



CHEYENNE GENEALOGY JOURNAL

A PUBLICATION OF THE CHEYENNE GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 6, Issue 2

May 2009

President's Message

By: Van Mellblom

Our Year-June 2008-May 2009

This year got off to a great start with an amazing cemetery walk which turned out to be more successful than ever, thanks to Sharon Field and the willingness of our members to participate. We took in over \$700 dollars.

We had a booth at the fair and it seemed to generate interest with the public. Bert Budd was once again instrumental in getting it set up.

We thought we had a slate of officers and then Denise Ehrensberger had to resign due to a conflict with classes out of town. As Vice-President I opted not to step up due to family illness. Lillian Jantz offered to fill the spot but before she could take office, she had some health issues and moved to a retirement home. By then it seemed the only logical thing to do, so I agreed to take the position of President.

We had our annual Potluck in September. Several members showed their research memorabilia, and I gave a short talk on my research into my Endicott line. I shared stories and pictures that I have collected. We were going to try to have a brief talk each month from various members on their family lines.

October's program was very popular. Library volunteers helped members with their various individual research in the Genealogy Room. It helped many to become acquainted with the various research aids that we have.

In November we had to move our meeting, as the library was closed. Leslie Vosler graciously obtained a meeting room for us at the Meadowbrooke Baptist Church. It was a fun meeting with Sherry Birch showing us how to date photos from the clothing they were wearing.

December is our annual Party and we enjoyed a variety of Holiday finger food. Paula Taylor from the Base museum gave a talk on Victorian Christmas customs.

Bob Larson visited our Board Meeting in January and told us about the Colorado History Expo that will be held in Loveland June 12 - 13, 2009.

As always Wanda's Newsletter is most interesting and so well done. She has encouraged members to share short stories of their ancestors and they have always been fun to read.

Jan and Feb brought 2 more great programs.

In January, Sue Seniawski did a Power Point on "Researching in your Own Back Yard," explaining all the resources available in our Genealogy Dept. In February, Lesly Boughton and Erin Kinney from the Wyoming State Library gave a preview of their indexing project "Wyoming Newspapers on Line," which emphasized the importance of newspapers in our research.

We also are excited that we will have a new web site created by Otis Halverson and Wanda Wade.

Sharon Field presented the program in March on Cemetery Records and researching in cemeteries. We are so fortunate to have so many talented members in our Society.

April brought us Melanie Bosselman from LCCC to speak on using the Family Search program. What a learning experience for all of us.

May is always a fun time. It concludes our official year with a Banquet and a special speaker. This year it will be Lissa Forbes on "What's the Story Behind the Photo."

So, thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your President this past year. My goals were to increase attendance with outstanding programs, and to continue to help our members with their research and make the most of our wonderful Genealogy research aids. With the need for extra chairs each meeting I think we have accomplished that!!

As I welcome Wendy Douglass as our new President, I have every confidence that she will have the same great support and we will move forward with another exciting year.

See you in the book stacks,

Van



Famous Ancestors

By: Jack Merwin Richards

Civil War Memories
By Howard E. Irvin

[Note: As with most veterans my great grand-father James Irvin didn't like to talk much about his wartime experiences. In fact he didn't talk much at all. Occasionally he would open up with a story or two. Here are a few of his remembrances as documented by Uncle Howard. Jack Richards]

As I grew older Grandpa Irvin told me how he was in the Civil War with his job to swab out the cannon after firing. The orders always issued at night in the Southern States of their enemy, "No foraging." Then as you broke ranks and headed to the chicken coop you had passed found your Lieutenant had gotten the fattest hen under his arm as you were just arriving.

How they broke step as they passed a potato field so each of our soldiers could use his bayonet to dig and then bring the potato where he could reach them on the end of his bayonet.

Then how he was always told that bees never would sting pigs. That honey bees never stung unless hurt and certainly would never sting a hog under any conditions. His army experiences one evening just at dusk, proved to him honey bees will sting not only pigs but humans and attack with vengeance when sufficiently upset, scared and panicked from noise and commotion even though it was starting to get dark.

As they marched by Grandpa and about six of his pals had carefully noted a large pig sty and a dozen young shoats and quite a few fat pigs. After breaking ranks, being dismissed and receiving their usual orders of no foraging, they rushed back to get them some of these nice young shoats to supply them with fresh pork or even hams and bacon.

Before they got out of there it seemed as if the whole regiment had the same idea for they were all there. In the commotion the pigs had got out of their pen, squealing with fright with many soldiers trying to catch them. It was really fun and funny. In the meantime some of the other soldiers had discovered a couple of dozen honey bee hives and were just extracting sizable cups and water canteens full of honey when those scared hogs over ran the bee hives, upsetting the hives and in the general tumult of sound those honey bees just plain went crazy stinging everything in sight time and time again. This not only included the soldier lads but also the shoats and grown pigs. As Grandpa Irvin expressed it, "That was the greatest rout and utter panic defeat ever

experienced by a Northern Yankee army on Southern soil."

Grandpa in a serious vein told how his regiment often cut bushes or tree limbs to keep from sleeping on the wet, ankle deep muddy ground using same as springs for their army blankets. Failing to find any limbs left after the earlier arriving boys had stripped the territory clean, of leaning up against a tree on the side away from the wind, rain and sleet. Army hat pulled as far down over his ears and face to provide as much protection as possible. Of standing up all night and trying to get at least cat-naps of sleep. Then trying to get the stiffness out of his whole body because his outside army clothes had been frozen stiff in the night from cold, rain and sleet.



Historical Tidbits

By: Van Mellblom

The Endicott Pear Tree

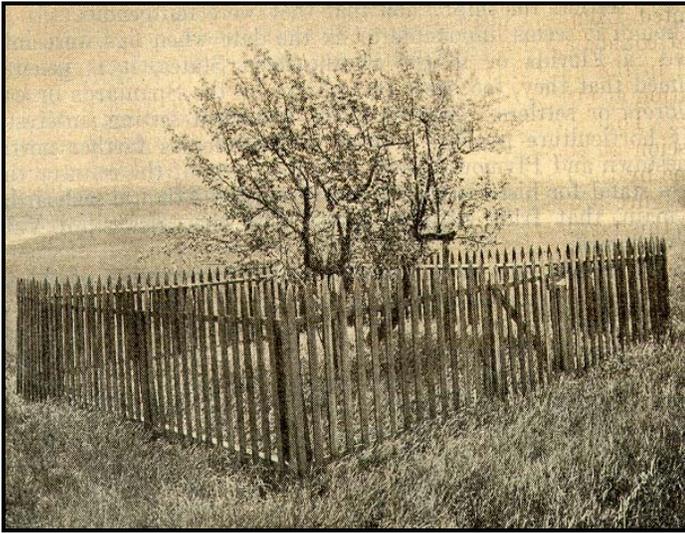
A tree from a scion cutting of this historic tree was presented to the Cheyenne Botanical Garden by Vanelda Mellblom whose ancestor, Gov. John Endicott - first Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1628, planted it on his Orchard Farm sometime around 1630.

It is now almost 379 years old and is the oldest cultivated fruit-bearing tree in New England and possibly the New World. It has survived vandalism, hurricanes, soil stripping and neglect. It is now fenced in and protected by concerned citizens of the town of Danvers and the Danvers Historical Society.

Pear growers from time to time made contact with local authorities requesting root stock and grafting wood from the tree in efforts to strengthen their trees which in some instances were doomed to extinction unless a more vigorous tree could be grown. A headline in the Salem Evening News in 1960 proclaimed "Slip from Endicott Pear Tree may save Washington's Orchards." Even President John Adams, having eaten some of the pears, requested and received cuttings for his land in Quincy, MA.

Sometime in the 1800's Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote-

"To those who ask how I can write so many things that sound as if I were as happy as a boy please say that there is in the neighboring town a pear tree, planted by Gov. Endicott 200 years ago, and it still bears fruit not to be distinguished from that of a young tree in flavor. I suppose that it makes new wood every year, so that some parts of it are always young. Perhaps this is the way it is with some men when they grow old. I hope it is so with me."



The Endicott Pear Tree in May, 1920. Photo from the 1925 USDA Agriculture Yearbook, which had been furnished by William C. Endicott of Boston.



We Are The Chosen

Author: Della M. Cumming ca 1943

Contributed: by Merle Schultz

My feelings are in each family we are called to find the
ancestors.

To put flesh on their bones and make them live again,
To tell the family story and to feel that somehow they
know and approve.

To me, doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts
but, instead,
Breathing life into all who have gone before.

We are the story tellers of the tribe.
We have been called as it were by our genes.
Those who have gone before cry out to us:
Tell our story.
So, we do.
In finding them, we somehow find ourselves.

How many graves have I stood before now and cried?
I have lost count.

How many times have I told the ancestors
you have a wonderful family, you would be proud of us?

How many times have I walked up to a grave
and felt somehow there was love there for me?
I cannot say.

It goes beyond just documenting facts.
It goes to who I am and why I do the things I do?
It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever
to weeds and indifference and saying I can't let this
happen.

The bones here are bones of my bone and flesh of my
flesh.

It goes to doing something about it.
It goes to pride in what our ancestors were able to
accomplish.

How they contributed to what we are today.
It goes to respecting their hardships and losses,
their never giving in or giving up.

Their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their
family.
It goes to deep pride that they fought to make and keep
us a Nation.

It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they
were doing it for us

That we might be born who we are.
That we might remember them.

So we do.
With love and caring and scribing each fact of their
existence,
Because we are them and they are us.
So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family.

It is up to that one called in the next generation,
To answer the call and take their place in the long line of
family storytellers.

That is why I do my family genealogy,
And that is what calls those young and old to step up
and put flesh on the bones.



Computer Interest Group

By: Leslie Vosler

Hi All,

The group will not hold meetings during the Summer. See
you in September.

WHEN - 1st Thursday of the month

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

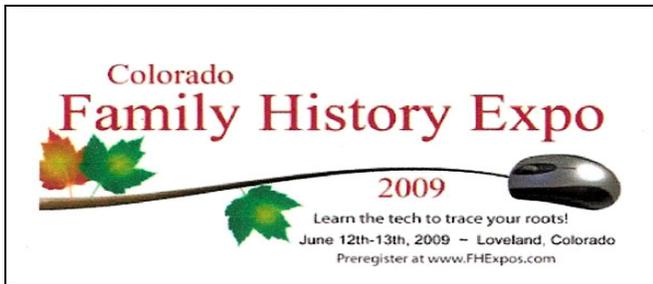
WHAT - Bring your LAPTOP (if you have one and
want to do so). Plus bring your questions
and problems, solutions and
suggestions, 'new stuff and old stuff'.

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.

Calendar of Coming Events



Greetings Genealogical, Cultural, Historical, DAR, and SAR Society Presidents, Regents, and Vice Presidents,

There's excitement in the air as we approach the Colorado Family History Expo on June 12 & 13 in Loveland, CO.

This is a reminder to please notify your memberships that early bird pricing of \$65 for the Colorado Family History Expo for the two day event will expire on April 30. Attendees can save \$20 over the normal registration pricing of \$85. We would appreciate it if you would kindly alert your members by email, website, or upcoming meeting.

The registration after April 30 increases to \$75 per person for both days, which is still a bargain these days for major genealogy conferences. On June 9, the pricing increases to \$85. Single day registration costs \$45.

As mentioned previously, we're expecting over 2,000 new and experienced genealogists and family historians. The good news is the new conference center at the Embassy Suites can handle over 3,000 people. Lots of space and it won't be crowded. Plus the great accommodations at the new Embassy Suites!

Registrations are coming in at a rapid pace, over 30 great speakers have been selected, many exhibitors are coming, and several new sponsors have joined the growing list, the latest being 50 Plus Marketplace News and Heritage Collector Suite. We have several new door prize sponsors such as Ancestry and Family tree Maker. More exhibitors, sponsors, and door prize donations yet to come! You can view all the great speakers and their subjects at http://www.fhexpos.com/events/upcoming.php?event_id=48

And last, a number of poster and registration packets were sent to all societies and city libraries with a

genealogy section in the four state region. If you haven't received your packet, please let us know by responding to this email. If you need more colorful posters or cards, please let us know. Attached is our updated poster that you can make copies if needed.

Again, thanks so much for supporting the Colorado Family History Expo. We look forward to making this an annual event for all societies in the area to enjoy!

Bob Larson
President
Larimer County Genealogical Society
Email: President@lcgsc.org
Website: www.lcgsc.org

Holly Hansen
President
Family History Expos
Email: Holly@fhexpos.com
Website: www.Fhexpos.com



2010 NGS Family History Conference Planned for Salt Lake City

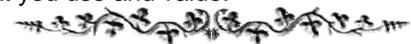
Plans are underway for the 2010 NGS Family History Conference to be held in Salt Lake City on 28 April through 1 May 2010. Please note the conference will be held earlier than usual in 2010, so save the date.

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

The announcement was made at the last Society meeting that the website for 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.

And Coming Soon

Work is being completed to have a searchable index of obituaries that were printed in the local Cheyenne newspapers from 1965 through 2008 include on the Society Web-site.

Websites that may be Helpful in your Research

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

World War I Veterans' Records now Available at State of Washington's Digital Archives

The Washington state Digital Archives has a new program allowing people to access records of about 48,000 World War I veterans from Washington. Copies of World War I Service Statement Cards from 1917 to 1919, recently indexed by Washington Historical Records Project volunteers, are now available and searchable online at the Digital Archives. The United States War Department had originals of the cards, and copies were provided to the Washington State Auditor many years ago.

Information contained in the records includes full name, serial number, race, place inducted, place of birth, unit assignments, ranks attained, engagements fought in, wounds received, dates served overseas, date of demobilization, and degree of disability (if any). Volunteer Sam Cagle has provided added value to the records with a glossary that fully identifies the many military abbreviations used in the records.

To search, go to <http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/TitleInfo.aspx?TID=640>.

FamilySearch Indexing Update: New York State Census, Belgian, and Argentina Projects Added 1911 Census: All English Counties Now Complete

FindMyPast.com has now added the remaining English Counties (Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland) and the missing Gateshead district records into the county of Durham. Therefore all English counties are now complete and online.

Scanning of Welsh records is well underway and some data from Wales should be available in the next 4 to 6 weeks.

New Local Website! The Fort Collins Historical Society has launched it's new website. It is full of excellent resources for Larimer County history, notably an extensive bibliography of Fort Collins, Larimer County and Colorado history books. The new site is at: <http://fchistoricalociety.googlepages.com>



WYCO-09 Genealogy Research Trip Sunday, September 20 to Sunday, September 27, 2009 Family History Library (FHL), Salt Lake City, Utah

Gone Researchin'

Travel with a group of genealogists from southeastern Wyoming and Northeastern Colorado to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. All the arrangements have been made for you. We've chartered a bus that'll leave from the Laramie County Library between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. Sunday, September 20 and return Sunday evening, September 26. Stay at the Plaza Hotel or the Crystal Inn. Research your family history at the world's largest genealogy library with one-on-one assistance from professional genealogist, Jane Carpenter. For more information contact Sue Seniawski sseniawski@aol.com



Planning a Genealogy Vacation

By Kimberly Powell, About.com

Combining a summer vacation with a genealogy research trip can be rewarding and fun for you and your family. When your genealogy research next sends you on the road, try these tips for preventing frustration and achieving success.

What is Your Goal?

The first step in the planning process, choosing a specific family or individual to concentrate on will help keep your trip focused and make the planning easier.

Know Where You're Going

Before you go too far in planning your trip, be sure you're headed for the right location! You don't want to spend hours in a church or courthouse, only to learn later that the records of your family are actually kept in the next town or county. Current geographical and political boundaries are not necessarily the ones in existence when your family lived in the area. I've got ancestors who spent multiple generations on the same piece of land, yet resided in three different counties during that time period due to boundary changes.

Know What's Available

Once you have decided which areas you would like to visit, take time to familiarize yourself with the record sources generally available in that region. Some good resources for this include:

- LDS Research Guides and LDS Family History Library Catalog for good, general outlines of available records for a specific location.
- City, county, parish, state or country GenWeb page to learn more about sources for a specific location, and ask for recommendations.
- The Library of Congress Card Catalog to determine what books have been published on the county or area you are planning to visit.

Prepare Checklists

If you haven't already done so, go through the research you have already compiled on the family and use this to create a list of facts or theories that you would like to prove or disprove, and a "to-do" list of records that you would like to check. To help you with this process, many genealogy software programs offer a "to-do" list tool, or the utility software, [GenSmarts](#), can analyze your genealogy file and produce research recommendations.

Do Your Homework

Before you leave home, spend time on the Internet and on the phone to find office hours, holdings and other details on courthouses, libraries, archives, historical societies and other record repositories that you plan to visit. If the library or archive's catalog is online, make a list of records you wish to find, concentrating especially on sources unique to the area where you are researching, including manuscript collections, unpublished papers and records, photographs and local history books. Call ahead to make sure that the records you want to look at are currently available to researchers.

Map a Strategy

The more familiar you are with the area you're planning to visit, the easier your research trip will be. Obtain not only present-day highway maps, but also maps contemporary with the life of your ancestors. The maps I don't research without are prepared by the USGS. These small-scale, topographic maps include county road numbers, farm roads, and many churches and private cemeteries.

Pack for Success

You don't want to know how many times I've lamented during a genealogy vacation over things that I forgot to bring with me. Here's a short checklist to get you started:

- copies of your research goals and to-do lists
- copies of your pedigree charts and family group records
- plenty of pencils (many record repositories do not allow the use of pens)
- blank charts and forms, including pedigree charts, family group sheets, research logs and forms for abstracting or extracting records (such as blank census forms)
- a laptop computer if you have one (check with the individual repositories to be sure their allowed)
- a magnifying glass to help in reading old records
- comfortable clothes and shoes (you may spend a lot of your research time standing at counters or squatting in old, dusty basements). Stick with business casual over sweats or jeans, for better service.
- camera, batteries and plenty of film (or memory cards if your camera is digital)
- a tape recorder

Visiting any where your ancestors lived can be an extremely exciting and rewarding experience. Walking the land and visiting the cemeteries where my ancestors lived brings me closer to them than a piece of paper could ever do. While it's great to jump in the car and go, advance planning usually results in a much more rewarding adventure. I'd really hate to have you go home disappointed when you find out the courthouse is closed for repairs.

Also,

From the Editor -

Please remember if you are visiting rural cemeteries to do so safely.

- Don't go alone and let someone else know where you will be.
- Take a cell phone
- Wear comfortable shoes and clothing
- Take Water
- Be cautious of poisonous plants, insects and snakes.



Such Is The Life Of A Census Taker

From the Rock Springs Rocket
Submitted by Margie Dreiling

Some indication of the unusual phases of the 1930 census taking is shown in the record just submitted to the supervisor's office in the Rock Springs National Bank building by one Sweetwater county enumerator, Sylvester Tynsky, who has completed the largest enumeration district, in point of area, in all of the five counties comprising the local census district.

Enumerator Tynsky, whose home is at Winton, Began his work on April 2, his district covering election precincts 22, 23 and 25, almost the entire eastern third of Sweetwater county from north to south, taking in Bitter Creek to Wamsutter and north to the Lost Soldier oil field, Loyal to his trust, on April 4, he started from Wamsutter to enumerate a family on a ranch far in the interior

hidden away in the snow. He made two attempts to get to the ranch through mud and snow, managing to get within twelve miles of his objective when he was forced to quit. His report card for that day showed that he had spent twenty hours, most of it at night, in this one attempt.

The census law requires every enumerator to canvass every part of his district, and hearing of two men residing in north Sweetwater county, he had gone nearly seventy-eight miles in his quest when he was informed that the men had gone to Rawlins to stand trial for cattle rustling, they having been enjoying their freedom under bond while under indictment.

Mr. Tynsky, who covered 100 miles with his automobile during his work reports that the only others he missed in that entire region were eight Mexicans, who had been working on the railroad in the Cherokee district, west of Wamsutter. The foreman of this gang told the enumerator that the Mexicans had drawn their pay the day before Mr. Tynsky arrived and had gone to Wamsutter, where they had seen visions of pots of gold on the ends of rainbows elsewhere and had scattered from the point.

To the supervisor, Mr. Tynsky reported that everything else in his large district had been covered.

Remember 2010 will be the next Federal Census



Society Meetings

Cheyenne Genealogical and Historical Society

July 14, 2009

How to travel safely by identifying your medical needs and providing personal contact information in case of emergency.

Meeting will be in the Laramie County Library at 6:00.

The Society will take a Summer vacation from meetings but, don't forget the *Lakeview Cemetery Living History Walk* on the 24th of July at Lakeview Cemetery



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.

June 9, 2009

Cheyenne Library Power Point Program

Discussion of the Cheyenne Genealogical Library by Sue Seniawski

July 14, 2009

Wyoming State Archives Web Site

New additions to the Wyoming State Archives web page by Cindy Brown, Wyoming State Archivist.



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.



Please remember your 2009-2010 dues should be paid before August 31st to insure that your name will be included in the new Genealogical Society Directory.

You can mail your payment to the genealogical society at

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



Have a Great Summer –
See you in September!