one of the waitresses at being a bachelor. He at once proposed and within 30 minutes Miss Hannah Wilson and Mr. Tracy were man and wife. This occurred on the bridegroom's birthday."

The Indomitable Harry P. Hynds

"Harry P. Hynds' Turf Exchange has emerged in finest spring suit and it now certainly is a daisy and not a mistake. The barroom is by far the most spacious and sumptuous in the city--fitted up through the hands of J. C. McCormick, the painter and decorator.

"...Swing doors with panels of cathedral stained glass separate the barroom from the club room...it is the intention now to make the place not only in name but in reality the sporting headquarters of Wyoming. All the leading sporting journals of the country will be kept on file for the benefit of the patrons of the place, and pools will be sold there on all the leading races of the United States. An attractive feature will be the pictures of leading sporting men and sporting events.

"Mr. Hynds has now the largest resort in Cheyenne and by his recent improvements has made his house one of the prettiest in every respect.

"Jim Colan and Chub Gleason are now the misologists of the institution and are always prepared to receive their friends and treat them kindly." [Per dictionary, a misologist hates argument, reasoning and enlightenment. For the time period, it must have been an amusing term for a bartender.]

5 April

First Female Resident of Cheyenne?

"Mrs. Elizabeth Whitebread died in this city yesterday morning at the age of 70 years. She arrived in Cheyenne in September 1867 and was one of the first, if not the very first, permanent lady residents of the town." [Elizabeth's interment is listed at Lakeview. Four adult children lived with her in the 1870 Cheyenne census. She was illiterate. No family can be identified buried next to her.]

Annual WY Stockgrower's Assn. Meeting
Chaired by Alexander Hector "Heck" Reel, former Cheyenne Mayor and popular Territorial legislator--another luminary buried at Lakeview. There were 367 members with an operating budget of \$58,000.

Identification and compensation for mavericks and stray horses were of perennial, preoccupying interest.
Winter loss was reported modest.

For all but the most savvy and persevering, the upcoming, hard winter of 1887 would be devastating and spell a sharp, permanent decline in 20 years of

cattle "baronry." With it, Cheyenne would inevitably slump.

6 April

Edwin Booth, Consummate Thespian

Daily announcements in the newspaper herald the upcoming performance at the Cheyenne Opera House of Edwin Booth, playing Hamlet. Seating was quickly sold out: tickets from \$2 - \$3 .50. This was sensational! Celebrity and stature: compare him with Laurence Olivier.

Edwin and his infamous younger brother, John Wilkes, were illegitimate children. Contrary to John Wilkes, Edwin was a Unionist. After Lincoln's assassination, he vigorously disavowed his brother. Later, he quietly arranged for his exhumation and re-burial in an unmarked family grave.

Following the Booth performance, Slack wrote:

"(Special) Excursion trains from Laramie City, Fort Collins, Greeley, Pine Bluffs, Sidney and Kimball contributed Cheyenne's quota to the audience that assembled in the opera house last evening...in dollars and cents the audience represented to Mr. Booth \$2,300."

"...Hamlet was played as they had never before seen it...It was like gazing at a flawless bit of statuary into which the inspiration from the sculptor has given breath to a soul of grace and beauty.

"...There are plenty of cities of forty thousand inhabitants that cannot boast of a week's amusements which include performances of the high order that Cheyenne will have this week. Edwin Booth, the Carleton Opera Company and the McGibeny Family are hard to beat."

Letter to the Editor Slack following the Booth performance:

"From what I can learn, I feel assured that Mr. Booth gave a brilliant performance...I was there myself, but I am obliged to adopt the opinion principally from hearsay...

"...I sat behind three ladies who wore new spring bonnets...the moment I perceived an opening between the ladies in which to play "Peek-a-boo" with the stage, suddenly, one would move so as to obstruct my view with the tower of millinery which crowned her head...

“...Now I protest, Mr. Editor! ...I was pleased to observe that at least one lady in the very large audience discarded the regulation mass of monumental millinery and appeared without any bonnet at all...I, for one, have made up my mind to never take a lady to the theater who wears such high-crowned, idiotic hats as pestered me...”

Reply by Slack:

“...the complaint is commended, yet male attendants at theaters should not forget that they frequently make themselves intolerable nuisances by going out between the acts to drown their sorrows in the flowing bowl...”
[I speculate this referred to “flavored” punch.]

In early June, Parisian Sarah Bernhardt, “The Divine Sarah,” would eclipse Edwin Booth at the Opera House. The best tickets were \$4.00. Compare her with Meryl Streep.

8 April

More Millinery News

“S. Kellner’s display of millinery goods is perhaps the largest and finest ever brought to Cheyenne. Mr. Kellner spent two months in New York City selecting them and there is abundant evidence that he put in his time to the best possible advantage. The spring opening took place yesterday and many ladies went into raptures over the display.”

Poor Dead Troopers

Mssrs. Fisher, Jeffrey, and Goddard were appointed a committee under the law to attend to the burial of deceased, indigent soldiers.

Francis E. Warren

Ex-WY Governor F.E. Warren sold his mercantile emporium to the Cheyenne and Burlington railroad for conversion into its depot. [I wonder if Warren was the forerunner of Sears and Roebuck? You could buy anything there from a teaspoon to a gravestone. For funerals, you could even rent from him an elaborate horse-drawn hearse.]

9 April

“This is the last day of Lent.”

Ulysses S. Grant

“A circular was received by GAR Post Commander T. M. Fisher regarding the \$100,000 which it is proposed to raise in order to erect a memorial to General Grant [1822-1885]. It is suggested that a public meeting be held on the 65th anniversary of Grant’s birthday, which

will be April 27th, on which occasion a fund will be started by every post in the country.”

A fundraising ceremony with a full house at the Congregational Church was held on April 28th. T. M. Fisher was recorded as a “warm, personal friend” of the General. Included in the pomposity and toasting of Grant was citizen Gibson Clark, a Confederate Army veteran.

Construction of Grant’s tomb in Manhattan began in 1891 and was completed in 1897. The final cost exceeded one million dollars. The elaborate Grant memorial statue in Washington D. C. was forged in increments by one artist between 1902-1922.

10 April--Easter Sunday

Samuel D. Shannon

Appointed as Secretary of the Wyoming Territory. He was a South Carolinian who had served in the Confederacy on General Lee’s staff. The appointment followed his service as personal secretary to the ill-fated, 6 week, WY governorship of George W. Baxter.

12 April

Of Cheyenne’s 7 Secret Societies

The Knights Templar announced plans to erect their “asylum” on 17th street.

The 3 story building will cost \$35,000. It will be the finest building owned by any order west of the Mississippi. Fundraising is confident and brisk.

Two lodges of the Odd Fellows celebrated their 68th anniversary of establishment in the U.S.A. on Apr 25th with a banquet, music and speeches. Nationwide, membership was 600,000; in Wyoming, 1000. It was noted the object of the society was at first “convivial, then merged into benevolent.” It provided Christian burial for its members, care for the sick and attention to the widow and orphan—“American Odd Fellow-ism.”

During the course of the banquet at the Dyer Hotel, a fire alarm was tripped.

Mayhem and chaos quickly followed with attendees believing the blaze was located downtown. One woman screamed it was her house and that her children were trapped within; another man threw open the hotel window sash and proclaimed the hotel was on fire. The “frantic fool” was hauled out of sight and excitement soon quieted down when danger was no longer imminent. The blaze was finally identified uptown on Thomes Street. Formerly the wooden edifice of the Congregational Church from 1879-1884, it

had been relocated and put into use as a stable. Tramps were thought the culprits of the fire.

Inefficient Justice

A man charged with stealing a \$10 log chain was tried and acquitted before Judge Fisher yesterday. The suit cost the county \$70.

Street Laborer

"Jay Gould faced Judge Lee yesterday to answer a charge of plain drunk. He went down into his clothes to find the wherewith to pay a fine of \$10 and costs but returned empty-handed. When the modest daisies are blooming in the spring, Jay's soaring intellect will be confined to the narrow limits of the streets of Cheyenne which he will be helping to repair."

Time Keeping

Self winding clocks are in vogue. One has run uninterrupted at the store of a local jeweler for the past 3 months. Clocks of this kind are sold for \$15 and upward.

14 April

"Mrs. Pauline Johnson *nee* Lena Chase, died yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock after a six week's illness."

[Transcribed as published. She was later identified as the wife of J. B. Johnson. Interred by herself at Lakewood, her maiden name and that of her husband are now appended to Find a Grave.]

Clint Black: Personal

P.J. and Leonora Black, my great grandparents, would celebrate the 4th anniversary of their Cheyenne wedding with my toddler-aged grandfather and his two month old brother. P.J., 30 years old, was most likely engaged in finish carpentry at the capitol building--working for Moses Keefe.

April Showers

"Yesterday's fall of moist snow will have a very beneficial effect on the ranges."

15 April

Zippy Travel

"According to the New York Herald, the fastest time made overland between New York and San Francisco—83 hours, 59 minutes, and 16 seconds."

Cigars in Connecticut

"The first cigar made in CT was put up in 1812. At that time 75 cents per thousand was the price paid for their manufacture. They were rudely rolled by the women

on the farms and were usually exchanged for groceries at the country store."

Germans and the Whale

Cheyenne's German Maennerchor Club hosted another concert and dance at Keefe Hall. It included the comedic operetta, "Jonah and the Whale." A whale [no description provided] was brought from the east coast for the performance.

17 April

Felonious Students

The names of students absent or tardy from public school are routinely published in the newspaper.

21 April

April Blizzard

Cheyenne was besieged with a fierce snowstorm in the evening. A stage which had left Fort Laramie lost the road about 12 miles north of Laramie city. The horses played out. Going into crude camp, the weather broke at 4 a.m., whereupon they discovered they were but only two miles from the stage station.

24 April

Slack: "If Lake Minnehaha is to be rip-rapped on the west side, as has been suggested, and side-tracked on he south as it now is, it might as well give up the ghost, and be turned into a switch yard at once."

Rock Springs: "There are a large number of cases of measles in town this week and the disease is spreading. It will probably go through the town without stopping."

26 April

Pork Barrel, Literal Usage

"A farmer in Delaware County, NY, has a pork barrel that has been in constant use for 160 years."

27 April

House Moving

"Wm. Conway will move his house near Sixteenth street to the corner of Twenty-first and Warren Avenue."

No Carnegie Library Yet

"The public library and reading room which opened a few months since in the Carey block is highly appreciated by many of our citizens...there is need of new books...if some of our best local talent would organize a series of entertainments and lectures they could increase the interest in the library and be liberally patronized..."

29 April
"Conservation"

W. J. Browning, the famous hunter of the San Joaquin Valley, California, has shipped this season 30,000 ducks and geese. Two of his men killed in one day over 1,400. [No, not the famous shotgun maker, John Moses Browning.]

An Early Version of "Sag"

"Trousers are to be so wide this year that the young men will look as though they had adopted the divided skirt."

"The Great Agnostic"

"Col. Ingersoll says he will deliver no more anti-religious lectures. His law practice takes all his time." [Robert Ingersoll was the close friend of Walt Whitman and considered the greatest orator of his time.]

Select Advertisements – April, 1887

"The Sun has received Spalding's Official Base Ball Guide for 1887, an invaluable compendium to those interested in events on the diamond. It is published by A. G. Spalding and Brose, Chicago, and costs only 10 cents."

"Phoenix Market, source of the finest and cheapest poultry in the city: chickens 12 ½ cents; turkeys 15 cents; ducks and geese, 13 cents."

Anheuser-Busch

St. Louis Bock beer at Germania Hall.
FREE LUNCH today.

"Wanted: A competent cook. Must be a good laundress."

Contact Mrs. Goodnight.

"S. F. Powell, piano tuner from Denver, is in town. Leave orders at Warren's."

"Printer wanted: "None but a man of *steady* habits and thorough in the business need apply. Salary \$25 per week."

"A merchant at San Diego, CA, recently received an order from an interior village for a Bible, bowie knife, and a deck of cards."

Easter Week:

EGGS! EGGS!

Eight dozen eggs for \$1. Or, 11 ½ cents per dozen by the case.

A. D. Kelly, No 1609 Eddy Street

8,000 Pansies

Of the choicest varieties, grown in my cold frames; also verbenas and other bedding plants, in endless varieties. Choice roses, carnations etc.

Mrs. Chaffin, Florist, 1720 Central Avenue

Current Officers of Cheyenne Genealogical and Historical Society

President - Judy Engelhart	307-632-2623
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Secretary - Elaine Hayes	307-773-7232
Treasurer - Peggy Stumpf	307-632-6645
Past President - Wendy Douglass	307-632-2533

If you have read this far, you know that I normally list my name and e-mail contact information, but since this will be my last newsletter, I will use this space to say good bye. I hope you have enjoyed the newsletters since I became editor in 2006 for Sue Seniawski, but it is time for some to use their talents to share the thoughts of the Society in this format.

Good Luck to you in your research – I hope your family trees flourish with many new leaves and blossoms.

Please remember to write the stories about your families.

Wanda