



# THE BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGIST



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# BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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The **BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** was incorporated in 1978,  
and registered with Revenue Canada as a charitable society.

*The Society promotes and encourages interest in genealogy and family history in British Columbia.*

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**The British Columbia Genealogist**  
is published four times per year (March,  
June, September, December)

### **Meetings**

Join us on the 2nd Wednesday each  
month, from 7:30-9:30 pm.

On our **Zoom** site.

*Details will be emailed to you prior to each  
meeting.*

### **Meeting Location**

**Online** for the present.

### **Membership Fees:**

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discussion/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/bcgsdiscussion/)

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## A message from our President...

What a year 2020 has been! BCGS  
started out with lots of plans, only to have  
them dashed by Covid-19: our library has  
been closed more than it has been open,  
members' meetings have been moved to  
Zoom and our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cruise  
had to be postponed for a year.

But, we have changed for the benefit of  
all our members. The Zoom Members'  
meetings are attended by double the  
number of members who attended our in-  
person meetings, and attendance has  
been increasing with each meeting.  
Coffee Chat meetings have expanded,  
both in scope and in attendance. Our new  
website is not only functional, it's  
expanding and providing more information  
for our members every month.

Although our library has been closed for  
most of the last year, a dozen of our most  
dedicated of members have (at different  
times) been using this time to complete  
organizing and cataloging projects for the  
benefit of all members. As soon as we get  
permission from Dr Bonnie Henry, the  
library will be re-opened for us to meet  
and do research.

While 2020 has caused a lot of  
consternation, it has  
also shown us how to  
change, expand and  
evolve to offer more  
and different benefits  
to all of us.

### **Bill Clayton**

President 2020-2021

[president@bcgs.ca](mailto:president@bcgs.ca)



## From the Desk of the Editor

March has come in like a lion! Though the odd day tempts me to head out to the garden, that wind is still very winterish. Better to stay indoors, there's lots to read this month in our Journal, and those weeds can wait.



This month, many of our articles focus on stories from British Columbia - our way of 'hunkering down' genealogically speaking.

Jan Graf shares the story of an early immigrant family to the Okanagan, the Ehmkes. Janice Kidwell brings a post card from Penticton, and the story behind a special landmark. Jane Murphy Thomas found two scrapbooks, and discovered a story from Tranquille near Kamloops. Donalda James continues with tales of the development of early Vancouver Island, and Cynthia Hamilton follows the trail of her husband's great-grandmother Marion across Canada.

But several of our authors this month are exploring further afield. Susan Johnston takes us to Bessarabia in Eastern Europe and Karen Wells shares her Mayflower ancestors from the eastern USA. Meg McLaughlin is exploring England (virtually), and Ann Buchanan reviews a book about a particularly violent time along the Scottish border.

This edition of our journal is quite a trip ! Hope that you enjoy the ride.



Lynne Fletcher  
[Journal@bcgs.ca](mailto:Journal@bcgs.ca)

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## GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

### GERMANS FROM RUSSIA : BACKGROUND

Submitted by Susan (Pfeifer) Johnston

#### WHERE THEY CAME FROM:

Both sides of my family were Germans from Russia. My paternal side of the family originated in Germany with some of their ancestors immigrating to Poland for several decades and then on to Bessarabia, Russia (now Ukraine) in the early 1800s where they lived until my grandparents immigrated to Canada in 1910.

My maternal side of the family also originated primarily in Germany before they moved to Russia and then went to Bessarabia in about 1816. Some of them also came from Poland, Prussia and Hungary.

#### SOME BACKGROUND ON BESSARABIA, RUSSIA:

After deposing her husband in 1762, one of Catherine the Great's first acts was to issue manifestos inviting "foreigners" (except Jews) to settle in Russia. She provided numerous incentives for people to settle beyond the provision of land, including freedom of religious practice, and exemptions from taxes and military service. Recruiters went into Germany and signed people up to emigrate.

There were a multitude of reasons that affected our ancestors' decisions to emigrate to Russia including:

- Free transportation to Russia
- Large tracts of free land, plenty of water, free timber
- The free exercise of religion
- Interest-free loans for purchasing equipment
- Freedom from taxes for ten to thirty years, depending on the area of settlement
- Exemption from military service for themselves and their descendants
- Local self-government in colonies

These German immigrants began arriving in the Black Sea region, known as South Russia, in the early 1800s. They lived there for almost 150 years, mostly in rural villages, fiercely holding onto their German identity. These former German villages are located in current day Ukraine, Moldova, and Romania.

While my family went to Bessarabia, there were many other areas populated by Germans including along the along the Volga River (called the Volga Germans), Crimea, Odessa and environs (e.g. Beresan, Kherson), Volhynia (Poland and Ukraine) and the Caucasus region.

Further information on the various areas of settlements can be found here:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History\\_of\\_Germans\\_in\\_Russia,\\_Ukraine\\_and\\_the\\_Soviet\\_Union](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Germans_in_Russia,_Ukraine_and_the_Soviet_Union)

## GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

The first German settlers arrived in 1787, first from West Prussia, followed by immigrants from Western and Southwestern Germany (including Roman Catholics), and from the Warsaw area. Also many Germans, beginning in 1803, immigrated from the northeastern area of Alsace west of the Rhine River. They settled roughly 30 miles northeast of Odessa (city) in Ukraine, forming several enclaves that quickly expanded, resulting in daughter colonies springing up nearby. In total, approximately 2,100 families from Germany settled in Bessarabia over the years, including about 370 families who had immigrated from the Kingdoms of Württemberg and Bavaria, 1,646 families from the Kingdom of Poland, and about 84 families who were resettled from the Cherson Province in Russia.

As ordered by the Tsar during his recruitment, almost all newcomers worked as farmers. Each German family received 60 desyatinas (about 65 hectares) from the state. The settlement area lay in the Bessarabian black earth belt, whose earth is considered among the best farming land in Europe. As such, fertilization was not needed. The main crops grown were wheat and corn.

The Black Sea German colonies can be broken down into five main geographic areas: Bessarabia, Crimea/Taurida, Dobrukscha, Ekaterinoslav (also spelled Jekaterinoslaw), and Odessa. Interestingly, Catherine the Great ruled that each village would be only of one religion and certain villages were Lutheran, Catholic etc. My ancestors were Lutheran and therefore lived in Lutheran villages. The Germans were fiercely "German" and held on to their German heritage and language and seldom if ever associated or married outside their groups.

### **THE 1900'S .... MOVING ON AGAIN....**

The Russian German settlements had become highly productive and successful—just as Catherine had hoped. However, in 1871, privileges and promises made to the Germans living in Russia began to be revoked by the Russian government including the exemption from mandatory military service, prompting waves of migration to the United States, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, Australia and, after 1941, to Germany.

World War I was the first time Russia went to war against Germany since the Napoleonic era, and Russian Germans were quickly suspected of having enemy sympathies. Many Russian Germans were exiled to Siberia by the Tsar's government as enemies of the state. This period was also one of regular food shortages, caused by famine and the lack of long-distance transportation of food during the fighting. Coupled with the typhus epidemic and famine of the early 1920s, as many as a third of Russia's Germans may have perished.

During WWII, as a result of the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941, Stalin decided to deport the German Russians to internal exile and forced labor in Siberia and Central Asia. Shortly after the end of the war, more than one million ethnic Germans from Russia were in special settlements and labor camps in Siberia and Central Asia. It is estimated that 200,000 to 300,000 died of starvation, lack of shelter, over-work, and disease during the 1940s. Many German Russians fled from Russia during this period.

## GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

In 1948, Stalin made the banishment permanent, declaring that Russia's Germans were permanently forbidden from returning to Europe, but this was rescinded after his death in 1953. Many Russian Germans returned to European Russia, but quite a few remained in Soviet Asia.

### Where is/was Bessarabia?

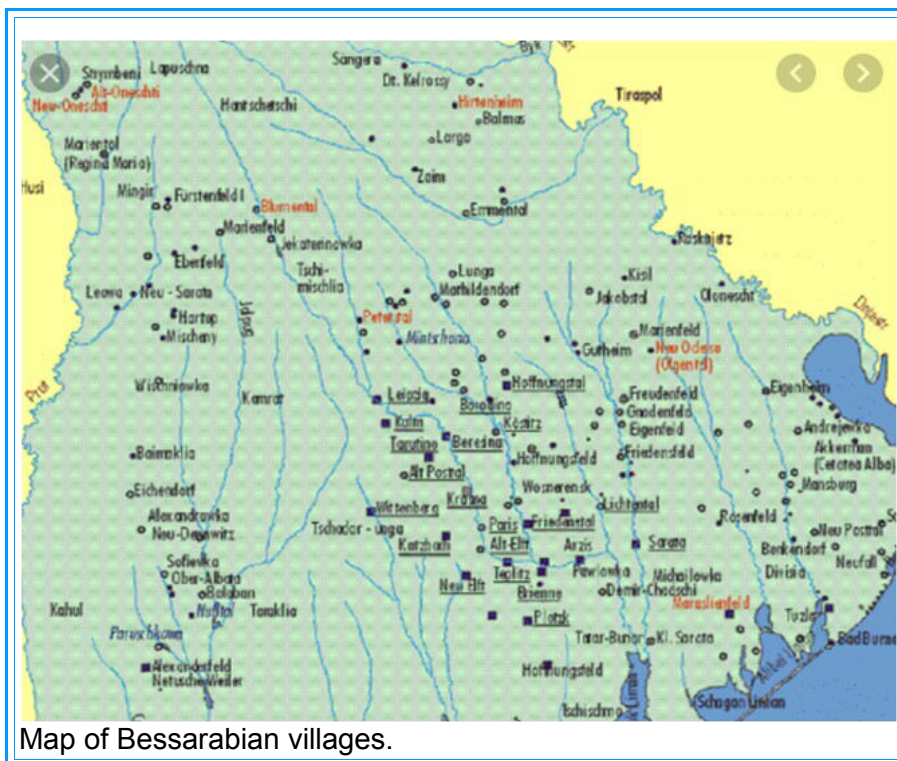
Bessarabia is bounded by the Prut River on the west, the Dniester River on the east, and the Black Sea to the southeast.

Currently, Bessarabia is partly in Ukraine and partly in Moldova. During most of the 1800s, it was part of Russia. Between WWI and 1940, it was part of Romania.



Map from Wikipedia.org

### Where did our ancestors live?



Map of Bessarabian villages.

## GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

### LEAVING RUSSIA ...

As conditions deteriorated for the settlers, North America became the new promised land. Canada and the United States issued their own invitations to settlers and sent recruiters to Europe. Just as the Russian government had attracted Germans with free land and special rights, the governments of this New World made similar offers less than a century later. About 300,000 Germans left Russia to seek land and freedom in the Americas with a large number settling in North and South Dakota as well as California, Texas and Arizona. The Northern Pacific Railway attempted to attract German immigrants to come and live in the prairie area. Instead, large numbers of Russian-Germans were drawn by the prospect of cheap and nearly limitless land. Between 1870 and 1915 a lot of families moved to America to escape oppression in Russia. Today, half of North Dakota's population has Russian-German roots.

Many came to Canada also as, according to Canada's Dominion Lands Act of 1872, every immigrant could obtain for \$10 a 160-acre homestead in the West, which became his property after three years if certain conditions were met. The Prairies, like those in the Dakotas, resembling as they did the steppes of southern Russia, were to prove very attractive to many German Russians, especially Black Sea Germans. Thousands took up the invitation to come to Canada, especially between 1900-1913 when expanding railway branch lines made the Prairies readily accessible to new settlers, settling in the area around Medicine Hat, Alberta as well as Saskatchewan. Some settlers migrated first to the U.S. before continuing on to the Canadian West; in fact, one of the heaviest migration movements to Canada in that period was that of "German-Americans" streaming northward across the border—Germans from Russia who had first settled in the U.S.

Both sides of my family left Russia in the early 1900s. My paternal grandparents and their young children left their village in Bessarabia in 1910, travelling to Bremen in Germany and boarding a ship that docked at the port of Halifax. There they travelled across the country and settled in the Medicine Hat, Alberta area. My maternal great grandparents and their children left their village in 1904, travelling to Bremen and boarded their ship which arrived in New York and then travelled to North Dakota to join family already there. They remained in North Dakota until 1910 when they immigrated to the Medicine Hat area.

Some Celebrities with Germans from Russia ancestors:

- Catherine the Great - Empress of Russia, who originally invited Germans to Russia was herself born in Prussia.
- Lawrence Welk - Bandleader and host of "The Lawrence Welk Show".
- John Denver - (singer)
- Randy Meisner - An American musician and songwriter, best known as a founding member of Poco and the Eagles.
- Ruth Bader Ginsburg - Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court
- Vladimir Lenin



## GERMANS FROM RUSSIA

Sources for this material include:

North Dakota State University: [www.ndsu.com](http://www.ndsu.com)

Black Sea German Research: [www.blackseagr.org](http://www.blackseagr.org)

Odessa German Russian Genealogical Library: [www.odessa3.org](http://www.odessa3.org)

Family Search/Church of Latter Day Saints:

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germans\\_from\\_Russia\\_Genealogy](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germans_from_Russia_Genealogy)

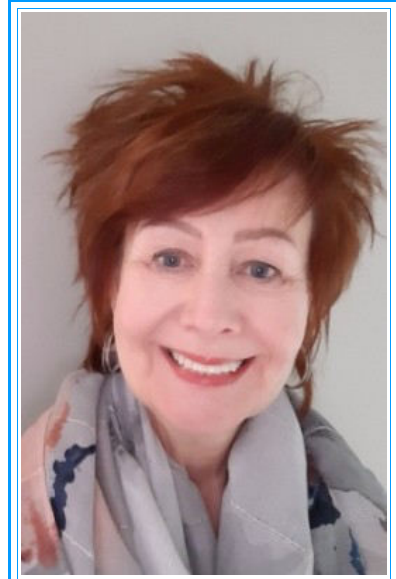
Ancestry: [www.ancestry.ca](http://www.ancestry.ca)

My Heritage: [www.myheritage.ca](http://www.myheritage.ca)

University of Alberta: [www.ualberta.ca](http://www.ualberta.ca)

Both sides of Susan's ancestors were Bessarabian Germans from Russia. Growing up mostly in BC, much of her family lost track of each other and she didn't really know anything about them or their history only that "they were German". Armed with just the names of her maternal great grandparents in her baby book and an old (partially incorrect) family history story written by one of her dad's family, a DNA test, and various online resources and education she has been able to research and document her family history back to the late 1700s. Along the way, she has connected with many newfound cousins both in Canada and worldwide.

*You can contact Susan at:* [6335susan@gmail.com](mailto:6335susan@gmail.com)



### Cover Picture

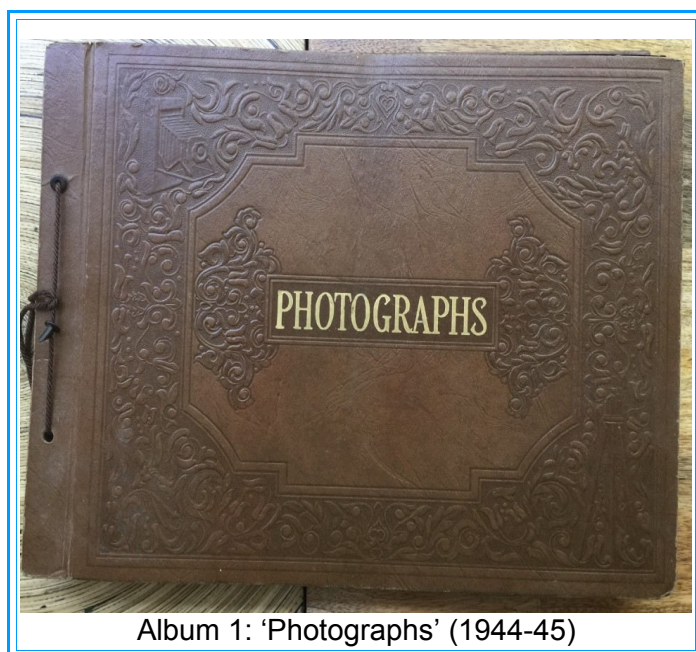
Our cover picture this month is a post card from Kamloops, BC, a picture of the Tranquille Sanatorium. Built in 1907 to treat the epidemic of tuberculosis that was spreading in British Columbia, this facility was originally named the King Edward VII Sanatorium. The facility had gardens, houses for staff, a gymnasium, a farm, and a fire department. After the hospital was closed in 1958, it reopened a year later as a facility to treat the mentally ill, but closed permanently in 1983. Currently, this site operates as a farm, but is open for tours of the grounds and Halloween theatrics in the tunnels between buildings.



### Kamloops' Tranquille Sanatorium: A Patient's Photo Essay

Jane Murphy Thomas, (janemurphythomas@gmail.com)  
Member # 5727

When I bought my Vancouver condo in 2016, the owner had simply left five years before and never returned, leaving the place unoccupied and full of her belongings: furniture, clothing, papers, artwork, books, kitchen ware, etc. For many years, she had been spending several months a year in the USA and had a home in Phoenix. By then elderly and very ill, the apartment sale was handled by a power-of-attorney and buying the place meant I was responsible to get rid of all the stuff. That meant furniture ads on Craigslist and a lot of give-aways to charity shops.

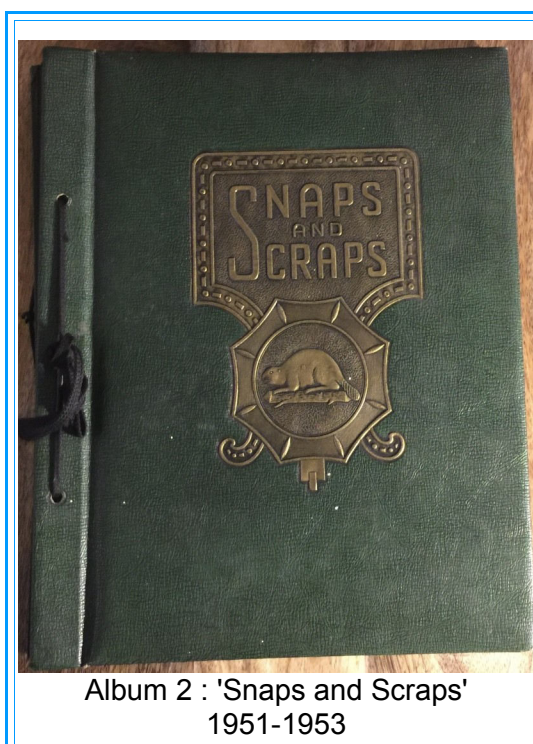


Album 1: 'Photographs' (1944-45)

Among the things were two photo albums and a small stack of eight cancelled passports. Being a family history buff with a passion for old photos I could not dream of chucking out any of this stuff, but what to do with these things created some angst. A quick look through the albums showed me they were from the 1940's, and I assumed they were the albums of Jean Dunning, the condo's former owner. I wrote to the power-of-attorney about what to do with

the albums but got no reply. I held on to the passports knowing that legally they were supposed to be turned into government, which I would get around to do some day but they just added to my questions: All the passports, starting from the 50's, were in one woman's name, but not Jean's. Why would she have saved those passports all these years?

The albums and passports got put into a box and forgotten for several months but later resurfaced. This time, I looked carefully at the albums and realized they were not random photos as they had seemed earlier.



Album 2 : 'Snaps and Scraps'  
1951-1953

## TRANQUILLE

On the contrary, they were put together in a clear sequence, a deliberate photo essay



The Tranquille Sanatorium near Kamloops, B.C.

covering several years and told a story from summer to winter, from holiday to holiday, year to year. As I learned then, it was important to notice that one album cover labelled 'Photographs' comes first, with the other cover labelled 'Snaps and Scraps' comes second. The first album was put together as a conscience effort to document the place and friends, while the photos in the second album are of a more random nature. Following this sequence, the narrative became clear that it was being told by a patient in the Tranquille TB Sanatorium near Kamloops. Having moved to BC from overseas and Ontario only three years earlier, I had never heard of Tranquille before.

The first album's (1944-45) first page has photos showing the sanatorium, its grounds and garden, formal dining room and other buildings. The rest of the pages show patient after patient and many staff members and their activities, each photo labelled with white ink, including dates.



The Patients Main Dining Room, Tranquille Sanatorium, Tranquille, B. C.

## TRANQUILLE

The second album starts in Sept. 1951 and ends with the farewell party on March 31, 1953, finally being discharged after a span of almost 10 years of being a TB patient. Although the time between 1945 and 1951 is missing, it appears the patient and many of her patient friends were located in the 'East Pavilion' and later moved to the 'Main'. Many of the photos of the first album show young women in bed and in treatment but still joking and having fun and that is still the case in the second album. They obviously made the best of their time, showing a sense of humor. One page is labelled, "what the smart young patient is wearing this spring. Our models are shown displaying four styles of house coats". A few pages later photos show, "contestants in the beauty contest: men only". Then parties for Halloween, Christmas, birthdays and just for fun any time.

On closer look, the second album shows what seems like quite a different (more mature?) atmosphere. It's relevant that there is a six-year gap between the end of the first album and the start of the second. Since the two albums were compiled so methodically, my guess is that there would have been one or two additional albums compiled in those six years, but, if so, they have disappeared. Whereas most photos in the first album showed only women patients often confined to bed and in their fashionable bed clothes, many in the second album are outdoors showing off the beautiful gardens and facility and patients being outdoors for activities. Subjects are dressed in street clothes, and include young men,



Jean and Mary in the Forbidden Garden the day they took 15 minutes exercise



Mary and Jean

patients really take 10 years of treatment to recover?

apparently housed in the West Pavilion for their treatment, while women were in the East Pavilion.

The albums are a wonderful, and probably very unusual, social history of an institution as told from a patient's point of view. They show a different side to long term health treatment and would be important to any related research or archives. People who study these albums, indeed do research from them, may learn some things about how TB was treated in those days. But knowing nothing about this subject myself, did TB

## TRANQUILLE



No, I haven't a stomach ache  
(Gladys)

So, who was the patient who compiled the albums? As said above, the albums were part of Jean's possessions so I assumed she'd compiled them. But on much closer read, I started noticing an occasional first-person mention ('I', 'me', 'my', etc.) and that referred to a woman called Gladys. Then I was amazed to realize, this was the first name of the woman in the passports! Several pages into the first album, her family name, 'Groves' also appears and is the same as the passport, which shows her full name as Gladys Isabella Groves. If I had dutifully sent off the passports, I would know nothing about Gladys after her discharge in 1953.

And over the pages, the relationship of Gladys and Jean becomes very clear: roommates for several years at Tranquille! Page one shows Gladys ('of the hills') in Bed 1 and Jean in Bed 2. Gladys has labelled Jean's photo as: "RN. Drever of Outlook, Haney and VGH". Apparently, Jean had been a nurse at Vancouver General Hospital. Clearly, they stayed best friends for the rest of their lives. All the years up to 2006, when Gladys

died at the age of 85 (as I discovered her obituary via by Google), they also lived close to each other for at least 20 years. In all the passports, Gladys' address is on Pendrell street, only 2 blocks from what is now my condo. So why did Jean ("of bed 2") have these albums? Now I imagine she must have been in better health than Gladys ("of the hills") in 2006, and Gladys wanted her old room-mate to have them.

What stands out throughout the two albums is these young women spending all this time in treatment, yet seeming to really enjoy their time as if at a holiday resort. The albums are full of people, including visiting family members having fun, a surprisingly positive image for such a place. In two side-by-side photos, Gladys and her mother, on one of her monthly visits, have their thumbs stuck out, pretending to be hitchhiking away from Tranquille but Gladys writes below the photos, 'not that we don't like the place'.

About Gladys Groves, besides being a long-term TB patient, once discharged in 1953 at the age of 32, she became a very widely travelled woman. The second albums' final photo shows her getting on a Canadian Pacific airlines flight (in Kamloops?) where she writes, 'and so we say farewell to old Tranquille'. As the below passports show, within five years of her discharge, she went on many more flights, seeing the world well into her 80's.

In the album and obituary, there is no mention of a husband or siblings, but from the albums it appears she was never married and was an only child. In the first album, a page of photos is labelled 'the Groves family', who came to visit Gladys at the sanatorium, but they show only Mum, Dad and Gladys. Also, Groves was her family name and the only name in all her passports and until death.

## TRANQUILLE

As her several passports state, Gladys Isabella Groves was born 13 December 1921, in New Westminster, BC and was a secretary. After being a long term sanatorium patient, her passports show she became a world traveler. Passports issued between 1958 and 2005, show she visited Spain, France, Austria, Poland, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, Yugoslavia, Greece, UK, USA, Japan, Tahiti, Cook Islands, Tonga, Fiji, New Hebrides, Egypt, Peru, Hong Kong, Thailand, China, India (with a trekking permit), Kenya, Tanzania, Turkey, Costa Rica, Argentina, Guatemala, Chile, Brazil, Indonesia and Jordan.

Through the wonders of Google in 2017, I learned that the Tranquille Sanatorium is an easily searchable subject and donated the two albums to the Kamloops Museum and Archives.

Photo Albums donated to the Kamloops Museum and Archives:

Album 1: cover 'Photographs' (1944-45)

Album 2: cover 'Snaps and Scraps' (1951-1953)

*Note: This article was previously published in the Kamloops Family History Society's journal, Family Footsteps. Jane's article appeared in the Fall 2020 issue.*

*The society's website is <http://kfh.org/>*

Jane Murphy Thomas is a social anthropologist with 30 years experience working in international aid projects in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Kashmir.

Now retired in Vancouver, she is researching her four Irish family lines in Ontario: Murphys and Mahoneys in Hastings County and Tates and Whittens in Wellington/Dufferin.

Contact Jane at:

[janemurphythomas@gmail.com](mailto:janemurphythomas@gmail.com)



### Looking for More Books About Our Topics ?

#### 1. German Immigrants:

947 HEI - Memories of the Black Sea Germans: The Odyssey of a Pioneering People by Joseph S. Height

947 ECK - Food and Customs: Recipes of the Black Sea Germans by Josephine Eckman, Vi Schielke, and Katharine Meidinger

#### 2. Early Settlements on Vancouver Island

71.13 KEN - The men with wooden feet, the Spanish Exploration of the Pacific Northwest by John Kendrick

#### 3. The mapping of the Prairies - Fractional Townships, and Land sales.

929 ' 971.2 OBE - Back to the Land; a Genealogical guide to Finding Farms on the Canadian Prairies by compiler Dave Obee

## MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD

### The saga of your great grandmother, Marion McGillivray McLeod

Submitted by Cynthia Hamilton  
Member #3216

The following are three letters : the first from me to a “new” cousin, Cheryl; the second is Cheryl’s response; and the final one an email to all the “old” cousins, who are new to Cheryl, along with a picture of her newly found cousins, my children and their family. Cheryl and I connected on Ancestry through our tree similarities after I was able to get her mother’s married name.

I thought it might help someone else to know that brick walls may look solid, but sometimes they come down even after 30 plus years.

Dear Cheryl,

I’m so glad you emailed. I got your email a couple of hours ago but at 60, yoga has to be the first thing I do these days. I want to preface that I believe family comes in all shapes and sizes – whether by blood, marriage, adoption or sometimes circumstance. Whatever brings people together to share experiences, strength and hope, for me, that makes family. So, in my 14,000+ tree, I consider them all my family and some of those people have the most fascinating stories.

Some background: Rod McLeod and I went to his birth town of Yellowknife, NWT in 1984. At that time, he told me he was related to half the town. I set out to prove him wrong (not the best basis for a marriage – probably why we divorced 20 years ago) but in proving him right, I got hooked on genealogy.

Sometime around when this picture was taken of Grandma May (Hurrell) McLeod and my youngest daughter, Lidia (Adrian), about 1987, May sat down with me and told me two stories. The second I’m still working on, but the first story was about her mother-in-law, Marion McGillivray. She told me about your mother, Jacqueline, but was under the impression that Marion and Osborn had a fling, resulting in a pregnancy. This is why I asked whether you had taken a DNA test. Of course, DNA doesn’t lie and we now know that Jacqueline had told her she was adopted. She also said she had



spent a good portion of time wondering what happened to Jacqueline and hoped to reconnect. Of course, we don’t know the “why” but I will tell you what I have learned about this great-great grandmother of my children, and your great grandmother.

## MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD

Marion (Marian, Mernie) McGillivray (McGilvray) was born March 20, 1883 in Durham, Grey County, Ontario, Canada. Her parents, John McGillivray and Jane Young, came from Scotland. John and Jane had 5 children who lived, 4 boys and Marion. Jane died before 1891. I've come across one thread that suggested it was child birth related but haven't yet proved that. In any case, Marion would have been under 10 when her mother died. Although the Ontario archives show she did attend school, I have, thus far, been unable to locate her school records. Our next Ontario trip will include a drive to Grey county to look at their museum, but, of course, until the Covid-19 restrictions end, everything is closed.

I suspect Marion probably had it pretty hard after her mother died. Being the only girl there would have been a lot of expectations on her. I notice her neighbours were the Orlands so hopefully the fact that she named a child after them indicates they were somewhat helpful.

Marion met Robert Ewing McLeod and they eloped in Winnipeg on May 3, 1900. She was 17 at the time. This is the excerpt but I don't know if she gave her real age.

<b>BRIDE'S GIVEN NAMES:</b> MERNIE	<b>REGISTRATION DATE:</b>
<b>GROOM'S LAST NAME:</b> MCLEOD	<b>DATE OF MARRIAGE:</b> 03/05/1900
<b>GROOM'S GIVEN NAMES:</b> ROBERT EWAN	<b>PLACE OF MARRIAGE:</b> WPG
<b>BRIDE'S LAST NAME:</b> MCGILLIVRAY	<b>REGISTRATION NUMBER:</b> 1900.001603
<b>BRIDE'S GIVEN NAMES:</b> MERNIE	<b>REGISTRATION DATE:</b>

At the time Marion had relatives in Winnipeg but I haven't followed up on them. Marion and Robert had a boy: Orland Alexander McLeod born May 18, 1901 in Winnipeg. May gave me this certificate when I first started:

E SERIES



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND  
PUBLIC WELFARE  
LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, WINNIPEG

## Certificate of Birth

N<sup>o</sup> 77517

*This is to Certify that the following details of birth are on record in the office of the Recorder of Vital Statistics.*

Name           - ORLAND ALEXANDER MCLEOD -           Sex Male.

Date of Birth May 18, 1901. Place of Birth Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Name of Father Robert Ewen McLeod. Birth Place Not Given.

Residence Winnipeg, Manitoba. Occupation Barber.

Maiden Name of Mother Marian McGillivray. Birth Place Not Given.

Registration No. 527 Year 1901 Registration Division Winnipeg



GB

**Given** under my Hand and Seal of the Department of Health and Public Welfare, this 1st day of August 1945.

L E Stewart

Acting Recorder, Province of Manitoba

FORM 10-13M-2-45



## MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD

It was interesting (and for many years annoying) that Marion didn't give her place of birth.

Robert and Marion moved to Fractional Townships 4, 5, 6, 7 in Range 30, all West of The 4th Meridian, Alberta, Canada which is near Pincher Creek Alberta. They were there for a good part of Orland's childhood. They then moved to Richmond BC where Robert was a barber and he died of Type 1 diabetes in 1919.

Orland went on to marry May Hurrell. When he died, in Langley actually, his place of birth was listed as Pincher Creek, Alberta. This took me, in the early 90's, on a road trip to Pincher Creek to find out more about Marion. Of course, this was a lost lead.

Shortly after Robert's death, Marion married Spencer Osborn (this is the spelling May gave me, by the way. I know I've seen other spellings but I've chosen to keep it this way in my records). May told me Spencer was a taxi driver. This marriage certificate indicates he was in the "auto business".

Whatever the case, May's story was that it was "scandalous" for Marion to marry so soon after the death of her husband. Of course, we know, now, that it must have been incredibly hard for Marion at the end of Robert's life. Speaking from personal experience, hospice is never easy.

And although I was told that Marion was pregnant when she married Spencer, the dates and the DNA don't lie. Jacqueline was born 11 months after her parents married. And, as we now see, my daughter Stephanie's DNA isn't a match for yours.

VITAL STATISTICS ACT.	
REGISTERED	
SCHEDULE F.—Marriage Certificate.	
JUN 21 1920	
Marriage solemnized in the District of _____ B.C.	
REGISTRAR, B. C. & M.	
VICTORIA, B. C.	
No.	
Name and surname of bridegroom.	Spencer William Osborn
Age.	28
Condition, bachelor or widower.	B.
Rank or profession.	Auto Business
Residence.	Vancouver
Place of birth.	Dorset
Name and surname of father.	Arthur Osborn
Name and maiden surname of mother.	Mary Chrissie Osborn
Rank or profession of father.	Dry Goods Merchant
Religious denomination of bridegroom.	Methodist
Name and surname of bride.	Marion McLeod
Age.	36
Condition, spinster or widow.	Widow
Rank or profession.	
Residence.	Vancouver
Place of birth.	Dorham Ontario
Name and surname of father.	John McGillivray
Name and maiden surname of mother.	Jane Young
Rank or profession of father.	Deceased
Religious denomination of bride.	Presbyterian
Date of marriage.	June 22 <sup>d</sup> . 1920
Married at * _____ B.C., according to the	916 Johnson St.
rites and ceremonies of _____ Church by _____	Methodist _____
No. 48191	
This marriage was solemnized between us	Spencer William Osborn
	Marion McLeod
In the presence of	J. S. Cannon
	J. R. Sippell
(Signature of Minister or Clergyman)	W. J. Sippell

## MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD

Marion went on to possibly divorce Spencer and by 1928 she was living with her daughter at 3654 Point Grey Road, Vancouver.

### Cossette—Penrose

At the home of the bride's parents, 3654 Point Grey road, the wedding took place on Saturday evening of Julia May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Penrose, who became the bride of Mr. Arthur Lawrence Cossette, son of Mrs. G. Garrison. The ceremony was performed by Rev. George Biddle beneath an arch of pink and white flowers, trimmed with silver and white wedding bells.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a princess gown of white silk brocade with full train. Her embroidered veil of bridal net was held in place by a head-dress of orange blossoms, and she carried a bouquet of roses and lily of the valley.

Miss Jacqueline Marie Penrose, who attended as bridesmaid, wore pale pink chiffon with matching bolero, and carried a bouquet of pink roses and carnations to match the posy of flowers dressing her hair. Mr. Lee Morrell was the groomsman and acting as ushers were Mr. Roy Penrose and Mr. Archie McGillivray. Miss Jacqueline Penrose was the soloist during the register signing, accompanied by Mr. O. A. McLeod.

At the reception which followed the ceremony, guests were received by Mrs. Penrose wearing black silk velvet trimmed with silver, assisted by Mrs. Blair and Mrs. O. A. McLeod.

For travelling the bride changed to a black and white silk frock with black topcoat collared with fox. On returning from their wedding trip, Mr. and Mrs. Cossette will reside in Port Alberni.

She was a housekeeper for James Franklin Penrose at the time and married him on October 16, 1928. It was interesting to see that she had reverted to McLeod as a surname.

James Penrose had a daughter, Julia. Julia would have been Jacqueline's step-sister. It was lovely to see when Julia married in 1939 that her sister was part of the wedding. Marion lived on Point Grey Rd until at least 1952. And then she disappeared for me. Jacqueline was living there in 1941 and until this year, I had no clue where she went. But this year her death certificate was posted on the BC Archives.

And thus, I found out that Jacqueline married Frederick Evis. And when I searched for that name, I found Cheryl. This morning Cheryl, you have been kind enough to complete my 30 plus year search with the following letter :

*A few years ago I did a DNA test with Ancestry.ca which is how my 2nd cousin Janis found me six months ago. She had me download my results to two other DNA sites, GEDMatch and Family Tree. I have spent most of my life (I'm 73 yrs old) thinking that I had no family apart from a brother in the States whom I see infrequently, and have been so impressed with the extended family members that Janis keeps finding in her research.*

*After the death of her first husband, Robert Ewing McLeod, Marion McGillivray and her second husband, Spencer Wm Orsborn/ Osborn, adopted my mother Jacqueline in 1921. Jacqueline grew up in Vancouver. My mother moved to Toronto to marry my father, Frederick Evis, leaving Marion in Vancouver. I never really knew Marion in my childhood growing up in Toronto. When Marion knew she was dying of cancer, she came to live out her final days with her daughter in Toronto. I think I was only 6 or 7 at the time, and really can't remember my adoptive grandmother. If I do have a photo somewhere in the depths of my closet, it would be of an old Marion M. shortly before her death.*

MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD

28-09-335410

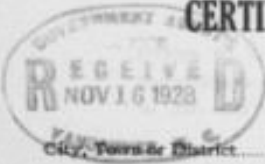
110

This form if placed in an envelope, marked "Dominion Statistics—Free, penalty for improper use \$300," and properly addressed will pass through the Mail "FREE."

FORM 2.

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE



REGISTERED Number 77-928  
(For use of Registrar of Vital Statistics)

City, Town or District

Municipality

BRIDEGROOM

1. Full name James Franklin  
(Surname) Baker (Given name)  
2. Occupation  
3. Bachelor, Widower or Divorced Widower  
4. Age 45 5. Religious Denomination Methodist  
6. Residence 2555 Alma Road Vancouver  
(If in Canada, province, county and post office address. If foreign, state country)  
7. Place of birth St. Catharines Ontario  
(If born in Canada, give county and post office address. If foreign, give country)  
8. Name of father George Albert Baker  
9. Place of birth of father Yukon Co. Ontario  
10. Maiden name of mother Jules DeLoraine  
11. Place of birth of mother Yukon Co. Ontario  
12. Can bridegroom read? yes Write? yes

BRIDE

13. Full name Marion  
(Surname) McLeod (Given name)  
14. Occupation Housekeeper  
15. Spinster, Widow or Divorced Widow  
16. Age 45 17. Religious Denomination United Church  
18. Residence 3634 Park Street Road  
(If in Canada, province, county and post office address. If foreign, state country)  
19. Place of birth St. Catharines Ontario  
(If born in Canada, give county and post office address. If foreign, give country)  
20. Name of father John McGillivray  
21. Place of birth of father Ontario Canada  
22. Maiden name of mother Jane Young  
23. Place of birth of mother Ontario Canada  
24. Can bride read? yes Write? yes

NOTE.—This form must not be mutilated. All information asked for is to be given, including full Christian and Surnames of all parties, and if for any reason this is impossible, the reason for the omission must be stated.

and a

25. When married October 10th day of 1928 (Month) 1928 (Year)  
26. Place of marriage 2225 Third Ave. W. Vancouver  
(Name of church or clergyman's residence in location of dwelling house)  
27. By license or banns license (If by license, give number) 203277A  
28. Signature of Groom James Franklin Baker  
Bride Marion M.C. Leod  
Name Calandra M. Leod  
Address 3634 St. J. Grey Rd.  
29. Witnesses Name May M. Leod  
Address 2225 Third St. Grey Rd.  
I certify the above stated particulars are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
Clergman John Dickie (Signature)  
Address 2225 Third Ave. W. Vancouver  
Religious Denomination United Church of Canada  
Registered Number 1741 Filed at this office 16th day November 1928  
Maloney District Registrar.

MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD

RACIAL ORIGIN IS LIMITED TO ARRIVAL IN BRITISH COLUMBIA BY PASS TO WHICH THE PRESENT FORMS THROUGH THE BRITISH COLUMBIAN IMMIGRATION ACTING AS A CITIZENSHIP (NATIONALITY). The terms "Canadian" or "American" should not be used for RACIAL ORIGIN, as they express CITIZENSHIP (NATIONALITY).

**PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
**PROVINCIAL BOARD OF HEALTH—DIVISION OF VITAL STATISTICS**  
**REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGE**

Reg. No. (Office use only)  
**4888**

**1. PLACE OF MARRIAGE:**  
 Name of City or place Vancouver B.C. Name of Municipality (if any) 1  
 Street or Road St. Andrews Wesley United Church House No. \_\_\_\_\_  
(If marriage occurred in a Church, etc. If in a private residence give street and number)

**BRIDEGROOM**

**2. PRINT name in full** EVIS FREDERICK ALLEN  
(Surname or last name) (Given or Christian name)

**3. Trade, profession or kind of work as spinner, grader, clerk, etc.** RCAF Flying Officer  
(If laborer specify kind of work above)

**4. Kind of industry or business as paper mill, lumber, bank, etc.** RCAF  
(If laborer specify kind of work above)

**5. Bachelor** Bachelor **6. Age** 29  
(State which) (In years)

**7. Religious denomination** United Church

**8. Citizenship (see marginal definition)** Canadian **9. Racial Origin (see marginal definition)** English

**10. Residence** 25 Russell Hill Road Toronto Ontario  
(Usual place of abode. If in city, street and No. Post Office Address for residents in rural parts not sufficient)

**11. Place of birth** Toronto - County York - Ontario  
(If born in Canada, province, county and city or town address. If foreign-born, country)

**12. Name of father** EVIS Sydney Alfred  
(Surname or last name) (Given or Christian name)

**13. Maiden name of mother** Whitton WYA Louise  
(Surname or last name) (Given or Christian name)

**14. Birthplace:** Ontario Ontario  
(Province or Country) (Province or Country)

**BRIDE**

**15. PRINT name in full** PENROSE JACQUELINE MARIE ORSBORN  
(Surname or last name) (Given or Christian name)

**16. Trade, profession or kind of work as operator, clerk, stenographer, etc.** MUSICIAN Piano-Violin-Vocal  
(If unemployed enter "At Home")

**17. Kind of industry or business as teacher, retail, law office, etc.** \_\_\_\_\_

**18. Spinster** Spinster **19. Age** 33  
(State which) (In years)

**20. Religious denomination** Pres.

**21. Citizenship (see marginal definition)** Canadian **22. Racial Origin (see marginal definition)** English

**23. Residence** 3654 - Pt. Grey Rd - Vancouver - B.C.  
(Usual place of abode. If in city, street and No. Post Office Address for residents in rural parts not sufficient)

**24. Place of birth** New Westminster - B.C.  
(If born in Canada, province, county and city or town address. If foreign-born, country)

**25. Name of father** Orsborn - Spencer (Deceased)  
(Surname or last name) (Given or Christian name)

**26. Maiden name of mother** McGillivray Hanson  
(Surname or last name) (Given or Christian name)

**27. Birthplace:** England Quebec  
(Province or Country) (Province or Country)

**28. Date of marriage:** August 10 1944  
(Month by name) (Day) (Year)

**29. Licence or bond** Quebec **30. Licence number** 7920215  
(State which)

**31. Marginal Notations: (Office use only)**

**32. Signature of** Fredrick Allen Evis  
Jacqueline Marie Orsborn Penrose  
 Name Ebbe E. Swanson

**33. Signatures of Witnesses:** William Young  
 Name 1351 Harwood Ave Van B.C.  
 Address

I certify the above stated particulars are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.  
H. H. H. H. H.  
 Officiating Clergyman Signature  
 Address Western Air Command HQ

## MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD

*As for a DNA match with your daughter - if I understand my convoluted family history, I don't think we're related by blood. And I'm sorry to say that I have no recollection of Grandma May McLeod. Janis has May Hurrell on one of her trees. Is this the same lady?*

*And a cousin Roderick McLeod?? I'm totally overwhelmed with all these new names. As I said, I've never really had a family before. Thanks for giving me permission to pass along your info to Janis who I hope can help put this all into perspective.*

*Feel free to pass along my info as well, although my only real knowledge of Marion is the research that Janis has been kind enough to share.*

*It's such a shame. My mother Jacqueline died 25 years ago, before DNA testing, never really knowing her roots. She spent the last part of her life trying to find the name of her birth mother. There was a stigma against adoption back in the 20's and Marion never gave Jacqueline any info at all about her birth mother who abandoned her - if indeed she knew anything. My mother would have been delighted, however, to learn about her adoptive mother's family.*

*Thanks for contacting me. Let's keep in touch.*

That, for me, solves the mystery of why I had Marion's death in Toronto. Cheryl, here is a picture of your 1<sup>st</sup> cousins once removed and twice removed (the latter are my daughters) From the left, Thom and Ian McLeod, their mom Lil, my oldest daughter Stephanie McLeod (she's the daughter who has done the Ancestry DNA), her sister Lidia McLeod and my ex (Stephanie and Lidia's dad) Rod McLeod. I don't have a current picture of their sister, Kelli McLeod Elmer but I'll include her in this email.

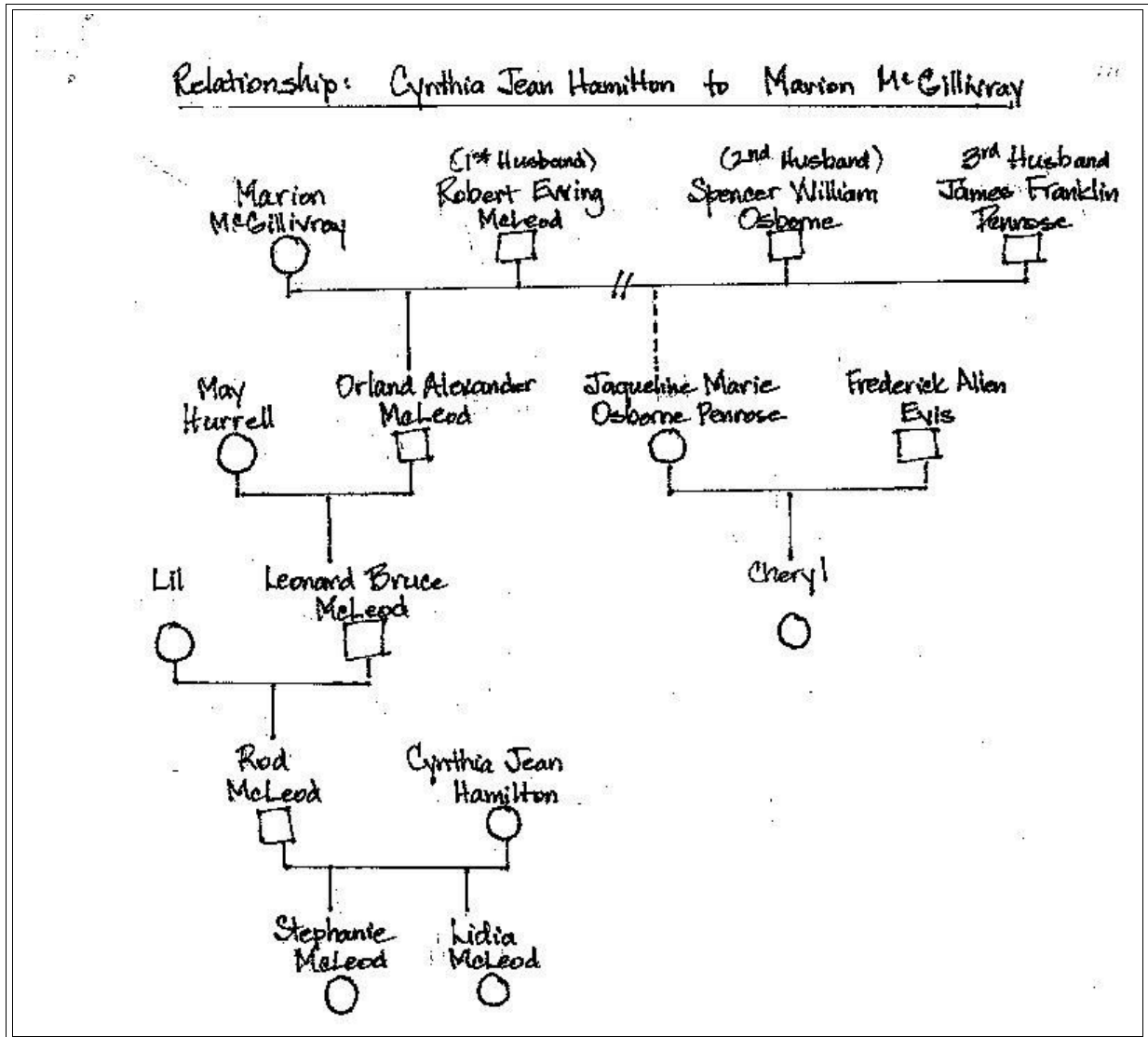
Welcome to the family,  
however you define it!

I hope we get the chance to meet and if you do find any pictures of Marion, it would really make my day. Take care and all the best.



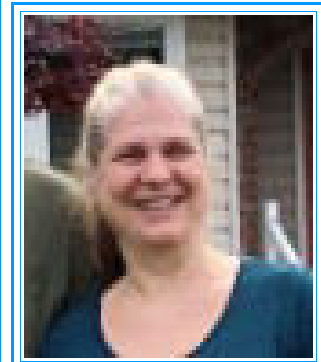
~Cynthia Hamilton

## MARION MCGILLIVRAY MCLEOD



I began researching in 1984 when my then-husband told me he was related to half of Yellowknife. Challenge accepted. And I got the bug (and proved him right). Before the online boom, I used local Bulletin Boards, talking with relatives, joined the BCGS and did small "trips" which could include my then small children, helping them to understand their history. My love is looking at the migration of all the people who got my grandchildren to where they are, along with their great stories. I consider everyone in my tree to be "family", no matter of what ethnicity or relationship. My areas cover Europe, North America, Australia, just starting to knock on Asia.

Contact Cynthia Hamilton at: [chamiltonmckay@gmail.com](mailto:chamiltonmckay@gmail.com)



## BC PIONEER REGISTRY

*The BC Pioneer Registry, consisting of more than 3800 names and counting, has been compiled from submissions from BCGS members over the past three decades. In this occasional series we will revisit the lives of some of these early settlers—the ancestors of our members and the founders of our province.*

### **The Sad Tale of Henry Jergen Ehmke – Pioneer, Farmer and Father**

*Henry Ehmke's name was submitted to the BC Pioneer Registry by BCGS past member Shirley Danallanko (1926-1995)*



Henry Jergen EHMKE (27 May 1850—22 Oct 1911) was born in Denmark and married his German bride Magdalene Katherine (Lena) HAACK (7 September 1853 to 27 December 1946) in 1875 in Hamburg. They had two children in Germany: a daughter Martha Catherine (1876 to 1877) who died as an infant and a son Herman Martin (1877 to 1917)<sup>[i]</sup>.

Lena's uncle, Herman WICHERS, had emigrated from Germany to Canada and settled in Lansdowne<sup>[ii]</sup> in the North Okanagan. He urged Lena and her family to join him and in 1877, a year in which Henry and Lena had buried their first child and given birth to their second, they boarded a ship and made the long journey to Canada <sup>[iii]</sup>.

The Ehmke family lived with Uncle Herman while they settled into their new community. Lena was a midwife and only the third European woman to live in

Lansdowne – life must have been quite different for the Ehmke family than the one they had known in Germany. About 18 months after their arrival, they set up home on farmland on Pleasant Valley Road, where they lived for many years.

Henry and Lena had nine more children after arriving in Canada. Their daughter Sophia Bothia (1878 to 1974) was the first European child born in the North Okanagan. A school for the local children was set up in the Ehmke farm granaries and Henry later became a Trustee for the Pleasant Valley School District 3.

## BC PIONEER REGISTRY

The Ehmke farm thrived—it was described as ‘one of the most desirable farms in the district’<sup>[iv]</sup>, and we can assume the family did as well. But farming is a hard life and in 1906, Henry and Lena sold their 160-acre farm for the sum of \$8500 (about \$250,000 today)<sup>[iv]</sup>. The family moved to the nearby town of Armstrong, where Henry took up work as a gardener<sup>[v]</sup>.

Despite their financial success, Henry and Lena suffered their share of loss and sadness. Their second son Harry died in 1900 at the age of 19 and their third son Alexander died the following year at 17. Their fourth son, Clement, contracted typhoid fever in 1906, but thankfully recovered quickly<sup>[vi]</sup>.

More tragedy awaited the family, however. On 22 October 1911, Henry and two of his sons went out hunting for grouse. As they were walking through an area of bush on a ranch in the community of Deep Creek, a 22-rifle carried by Henry’s youngest son William, 16, accidentally discharged, striking Henry near the base of his skull. The local doctor was called, and Henry was taken home where surgery was performed in an effort to save him, but sadly he passed away later that day<sup>[vii]</sup>. One can only imagine the grief felt by the family at this tragic accident. It may have been some consolation when the Coroner’s jury found that the shooting was accidental and that “no blame attaches to anyone in the matter.”<sup>[viii]</sup>

Henry and Lena are remembered by their daughter Sophia as ‘kind and self-respecting’ and ‘an inspiration and a source of happiness’<sup>[iii]</sup>. Clearly, despite the misfortunes experienced by this pioneer family, their legacy is one of love and happiness.

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[i] Danallanko, Shirley BCGS Pioneer Registry *Submission* 25 May 1992 Held at the BCGS Genealogical Library, Unit 211 – 12837 76th Avenue, Surrey, BC.

[ii] The village of Lansdowne was located near Armstrong in the North Okanagan. When the railway came through in the 1890s, it bypassed Lansdowne, instead creating a new station in the valley below. The people of Lansdowne re-settled near the railway, moving their belongings, and in some case, actual buildings, and this community grew into the town of Armstrong.

[iii] Patten, Sophia 1971 *Henry Jergen Ehmke* Reprint of Report Numbers 7,8,9,10 of the Okanagan Historical Society Report <https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/ohs> (originally published in 1941, OHS Report 9)

[iv] *Armstrong Advance* 18 May 1906. *Local and General* page 3. <https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcnewspapers>

[v] *1911 Canada Census*. Library and Archives Canada.

[vi] *Armstrong Advance* 02 Feb 1906. *Local and General* page 3. <https://open.library.ubc.ca/collections/bcnewspapers>

[vii] *Times Colonist (Victoria BC)* 31 October 1911 *Man Accidentally Killed by his Son*. Page 22. <https://www.newspapers.com/image505520738>

[viii] Ibid

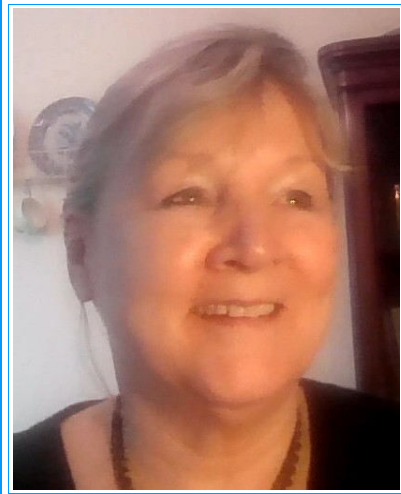
Submitted by **Jan Graf**, Member #5382



## BC PIONEER REGISTRY

Jan Graf is a recovering archaeologist, now channeling her love of all things historical into a deep dive into genealogy. Jan was born in Glasgow to a Scottish father and English mother, so her personal family history research is focussed on the UK. But her interest in genealogy knows no boundaries, so when she started volunteering on the BCGS Pioneer Registry, those hundreds of stories, many untold, captured her imagination. She hopes to share more pioneer stories in the future, as well as finally get some of her own family history research into print.

Contact Jan at: [janicegraf@gmail.com](mailto:janicegraf@gmail.com)



## POSTCARDS

### **Incola Hotel – Penticton, B.C.**



The **Incola Hotel** which was located on Lakeshore Drive, in Penticton, B.C. was a luxury hotel constructed by the Canadian Pacific Railway (**CPR**) company to provide quality accommodation for those traveling on the CPR Kettle Valley mainline or CPR steamships and passing through Penticton. The hotel opened August 19, 1912 and served the city for almost 70 years before being demolished on March 31, 1981.



## POSTCARDS

The building was of a black and white half-timbre pattern, had a veranda and was decorated in mock Tudor.

The four floors housed 62 rooms (14 private baths, five public baths), a sun parlor, ladies' parlor, reading room, fireplace, billiard room, and music room. Furniture was solid oak, upholstered in leather. By 1928 there was lawn bowling on the grounds.

The large dining room, located on a second storey level offered diners a lovely view of the lake. It was furnished with white linen-covered tables, high-back chairs, beautiful silverware and glassware and imported English china.

The meals were delicious and served in a relaxed, unhurried fashion. Among the menu choices were English meat pies, seafood and Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding. For dessert there was quite a variety of items which you could choose from a tea cart.

In the early thirties the Incola Hotel management had telephones installed, replacing the old wooden push button buzzers used to summon a busboy. Under the former system, the busboy would have to climb from one to four floors to determine the guest's needs and then repeat the trip with the necessary supplies.

During the 1930s, bands and orchestras often performed. Weddings, parties, community luncheons and dinners, concerts and dances were often held in the hotel making it the center of community life for decades .

The hotel's decline began in 1948 with the opening of highways that increased Penticton's role as a resort and convention center and the eventual demise of passenger rail service to Penticton. Newer hotels were also built. Between 1966 and 1975, the Incola underwent four ownership changes with new extensions and modifications erasing the hotel's original appearance. Neglect led to safety hazards, resulting in the fire marshal's order to close the top floor in 1963. By the late 1970s, the clientele had changed destroying the hotel's reputation. Two fires broke out - December 1978 and September 1980 - leaving a hole in the roof that was not repaired. Broken windows were boarded up and outside walls began to rot due to the absence of drain pipes. It closed on August 27, 1979, and was demolished March 31, 1981, almost two years after it had ceased operations as a hotel.

*The following message – exactly as it was written on the back of the postcard - was:*

Dear Nina, had the roughest ride coming up here I ever had in my life. Saw Mr.? but not ? Its very hot now. Mrs.? does not like it here. She will be here Thurs. I would not like to live here. The mountains and hills are very pretty but the town is not as large as Neillsville (**Note:** this place is in Wisconsin, USA). I have a good room & bed 2 blks from Camp. Am very tired must go to bed. With lots of love, Mother.

The postcard was issued by The Valentine & Sons Publishing Co. Ltd, Montreal and Toronto and was printed in Great Britain. There is no postage stamp. The message took up the whole back of the postcard so must have been received in an envelope.

Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incola\\_Hotel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incola_Hotel)

Submitted by **Janice Kidwell**  
Member #5033

## Esquimalt (Puerto de Cordova) or Es-who-y-malth

Submitted by Donalda James  
Member #3070

The first European visitors to Esquimalt were the Spanish explorer Don Manuel Quimper and company who gave it the name Puerto de Cordova on their map, in 1790. Other Spanish names were given to the Pacific Northwest during this first voyage of discovery, which also were not kept by the English, including the decidedly cumbersome “Gran Canal de Nuestra Senora del Rosario la Marinera” that we now call the ‘Georgia Strait’.<sup>[1]</sup>

For over 4,000 years Indigenous peoples from about 11 different groups in the Coast Salish linguistic group occupied the place between Sooke and the Saanich Peninsula. The native name of Esquimalt “Es-who-y-malth” means ‘place of gradually shoaling waters’. When the Victoria Treaties between Hudsons Bay Company (HBC) and local native leaders were signed in about 1850-54, the peninsula was a territory of the Kosampsom. A village site near Ashe Head, on the eastern shore of the harbour is the home today of the Esquimalt Band. The Songhees Band had lived for centuries on the west shore of the Victoria Harbour, and were moved to a reserve nearby in 1911.

In 1842 James Douglas and his Company visited what was then known as Vancouver’s Island. This island had been named after the explorer Captain George Vancouver who sailed along the Coast exploring and mapping for the British in 1795. By 1842 the Spanish had given up any interest after a dispute with the British over ownership of Nootka Sound further north on the Island.

Douglas had been ordered to explore the southern tip of the Island to find a suitable site for a new HBC fort that would replace Fort Vancouver in the Oregon Territory. This would become the new Western Headquarters of the Company. The Company wanted to protect the shipping access in the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Georgia Strait for trade ships visiting Fort Langley (southern Brigade point) on the Fraser River. Siting their new fort on the southern end of the Island would help in the decision to shift the new International Boundary south and around that geographical point, thereby allowing for water rights including fishing rights for British Columbians.

Douglas bypassed the Esquimalt harbour as not suitable for their needs due to a lack of fresh water and poorly arable land. He chose the more protected harbour of Victoria. Esquimalt was considered as very suitable by a British Army survey crew however and became a summer harbour after Royal Navy Hydrographic survey crews mapped the harbor in 1846 and 1848.

Later the HBC was encouraged by Britain to bring in colonists. The Puget Sound Agricultural Company, a subsidiary of the HBC, began bringing in colonists. Douglas then established three company supply farms in the area under the farm bailiffs of Langford, Skinner and McKenzie over the period 1849 through 1853. The summer harbour became a social centre for families on the peninsula with Navy officers and men giving parties and dances on the ship decks. Ships were supplied with fresh vegetables, bread and dairy from the farms.

A war in the Black Sea between England, France, Russia and others, known as the Crimean War (October 1853-February 1856) became the catalyst for naval activity in the Pacific Northwest.<sup>[ii]</sup>

The War had spilled over to the Pacific at Kamchatka when the French and British laid siege to the Russian Port of Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky. On September 4 1854, the British suffered heavy losses when 26 men were killed and 81 were wounded. Setting out for medical care the ships could not make it to their Naval Station at Valparaiso, having to stop at San Francisco. At that period Fort Victoria was nowhere near equipped to give the medical care necessary.

At the request of Rear Admiral Sir Henry William Bruce, commander in chief of the Royal Navy in the Pacific Station, three wooden buildings (Crimea Huts) were built by James Douglas and HBC men on 7 acres at Duntze Head in what is now HMC Dockyard. However, they were not completed until 1856, after the end of the Crimean War.

The Royal Navy occupied Valparaiso Chile from 1813, after Captain Vancouver's explorations opened up the Pacific. First known as South American Station, the name changed to the Pacific Station in 1837. It was the base for keeping watch on ships sailing the Straits of Magellan. The forests of the Pacific Northwest were supplying the tall timbers for sailing vessels, and the coal mines of Nanaimo and Prince Rupert fueled the steamships. Furs and the salmon industry flourished.

Finally on August 21, 1856 the Navy paid the HBC, becoming the owner of waterfront land. Since the Royal Navy hydrographic surveys in 1846 and 1848 this harbor was considered a summer station. The hospital built for Crimean War casualties helped trigger the establishment of a full naval base at Esquimalt. It was clear that a full and permanent presence was a good idea, and the official naval base was established when the headquarters of the Pacific Squadron was established at Esquimalt replacing that station at Valparaiso, Chile on June 29, 1865. The naval dockyard was built in 1887, giving the Royal Navy a graving dock on Canadian soil.<sup>[iii]</sup>

A village grew just to the east and along the south side of the harbour, under Signal Hill. A small wharf was built and a few small shops supplied navy personnel with basic necessities.

Then the Gold Rush of 1858 made a dramatic impression on the sleepy town, with many ships off loading miners onto their small wharf. They made off along the rough trail through the forest that had been cut by mariners from HMS Thetis in 1850, and along to Victoria, the small town around the Fort. There, they equipped themselves and paid their mining fees to Douglas who was scrambling to keep control. This gold rush and the Cariboo Rush of 1860-63 resulted in a huge building boom in Esquimalt and in Victoria.

The British Naval presence countered Russian ambitions on the Pacific, and as well, defended BC against an aggressive US during the Spanish American War of 1898, and the Alaska Boundary dispute when the US threatened to invade and annex BC if demands were not met.



Dockyard Residences at Esquimalt Harbour 1860

The British Navy abandoned their base in 1905, as ships were ordered home, but it was later revived as the West Coast base for the Royal Canadian Navy, newly created on May 4, 1910.

The Township of Esquimalt was incorporated on September 1, 1912 with Charles H. Lugin, Reeve, and the provincial government began transferring taxes for city water and sewage.<sup>[iv]</sup>

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SOURCES:

[i] 'British Navy established Esquimalt as a port' by Dave Obee *Times Colonist* 06 January 2020

[ii] Wikipedia

[iii] 'British Navy established Esquimalt as a port' by Dave Obee *Times Colonist* 06 January 2020

[iv] Our History Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt' [www.esquimalt.ca/culture-heritage/centennial-2012/our-history](http://www.esquimalt.ca/culture-heritage/centennial-2012/our-history)

## ESQUIMALT

### RESIDENTS OF ESQUIMALT 1863

ALLAN, James, Boot and Shoemaker	NICOLSON, Thomas
ARTHUR, William, Ship Inn	PARTRIDGE, Thomas John
BATTLE, S F, baker	RABSON, Thomas Groceries & Provisions
BEACH, William, Seamster (Tailor)	RODGERS, Manuel
BOOKER, Louis	ROTHWELL, Wm.
BURRIE, John	SMITH, W. & Co. All Serene Restaurant
CLEMINS, John	SHOAT, Mr. Exchange Livery Stables
COLTER, David	SMITH, J P Groceries and Provisions
COLTER, Alfred	SMITH, J E
CROWLEY, Jno., Police Officer	SMITH, S B
DARRAGH, Jno	SMITH, W R Bakery
DEMPSTER, Alex.	SHOAT, Ed. Original Esquimalt Express
DUNSTAN, John	SKUTTELL, H
DUNSTAN, Jas.	TILLSWOOD, S M
FABRE, F. Soap Manufactory	TERRENCE, David Boot and Shoemaker
HAWKINS, Geo. F. Royal Hotel	VOGLE, _____
HOWARD, J T Royal Oak	WAKEMAN, P
HOLSWORTH, Hy. Butcher	WAKEMAN, W
IRVING, C. Baker	WILLIAMS, F Steamboat Exchange Hotel
KEEHLER, Chas. Carpenter	WILLIAMS, & SELLECK, Steamboat Exchange Hotel
LEEMAN, HSD Miner	WILLIAMS, Peter
MAN SING, Washing and Ironing	WILBY, Hy.Ed., Express Carrier.
MILLINGTON, Wm. Bricklayer	WUNG CHUNG, Washing and Ironing
MILLS, Jas., Cook.	
MOORE, Geo.	
McCANDLISH, Dr.	McKINNON, John, Waterman

The British Columbian & Victoria Guide and Directory for 1863 compiled and published by Frederick P. Howard and George Barnett No.23 Yates Street 1863 pg. 84 'Residents of Esquimalt'.

## THIRD COLONY

### Did You Know?

#### The Pacific Northwest Coast boasted a Third Colony, Which was the First

By Donalda James  
Member #3070

In a protectionist move, Great Britain had made the Queen Charlotte Islands Archipelago in the Pacific Northwest, along the northern coast of New Caledonia, into a British Colony in the year 1853. This was due to the increased interest in the region by the Americans after the discovery of gold on Moresby Island in 1851. The Oregon Treaty of 1846 had removed any American claims to these islands where they had previously enjoyed trade. With gold in the area, and as well the continuing trade in furs, lumber and salmon, the British did not wish further complications with the US on this Coast.

First sighted by Juan Perez in 1774 and again by Captain James Cook in 1778, the natives proved to be unfriendly to early trading vessels. They sank two ships and most of their crews were killed. Another ship was sunk and the crew held for ransom.

The Colonial Office in London, however, never apportioned any funding nor a governing body to the area, and there was never any European settlement during the time that James Douglas, Governor of the Colony of Vancouver's Island, was granted a commission as Lt. Gov. of the Archipelago. By 1858 this Colony was quietly amalgamated into the Colony of British Columbia under Douglas.

A British mission to survey the Islands in 1859 found that the only permanent occupants were Indigenous.

On June 3, 2010 the Haida Gwaii Reconciliation Act formally renamed the Archipelago Haida Gwaii, and the Haida peoples now have sovereignty over the Islands through the Council of the Haida Nation.



## MAYFLOWER

### Mayflower Ancestors

Submitted by by Karen Wells  
Member #5752

Since first learning about the voyage of the Mayflower back in elementary school, I was enthralled. Who were those people who left England to take a perilous journey across the Atlantic Ocean on a tiny ship to practice their strict religious beliefs? And what was with the weird hats? Little did I know, these were my people.

2020 marked the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the voyage and landing at Plymouth Rock. On September 6, 1620, 102 passengers boarded the Mayflower. Some were searching for the freedom to practice their religion, as they saw fit, while others sought opportunity in a new land. The accompanying ship, the Speedwell, had taken on water early in the voyage and both ships had turned back. Unable to make quick repairs on the leaky Speedwell, and being already very late in the season to make such a voyage, the Mayflower took on some of the passengers and their supplies from the Speedwell. The Mayflower, now overloaded and crammed, was about to venture into what they knew to be storm season. Some had waited 12 years for this opportunity and were not about to wait any longer. During the first winter, half of the passengers were to die, primarily from cold and disease.

The ship had been bound for Jamestown, Virginia, but a storm had blown them further north. They were making the voyage during hurricane season, so it's likely they encountered a few storms. After a few tries against wind and current, and the lateness in the year, they decided to settle in the area which is now Plymouth, Massachusetts.

While in transit, disease had broken out on the ship and two passengers had died. Upon reaching land, after 66 days at sea, many were sick. The men who were well enough formed groups and ventured out to explore and look for food. The women were left on the ship to look after the children and the ailing men. As a result of the close quarters, disease spread and many more became ill and died. Only four of the adult married women survived the first year. Of the 102 passengers, only 52 survived the first winter.

I am proud to say I am from the stock of such determined and resilient people. Here is my journey of discovery.

Edward Doty was the first ancestor I found among the Mayflower passengers. I had read the names of those on the Mayflower so many times, that when the name Edward Doty showed up as the name of my 6th great grandfather (1716 to 1775), I knew I had seen that name before--perhaps on the Mayflower? However, I hit a dead end, and was unable to trace him back any further.



Sailing ship the Mayflower



## MAYFLOWER

I then got the idea to work it from Mayflower passenger Edward Doty, forward down his line. So much research has been done on those passengers, it didn't take too long (following the name Edward) and I had it! The gap from Edward, born 1716, back to Edward, died 1598, was complete. That success sparked my interest to search for more.

Soon after, I learned from a "DNA cousin" (as I call those I have met online who share DNA from a common ancestor) with whom I share my Scottish roots, that a conference of "The Nova Scotia Colony of Mayflower Descendants" was taking place September 2019 in Middleton, NS. Well, I just HAD to go. Here I met many Mayflower cousins, all engulfed in finding and proving their roots back to this small handful of 52 survivors. Unfortunately, in 2020, on the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the conference was canceled.



Mayflower replica of original settlement.

Getting back to Edward Doty. He was about 20 years old in 1620 when the Mayflower finally set sail from England for Virginia. He was one of two indentured servants of Stephen Hopkins. Edward was a bit of a rebel. He and another servant of Stephen Hopkins fought the only duel (sword and dagger) known to be fought in North America. It seems Edward had a temper and a big drive to "get even" as he found himself in court over 20 times in the years to come.

Stephen Hopkins, another ancestor, is one of the best known Mayflower passengers. He had previously sailed to Jamestown and perhaps his seagoing skills and knowledge of the area were the reasons he was selected for the journey. On one of his adventures, he was shipwrecked in the Bahamas.

## MAYFLOWER

He and the other men were crafty enough to build a ship from the trees on the island and sail the remaining route to Virginia. Perhaps he was comfortable on the seas, and that is why he brought his wife (second) and three children with him on the ship. Most of the other men had left their wives and children behind, until such time as they could get established in the new land.

I am also descended from two children of Stephen Hopkins: Giles and Constance. Stephen's wife gave birth on the voyage and they named the child Oceanus--how appropriate.

The religious leader at the time, William Brewster, is my 12<sup>th</sup> great grandfather. He was referred to as "The Elder." He had lived in Leiden, Holland, for several years after leaving England. In fact, there is a street in Leiden named after him. He felt the church in England was not upholding their duty to the people, with some only holding services once or twice a year. He was educated at Cambridge and owned a printing business in Leiden. Francis Cooke brought his 13-year old son John, one of only seven children to travel on the Mayflower. His wife and other children followed in 1623. Not much is known about Francis. He signed the Mayflower Compact and Governor Bradford records him working for the courts and later he is named for highway planning.

John Howland was in his 20s when he sailed on the Mayflower as a man-servant. During a storm on the voyage, he was swept overboard and almost drowned. He managed to catch onto one of the ropes that was hung over the ship's deck, and others were able to eventually pull him back in with ropes and hooks.

John Tilley and his wife, Joan Hurst, travelled with their 13-year old daughter Elizabeth. John's brother and sister-in-law were also on board. During the first hard winter, all four adults died. Their daughter Elizabeth survived and later married John Howland. They went on to have 10 children.

Richard Warren, a London merchant, left his family behind to travel to the Colonies on the Mayflower. His wife and five daughters came in 1623. They had two more sons in the years ahead. Each of his daughters had seven children. An estimated six million of his descendants are alive today. Perhaps you are one of them?

I am directly descended from the 11 named above, save Oceanus. Descendants of these 11 ancestors eventually made their way to Nova Scotia, primarily in the late 1700s, either as Planters or Loyalists.

It has been both fun and rewarding discovering each and every one of them. Are there more? I am sure there are. The search continues.....



Karen was awarded this cup at the Nova Scotia Decendants of the Mayflower conference in Middleton, NS for having travelled the farthest to attend.

## MAYFLOWER

Karen Wells began exploring her ancestors when visiting Nova Scotia for her mother's school reunion in July 2000. Having never lived near relatives and knowing little of family history, she became very interested and spent many hours on that trip questioning relatives, visiting cemeteries and museums collecting data to start a tree.

Upon returning home, she joined Ancestry and has been plugging away, off and on ever since, joining the BCGS in August of 2019. She is most interested in going back in time as far as possible, learning and imagining what life was like for them at that time in history. She hopes to travel to the birthplaces of as many ancestors as possible. That bucket list still includes New England and southern & central England (for Perkins and Burstons).

Contact Karen at: [kwells@telus.net](mailto:kwells@telus.net) or [silverspring60@gmail.com](mailto:silverspring60@gmail.com)



### BC RESEARCH REPORT- QUERY REQUESTS

#### Stanley Herbert Zillman

**OBITUARY:** Stanley Herbert Zillman was born on May 14, 1928 and passed away on Dec. 27, 2014 in Mission, BC and is in the care of Woodland Mission Funeral.

I was in such shock when my mother told me that my father was not my biological father. She was in a nursing home and she had dementia. She started telling me these things but some of it was kind of nonsense talk.

She told me to ask her best friend about it. So I did and she confirmed what my mom was telling me. The next day, my mom called me on the phone out of the blue. Usually she could not even dial the phone. We had about 5 minutes where she was totally lucid. That's when she told me all about Stanley. But I was in shock and I didn't write it all down! Anyway, she asked me if I hated her for keeping this secret. Of course I said I would never hate you! I love you! A few days later she passed. I think she had been holding this secret for so long, and when she finally knew that I forgave her, she just let go.

Anyway, I did do a DNA test and I found one family member. But she's much older than I am. We thought maybe her mother was Stanley's sister. But really don't know! Other than that I've just found nothing but dead ends.



## ANNUAL REPORTS 2020

### President's Report 2020

2020 was a 'May You Live In Interesting Times' year for everyone around the world. For BCGS, the year started out normally enough, but Covid-19 got our attention immediately after the AGM. Our library closed, then partially opened, and closed again. It will remain closed until Dr. Bonnie Henry gives us a yellow or green light for re-opening.

All BCGS meetings, including our monthly meetings, have been successfully transferred to Zoom. An average of 59 people used to attend our in-person monthly meetings. Each month since March, more BCGS members have been attending virtual meetings than the previous month.

105 people on 4 computer screens attended the February 2021 meeting! BCGS members from outside the Lower Mainland and beyond the borders of BC and Canada have now become regular attendees at our Zoom meetings.

Although the library has been closed more than it has been open, our members have continued to be very active. Our Special Interest Group Chats via Zoom have been well attended, and weekly genealogy education courses were filled to capacity. Education Facilitators Celia Lewis and Eunice Robinson have created waiting lists in advance of the next series of classes.

Until there are changes for the better in 2021, most of the contact between members will continue to be online and through Zoom. When we can safely return to in-person meetings, members' participation via Zoom (or similar software) will continue, for the benefit of our members who, for whatever reason, are not able to attend face-to-face meetings.

**Bill Clayton**, President 2020-2021

### BCGS Library Report

Two particular events played a role at the BCGS Library in 2020.

The Covid pandemic meant we closed the library to researchers in March. By the fall we were able to open Saturdays by appointment but then closed again in November when covid numbers increased in B.C. We will reopen when the provincial health restrictions allow more socializing.

The library catalogue was an Access database for many years. In early 2020 we switched to ResourceMate. The Canadian company provides the library software used by various museums, societies and libraries. All additions and changes to our catalogue show up the following day for viewing by patrons on the library computers or on the BCGS web catalogue. Currently there are 17,187 items in our ResourceMate catalogue.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Corrine Jubb**, BCGS Library Administrator

### Fund Raising Committee

The Committee only took on one project in 2020. This was the 2021 50th Anniversary Calendar.

The Calendar Team - Susan Davis Sullivan, Sharon Clayton and George Caldwell - did an amazing job and produced 250 calendars. They were all sold and netted \$1,924. Members of the Calendar Team have recommended to the Board that the funds be used as seed money for some kind of temperature control or air conditioning system for our Library.

Our thanks to all those who helped with this project

**Peter Whitlock**, Chair

## ANNUAL REPORTS 2020

### Digitization Report 2020

#### Cemeteries

Essentially all of the cemeteries recorded by the BCGS are available on the BCGS computers. Most are also on the members only section of the BCGS website. Some of the larger cemeteries only have an index. These disks are available at the Resource Centre.

#### Church Records

Many years ago BCGS acquired copies of baptismal registers, marriage registers and burial registers from various churches throughout BC. The photocopies are being scanned and indexed. In 2010 many of these were transcribed. The aim is to make these records available on the BCGS computers, and some available on the members only section of the website. It is an ongoing project.

**Elizabeth Christie**

#### Cemetery Committee

Memorials added - 4,575

Flowers added - over 22,400

Gravestone Photos added - 4,084

Cemeteries working on - 97

All in all this project continues to gain support from the families who we have touched with our memorials added and transcriptions entered. Who hasn't felt elated to see a family member's resting place found after possibly years of wondering. Another brick wall bites the dust.

**Marianne Cote-Malley**

### BC Research

There were 91 queries from January 1 to December 31, 2020. Income was \$895. As a matter of interest, I came across the 1995 BC Research report which stated that there were 80 unpaid queries and 26 paid queries with a total income of \$364. BCGS Members do not pay for their queries but they are still counted. Some people choose to join the society instead of having to donate for each query.

#### Newspaper Indexing

Newspapers Photographed: Vancouver Sun  
1997-2010

Lines Indexed: May 1 to December 31, 2020  
– 8,825

Clippings scanned: 1,526

Lines of clippings Indexed: January 1 to  
December 31, 2020 - 24,903.

#### Website

The website has been totally revamped thanks to Christina Bowman, volunteer from the Mastercard cares program. The new website was launched mid-June and seems to be well received. The shopping cart has processed 308 payments consisting of donations and payments for query research, the anniversary calendar and membership renewals or applications. Member Resources is password protected to allow members only to view BCGS publications, Meeting Minutes and Financials, an index of the clippings cabinets and journals exchanged with 46 other societies. On-line forms were used to register for education classes and special workshops. The Home Page allows people to check a calendar to see what events and meetings are scheduled. Information is being added continuously.

Ann Buchanan

## ANNUAL REPORTS 2020

### Annual Report: 2020 – Postcard Co-ordinator

Each month a postcard is featured in the monthly BCGS Newsletter; every 3 months a postcard is featured in both the BCGS Newsletter and the BCGS Journal. These postcards feature British Columbia although for the June 2020 Newsletter a postcard representing Nova Scotia was featured to pay tribute to those lost during the shooting rampage in Nova Scotia on April 18 and 19, 2020, for the loss of six Armed Forces members that were lost April 29, 2020 in a helicopter crash off the coast of Greece and for the loss of Halifax native Capt. Jennifer (Jenn) Casey who lost her life in the May 17, 2020 crash of a Canadian Forces Snowbird plane in Kamloops.

The BCGS Postcard collection continues to grow via donations and whether it is one to two postcards or a handful that we receive, all are welcome. The collection has at least 1000 postcards representing many countries as well as categories for example - Art, Animals, Transportation, Flowers, Cartoons and a few 'Unknowns'. Time has been spent reorganizing the cards with more to do to make it easier for people to find what they are looking for.

Anyone who wishes to donate postcards is invited to mail them to the Society's address at:

BC Genealogical Society  
PO Box 88054 Lansdowne  
Richmond, BC V6X 3T6 Canada

**Janice Kidwell**

### **Holten Cemetery Project**

We don't have much to report for 2020. The team is actively researching our chosen soldiers. We could use some additional volunteers to help us complete the list of BC based soldiers. This is research people can do from home.

**Melissa Borgerson**

### **EDUCATION REPORT**

We started 2020 off with a full slate of speakers for our monthly General Meetings. Our schedule for Coffee Chats was in place. We were able to hold our March AGM, and scheduled a webinar for our members to view. And then the Covid-19 pandemic hit, resulting in our April meeting being cancelled as the Provincial Health Officer declared gatherings, such as our meetings, to be cancelled. We turned to a new technology, Zoom, where many of us learned new video conferencing skills.

We also scheduled webinars for several of our monthly meetings. And now that we were getting the hang of Zoom, we were able to schedule speakers once again. We featured Linda Yip at our October meeting with a talk on *Evernote*. November brought Annette Fulford and her *First World War Brides* to visit us. Our December Christmas Social was very different, but we presented *Christmas Past & Present*, a power point presentation by Eunice Robinson.

Celia Lewis offered a 4 week *Genealogy for Beginners* course, which was well attended and appreciated. And several Coffee Chats were held.

Respectfully submitted by  
**Eunice Robinson**  
BCGS Education Team Leader

## ANNUAL REPORTS 2020

### Computer Resources

2020 was a very different year due to the COVID pandemic. With the library shut for the last 10 months of the year there was very little activity.

1. ResourceMate was purchased and installed just before the pandemic forced closure of the resource centre. This replaced the MS Access library catalogue. This should be covered by the cataloguer's report.

2. Sheila donated 3 computers and a printer to the society. These are in the process of being setup for patron use. This will give us 6 computers for patron use in addition to dedicated computers for the duty librarian, library administrator and the office.

3. Data backup is being maintained and minor support activities are being performed as required.

**GL Caldwell**  
**Computer Team**

### BC RESEARCH REPORT- QUERY REQUESTS

The BC Research Team has received the following queries and would like some help from the BCGS membership. If you have any suggestions, ideas, or comments that would help, please forward them to [queryrequest@bcgs.ca](mailto:queryrequest@bcgs.ca).

#### John Gregg and Thyrsa Paddy

I would like to have some information on my grandfather's brother. I have managed to find the following information about their life in Canada.

In 1923 John is recorded departing Liverpool on the SS Doris, bound for Montreal in Quebec. He stated his final destination was to be an address in Victoria, B.C. (Mr. Cooke of 911 Government Building, Government Street, Victoria). Six years later, on the 26 January, 1929 he married Thyrsa Paddy in Squamish, BC

For 1932 there is a record of John entering the USA via Metaline Falls in Washington State. On the border crossing paperwork, John lists himself as a carpenter. He is on route to Vancouver via Blaine on the US/Canadian border, being allowed 2 days to make the journey. He lists his wife Thyrsa



as living at 3415 Dundee Street, Vancouver. John died May 28, 1955 in North Vancouver. He was born in April 1899, Birkenhead, UK. After the death of John, Thyrsa moved to Vancouver. Her address was 2185 Bellevue Avenue, North Vancouver. Her occupation then was a telephone operator. By 1958 she was living in Apt. 42, 777 Burrard Street, Vancouver Center, still listing her occupation as a telephonist. She died in 1980 in Gibsons, B.C.

I do not know if they had any children or anything more about Thyrsa Paddy's family.

*More Queries on Page 35*

## GENEALOGY ON THE ROAD

Submitted by Meg McLaughlin  
Member #3847

With little time spent on the road these days, finding inspiration for this column is often difficult. I recently found something to write about while attending a Zoom meeting of the Quebec Questers. We were introducing ourselves to a new member of the group. Most of the Questers have connections to French families in Quebec and elsewhere. I introduced myself thinking that I did not do French research but as the meeting went on, I thought about the Acadian research that I do on my son's line. So, besides the fact that I once lived close to Montreal, in the suburb of Pointe Claire, I do have another connection to the group as I too have French lines to research. While this isn't French connection personal, a fellow researcher on my Arment line has a theory that family originated in France. I always thought there was a francophone accent to that name as well as that of the Argents. My line comes through an Ellen Argent who married James Arment. Did the similarity of their names draw them together? Connections can come from the strangest of places.

Family history is all about connections. Not only the connections in our family lines but the connections with other researchers. Humans feel the need to connect. Recent events have shown how strong this urge is. Our ways of connecting have grown as our physical isolation has continued. The need to get together with people who have common interests is still there and now, because of platforms like Zoom, we have a way to reach out to other genealogists. Even those who live at a distance. We've seen the numbers who attend our BCGS meetings grow as more people from different places find out what we have to offer.

That's how I've been venturing further afield lately, virtually. A post on Genealogy à la Carte about a presentation about Acadians put on by the Maine Historical Society had me intrigued. There were Acadians in Maine? Makes sense if you look at a map. The talk was very informative and is available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVRz8wMm5eM> if you are interested. Especially intriguing was the part of the history about how close relatives in these families ended up living in different countries just by staying where they had settled. The families on both sides of the border found ways to stay connected although it must be more difficult in these days of border closures.

But even if the borders are closed, we can still connect through the internet. I've been able to travel far this year taking in conferences and, in pursuit of my other interests, literary festivals. After attending the Edinburgh Book Festival virtually, I now have additional reasons for returning to Scotland besides pursuing family history research. I'd love to attend some of the book festival in person. Shocking, I know but I've found that my bookish interests often compliment my family history interests.

In 2019 on a trip to the UK, I explored many of my addresses of interest with someone I had met through LibraryThing, an online site for readers. It always helps to have a guide on hand who knows the lay of the land. It wouldn't have been as easy to find all of those places without her help and probably would have taken me several days to find places that we covered over the course of one day. But, in these days of no in-person meeting let alone travel, my bookish interests have also helped by genealogical interests along.



## GENEALOGY ON THE ROAD



Hunting for addresses in London - There were family links to Petticoat Lane



Goodmans Fields looked nothing like this when my family lived there.

Recently some of the posts on the social media side of LibraryThing have been about genealogy. There are quite a few readers over there who are into family history research. Lately, I have been attending Zoom meetings with some of those reading genealogists as well. So, although I haven't been able to travel lately, I have been hitting the genealogical road online.



Meg writes about history and genealogy in *A Genealogist's Path to History* at

<http://genihistorypath.blogspot.ca/>.

Read more about her findings in her blog.



For a while some of my family lived at one of the addresses on Tenter Street

## BOOK REVIEW

### THE STEEL BONNETS, THE STORY OF THE ANGLO-SCOTTISH BORDER REIVERS

by George MacDonald Fraser,  
Published 1971 by Collins Harvill of HarperCollins  
Publishers,  
77/85 Fulham Place Road, Hammersmith, London  
W6 8JB  
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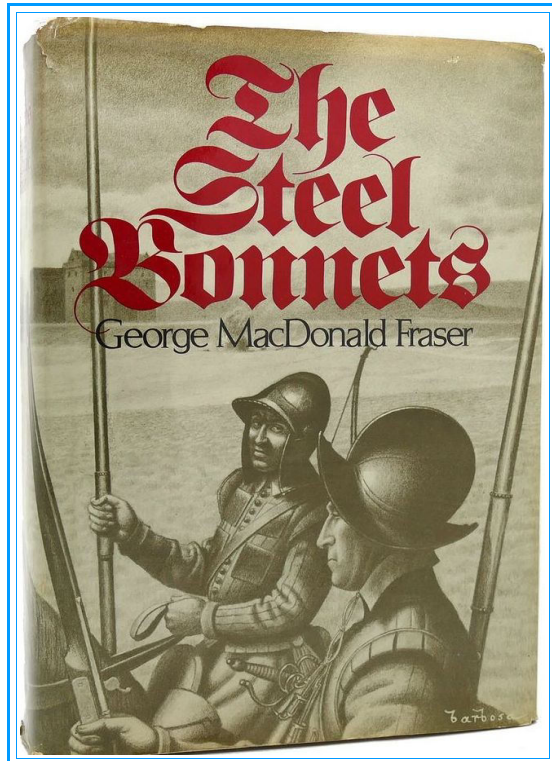
The author of *The Steel Bonnets, The Story of the Anglo-Scottish Border Reivers* has written a particularly good factual history of the Border Reivers. It covers 400 years from the historical beginning to the attempts that King James I of England made to end the system.

It is laid out in five parts, with two appendixes, a bibliography, glossary and an index. The index is nine pages long covering such well-known names as Graham, Armstrong, Stewart, Thomson, Turnbull, Scott, Pringle, Moore, Musgrave, Moray, Morton, Maxwell, Gray, Jackson, Jamieson, Kerr/Carr, Little, Elliott, Forster, Charlton, Durham, Dacre, Dodds, Carey and Bell. Since many of the people had the same names, the author tries to explain who they were by the nicknames they had. For example, different Armstrongs were known as Kinmont Willie, Laird's Jock, Lencie, Lance of Whitlaugh, Sim of Calfhill, Sim the Laird, Old Sim of Whitlaugh, Symmie.

There is an excellent map that shows the 6 border marches, being East, West and Middle Marches of both England and Scotland. It includes the areas that Border Clans occupied. Part Two, Chapter 7, entitled "The Riding Surnames" gives a brief synopsis of the main Clans. Apparently, the Armstrongs were the fiercest with Grahams coming in a close second. Page 181 shows a chart of the 'Feuds of the Riding Families'. It breaks the clans into English and Scottish with some clans, such as the Grahams, being both English and Scottish and feuding with each other.

The book includes descriptions of the main feuds, fights, and battles that I found to become quite tedious. However, my family was involved in Flodden so this was a highly informative section. The author also spent some time explaining how the laws of the Marches were different from the rest of Scotland and England. He explains legal terms in a clear manner. He also addresses how many of the problems of the borders came from corrupted wardens.

If you have any border reiver ancestors, *The Steel Bonnets, The Story of the Anglo-Scottish Border Reivers*, is a 'must' read.



*Submitted by Ann Buchanan Members #5583*

## BRITISH COLUMBIA GENEALOGIST

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