



Monthly Meetings

This Month's Meeting Date:

Monday, October 17, 2022

LOCATION: Zoom meeting

TIME: 7 to 9 pm

SPEAKER: Kelly Southworth

TOPIC: Canadian Halloween

Upcoming Society Meetings

Monday, November 14, 2022

Topic: Alberta's Cornerstone:
Archaeological Adventures in
Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park

Speaker: Shari Pereyl, author

Location: Bow Cliff Seniors Centre & Zoom

Time: 7 - 9 pm

Monday, December 12, 2022

Topic: Member Sharing Event

Speaker: N/A

Location: Bow Cliff Seniors Centre & Zoom

Time: 7 - 9 pm

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.

Editor: Amber Godfrey

Email: chinookarch@afhs.ab.ca

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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

President's Message from Marion Peterson

Genealogy has changed. So has the operation of a genealogy society.

Demographically, yesterday's genealogist was likely to be Caucasian, middle class, well-educated, retired and attended meetings in the city where they resided. Today's genealogist is likely to be of any nationality, any age, could be working or in school full-time, and can contribute and participate at meetings in their pyjamas from their own home via virtual meetings.

When Alberta Family Histories Society (AFHS) began, free ads were placed in the local newspaper's community page and occasionally display tables were set up in local malls. Those avenues are no longer available at low or no cost, nor are they the best way to reach members.

In the beginning, AFHS meetings were held in a church basement, the library consisted of a couple of boxes of books that someone brought to each meeting and an editor was found to publish a journal with long, scholarly articles. Today, we rent space for our Society meetings as well as for our extensive library. The library requires volunteers to staff it during open hours, to process new materials, to keep the building and collection tidy and to maintain our computers, scanners, printers and other electronics. Our means of communication with our members and the public now involves email, a digital journal, e-news updates, social media, a main website and two websites for special projects. All of these involve the use of computers by members and the volunteers who produce them.

Genealogy competes with many leisure activities and it is a time-consuming hobby. The Board understands that members are primarily focussed on their own research. We want all members to discover, learn, connect and engage as participants in our Society. The problem for AFHS is that we operate entirely with volunteers, and almost all of these are members. We are always seeking members who are willing to take some time away from their research and busy lives to give back to the Society. Many of the tasks we need volunteer help for require a variety of computer skills.

Our Board is having a strategic planning session on October 29. We are looking for your feedback and input. Please take a moment to send an email to me, Marion Peterson, at president@afhs.ab.ca to let me know your thoughts on the following:

- How did you hear about AFHS? Where should we be reaching out to potential members?
- Are the programs of AFHS delivering what you expected? If not, what is missing?
- What is the best thing about being a member of AFHS?
- What may be holding you back from becoming more involved as a volunteer?

Insights will be shared anonymously at the planning meeting. Feel free to send any other feedback that may help us as we look to the future. I look forward to hearing from you.

Making Connections Conference 2022

Amber Godfrey

After years of meeting virtually, the AFHS Making Connections Conference finally let us get together in-person and listen to some amazing presenters. It took a lot of people to make the conference happen, and we would like to thank:

- the Conference Committee members: Tara Shymanski, Jane Hillsden, Jennifer Blain, Elaine Lingnau, Suzanne Davidson, Zolton Walford and Marion Peterson
- AFHS Treasurer Wendy Robertson for helping with finances
- Warren Peterson for providing tech support and preparing the conference videos for viewing
- the volunteers who helped with registration, introduced speakers, handed out door prizes and much more.

Our three presenters offered talks on a wide range of topics.

Kim Zjalic talked about “5 Ways to Preserve Your Photo Legacy.” She gave us some simple and practical tips on how to organize both print and digital photographs that we have in our personal collections.

Jill Browne gave a presentation on “Planning a Family History Trip, Brick Walls and All”. She explained the difference between a family history trip and a research trip and how using a giant wish list can help you narrow down what you really want to see and do on your journey.

“The Geography of Genealogy” by Dave Obee was a talk about how geography is important to our research, as borders have changed over the years and a variety of historical events have caused migration waves across the world.

Dave Obee also did a presentation on “Squiggly Lines and Spit: How DNA is Changing Family History Research.” He uses personal stories to help explain the science behind DNA and how it can be a useful tool but also can give potentially shocking results.

Our next Family Roots Conference will be held in 2024.



Special Interest Groups

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

SIGs are now being held in multiple formats: in-person, Zoom only or a hybrid version (in-person & Zoom). Check the calendar on our website for up-to-date information or email the SIG leader.

If you are a new member and would like to attend a SIG meeting to try it out before joining, ask for an invitation from: communications@afhs.ab.ca

CELTIC SIG (Irish/Scots)

Meets on the 4th Saturday
10 am - Noon
celticsig@afhs.ab.ca

DIGITAL GENEALOGY SIG

Meets on the 2nd Saturday
10 am - Noon
familygenes@afhs.ab.ca

ENGLISH/WELSH SIG

Meets on the 3rd Saturday
10 am - Noon
englishwelshsig@afhs.ab.ca

FAMILY TREE MAKER SIG

Meets on the 1st Saturday
10 am - Noon
ftmsig@afhs.ab.ca

LEGACY SIG

Meets on the 4th Sunday
1:30 - 3:30 pm
legacysig@afhs.ab.ca

ONTARIO SIG

Meets on the 4th Monday
1:30 - 3:30 pm
ontariosig@afhs.ab.ca

DNA SIG

On hiatus
(until a new leader is found)
dnasig@afhs.ab.ca

The SIG groups do not meet during the summer (July and August)

The AFHS Library is located at **712 - 16 Avenue NW, Calgary** and in-person SIG group meetings are held there.

The Library has over twelve thousand print items available and many are able to be borrowed for a one-month loan. Electronic resources include computers, a multi-function printer, scanners (flatbed and overhead), and a microfiche reader. Journals from around the world are available to view in-library in either print or digital formats. As a FamilySearch affiliate library, you view additional FamilySearch digital records at the AFHS library that aren't available elsewhere.

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

DATE	GROUP	TIME/FORMAT	TOPIC
8 Oct 2022 Saturday	Digital Genealogy SIG/ Family Genes Group	10 am to noon <i>Zoom only</i>	Digital tips and tricks and information on updates to Family Genes
15 Oct 2022 Saturday	English/Welsh SIG	10 am to noon <i>Zoom only</i>	Presentation on agricultural labourers
22 Oct 2022 Saturday	Celtic SIG	10 am to noon <i>Hybrid</i>	Counties of Ireland and Scotland
23 Oct 2022 Sunday	Legacy SIG	1:30 - 3:30 PM <i>Zoom only</i>	Using a Research Log
24 Oct 2022 Monday	Ontario SIG	1:30 to 3:30 pm <i>In person only</i>	Tour of the Military Museum
5 Nov 2022 Saturday	Family Tree Maker SIG	10 am to noon <i>Zoom only</i>	

Best Practices for Zoom Meeting Participation

Marion Peterson

Zoom has become an important tool in our Society's programming. We're moving to hybrid meetings and setting up our library with the equipment to do so.

In order to make the experience the best it can be for everyone in attendance, here are a few things to remember:

- **Please make use of the Mute and Stop Video controls!** Unintended noises and movements can be very distracting. Behave like you would in a room full of people.
- **Mute your microphone unless you are talking.** Some microphones are incredibly sensitive and will pick up typing, dogs barking, nearby conversations, phones ringing, etc. Background noises become part of the audio and can be quite distracting. Also, Zoom tries to figure out who the speaker is based on sound so if your microphone picks up noises, Zoom will choose your image to project instead the speaker. To mute your microphone, click or tap on the Mute icon on the bottom left of your screen or use the keyboard shortcut ALT+A (Windows) or Shift+Command+A (Mac).
- **Know how to turn your video camera off.** Seeing each other's smiling faces on Zoom helps new members get to know everyone but if you need to get up and move around, turn off your camera. And if you are on a small device (like an iPhone or iPad) and need to lean in to view the screen, it is best to turn your camera off to avoid broadcasting an unflattering view. To turn off your camera, click or tap on the Stop Video icon in the bottom left of your screen or use the keyboard shortcut ALT+V (Windows) or Shift+Command+V (Mac).
- **Have your name appear on your Zoom tile so people can identify you.** If your tile has a nickname or generic name (like iPad) that does not indicate who you are, please change it to your real name. To do this, hover your mouse in the top right corner of your Zoom tile, tap or click on the three dots ... , then choose Rename in the dropdown menu.
- **Learn how to use the Raise Hand feature to let the host know you would like to speak.** By doing so, you move up on the host's control panel for them to see that you wish to speak. Waving your hand at your camera may not be seen by the host, but if you activate Raise Hand, you move onto the host's control panel and they will know you wish to contribute to the discussion or ask a question. To use Raise Hand, click or tap on the Reactions option in the Zoom box and choose Raise Hand or use the keyboard shortcuts ALT+Y (Windows) or Option+Y (Mac).
- **If you know you will be doing a presentation and need to share your screen,** use a wired Internet connection or connect in a location with the best WiFi signal in your home. It is also a good idea to practice sharing your screen ahead of time.

By ensuring you adhere to these best practices on Zoom, everyone will enjoy and learn from our Society meetings.

Library Highlights

COUNTIES OF IRELAND featured in the magazine *Irish Roots* that is available at the AFHS Library.

COMPANY	ISSUE #	ISSUE YEAR	NUMBER	PAGES	LIBRARY CALL NUMBER
Antrim	112	2019	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 112
Armagh	102	2017	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 102
Carlow	97	2016	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 097
Cavan	104	2017	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 104
Cavan	120	2021	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 120
Clare	87	2013	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 087
Cork	89	2014	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 089
Cork	118	2021	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 118
Derry	103	2017	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 103
Donegal	95	2016	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 095
Down	116	2020	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 116
Dublin	94	2015	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 094
Fermanagh	108	2018	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 108
Galway	90	2014	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 090
Kerry	91	2014	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 091
Kildare	93	2015	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 093
Kilkenny	101	2017	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 101
Laois	114	2020	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 114
Leitrim	106	2018	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 106
Limerick	92	2015	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 092
Longford	111	2019	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 111
Louth	99	2016	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 099
Mayo	86	2013	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 086
Meath	109	2019	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 109
Monaghan	115	2020	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 115
Offaly	105	2018	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 105
Offaly	119	2021	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 119
Roscommon	96	2016	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 096
Sligo	85	2013	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 085
Tipperary	107	2018	3	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 107
Tyrone	110	2019	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 110
Waterford	100	2016	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 100
Westmeath	88	2014	4	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 088
Wexford	113	2020	1	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 113
Wicklow	98	2016	2	pp 10-11	941.5 IRRO 098

Irish Roots sells digital downloads of the magazines at:
<https://irish-roots-magazine.myshopify.com/collections/frontpage>

Upcoming Events

CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Family History Coaching

Virtual and in-person

Calgary Public Library

October 22, 2022 1:00 - 3:00 pm

<https://calgarylibrary.ca/events-and-programs/programs/virtual-family-history-coaching>

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

Think Like an Archivist: Finding Genealogy Records in Libraries & Archives

Virtual webinar

Victoria Genealogical Society

October 29, 2022 11:00 am

www.victoriags.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=554933&item_id=1765908&event_date_id=255

CONFERENCES/WEBINARS

Tracing Irish Immigrants

Virtual course

OGS – Toronto Branch

Part 1: October 20, 2022 5:30 pm

Part 2: October 27, 2022 5:30 pm

<http://torontofamilyhistory.org/event/irish-immigrants-series>

Understanding Ontario Land Registry Records

Virtual course (3 parts)

OGS – Toronto Branch

November 3, 10 & 17, 2022 5:30 pm

http://torontofamilyhistory.org/event/understanding-land-registry-nov2022/?instance_id=1522

Top Ten Things to Do with Your DNA Results – Mark Thompson

Virtual webinar

Victoria Genealogical Society

October 22, 2022 11:00 am

www.victoriags.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=554933&item_id=1765648&event_date_id=255

Demonstration of the NosOrigines Database

Virtual webinar

Québec Genealogical Society

December 6, 2022 5:30 pm

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4760531727589491723>

BPL Genealogy Fair

In-person and virtual conference

Barrie Public Library

October 22, 2022 8 am – 1:15 pm

www.barrielibrary.ca/programs-events/genealogy-fair

**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:

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 volunteers willing to do the indexing. If you live in Calgary, this could be done at home using the Calgary Public Library's *Calgary Herald* digital archive. Contact Jim at webmaster@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. Contact Marion at communications@afhs.ab.ca

Do you have experience with grant-writing? We could use your help! Please contact Patricia, our Director of Finance at finance@afhs.ab.ca

We are looking for volunteers to help index the back issues of our journal. If you would like to help with this project, please contact communications@afhs.ab.ca and we will get you in touch with Leslie who is heading up the initiative.

Do you like to take photos? We are looking for another person to take photographs at our meetings and events. Contact Marion at president@afhs.ab.ca

Casino volunteers are needed for our next casino fundraiser on Monday, February 20 & 21, 2023. Contact Dennis at casino@afhs.ab.ca

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Library Hours & Opportunities to Connect

**AFHS Library & Office location:
712 - 16 Avenue NW Calgary**

Library Open Hours

Fall/Winter/Spring

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

*Check the website calendar for time changes or closures.



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)



Land Acknowledgement

In the spirit of reconciliation, we would like to acknowledge that the land on which we gather and where we work to preserve the records and family history of those who came before us are on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot (Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani), the Tsúú'tínà, the Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3) and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.