

THE NEW LEAF

Newsletter of the South West Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society

Published in Brandon, Manitoba ISBN # 0-921-622-08-02



Built to last

This log cabin was the home of my maternal Great Grandmother. It was built in 1843 and was lived in by the Muirhead family until around 1930. The doors, windows and roof were replaced and the cabin moved from near McIntyre, Ontario to Wasaga Beach where it is now the store front for a retail store. This cabin is typical of hundreds of log houses built in the mid-1800s.

2013 South West BRANCH EXECUTIVE

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COMMITTEES

Finance – Janice Cameron, Barb Andrew, Joyce Lidster

Meeting Advisor/Advertising - Sylvia Nicholson

Library Committee - Sheila Shearer (Chair), Barb Andrew, Vivian Privat

Education/Outreach Programs - Grace Desjardins-Green, Stacy Shackel, Paul Voorhis

Surname Index - Vivian Privat

Membership - Shirley Erskine

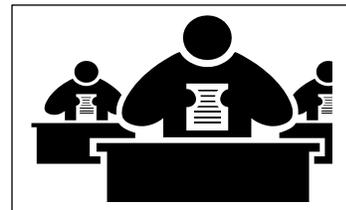
Research - Jack Dodds, Paul Voorhis

Branch Historian - Sylvia Nicholson

New Leaf Newsletter - Jack Dodds (Editor)

Cemetery Transcribing - Barb Andrew, Sheila Shearer

Webmasters - Barb Andrew, Sheila Shearer



Upcoming Programs

Fall programming:

Sept 4th

Tour of Brandon General Museum & Archives, 19-9th St, Brandon. The meeting will be held at the museum at 7:30pm with the tour to follow.

Oct 2nd

Paul Voorhis will present on The Land Divisions of Ontario.

Nov 6th

Jack Dodds will present on "What happens with research requests received by the Southwest Branch with some interesting case studies.

Dec 4th

Memories for Memoirs

Memories of past Christmases. What can you remember of your childhood Christmases.

The South West Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society has its own website at <http://www.mbgenealogy.com/south-west-branch>. Members can log in and access meeting minutes and read the New Leaf newsletters as well as general information available to the public.

If you have a Genealogy-related story to tell, or a reader request you would like published, contact New Leaf editor Jack Dodds at jdodds@mts.net We would be happy to include any queries, ideas, stories, etc. that would be of interest to our readers.

** FYI- The New Leaf is shared with other Genealogical societies across B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario as well as our members and many libraries.

Eleanor Burch sent me the following piece of Canadian air history. It has special meaning to her as she explains....

*"I've been thinking about the crash of **TCA Flight 831** for a while now, especially after learning that a friend of ours, Peggy Barrows' (a resident of Brandon), father was killed on that flight. Since my mother's cousin was also on that flight, I was well aware of the circumstances. (I could provide their names, but don't think it's necessary.) Maybe we have fellow genealogists who had family members on that flight."*

The crash of TCA Flight 831

Fifty years ago, on November 29, 1963 118 Canadians lost their lives in a muddy field north of Montreal. The crash of Trans Canada Airlines Flight 831, a four engine DC-8, at Ste. Thérèse, Quebec was the deadliest crash in Canadian history at the time and is still the third deadliest behind Swiss Air 111 and Arrow Air 1285. Fifty years later this disaster remains the largest loss of life for a Canadian domestic airline. Most of those killed were businessmen and professionals who left young families, some of whom live in our community.

As the 50th anniversary of this tragic event drew closer, the families began sharing and collecting stories and memories which have been compiled in a book and on DVD. A wall of names and other objects now mark the spot and several events have been planned prior to and on the weekend of Nov. 29 and 30. Further information can be found at <http://www.tcaflight831.com/Historical-Background.html> as well as a list of the names, ages and communities from which they came.

SW Branch member **Marion Hamilton** was honoured at the Foxwarren Leisure Centre's 30th Anniversary celebration on Sunday, June 23rd. Marion was awarded a Certificate Of Appreciation from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #152 for 60 years of dedicated service, serving the Auxillary for many years as President and Secretary Treasurer as well as zone and district positions.

Long-time SW Branch member Gladys Patmore has passed away. Her obituary is below..

Gladys Sarah Patmore (May 29, 1920-July 20, 2013)

Mrs. Gladys Patmore of Melita passed away at the Melita Health Centre on Saturday July 20, 2013 at the age of 93. She was predeceased by her husband Harry; Parents Robert and Rose Barnes and Brother Harry Barnes.

Gladys is survived by her four children, Virginia (Roy) Johnson of Winnipeg, Beverly (Albert) Golem of Comox, B.C., Stan (Wanda) Patmore of Pipestone, Mb and Judy Patmore of Yellowknife, NWT; nine grandchildren Coleen, Michelle, Grant, Monica, Robin, Jennifer, Jill, Chris and Amanda; also fourteen grandchildren and nephew Terry (Ruby) Barnes of Gainsborough, Sk.

A funeral service was held at Pipestone Community Hall, Pipestone, Mb. On Thursday, July 25 at 2:00 pm. Rev. Barb Alston officiated. Burial followed at Pipestone Cemetery.

Message from the President

By the time you read this, we will be back into our fall activities. Our regular Southwest Branch meetings resume in September. As usual, we will meet the first Wednesday of each month at Crocus Plains High School, unless a special tour is planned. Watch for details on our web-site and monthly emails from the Secretary outlining the plans for that month. The Program Committee has several interesting ideas for programs and is always open to suggestions from members.

On August 8th, 25 people, including about 12 Southwest Branch members, attended an afternoon workshop on writing our memoirs with Charlie Kempthorne. Our Branch was pleased to partner with the Brandon Public Library in sponsoring the workshop. It was an interesting afternoon and will hopefully inspire us to continue writing.

Hope to see you at our meetings!

Laura Crookshanks,
President,
Southwest Branch, MGS

Research

In an attempt to include members in current research by our branch and open an opportunity for the discovery of new information that would not necessarily be found by traditional means, a brief note of current requests will be published for your information. If you know the families or people we are looking for, here is your opportunity to help out.

HAMMOND

A recent request was received from a lady in Britain enquiring about the family of John Hammond ((b) 1858 in

Yorkshire, England) and his wife Eleanor (nee Bainbridge (b) 1860 in Liverpool, England. The family settled in Daly Municipality in Manitoba. Other

family members were Marmaduke Hammond (b) 1830 in England and his wife Mary Ann (nee Yeoman (b) 1829 in England.

Much information on this family has been found in the Griswold History book, online census and obituaries. Ironically, several South West Branch members recently transcribed the Tarbolton Cemetery north of Sioux Valley Reservation. We also took pictures of the gravestones. There are at least three of the Hammonds buried in this cemetery with others buried in the Griswold Cemetery. Further digging found living descendants still in the district, as well as spread through Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Living relatives will often provide more details and an on-going communication which connects families across borders and time.

Personal experiences, stories and insider knowledge, will often provide a more personal and interesting take on people that you will not find in the impersonal, cold data in census, vital statistics, land titles and other common Genealogical haunts.

If you have information that would be of interest, are related, or know of someone who would like to make a family connection, contact the New Leaf or phone (204) 728-0266.

**Southeast &
Winnipeg Branch
(MGS)**

Presents...

**A Genealogical
Seminar**

*Saturday, October 19,
2013*

*Silver Heights United
Church*

*199 Garrioch Avenue,
St. James, Winnipeg, MB
Manitoba Genealogical
Society*

**PROGRAM &
EVENTS**

**Southeast and
Winnipeg Branch
Manitoba Genealogical
Society**

New Directions

Keynote Presenter

Mrs. Robin D. Shimpa
Member of APG
Association of
Professional
Genealogists

Presenter

Mr. Louis Kessler
Member of APG

Association of
Professional
Genealogists
SATURDAY, October 19
8:00 –8:55

Registration at Entry
Refreshments

9:00 –9:15

Welcome -Chairperson
9:15 –10:45

***“Crossing the
Border –Minnesota
and North Dakota
to Manitoba –and
back,”***

Part 1~ Robin D. Shimpa

10:45–11:00
Refreshment Break
11:00 –12:30

**“Crossing the
Border –Minnesota
and North Dakota
to Manitoba –and
back,”**

Part 2~ Robin D. Shimpa
12:30 –1:45
Lunch
1:45–3:15

**“Ideas and More
Ideas for Your
Genealogy Society”**

Louis Kessler
3:15 –3:30
Refreshment Break
3:30 –3:45
Farewells and Thank
You’s
4:00-5:00
Annual General Meeting
Manitoba Genealogical
Society

**SUNDAY, October
20**

10:00 -4:00
MGS Library and
Resource Centre
Open Extended Hours for
Seminar Attendees
Program accurate at time
of printing, see
www.mbgenealogy.com
for up-to-date information.

Finding Family Connections in the Wattsvie Valley

By Laura Crookshanks

Sometimes we think we have to go far away or far back in time to find interesting things about our family’s journey. However, I believe that there are things to be found in our own back yard. Stories from real people who knew your ancestors add another dimension to the factual information you may have found through research.

A few years ago, on a trip to England, we went to the village of Hutton Cranswick in Yorkshire where my grandfather, George Leaming, was born in 1887. We were able to see the street where he lived (although there are newer houses there now) and the church where he was baptized. After getting the key from the Church Warden, we wandered around inside, took pictures of the baptismal font and of course traipsed through the cemetery. It was awesome to walk where he had been over a century before!

From research and family stories, I knew that my Grandfather and his family had immigrated to Canada when he was four. After living in Ontario for a couple years, the family moved to Minnedosa. It was there that he met my Grandmother, Myrtle, who was born in North Dakota but was in the Minnedosa area keeping house for an uncle. After being married in North Dakota, they returned to farm in the Wattsvie area. I often wondered how they chose that area. Matching names from parish records and Manitoba census, I discovered that my Grandfather’s maternal uncle, Joseph Wilson, was farming in the Wattsvie area at that time. So, I would assume that was what drew him to that particular farming area.

I had found in the Birtle Community History Book that there was a descendant of Joseph’s living in Birtle – Keith Wilson. With encouragement from Jack Dodds who knew Keith, we decided that we should go to

Birtle/Wattsvie one day to see what we could find out.

Having found documents relating to the sale of the farm among some old papers in a suitcase that came from my mother's apartment, I had a description of the parcels of land that my Grandfather sold in the 1950s. I also had a write-up up that my uncle had submitted to the Wattsvie Community History Book years ago in which he outlined the farms the family had lived on in that area.

Our first stop was the Town of Birtle Office. The staff there told us that we should be looking at the RM of Ellice located in St. Lazare; not Birtle. So off we went to St. Lazare, about 20 minutes west.

At the RM of Ellice Office, we met with the office manager who was very helpful. It

turned out that her husband's family had bought my grandfather's farm! She was able to tell us about the farm and other families in the area. She found a write-up in the RM of Ellice Community History Book (another reason to check out these books!) giving more information. We bought a map of the RM. As she was familiar with all the farms in the area, she was able to show us the three farms my Grandfather had rented at various times, the first one being where my father and two of his brothers were born. She gave us directions to the Wattsvie valley, describing where the farm was, including the original house. We had no problem finding the farm and the original house. People who saw us might have wondered who these people were driving back & forth down the highway! We got some pictures of the valley, including the original farm home.



Then it was back to Birtle to track down my distant cousin, Keith Wilson. After initially suggesting that he didn't really know much, we talked for over an hour and he shared several anecdotes about our family. His parents' farm was $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from my grandparents. He talked about going through their farmyard on the way to school and visiting with my grandmother especially. When just a boy of 5 or 6, he told his mother that "he was going to Myrtle's for tea". He talked about people who had just been names I recall hearing as I was growing up.

All in all it was a fun, productive day. It was exciting to see where my grandparents lived and their 4 sons were born and to talk with someone who knew my grandparents and children in

that locality and hear about life at that time. It just goes to show that you don't have to go far to add to your family history.

The South West Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society has one of the best kept secrets in Brandon; The Margaret E. Goodman Memorial Library

For many years the South West Branch has been collecting books, documents, records, obituaries and many more resources which document the history of our ancestors. During this time Margaret Goodman, and Jim & Beth Wall as well as some others have accumulated an amazing collection of material, and the new library committee has continued to grow this fabulous collection of family, community and other related histories which broaden our knowledge of passing times.

Working at the library recently, I picked up an old **1883 Brandon City Directory**. If you would like an idea of what the city was like in those days, here is one page from the Charles Marshall & Company Directory, which is much like the Henderson Directories that we are more familiar with.

BRANDON CITY DIRECTORY.

PRINCESS AVENUE (S.side)-Continued,

King, John

Ferguson, Robt

Bates, Frank residence

Eighth Street intersects.

Skating Rink C.L. Ferguson lessee

9th Street intersects

McLaren, D.P. & Co., stove wood dealers.

10th Street intersects

No residents

11th Street intersects

No residents

12th Street intersects

Quigley, M.E. of Quigley Bros., Res

Aikten, John P., carpenter

Thirteenth Street intersects.

No residents

No residents west of this

Lorne Avenue (North Side.)

First Street intersects

No residents

Second Street intersects

No residents

Third Street intersects.

No residents

Fourth Street intersects . Phippen R. residence

Fifth Street intersects

No residents

Sixth Street intersects

No residents

Seventh Street intersects

No residents

Eighth Street intersects

Johnstone, Mrs. M. E.. residence

Johnstone, W. residence

Ninth Street intersects

No residents

Tenth Street Intersects

No residents

Eleventh Street intersects

No residents

Twelfth Street Intersects.

No residents

Thirteenth Street Intersects.

McBumie, J. D., farmer, residence

No residents west of this

Lome Avenue, (South Side.)**First street intersects.**

No residents

Second street intersects.

McKay, W.D., residence

Third Street intersects.

Roman Catholic Church, Rev. Father
Robillard

Fourth Street intersects.

No residents

Fifth Street intersects

No residents

Sixth Street intersects

Wisser, Chas, agt. Singer Mfg. Co. res.
Boydell, Rev. J., Ch. of .Eng., residence
Winter, W., of Winter & O'Neale, res.

Buchanan, Mrs. S., residence

Christie, John R.

Parker J J. residence

Seventh Street intersects

No residents

Eighth street Intersects.

No residents

Ninth Street intersects.

No residents

Tenth street intersects,

No residents

Eleventh Street intersects.

No residents

Twelfth Street intersects.

No residents

Thirteenth Street intersects

No residents west of this,

LEAFING THROUGH THE BRANCHES BY SHIRLEY ERSKINE

LAMBTON LIFELINE (ON)**Vol.30 #2 June 2013**

- * Electronic Searching of Lambton Branch Publications/Publications and Information Sales
- * In Memoriam – Evelyn Marie Carr
- * Lambton Names Transcribed from the Reports of the Proceedings of the Annual Session of the Grand Orange Lodge of Western Ontario (Part 1)
- * My Father was a Home Child
- * From Brigden, Ontario to New Brigden, Alberta
- * Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online
- * From the Archivist at the Lambton County Archives
- * Forest. February 26, 1920
- * Going beyond the Index
- * Early Migrations from Halton and Peel to Plympton Township
- * The Stratford to Port Sarnia Rail Line

* Websites

* Seeking Information about World War I and World War II Soldiers

BRUCE BULLETIN (ON)**Vol. 24 #2 May 2013**

- * Highlights of Previous Meetings
- * Queries
 - Stait, Stevens and Davis
 - Jackson and Best
 - Watson/Hume and HardingIngram
- * Point Isle Of Lewis Families go online
- * Bruce County Strays (to be continued in August)
- * BCGS Donors 2012

TORONTO TREE (ON)**Vol.44 #3 May/June 2013**

- * Print on Demand
- * Allan's Photo Book

* Some Random Notes about the Reverend Thomas Raddish, First Anglican Missionary to the town Of York (1797 – 1798)
 * Seeking Information – Cornell, McCormack and Ketterer

TORONTO TREE (ON)

Vol.44 #4 July/August 2013

* The Search for My Elusive Grandmother
 *Free Access to the 1911 England and Wales Census (until 24th of October)
 * Discovery of a Marriage and a Birth
 * Irish Lives Remembered
 * New(ish) Web Sites To Explore

PAST TENTS (ON)

Vol 34 #2 Jun 2013

* Some WWW
 * OGS Question – My grandmother’s obituary states she was buried in Evergreen cemetery – how can I find the cemetery quickly in Ontario?
 * Longtime Members Honored
 *Secrets of Successful Genealogists

History The Definition

History is defined by Merriam-Webster as a chronological record of significant events (as effecting a nation or institution) often including an explanation of their causes.

Of course this also applies to families, communities, individuals, etc. Biographies, family histories and community histories are used extensively by genealogists in their normal research.

We have a tendency to think of history as old stories and events while, in reality history is being made every day. Recent happenings in the Middle East are significant historical events: The Arab Spring; The overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi; The assassination of Bin Laden; gas attacks on civilians in Syria and much more that will impact the world in various ways.

Locally there are some very important historic events, but one that I think deserves close observation is the signing by Sioux Valley Dakota Nation Chief **Vince Tacan**, federal Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Minister **Bernard Valcourt** and provincial Aboriginal and Northern Affairs Minister **Eric Robinson** of the first-ever self-government agreement in the Prairie provinces, thus freeing Sioux Valley Dakota Nation from several portions of the antiquated, imperialistic Indian Act which has kept First Nations people in a perpetual state of limbo. (Read The New Leaf 14th Edition- June 2012)

**Valcourt stated “The Indian Act is an impediment to progress for First Nations. That is why we are taking concrete steps to introduce the incremental change that many First Nations have been calling for”*

While negotiations have been on-going for about twenty years with several chiefs and councils, Chief Vince Tacan has shown great leadership in leading his people to this point. This is very important as many people are angry about perceived mismanagement and nepotism in some other First Nations such as Attawapiskat which came to national attention last year after an

independent audit showed a lack of documentation for tens of millions of dollars which are unaccounted for.

**Since taking office in March 2010, Chief Tacan has taken the reserve's debt from more than \$3 million dollars to approximately \$700,000. If this kind of responsible management continues it should serve to silence critics who feel that First Nations are unable to manage their finances and responsibilities.)*

** "This chief and council have come a long way in terms of better managing the finances of this First Nation," Valcourt said. "This is a community that is engaged and they are concerned about finding efficiencies of doing things better and getting better results, so they are ready to be in charge of their own development and their own future."*

**In October 2012 the reserve voted 64% in favour of self-government. Tacan said his council will take a "slow and cautious approach" implementing what will be a new system of services in Sioux Valley.*

**Health care, housing, policing, economic development and child and family services are some of the key issues the reserve will now be able to address on its own terms." It's part of an agreement that is worth between \$80 to \$85 million over five years", according to a source close to the negotiations.*

**Excerpts have been taken from The Brandon Sun. See the Saturday, August 31, 2013 edition for the full story.*

The Westbank First Nation near Kelowna, B.C. is probably the greatest example of self-government success for First Nations. **Chief Robert Louis** is well known for his no-nonsense business sense and criticism of First Nations people who are content with the status quo.

From a small trailer with one secretary in 1974, the band now has over 200 staff housed in buildings of 100,000 square feet or more. According to The **Toronto Sun**, Westbank First Nation is now generating over \$500 million a year in economic activity, and the businesses on the reserve send back about \$130 million a year in tax revenue to the federal and provincial governments.

Louis says that the key to their success was the ability of the band to get out of the onerous restrictions of the Indian Act and give the band full control over the 6,000 acres of land on their reserve. "Governance jurisdiction by First Nations over their lands and resources is the key to success," Louie told Prime Minister Stephen Harper and chiefs from across the country last year at the historic First Nations-Crown Gathering in Ottawa.

Best Wishes to Chief Tacan, the council and residents of Sioux Valley .

**Membership Application
South West Branch MGS**

Renewal MGS # _____ New Member _____

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

Prov/State _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail _____

Membership Fees

NB A person must be a member of the MGS in order to be a South West Branch member.

INDIVIDUAL

Includes four issues of Generations, Four issues of New Leaf of the Branch and full MGS and South West Branch privileges.

MGS \$40.00 _____

SWB \$10.00 _____

Total \$50.00 _____

ASSOCIATE

Someone residing at the same address as an individual member. They receive full MGS and South West Branch privileges. They do not receive MGS and Branch publications.

MGS \$20.00 _____

SWB \$8.00 _____

Total \$28.00 _____

All checks should be made payable to South West Branch MGS and forwarded to

**South West Branch MGS
203 4 Crocus Gardens
Brandon, MB R7A 7R9**