



EASTSIDE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

BULLETIN BOARD

P.O. Box 372, Bellevue WA 98009-0374
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wakcegs/index.htm>

Vol. XVII, No. 9

March 1999

EGS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, 11 March 1999
at the Bellevue Regional Library
(7:00 p.m. Supply Table open)

Topic: "Vanished Without a Trace - Picking up Lost Trails To and In England Before 1837"
Speaker: Sherry Irvine

ABOUT THE PROGRAM: Sherry Irvine, BA, MS, CGRS, FSA (Scot), is the author of *Your English Ancestry: A Guide for North Americans* (rev. ed. 1998) and *Your Scottish Ancestry: A Guide for North Americans* (1997), and co-author of *Going to Ireland: A Genealogical Researcher's Guide* (1997). In 1988, she established Interlink Bookshop and Genealogical Services. Ms. Irvine lectures at major conferences in Canada and the United States and has developed and taught genealogical courses at Victoria's Camosun College since 1984. Since 1996 she has been a faculty member and British study tour leader for the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. In 1998, she was awarded the National Genealogical Society Award for Excellence (Methods and Sources) for *Your Scottish Ancestry: A Guide for North Americans*.

You have ancestors with no apparent clues about whether the ancestor crossed the Atlantic or appeared from 'nowhere' in some part of England. This lecture by Sherry Irvine will talk about the strategies you can employ to find these elusive ancestors. Come and find out how to create a research plan that increases the odds of your success in dealing with the most difficult of family members. All of these techniques can be applied whether you are talking about British, German, Eastern European or any other ethnic genealogy. Ms. Irvine is an internationally known genealogist and this will be a very special evening for all of us. See you at the meeting.

"GENEALOGICAL KEYS TO GREAT BRITAIN" SEMINAR

Eastside Genealogical Society's seminar entitled "Genealogical Keys to Great Britain" will be presented on Saturday, 13 March, 1999 at the Congregational Church of Mercer Island. The lecturer for this seminar will be Sherry Irvine, author and international lecturer on British Genealogy. She is also our General Meeting speaker for March (see above). If you would like to attend the seminar, please call Peter Robertson, 206-236-2473.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

*Breazele, Laura	Sun Valley, ID	Researching Legg, Seigfred, Doughty
*Burr, Gae E.	425-883-2564	
*Collins, Ron	425-806-0953	Collins, Doyle, Metz, Green, Layton, Pachel/Bachel
*Gilluly, G.K.	425-641-6693	Gilluly, Prisching, Sommers
*Klink, Gerald & Mary	425-836-0930	Salmon, Beckstead, Henophy, Wilson, Klink, Schroeder, Hepworth, Kratz
*Monahan, Linda	425-603-9266	
*Passe, Ann	206-232-1104	Passe, Waichules, Sowa, Trnadel, Rogers, Urbanik

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT - PETER ROBERTSON

Here we are at March! It seems like the month is coming in like a lion. Last August, the EGS leadership conceptualized a British program taking advantage of the proximity in Victoria, British Columbia of a distinguished expert on British Genealogy, Sherry Irvine. With the start of the last year ever to have an initial digit of "1", preparations for the March British event became more intense. Now, the session is only days away. It is gratifying to see the members of the society pulling together to make the event happen. People are putting much thought and effort into the various elements that are needed to have a successful session. Thanks to everyone involved. Planners, advisors, and attendees. Perhaps March will go out like a lamb after all!

Peter Robertson

GET WELL SOON: We hope the following people are feeling better soon: Jackie Bushnell, Betty Bennett, Ann Miller, Sue Carter, Wini and Phil Lake, and Mary Curtis.

CONDOLENCES: EGS would like to extend sympathy to the family of member Kathryn Warner.

EGS FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM REVIEW DAVID WILMA

Are you planning a research trip to San Francisco? David Wilma, former President of the California Genealogical Society, spoke to our February general meeting about the research facilities found in the San Francisco area. David Wilma filled us in on a number of great places to conduct research. The California Genealogical Society (CGS), founded in 1898, is the oldest genealogical society in California and has its own research library newly located in Oakland. It contains a large collection of California records including all California U.S. Census, cemetery records, city directories, probate, and death and land records. You can get directions to the new library or find out more information about CGS by visiting their web page at <http://www.calgensoc.com/Library.htm>

The Sutro Library is a place not to be missed. Sutro Library has the largest genealogical collection west of Salt Lake City. The library is a branch of the California State Library. The Sutro Library has resources dealing only with states other than California. The California Collection can be found at the California State Library in Sacramento. For those of you with New England ancestors, David Wilma strongly recommends a visit to Sutro Library. He suggests that if you plan a trip to Sutro Library you should go early because parking is limited. Plan to spend more than one day there to get full use of their huge collection. You can access the card catalog for Sutro Library and the California State Library online. You may even be able to get some of their resources through Interlibrary Loan. You can visit Sutro Library's web site at <http://nora.sfpl.lib.ca.us/gencoll/gctextsu.htm>.

Some other sources mentioned include the new San Francisco Public Library Main Branch located near the Civic Center. They have a great newspaper collection and city directories as well as the San Francisco History Room with a large archive of San Francisco material. Another source of information is the California Historical Society that has a large manuscript and photo collection of the San Francisco area.

Before you embark on your research trip to San Francisco, David Wilma recommends purchasing a copy of "A Useful Guide to Researching San Francisco Ancestry" by Kathleen C. Beals available from CGS. This book has a list of all the research facilities in the San Francisco area as well as contact information, the materials available and their hours. You can contact CGS at (510) 663-1358 to find out price and availability of this great book. (By Kimberley Lackey, EGS member)

OREGON ANCESTOR'S DEATH CERTIFICATES: If you have an Oregon ancestor who died between 1903 - 1948, you can order a copy of the death certificate for the cost of copying and postage. This can be ordered by e-mail reference archives@state.or.us Please limit requests to two named individuals at a time. Please include your postal mailing address in the message. If photocopies are requested, you will be notified of any charges in the accompanying return letter. (From Marty Gale, EGS Vice-President).

ROSLYN, WASHINGTON FRATERNAL CEMETERIES: The Kittitas County Genealogical Society has available a new directory of the approximately 26 fraternal cemeteries, including inscriptions, dates, and grave site and marker descriptions located in Roslyn, WA. The book contains two listings for the cemeteries: the first is a combined alphabetical listing, and the second is a separate listing of each of the individual cemeteries by grave site. A short history of the cemeteries is included. The listings include coverage of an important Afro-American cemetery (Mt. Olivet) that contains the graves of the black miners and families that were employed during the labor unrest in the Roslyn mines. The 156-page spiral book is available from Kittitas County Genealogical Society, PO Box 1342, Ellensburg, WA 98926-1342. Cost is \$20 plus \$1.54 tax and \$2.25 shipping. (From Jim Foster, EGS member).

NEW GENEALOGY BOOKS AT THE BELLEVUE REGIONAL LIBRARY: The following books, purchased by the Eastside Genealogical Society as a result of members' recommendations, or donated by EGS members, were added to the genealogy collection at the Bellevue Regional Library since the last listing in the February Bulletin.

****SEATTLE DEATH RECORDS 1881-1907*, by the So. King Co. Genealogical Society, 1998. Over 20,000 extracted records from the Seattle-King Co. Health Dept. Includes the name of deceased, date of death, age, sex, place of birth, and place of death. (R929.379777 SEA)

****CALENDAR OF NEW JERSEY WILLS, DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE COLONIAL HISTORY OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, 1670-1760*, by William Nelson, 1994 (3 volumes). (R929.3749 CAL)

****TWELVE VIRGINIA COUNTIES: WHERE THE WESTERN MIGRATION BEGAN*, by John H. Gwathmey, 1937/1997. An account of the origin and settlement of the counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Caroline, Essex, Gloucester, Goochland, Hanover, King William, King and Queen, Louisa, New Kent, and Orange, and of the people and events associated with their history. (R975.53 GWA)

Do you have a genealogy-related reference book or CD to donate to the growing collection at the Bellevue Regional Library, or have a suggestion for one? If so, let the Book Acquisition Committee know by calling the acquisition chair Margery Perdue Thorson at 425-643-3502. (Carl Cason, Committee member, email ccason@compuserve.com).

LDS CHURCH WILL GO ONLINE WITH FAMILY HISTORY WEB SITE: The Family History Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is working to make genealogical files accessible from a family history web site. According to Elaine Hasleton, public affairs representative from the Family History Center in the Joseph Smith Memorial Building, the project is underway but no set completion date has been given. Craig Foster, spokesman for the center's public affairs projects, said the ancestral files of the LDS Church will most likely be accessible from the site. He states that the details of what other files and information will be accessible from the site is not final. (From *NewsNet @BYU*, Feb. 2, 1999).

JEWISH GENEALOGY MONTH: To promote interest in tracing Jewish family history, Avotaynu, the principal publisher of books for Jewish genealogy, has created the first annual Jewish Genealogy Month, which will be from March 18 - April 16, 1999. These dates coincide with the Hebrew month of Nisan, the month in which the Passover holiday occurs. Passover is an important Jewish holiday for family gatherings.

According to Avotaynu publisher Gary Mokotoff, many Jews believe it is impossible to trace their family history because they think all the records were destroyed in the Holocaust. Mokotoff dispels this myth by noting that while most things Jewish were destroyed in the Holocaust, family records, such as vital records, are produced by governments and they survived the ravages of World War II and previous wars. The LDS Family History Library has a large collection of Central and Eastern European Jewish records, especially Germany, Hungary and Poland, and is now acquiring Jewish records from the countries of the former Soviet Union.

Some Internet sites that may help in Jewish family history research are:

- ▶ International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies - <http://www.jewishgen.org/ajgs>
- ▶ JewishGen, which includes a number of databases - <http://www.jewishgen.org>
- ▶ Avotaynu, the principal publishing house for Jewish genealogy - <http://www.avotaynu.com>

(From *Ancestry Daily News*, Feb. 9, 1999).

DAR LIBRARY CATALOG: The Daughters of the American Revolutions Library catalog is now available online at <http://dar.library.net/>

➤ **MISSOURI STATE ARCHIVES GUIDE TO RECORDS ON MICROFILM:** The Missouri State Archives is a repository for state records and serves as a facility for historical research. Their holdings date from 1770 and include executive, legislative, and judicial records; records of state departments and agencies; land records; military records; state publications and reference collections. To request a copy of their guide "Missouri State Archives Guide to County and Municipal Records on Microfilm" send a written request (include your name and address) to: Missouri State Archives, State Information Center, PO Box 778, Jefferson City, MO 65103. You can also see their webpage at: <http://mosl.sos.state.mo.us/rec-man/arch.html> (From *Everton's Genealogical Helper*, Nov/Dec 1998).

OHIO DEATH CERTIFICATE INDEX: The Ohio Historical Society offers the index of death certificates from 1913 to 1937 at their website. This index provides the date of death and certificate number, along with the full instructions for ordering a copy of the certificate. The address for the website is: <http://www.ohiohistory.org/dindex> (From *FGS Forum*, Winter 1998).

FLORIDA VITAL RECORDS: You no longer need to use a specific form when ordering a Florida vital record, and the cost for any Florida vital record is now just \$5. Request must include the following: For death records since 1877, include the deceased's full name, sex, date of death, city/county of death and a check (\$5 for the first copy and \$4 for each additional copy on the same request). The cause of death will be blocked out for deaths which occurred less than fifty years ago. The understanding is that death certificates may be requested by relatives only (state relationship). Marriage and divorce records are available from June 1927 but are filed under the husband's name only. Birth records for the last one hundred years are available only to the named person if over 18, or to the parent or legal guardian/representative. Records of births occurring more than one hundred years ago are available to the public unless the record has been sealed by the court. Send requests with your name, address, and daytime phone number to: Office of Vital Statistics, PO Box 210, Jacksonville, FL 32231-0042 with a check for \$5 payable to that office (From *FGS Forum*, Winter 1998).

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN NEWSLETTER: The Northeastern Bohemia Research Project Team (NEB) announced publication of its first newsletter, the *NEBlines*. Anyone interested in northeastern Bohemia may request a copy of the newsletter by sending a SASE with a 33-cent stamp to Kathryn Betlach Dankowski, 727 Appleberry Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903-1205. The project will also be publishing a surname list, which will be available for \$10. (From Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International *Nase rodina*, June 1998 via *FGS Forum*, Winter 1998).

CENSUS ADS URGE MINORITIES TO BE COUNTED: Federal officials are mounting a \$100 million advertising campaign to encourage racial and ethnic minorities to be counted on the 2000 census. A full-scale advertising campaign is a radical and expensive departure from the Census Bureau's historical use of free public-service messages to encourage Americans to participate. There has been a 30-year decline in the number of questionnaires returned, as well as a reluctance of major media to publish public-service ads or to broadcast them in prime time slots. So census officials decided it was time to treat the 2000 census as a consumer product.

David Hoffman, a Census Bureau spokesman, said that during the last census in 1990, the bureau did not mount a paid campaign, instead relying on pro bono ads that drew an uneven response across the nation. This time the bureau concluded that it has to mount a full-scale assault with slick ads and messages to reach all Americans. If successful, the campaign will help reverse a three-decade trend of diminishing response to census questionnaires. In 1970, the response rate was 78%, but the participation rate dropped to 75% in 1980 and 65% in 1990. Officials project a 55% response rate if the trend continues. Census officials said their concerns about a possible undercount of minority Americans are exacerbated by the recent Supreme Court decision prohibiting the use of statistical sampling to augment the traditional methods of mail responses and door-to-door enumeration. Although the court's decision applies only to congressional apportionment, it remains unclear whether sampling methods will be used at all. In addition to adjusting congressional seats in some districts, the distribution of an estimated \$180 billion in federal aid to the states might be affected by the 2000 census.

A major reason for the declining response rate stems from the nation's increasing diversity, according to demographers and statisticians familiar with census surveys. Racial minorities and recent immigrants tend to be reluctant to assist federal officials, often expressing fear that the information may be used against them. Studies also suggest that some immigrants do not understand why the government would count them. As a result, many of them are uncouned.

Young & Rubicam, a giant New York advertising agency, is drafting an overall media campaign - "This is your future. Don't leave it blank!" Individual advertising companies, employed as subcontractors to Young & Rubicam, are creating targeted campaigns with overt racial or cultural messages aimed at black, Latino, Asian American and American Indian populations. Ads targets at American Indians, for instance, draw attention to the family - "Generations are counting on this. Don't leave it blank!" For blacks, messages evoke racial and community solidarity - "This is our future. Don't leave it blank!" And ads aimed at Latinos and Asian Americans translate the phrase into Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and other languages. (From *The Seattle Times*, Feb. 1, 1999).

CIVIL WAR VIDEOS: The King County Library System has available the series "Smithsonian's Great Battles of the Civil War, Vol. I-VII," located at the call number VT973.73 GRE.

NEW ADDRESS FOR SOCIAL SECURITY: There is a new address to use when writing to request Social Security applications, including copies of SS-5 forms. Write to: Social Security Administration, Office of Controller of Record Operations, The FOI Workgroup, PO Box 17772, 300 North Greene St., Baltimore, MD 21201. (*The Family Tree*, Feb./March 1999).

RUSSIAN ARCHIVE ON THE INTERNET: A website has been established by a group called "The Russian Archive." The group offers their services in providing information from the Russian Archives on matters of Russian history, literature, persons, culture, and art. The website is located at: <http://www.aha.ru/~russarch>. If there is a particular document or information you need, you may contact the group at russarch@aha.ru. The group will try to find the material you are looking for and reply within a week, letting you know whether it is available and if so, what fees are involved. (From *The Family Tree*, Feb./March 1999).

ITALIAN GENEALOGY GROUP: If you are researching Italian ancestors, you may want to join the group Pursuing Our Italian Names Together (POINT). This group is the American Network of Italian Genealogy. Chapters are located all over the United States, and membership includes great publications. Contact the group at: Box 2977, Palos Verdes, CA 90274 or call 310-832-4041 for more information. (From *The Family Tree*, Feb./March 1999).

SUFFIXES TO GERMAN SURNAMES: Suffixes to German names often provide clues to the regional origin of the surname, such as:

- ▶ "bach" from Southwest Germany.
- ▶ "burg" from throughout Germany.
- ▶ "haus" from Westphalia.
- ▶ "ecke" from Hesse and Thuringia.
- ▶ "ingen" from Baden and Wurttemberg.
- ▶ "inske" from Upper Silesia.
- ▶ "ski/zje" from East Pomerania.
- ▶ "reuth" from Bavaria. (From Decatur Gen. Soc. Newsletter, Jan/Feb 1992 via S.C.G. Society Inc. Newsletter, Jan. 1999).

LINES OF DESCENT:

- ◆ Lineal Descent - direct ancestry.
- ◆ Progenitor - Forefather.
- ◆ Consanguinity - having a blood relationship but not direct.
- ◆ Agnate - relationship of father's side of family.
- ◆ Colgate - relationship of mother's side of family.
- ◆ Collateral lines - same ancestral stock but not in one's direct line.
- ◆ Sibling - brother or sister.
- ◆ Paternal - relating to father's family.
- ◆ Maternal - relating to mother's family. (From *The Great River*, Gen. Soc., Vol. 24, No. 2, via S.C.G. Society, Inc. Jan. 1999).

SUGGESTION FOR GETTING RETURN MAIL: If you are having trouble getting family group sheets back from relatives, make one out as completely as possible, but make the wife 10 years older than you think she is. This almost always works! (From *Rocky Mountain Buckeye* via *So. King News*, Jan/Feb 1999).

NEW STAMP TO HONOR IRISH AMERICANS: Postmaster General William J. Henderson has approved the recommendation of a Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee. A new stamp will be issued honoring the contributions of Irish-Americans and their ancestors who came to the United States to escape the potato famine in Ireland between 1845 and 1850. The stamp will salute the 150th anniversary of the famine. The announcement was made by U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy, a descendant of Irish immigrants. No date has been set for the release of the new stamp. (From *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter*, Dec. 12, 1998).

RED BOOKS PROJECT: The Red Books Project, a 15-year project by Cornell University to locate and identify historical records in New York State, was a major undertaking which included a wealth of information. The entire Historical Documents Inventory is now accessible on the Internet. At the Library of Congress's National Union Catalog Of Manuscripts Collections Webpage you can determine which historical records are housed in the library or historical society location you are planning to visit. The webpage is at: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/z3950/rlinamc.html>. This site also lists the holdings of many other repositories which have records from or relating to New York State. (*The Lifeline*, Fall 1998).

➤ **TOP TEN GENEALOGY BOOKS:** Recently *Family Chronicle* magazine asked a group of development directors at well known libraries with large genealogy departments and senior managers at genealogy book publishing and distribution companies to give their top ten genealogy book selections. Here is the list: 1). *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*, Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, Ancestry, Salt Lake City, 1997; 2). *The Handy Book for Genealogists*, Everton Publishers, Inc., Logan, Utah, 1991; 3). *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*, 2nd Edition, Val D. Greenwood, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1990; 4). *Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian*, Elizabeth Shown Mills, The Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore; 5). *Periodical Source Index*, Allen County Public Library Foundation, Fort Wayne, Indiana; 6). *Ancestry's Red Book - American State, County and Town Sources*, Alice Eichholz, editor, Ancestry, Salt Lake City, 1989; 7). *The Genealogist's Address Book*, Elizabeth P. Bentley, The Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore; 8). *American Genealogical-Biographical Index*, Fremont Rider, The Godfrey Memorial Library, 134 Newfield St., Middletown, CT 06457; 9). *Genealogical & Local History Books in Print*, 5th edition, The Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1996-97; 10). *Genealogy as Pastime and Profession*, 2nd edition revised, Donald Lines Jacobus, The Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1986. Two other books that did not make the top ten list, but are worthy of honorable mention are: *Map Guide to U.S. Federal Census Records* by Dollarhide and Thorndale and *They Came in Ships* by John Phillip Colletta. (From *Family Chronicle*, Jan./Feb. 1999).

➤ **PLANNING A SALT LAKE CITY RESEARCH TRIP?** Salt Lake City is well known for it's wonderful Family History Library. But there are many other places of historical interest that you may want to visit while there. Some of these are: Beehive House, Capital Hill, Cathedral of the Madeleine, Denver and Rio Grande Railroad Depot, Executive Mansion, Joseph Smith Memorial Building, Lion House, Pioneer Village, Seagull Monument, Temple Square, The is the Place Monument, Trolley Square, and the Utah Museum of Natural History. In addition, there are multiple family history research facilities in Salt Lake City. These include:

- ▶ Family History Library - located at 35 North West Temple, Salt Lake City, (801)240-2331. The library is maintained as a resource for LDS members, however anyone, regardless of race, creed, or religion, is welcome to visit and use the library's collections and services at no charge. Websites: <http://www.genealogy.org/~uvpafug/fhslsc.html> and <http://www.aros.net/~drwaff/slcfhl.htm>
- ▶ Heritage Quest, a division of American Genealogical Lending Library - 593 W. 100 N., Bountiful, Utah. 84011, 801-658-7755. This private membership library has an extensive microfilm collection which is fully accessible by Heritage Quest members on loan. The collection has over 250,000 microfilm and microfiche titles related directly to genealogy subjects. Website: <http://www.agll.com/>
- ▶ Utah State Archives, Archive Building, PO Box 141021, Salt Lake City, 84114-1021, 801-538-3013 (research room), email: research@state.ut.us. The State Archives preserves and provides access to records of enduring value created by Utah state, county, and municipal government and other local government entities. Records and information are available through Reference Services. Website: <http://www.archives.state.ut.us/>
- ▶ Daughters of the Utah Pioneers, Pioneer Memorial Museum, 300 North Main, Salt Lake city, UT 84103, 801-538-1050. The National Board has sponsored many activities/projects over the years that have resulted in publication of historical material. In addition, county organizations have published county histories which in some cases are the only local histories available. Website: <http://eddy.media.utah.edu/medsol/UCME/d/DAUGHTERSUTPIO.html>
- ▶ Sons of the Utah Pioneers, 3301 East 2920 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84109-4260, email: editor@uvol.com. This organization promotes and sponsors historical collection/preservation, including designation and marking of pioneer trails; research and writing of pioneer histories; collection and preservation of pioneer artifacts, and other activities which help preserve the history of the pioneers and perpetuate their ideals. Website: <http://www.uvol.com/sup/>
- ▶ Utah State Historical Society and Library, 300 Rio Grande, Salt Lake City, UT 84101, 801-533-3502, email: ushs@history.state.ut.us. The library was founded in 1897 with the mission "Preserving and Sharing Utah's Past for the Present and Future." The large and priceless collections provide an invaluable resource for those interested in Utah's history. Website: <http://www.ce.ex.state.ut.us/history/>
- ▶ Utah Valley Regional Family History Center, Brigham Young University, Harold B. Lee Library, 4th Floor, Provo, UT 84602, 801-378-6200(Family History Center) and 801-378-2926 (Library Information). This family history center is devoted to helping genealogists find and learn about their family history. Workers help library users interpret the collections. Website: <http://www.lib.byu.edu> (From *Ancestry*, Jan./Feb. 1999).

MURPHY'S LAW FOR GENEALOGISTS:

- ⇒ The public ceremony in which your distinguished ancestor participated and at which the platform collapsed under him turned out to be a hanging.
- ⇒ When at last after much hard work you have solved the mystery you have been working on for two years, your aunt says "I could have told you that."
- ⇒ Your grandmother's maiden name that you have searched for for four years was on a letter in a box in the attic all the time.
- ⇒ You never asked your father about his family when he was alive because you weren't interested in genealogy then.
- ⇒ The will you need is in the safe on board the Titanic.
- ⇒ Copies of old newspapers have holes occurring only on the surnames.
- ⇒ John, son of Thomas, the immigrant whom your relatives claim as the family progenitor, died on board ship at age 10.
- ⇒ Your great grandfather's newspaper obituary states that he died leaving no issue of record.
- ⇒ The keeper of the vital records you need has just been insulted by another genealogist.
- ⇒ The relative who had all the family photographs gave them all to her daughter who has no interest in genealogy and no inclination to share.
- ⇒ The only record you find for your great grandfather is that his property was sold at a sheriff's sale for insolvency.
- ⇒ The one document that would supply the missing link in your dead-end line has been lost due to fire, flood or war.
- ⇒ The town clerk to whom you wrote for the information sends you a long handwritten letter which is totally illegible.
- ⇒ The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relationship to its current spelling or pronunciation.
- ⇒ None of the pictures in your recently deceased grandmother's photo album have names written on them.
- ⇒ No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy, owned property, was sued, or was named in wills. (from Internet).

WRITING A GENEALOGICAL LETTER: There are several things to keep in mind when you are writing a genealogical letter which may help your chances of receiving a reply. These are: 1). Make your letter clean in appearance. Remember attractive letters will make a better first impression. 2). Make your letter correct in details of grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentencing, and paragraphing. 3). Your letter needs to be clear in expression and with definite questions. A letter that is easy to read and easy to answer stimulates a reply. 4). Be courteous in manner. Do not make demands and always acknowledge a reply and express appreciation for it. 5). Be considerate in tone and never write an "I" letter. Make your request so interesting that it will be answered out of a desire to help, not out of duty. 6). Go directly to the point and be concise. Long, wordy requests often end up being thrown away. 7). Make sure your request is complete in thought; communicate enough background information for the reader to grasp your needs. Some ways to make sure your request is easy to answer are: 1). Only ask questions the reader could be expected to have the answers. A few questions at a time is the best rule. 2). Write your questions on a separate sheet of paper and leave room on it for an answer. 3). Enclose a standard pedigree or family group chart to make it easier for your correspondent to supply names, places, dates. 4). Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope in your letter to correspondents in our own country (except public officials). 5). Make sure to include your own name and address on every letter you write. 6). Never ask for information that you could find yourself. 7). Offer to pay for copies of the records, and special postage and insurance costs for mailing the information to you. 8). Be reasonable in your requests, and offer to give information in exchange for that which is being requested. (From website by Leslie Griffith Jacoby, at <http://www.rootscomputing.com/howto/checkl/checkl.htm>).

HOME SOURCES: The following are some home sources you may wish to check in your home as well as the homes of your relatives: Personal Records (journal, diary, letters, photos, baby & wedding books, guestbooks), Certificates (birth, death, marriage, graduation, baptism, membership, awards, etc.), Family Records (bible, pedigrees, family histories, family traditions), Military Records (service, pension, discharge, awards, citations), Legal Papers (wills, deeds, mortgages, loans, contracts), Announcements (wedding, birth, death, anniversary, professional), Membership Records (cards, publications), Health Records (insurance, hospital, medical), School Records (diplomas, report cards, transcripts, yearbooks), Citizenship Papers (naturalization, passport, visa, vaccination), Newspaper Clippings (hometown, professional), Licenses (drivers, business, professional), Financial Records (bills, receipts, check stubs), Household Items, Books (treasured volumes, yearbooks), Employment Records (awards, citations). There is a more complete listing of home sources at the webpage: <http://www.rootscomputing.com/howto/checkl/checkl.htm>

ENGLAND, WALES, AND CHANNEL ISLAND WEBSITES

- * Association of Commonwealth Archivist and Records Managers <http://www.comnet.mt/acarm/index.html#acarm>
- * The British Library <http://portico.bl.uk/>
- * Channel Islands Family History Society <http://user.itl.net/~glen/AbouttheChannelIslandsFHS.html>
- * Corporation of London Records Office http://pitcairn.lib.uci.edu/largo/clr/clr_hold/clr_hold.html#scope
- * GENUKI, Genealogy, United Kingdom and Ireland <http://sentinel.mcc.ac.uk/genuki/mindex.html>
- * Institute of Historical Research <http://ihr.sas.ac.uk/>
- * Liverpool Central Library http://www.liverpool.gov.uk/public/council_info/direct-info/leisure/libraries/central.html
- * Nottinghamshire Archives <http://www.nottscc.gov.uk/cc/00000533.htm>
- * Office for National Statistics <http://www.emap.co.uk/ons/welcome.htm>
- * Public Record Office <http://www.open.gov.uk/pro/prohome.htm>
- * Royal commission on Historical Manuscripts <http://www.hmc.gov.uk/>
- * Society of Genealogists <http://www.cs.ncl.ac.uk/genuki/SoG/>
- * Berkshire Record Office <http://www.earl.org.uk/earl.members/berkshire/archive.htm>
- * Cheshire Record Office <http://www.u-net.com/cheshire.recoff.home.htm>
- * Devon Record Office <http://www.devon-cc.gov.uk/dcc/services/dro/homepage.html>
- * East Sussex Record Office <http://www.eastsussexcc.gov.uk/council/services/genearl/archives/main.htm>
- * Greater Manchester County Record Office <http://www.personal.u-net.com/~gmcro/home.htm>
- * Hampshire Record Office <http://www.hants.gov.uk/sadexn/i24.html>
- * Hereford and Worcester County Record Office http://www.open.gov.uk/herford/pages/h&w_cc/h&w_rec.htm
- * Suffolk Record Office http://www.suffolkcc.gov.uk/libraries_and_heritage/sro/index.html
- * Warwickshire County Record Office <http://lirn.viscount.org.uk/earl/members/warwickshire/countyro.htm>
- * Guernsey Archives Service <http://user.itl.net/~glen/archgsy.html>
- * Jersey Archives Service <http://www.jersey.gov.uk/heritage/archives/jasweb.html>

NEARBY HISTORY PROGRAM AT REDMOND LIBRARY: The Museum of History and Industry is presenting a program called "Nearby History" at the Redmond Library. The program focuses on learning about nearby resources to assist you in researching your house, neighborhood, family, ways to identify and care for your personal collections, how to use the internet for your research, and more. The Redmond Library is located at 15810 NE 85th St. Redmond, phone 425-885-1861. The program, on Saturdays from 1-3 p.m., began in February and continues as follows: March 13 - Web Resources, March 27 - Oral History, April 10 - Family History, April 24 - Your collections, May 8 - Neighborhood History, May 22 - What Next? For more information, call the Museum at 206-324-1126.

DEEDS AND DEED BOOKS: County deed books are a great source of genealogical information. The key to searching these books is to search systematically and thoroughly. This means a detailed, methodical survey of the full range of time that an ancestor was in possession of the property. Deeds are recorded chronologically as they are brought into the courthouse. After the filing fee is paid, the clerk copies the information into the deed book. The book that is used is the same regardless of the type of deed - warranty, quit claim, etc. You may find a wide assortment of recordings in deed books in addition to matters of property. There can be discharges from military service, the granting of power of attorney, an adoption or indenture of a child, or various other official and semi-official recordings. When using a deed book, you must reconstruct and account for the entire span of property ownership. You can do this by finding the deed of sale, with the subject of the search as seller or grantee, of the property. Then work backward through the deed and associated record books (mortgages, leases, liens, etc.) until the exact same person as purchaser of the exact same property is found. It is important to recognize that the slightest variation in the legal description of the property means either a completely separate parcel of land or a larger area destined for subdivision. Such a variation requires a search forward in the deed and related books for information on this parcel of land. If you are having difficulty locating a deed of purchase, consider the grantor (buyer of the property) acquired the property by patent from the federal government or grant from a colonial or state authority. For more information on how to locate records of patents or grants, see *Land and Property Research in the United States* by E. Wade Hone, 1997, or "Research in Land and Tax Records," chapter 8 in *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*, 1996. Both are published by Ancestry, Inc. (From *FGS Forum*, Winter 1998).