

CHINOOK ARCH

April 2022 Volume 4 Issue 4



ALBERTA FAMILY
HISTORIES SOCIETY

Society Meetings

Our Next Society Meeting: Monday, April 11, 2022

LOCATION: Zoom meeting

TIME: 7 to 9 pm

TOPIC: The Art of Slow Genealogy by Tara Shymanski

A step-by-step method on how to slow down, cite your sources, and read and analyze records. This process results in a more accurate family history.

Upcoming Meetings

All held virtually using Zoom until further notice. Contact communications@afhs.ab.ca to receive an invitation.

DATE	GROUP	TIME	TOPIC
Sat., Apr. 9	Digital Genealogy SIG/ Family Genes Group	10 am to noon	Password management tools including a demonstration of LastPass; Irfanview demo
Sat., Apr. 16	English/Welsh SIG	10 am to noon	Wills and Probate Records by Marion Peterson and Kelly Southworth
Mon., Apr. 18	Board Meeting	7 to 9 pm	
Sat., Apr. 23	Celtic SIG	10 am to noon	Using Timelines by Greg Cave
Sun., Apr. 24	Legacy SIG	1:30 to 3:30 pm	Legacy software help and tips
Mon., Apr. 25	Ontario SIG	1:30 to 3:30 pm	Research tips for York County by Ruth Burkholder
Sat., May 7	Family Tree Maker SIG	10 am to noon	Family Tree Maker help and tips

Next Society Meetings

Monday, May 9, 2022

Speaker: Alison Freake

Topic: Using the Provincial Archives of Alberta and the care of archival records

AFHS Member Benefits:

- Society events and activities
- Our member-exclusive email news bulletin *The Windsock* & newsletter *Chinook Arch*
- Full access to our Society's resources and library with lending privileges
- Opportunities to participate in our Special Interest Groups
- Gain new friends with similar research interests and have fun!

www.afhs.ab.ca/membership

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with AFHS Bylaws Articles 7.1 & 7.4, of the Annual General Meeting of Alberta Family Histories Society which shall be held on **Monday, May 9, 2022, via Zoom, starting at 7:00 pm**, during which financial and other reports will be presented, business conducted and elections held.

Call for Nominations for AFHS Board of Directors

Want to have more input into the operations of our Society? Looking to meet more people? Do you have time and talents to share with other family history enthusiasts?

The AFHS Nominations Committee is looking for you!

Directors on our Board serve one-year terms, which means you do not need to make a long-term commitment. The only qualification is that you must be an AFHS member in good standing.

You may nominate yourself or another member (with their permission).

For more information, please contact Iris finance@afhs.ab.ca



AFHS Library is now a Family Search Affiliate Library!

This is exciting news because some of FamilySearch's vast record sets can only be accessed at a FamilySearch location. You can use any of our library computers to access many of the locked records by logging in with your own FamilySearch username and password. Learn more about FamilySearch Affiliate Libraries in this blog article www.familysearch.org/en/blog/familysearch-affiliate-library-faq

We're Looking for a Society Meeting Location

We anticipate resuming in-person meetings in the fall, likely in a hybrid Zoom format. The venue we formerly used for our in-person meetings is no longer available. If you would like to be on a committee to help with the selection of this meeting place, or if you know of a meeting space that would hold approximately 75-100 people, has ample free parking and has a PA system, please contact Richard facilities@afhs.ab.ca

Ancestor Anecdotes

My Grandma's Glass Eye

Greg Cave

As a child growing up in Moose Jaw, I found a glass eye in my father's desk. It was a curious object which had belonged to my grandmother, who sadly lost an eye to smallpox when she was a child. Apparently, this one was a spare glass eye as it had been too large for her eye socket as a child. She kept it anyway.

On occasion, the mischievous side of me would take over when a new friend would drop by to visit. My Mom would make us each a glass of Freshie. Freshie was a drink mix, similar to Kool-Aid, that was sold in Canada from the 1950s to the 1980s. It came in nine flavours including cherry, lemon-lime and root beer. Sometimes, I would drop the glass eye into the new friend's glass of Freshie and wait for a reaction. I found this totally hilarious!

Mom was never amused by my actions, and one day the glass eye was gone. Apparently, in the mid 1950s there was a drive to collect used eyeglasses for needy folks in India and Pakistan. Mom thought this glass eye might be of value to some unfortunate person, so she donated it along with an old pair of glasses.

Some years later, a neighbour dropped by for coffee, and Mom told her the story. Liz was a bit of a poet and penned a wee sonnet.

Grandma's Glass Eye

By Liz Tulloch

Grandma had quietly passed away
Her life was over, she couldn't stay
But she left us a legacy, Dad and I
Her beautiful, shiny, dear old glass eye.

For ages we kept it hidden away
In a drawer, until one memorable day
We heard of a worldwide appeal
to the masses
To surrender up all our
unused glasses
For the people of India,
who needed them more,
And I thought about Grandma's
glass eye in the drawer.

It wouldn't do much
to improve someone's sight
But, improve their appearance,
it certainly might
So I packed it with care
and said my goodbye
To Grandma's beautiful,
shiny glass eye.

Months later it suddenly
dawned upon me
What a terribly curious
sight it must be
For in India people have
BROWN skin and eyes
And Grandma's eyes had been
as blue as the skies.

Have you ever seen an Indian true
With one good eye of brown
and one glass eye of BLUE?
If ever you do,
then you're bound to know why!
That Indian's wearing
our Grandma's glass eye!

Glass eyes are still made today but advances in healthcare mean fewer people need them. This article from 2014 in the *Calgary Herald* talks about how crafting a glass eye is a dying art:

<https://calgaryherald.com/uncategorized/optical-illusionists-crafting-prosthetic-eyes-is-an-art-done-by-very-few>

Special Interest Groups

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs) are the ideal place to share your family history. The small-group setting allows for the exchange of information and suggestions on further avenues to pursue.

All SIGs are being held using Zoom for now and the groups do not meet during July and August. Check our website calendar for up-to-date information or email the SIG leader.

CELTIC SIG (Irish/Scots)

Meets on the fourth Saturday

10 am - Noon

celticsig@afhs.ab.ca

DIGITAL GENEALOGY SIG

Meets on the second Saturday

10 am - Noon

familygenes@afhs.ab.ca

DNA SIG

In hiatus until a new leader is found

dnasig@afhs.ab.ca

ENGLISH/WELSH SIG

Meets on the third Saturday

10 am - Noon

englishwelshsig@afhs.ab.ca

FAMILY TREE MAKER SIG

Meets on the first Saturday

10 am - Noon

ftmsig@afhs.ab.ca

LEGACY SIG

Meets on the fourth Sunday

1:30 - 3 pm

legacysig@afhs.ab.ca

ONTARIO SIG

Meets on the fourth Monday

1:30 - 3:30 pm

ontariosig@afhs.ab.ca

Family Tree Maker SIG

Bev Smith

During our meetings, we explore the many ways Family Tree Maker can help us discover more about our ancestors, but one of the recurring worries is how to interest future generations in our research. As we learned at our March meeting, family reunions can be a perfect opportunity to connect with younger family members.

At our SIG meeting on March 5, Greg Cave did a presentation on family reunions called *Digging for Gold at your Family Reunion*. He talked about how his family has held family reunions for the past 50 years and uses them to both collect and share family history. Greg took us through the process of organizing a reunion, including how to use social media to engage with younger generations. Family tree software can create charts and other publications to share at the reunion itself in a variety of displays. Greg also gave pointers on location choice, organizing committees, and general "dos and don'ts."

The photos he shared made us all want to become honorary members of such a family! They were having fun with food, games, stories, and catching up with family. The reward has been the interest the younger family members take in all the displays, as well as all the fun that cousins can share. A bonus is that the next reunion will be organized by the next generation! True gold!

Some other resources for putting on a well-organized and fun family reunion:

www.canadianliving.com/life-and-relationships/family/article/how-to-plan-a-perfect-family-reunion

www.familytreemagazine.com/reunions/10-steps-to-family-reunion-success

www.familysearch.org/en/blog/family-reunion-ideas-celebrate-family-history

<https://lisalouisecooke.com/2019/04/18/family-reunion-ideas>

How to Add Language Accent Marks

Marion Peterson

As genealogists, we often come across names and locations that have special letters. The keyboard that I use does not have these letters, so over time I've learned a few ways to add language accent marks. Please note: I am a Windows user, so my article does not describe how to do this using a Mac or Linux.

In Legacy

I use Legacy Family Tree software, and it has a built-in set of special characters. I can choose up to eight to keep in a handy ribbon which is visible on every input screen. If you use another genealogy program, check to see if this function is included.

In Word or PowerPoint or Excel

If I am using a Microsoft Office application, I use the Symbol feature of the Insert menu. It can take a bit of scrolling to find an accented letter, but once I use it that letter is saved in a "Recently Used Symbols" menu. All kinds of letters and symbols can be found here, such as ©, €, £ and many more.

Keyboard Shortcuts

Another method is to use keyboard shortcuts. This approach is universal and always works. My husband's ancestry is partly Swedish, so I have a little cheat sheet beside my computer whenever I am researching his line. In order to do the letter Ä, I make sure the Num Lock is on, hold down the Alt key on my keyboard, type 0196 using my number pad, and then release the Alt key. The other codes I need for the letters found in Swedish are:

ä	Alt 0228
Å	Alt 0197
å	Alt 0229
Ö	Alt 0214
ö	Alt 0246

I've memorized some of these because I've used them so many times. For more information about using this approach, see this helpful video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLQoJGEVe9Y>. Also, you can find a handy list of the ALT codes here: <https://altcodeslist.com>.

Other Apps for Windows

I recently learned of a few Windows apps. The Character Map app can be opened to find a symbol, and then the symbol can be copied and pasted into my work. It is like Symbols in Microsoft Office, but it does not keep track of the ones I have used recently. Another app, only available in Windows 10 and 11, can be opened by pressing the Windows key and typing a period at the same time, then releasing the keys. This combination opens a panel with lots of symbols. It saves recently used symbols, and because I use Windows 11, this will be a go-to in my tech toolbox.

I hope one of these methods helps you enter names and locations correctly into your family history.

Research Round Up

Newspapers and Directories on *Peel's Prairie Provinces*

By Shona Gourlay

Old newspapers can provide a wonderful glimpse into the past. They recorded both global events, like wars and elections, and local events, like meetings, social events, sports, and people's vacations. So, there is a very good chance that you could find a mention of an ancestor's name in print!

Peel's Prairie Provinces (from the University of Alberta) is a website whose goal is to provide researchers of all types with information on the history and culture of western Canada. One of their collections is of old newspapers from Alberta, which covers the majority of newspapers published, plus titles from British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba.

To use the website, go to <http://peel.library.ualberta.ca>

To search the newspapers, first click on the tab at the top of the screen labelled **Find Newspapers**. You will then be taken to the Search Newspapers screen. At the top of the screen, you can set the range of years (between 1871 and 2013) and choose the town or city from a drop-down list. You can then type in a keyword (like a name or event) before hitting the **Search** button.

Another option on the Search Newspaper screen is to scroll down the alphabetical title list of newspapers available. When you find one that interests you, click on the newspaper (e.g. *Calgary Eye-Opener*). A screen showing what years are available will appear, as well as a **Search this newspaper** box where you can enter keywords. Or click on a specific year and available issues in that year will appear. Click on the specific date of the issue you want to see.

Another interesting genealogical resource you can find on Peel's Prairie Provinces is **Henderson's Directories**. These city and town directories are available for Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Redcliff, as well as other areas of Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. They go back to the early 1900s. These are reverse directories so, in addition to the alphabetical list of residents, they also have listings by street name/address. The list of residents includes their job, employer and home address. It turns out that, in 1931, a great-aunt of mine was a clerk at Kresge's in Saskatoon! There are even a few directories going back to the late 1800s, that cover Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. These are alphabetical lists of geographic features, post offices, school districts, as well as towns with residents and businesses listed.

To find these directories, on the home page type in "Henderson" (and the city, if wanted) in the **Enter keywords** box in the top right-hand corner of the home screen, then click on Search. Or click on the **Featured Collections** tab, then click on Henderson's Directories. As with the newspapers, it is possible to search within each directory. You can click on the city or town listed, then choose the year you want to look at and finally either enter a keyword or click on a page number from the list.

Upcoming Events

CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

What is the Heritage Designation Process?

Free online presentation

Calgary Public Library

April 19, 2022 7 - 8:30 pm

<https://calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/programs>

Ireland's Title Applotment Records by Ron Gilmore

Virtual webinar

Victoria Genealogical Society

May 7, 2022

www.victoriags.org/events.php#upcoming

CONFERENCES/WEBINARS

Understanding Ontario Land Registry Records

Virtual series

Ontario Genealogical Society - Toronto Branch

April 13, 20 & 27, 2022 5:30 pm

<https://ogs.on.ca>

Scottish Indexes Conference XVI

Virtual conference

Scottish Indexes

September 3, 2022

www.scottishindexes.com

Writing Family History: Turning research into shareable stories

Virtual webinar

Ontario Genealogical Society - Kingston Branch

April 16, 2022 8:00 am

<https://kingston.ogs.on.ca>

BCGS Genealogy Cruise with Blaine Bettinger and Mary Kathryn Kozy

British Columbia Genealogical Society

September 17 - 24, 2022

www.facebook.com/groups/503171243562227

Ireland's Griffiths Valuation by Ron Gilmore

Virtual webinar

Victoria Genealogical Society

April 23, 2022

www.victoriags.org/events.php#upcoming

**All times given are in Mountain Time

MORE ONLINE EVENT LISTINGS:

Conference Keeper:

www.conferencekeeper.org/virtual

Family Search:

www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars

GENEVA (UK events):

<http://geneva.weald.org.uk/doku.php>

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have some time to spare? Alberta Family Histories Society is entirely run by volunteers, and we have tasks both big and small. Here are some of our current opportunities:

Spring has arrived, and our projects team is once again planning field trips to document the cemeteries in Calgary and area. If you would like to help take photos or assist with the indexing, please contact Wendy projects@afhs.ab.ca

Our webmaster, Jim Benedict, is looking for volunteers to help with the indexing of the birth, marriage and death notices from the Calgary Herald. We need **someone to coordinate this project** as well as those willing to do the indexing. If you live in Calgary, this could be done in your own home using the Calgary Public Library's *Calgary Herald* digital archive. If you can help, please contact Jim webmaster@afhs.ab.ca

Indexing of back issues of our journal is continuing. If you would like to help, contact Marion communications@afhs.ab.ca

Do you know how to edit videos or are you interested in learning? We would like another volunteer to assist with the videos that are uploaded to our Meeting Archive on the website. For more information contact Marion communications@afhs.ab.ca

We're Planning a Family Roots Conference!

Get ready for an in-person genealogy conference in Calgary on Saturday, October 1, 2022, at Crossroads Community Centre.

Mark your calendars!

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Library Hours & Opportunities to Connect

Library Open Hours

Thursday, 10 am - 2 pm
Saturday, noon - 4pm

Check the AFHS website calendar for any updates

<https://afhs.ab.ca/calendar>



Get in touch with us!

Email: info@afhs.ab.ca

Website: www.afhs.ab.ca

Phone: 403-214-1447

Facebook: Alberta Family Histories Society

Instagram:
[abfamilyhistoriessociety](https://www.instagram.com/abfamilyhistoriessociety)



AFHS Library & Office location:

712 - 16 Avenue NW Calgary

Chinook Arch

Watch for our newsletter distributed by email monthly, on the Saturday before AFHS meetings, from September to June. Paper copies are available at meetings and at the AFHS Library.

We are looking for short articles and copyright-free pictures. Favourite relatives, fond family memories, great research tips and tricks, new genealogy technology you love or any related topics are accepted.

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