

The Livermore Roots Tracer



Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 901, Livermore, California 94551-0901

www.L-AGS.org

Membership News

New Members: Frances Arbogast, San Ramon; Donna Black, Livermore and Deborah Mascot, Livermore

We are grateful for the generosity of these members of L-AGS:

Patrons

Anonymous, Cheryl Kay Speaks, David E. Steffes, Duncan Tanner

Benefactors

**Jolene & David Abrahams, Kristina Ahuja, Sandra Caulder, Ralph J. Crouse, Marilyn A. Cutting,
Gail & Ted Fairfield, Wanda & Richard Finn, Patricia R. Hansen, Leslie Hutchings
Jean & Dick Lerche, Cindy McKenna, Patricia Moore, Madelon Palma, Ileen J. Peterson,
Betty Ryon, Carl Webb, Peggy Weber, Rhett Williamson**

Total membership as of January 15, 2011: 237 individuals

Meeting News

General Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton. Map:

<http://www.L-AGS.org/maps/Pls-BethEmek.html>

The Study Group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month except November and December at 7:30 p.m., at the LDS Church, 950 Mocho Street, Livermore.

Map: <http://www.l-ags.org/maps/Liv-FHC.html>

Study Group Chair (Kay Speaks)

study.chair@L-AGS.org

Study Group Forum *study.group@L-AGS.org*

The Master Genealogist Group meets on the third Saturday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, at 7077 Koll Center Parkway, Suite 110, Pleasanton. <http://www.l-ags.org/maps/Pls-KollCenter.html>

TV-TMG Chair (Kay Speaks)

tvtmg.chair@L-AGS.org

TV-TMG Forum

tvtmg.group@L-AGS.org

L-AGS Leadership for 2011

President

president@L-AGS.org

Mary Dillon

First VP and Program Chair

program@L-AGS.org

Richard Finn

Second VP and Membership Chair

membership@L-AGS.org

Teresa Fraser

Corresponding Secretary

corresponding@L-AGS.org

Anne Les

Recording Secretary

recording@L-AGS.org

Patricia Northam

Business Manager

business@L-AGS.org

Duncan Tanner

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A Message from our President

Happy New Year! I hope 2011 provides you with lots of good research opportunities and lots of crumbling brick walls.

As your new president I want you to feel free to contact me at president@l-ags.org if you have any questions or concerns about the society. I, along with my great board, want to make L-AGS a society that reflects your interests and responds to your learning needs.

Now I have a challenge for you, the members. The board has discussed several projects in need of volunteers – such as updating our cemetery records and transcribing some newly acquired church records – and we will need volunteers to accomplish this. If every member gave at least one hour per month to a volunteer project at L-AGS just think of what we could accomplish! None of our projects will be “dumped” on an unsuspecting person – we have people to train you and lay out formats for transcribing or walking the cemeteries. We presently need your help. I think once you get a taste of helping the society with a project you will find out how easy and fulfilling it is and will want to do more. We have a fantastic genealogy society which has many books to its credit, but we’ve become lazy in the past few years and come to rely on a few active members to carry on the jobs that need to be done. Now is the time to get everyone involved so we can accomplish even more. Come join us and learn how much fun you can have with “dead people.”

Along these same lines, we are looking for a volunteer to fill a new board position to be called a “Volunteer Chairman.” George Anderson and I are working out a complete job description, but basically this person would be a liaison between the board and the membership to encourage volunteers to help with projects the board wants to do. This needs to be a person who enjoys getting to know the membership and their interests and is willing to contact members to find volunteers for jobs the board has planned. This will be especially important this year since L-AGS will be putting on special programs in October for the Tri-Valley Heritage Happening. If you think this could be the job for you, please email us at board@l-ags.org.

At the time of this writing we also have two other board chairmanships to fill. By the time you read this I will have sent out an email regarding openings for L-AGS Historian and L-AGS Publications Chair. If you’re interested, contact me to find out if the positions are still open.

We have one of the best and most productive genealogy societies in the US. This is because of the joint efforts of our members over the years and now it’s your turn. I hope you will step up and take on one of these positions and become an active part of L-AGS.

Mary Dillon

*“Ask not what your genealogy society can do for you,
but what YOU can do for your genealogy society.”*

The Livermore Roots Tracer

The Roots Tracer is the quarterly publication of the Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. The mission statement of the Roots Tracer is:

“Instruct. Inspire. Inform.”

We encourage members to submit articles for publication. Material can be e-mailed to: tracer@L-AGS.org or mailed to L-AGS, P.O. Box 901, Livermore, CA 94551-0901. Want ghostwriting help? Just ask!

The Roots Tracer Staff

Editor Patrick Lofft
ReportersGeorge Anderson, Lois Barber,
Katherine Bridgman, Marie Ross,
Jane Southwick, Kay Speaks
Web Editor Vicki Renz
Compositor Andi Winters
Printing and Distribution..... Sandra Caulder
G.R.O.W. Columnist Kay Speaks

The incoming and outgoing L-AGS Board members



Left to right: Kip West, Corresponding Secretary 2010; Mary Dillon, President 2011; Larry Hale, Business Manager 2010; Barbara Huber, President 2010; Kevin Gurney, Membership VP 2010; Anne Les, Recording Secretary 2010 & Corresponding Secretary 2011; Teresa Fraser, Membership VP 2011; Patricia Northam, Recording Secretary 2011; George Anderson, Life Member; Patrick Lofft, Editor 2010 & 2011; Dick Finn, Program VP 2010 & 2011; absent: Duncan Tanner, Business Manager 2011

New at the Pleasanton Genealogy Library

Courtesy of Julie Sowles, Administrative Librarian

Added to our library from October 15, 2010 through January 15, 2011

1. Weis, Frederick Lewis, 1895-1966. Ancestral roots of certain American colonists who came to America before 1700 : lineages from Alfred the Great, Charlemagne, Malcolm of Scotland, Robert the Strong, and some other historical individuals / created by Frederick Lewis Weis; continued by Walter Lee Sheppard. - 929.7 WEIS.

From FamilySearch: Indexing messages:

The final count is in. FamilySearch volunteers completed **185,900,667** records in 2010! It's amazing what we can accomplish when we all work together toward a common and worthwhile goal. Thank you to every volunteer who indexed or arbitrated even 1 record!! Every record is so important!

Sunday, January 9, was the biggest indexing day ever in the history of FamilySearch indexing! It's

fun to be working together to make so many records available online.

Details: Records Indexed = 1,296,046; Arbitrated = 588,600; Total = 1,884,646. Records submitted for 112 different projects. 12,509 users submitted records. 66% of the records were for the 1930 US census.

A big THANK YOU to everyone who is making this happen!

Leo Vongottfried

March 31, 1922—December 16, 2010

From: *Contra Costa Times, December 24, 2010*

Leo, a member of L-AGS since 1995, served as County Fair Leader, library docent, Publications Chair and representative to the Livermore Cultural Arts Council. Leo Vongottfried died at his home in Livermore on Dec. 16, 2010.

He was born March 31, 1922 in NY, enlisted in the U.S. Army at age 20 and served in the Signal Service Co. during WWII in the Pacific Theater. He earned victory medals and was honorably discharged. He scored high on the Regents' War Service Scholarship for Veterans and earned diplomas on the GI bill at Iona College in New Rochelle, New York (1950), Poly-technical Institute in Brooklyn and University of Notre Dame, Indi-



Bob Dougherty (SRVGS) and Leo Vongottfried (L-AGS) set up the booth at the Alameda County Fair, July 2005.

ana. He worked for G.E. in Ohio and then was in T-Division at the Lawrence Livermore Research Laboratories (LLRL) for over 10 years. He became Director of the Control Data Center at California State University, Hayward and later Chairman of the Computer Department. He retired in 1985. Leo drove a car till his dying day.

Leo married Sophia Hollis on Nov. 1, 1947. He was married to her 61 years. She died in January, 2009.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on Dec. 28 at St. Michael's Church, followed by a luncheon in the Parish Hall. Burial was at the National Cemetery in Dixon, California on Dec. 29th at 1pm.

Members Helping Members

From Frank Geasa

A quiet morning at the library. The only patron was an old friend, Jack M. I helped him look at possible ways to find a Max Bronstein family originally from Russia. He had 2 census records and a few other items including a WWI draft registration. Unfortunately there are many Max Bronstein families but none with the same wife's name as his. We also proved that one of the possible census records for his wife couldn't have been for the same person. We tried the usual methods

of looking for the obvious transcribing errors, going by birth from the registration card, etc. but had no luck finding much. I showed him the German genealogy NYC vital record indexes - his wife supposedly was born in NYC and he supposedly came into the country there. No luck. The draft registration has the name of the place in Russia he came from. It was hand written so that it is going to take some time to interpret it. When I get some time I'll attempt that.

Family Lore ... to believe or not!

By Anne Les

In 1953, when I first met my future in-laws, the Panek family, in Massachusetts and in Bellows Falls Vermont, I had no idea they still spoke Polish. My husband-to-be had four grandparents who had all arrived in the US between 1892 and 1907 from Poland. In some census reports they reported they came from Austria. I later learned that they came from a Polish-speaking region of Austria.

The other grandparents who came from Poland or Austria were Jan Les and Julia Ullman. They were married at Chicopee Massachusetts in August 1893. They are listed on the 1900 census with 2 children and claim to have been in the US for 8 years.

The story so many times told to me was that the Paneks had married on the ship coming across the Atlantic. While that tale sounds romantic, it called for further research. This is what my daughter-in-law, Cathy Les, found while researching ship manifests.

Cathy's mother Donna McCullough had taken Cathy to Salt Lake City and was showing her around. I do not know how she found these films but she found Jan Panek, around age 18, sailing from Hamburg on 26 January 1906 and arriving in New York on Feb. 6, 1906. His stated destination was to join his brother Joseph Panek in Chicago.

On another ship leaving Bremen on January 29, 1907 and arriving in New York on February 1907 was Magdalena Swiatek, around age 17, to connect with her brother Franz Swiatek of Bellows Falls Vermont. It would appear that Franz Swiatek had met Jan Panek on the earlier ship.

I can just imagine the talk in Polish, "Have I got a sister who would make you a good wife!" Such a conversation is not part of any family lore.

However I did find that Magdalena Swiatek and Jan Panek were married in Bellows Falls on May 16, 1908 in St. Charles Church. In the 1910 census they are listed as John Ponak and Maggie Panek with 1 child, Helen Panek, and brother-in-law Frank Swiatek. All, except Helen, were enumerated as born in Aust (Polish) and married for 2 years.

By the 1920 census they are listed as John Panek, Margaret Panek and 6 children. They eventually had 16 children, with only 14 remaining alive.

Since their first child was my mother-in-law, my husband had aunts and uncles younger than he. At a reunion held in 1994 in New Hampshire there were still eight of the original Panek children of John and Margaret Panek. There were numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren present in that amazing gathering.

Another bit of family lore, Magdalene (Maggie or Margaret) would not attend any of her children's wedding if they were marrying outside the Polish and Catholic groups!

In 1953, as I sat among these Polish people speaking a language that I had no idea of what they were saying; I suspected that they were surely talking about me.

It turned out that my dear Joe had told his grandparents that I was descended from Russian Jews! Not from English who came on the Mayflower and fought in the Revolutionary War.



Pictured above: Magdalena Swiatek and Jan Panek were married in Bellows Falls, VT on May 16, 1908 at St. Charles Church.

Whidby Island Couple Mark 65th Anniversary

From *The Seattle Times*, February 13, 1960, provided by Ann Gabor and Chuck Hazen

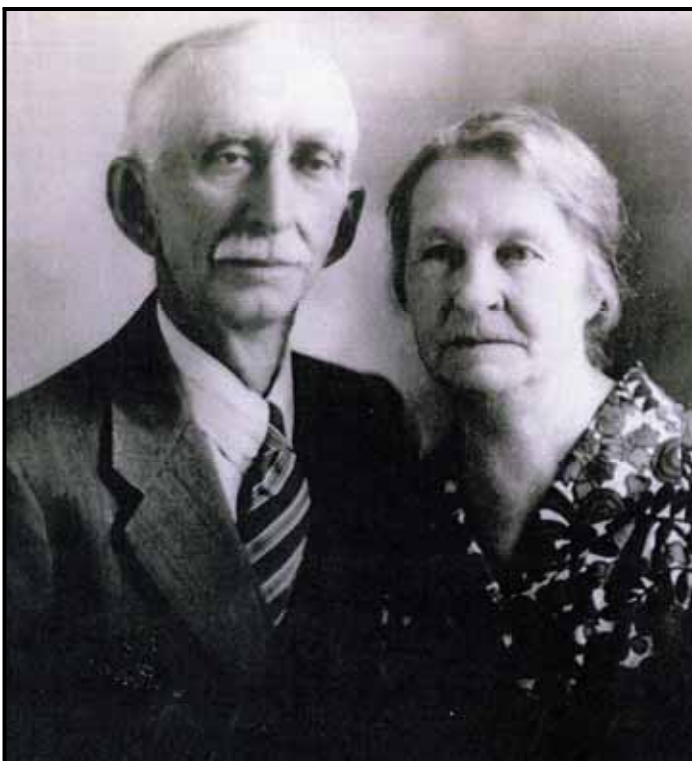
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur H. Hazen will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on February 14, 1960.

"But," the 88-year-old husband said whimsically, "like corn whiskey, we don't improve with age." The Hazens first came to Seattle in 1904. Since 1914 they have made their home on Whidby Island. Hazen still splits wood for their stove. "I like to crow a bit that I'm as good as I ever was," Hazen said with a mischievous grin.

"But I find that when I'm sawing wood lately, I don't get tired, but I have to rest the saw more often. Don't think I'm getting old—the saw is just getting heavier. I think they're making tools heavier than they used to."

Hazen was born in Newcastle, Pa. His wife, the former Minnie Mawhinney, 87, was born in Altamont, Kansas. They met while Hazen was working on a farm near Altamont. They courted and he proposed in a buggy drawn by an old horse clopping sedately along deserted Kansas lanes. "Yes, sir, horse and buggy courting was a good way to get acquainted," said Hazen. He told how they used to drive to church together Sunday nights, and that he'd listen to Minnie Mawhinney sing in the choir. "I had to drive six or seven miles afterward," Hazen recalled, "and many a night I told myself that was the last time. But next Sunday night I'd be there again." They were married there February 20, 1895.

"Our picture was in *The Seattle Times* when we celebrated our sixtieth wedding anniversary."



Mrs. Hazen recalled. "A man living near Kent, Claude Rawley, saw it and called to say he had been at our charivari back in Kansas on the night after our wedding." [Remember in the musical "Oklahoma?" ed.]

Hazen worked as a bookkeeper for the old American Savings Bank & Trust Co. at Second Avenue and Madison Street. Later, he farmed near Freeland, Whidby Island, and worked at a co-operative store at Harbor Center.

Mrs. Hazen suffers from arthritis but her husband is surprisingly active.

"The last time he had reason to call a doctor was last May when we drove to Kansas to visit relatives," said the Hazen's daughter, Mrs. Gordon Sharpe.

"He drank a bottle of beer and topped it off with an ice cream cone," the daughter said. "That, plus the hot weather and long automobile ride, was too much." "What a stomach ache!" Hazen said ruefully. "I told the doctor that I thought I heard the hinges swinging on the Golden Gate, but he said it wasn't 'squeaking hinges' — 'it was the wind rattling in my shutters.'" The Hazens had eight children, eight grandchildren and "the last time I took a census," said Hazen — 16 great-grandchildren.

Asked about their long and happy married life, the Hazens agreed with a broad wink that "after 65 years you develop a terrific tolerance."

"Besides," said Hazen, "when you get so old you just can't fight back."

So This is Love!

By Mary Dillon

Long marriages seem to run in my family and love was just always present when I was growing up, but how my parents, and I, got to the altar was not necessarily by the conventional route.

Joe Carson and Dorothy Lowder:

In about 1925 both of my parents were attending Fairview College in Wichita, Kansas. My mom, Dorothy Lowder, was from Wichita, while my dad, Joe Carson, was from Blackwell, Oklahoma about 50 miles south. Joe was actually dating one of my mother's best friends, though he and my mother had not met when Joe broke up with the friend.

My mother was a very determined only child and was totally indignant that some mere man would dump her good friend. So she chose the school's Friday the 13th dance to find Joe and tell him exactly what she thought of him. According to her story about this time, Dorothy says after she told him off, she and Joe ended up spending the rest of the evening in the bleachers of the gym just talking and finding out they had a lot in common.

Joe and Dorothy dated a few times, but then Dorothy transferred to UCLA in Los Angeles, California to complete her degree in library science. She once told me she wanted to get as far away as possible from the nosy, up-tight mid-west – she was, of course, a modern woman.

Joe continued to write to Dorothy at UCLA, while he was plotting how to get to LA. Joe had two maternal uncles and a grandmother who lived in Los Angeles at the time, so in time, Joe moved there. Of his two uncles, one worked in banking and the other for Southern Pacific Railroad. Joe applied for a job with each company.

As luck would have it, the job with the bank came through first (helps to know the vice president!). Dad told me once that he had hoped to work for the railroad, but after 45 years as a banker in Beverly Hills and at the Ambassador Hotel branch, he decided banking was probably the best choice, but he never gave up his love of trains.

After another year of pursuit, Joe and Dorothy were married at her parent's home in Wichita on September 27, 1928. This house, where Dorothy grew up, was built by her father and is still standing. Though my parents lived in Los Angeles until they retired to Arizona in 1969, they returned to have their picture taken in front of the Lowder home in Wichita on their 50th Anniversary. They celebrated 63 years of marriage and love before my father's death in 1991 and every Friday the 13th during this time my Dad brought my Mom a box of Sees Candy. Before my mother died she gave me an envelope containing all of the letters my Dad had written to her before and during their marriage. My Dad was a very quiet, thoughtful man – one who quoted Shakespeare's sonnets - who would have ever guessed he was such a tiger when it came to pursuing my mom!

Mary Carson and Mike Dillon:

I guess I kind of followed in my parent's image in meeting my spouse. When I was a student at Santa Monica City College in the mid-1960's I became good friends with a girl named Emily Reed. I was very shy back then (believe it or not!) and didn't date much, but on a whim I wrote to a Marine stationed in Viet Nam who was part of a letter sent to Dear Abbey. I wrote to John for about 3 years, but never met him. Because Emily knew I was writing and sending cookies to John, she asked me if I'd write to her cousin, Mike Dillon. He had recently joined the Navy and was really lonesome. I said sure and, after receiving a letter from Mike, I wrote back. Mike's letters were very formal at first, while John's were goofy and fun, but I continued to write to both.

During the first year I wrote to Mike I transferred to Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. At Christmas he was coming home on leave from Virginia where his ship was based and I planned to come home to LA also. We made plans for him to meet my flight at LA Airport, but like most plans there was a hitch. It was a rainy year and the end of the runway at the Phoenix airport was flooded, so they had to slow down take-offs and

landings. As it turned out, I was 4 hours late getting to LAX (with no cell phones to let Mike know what was happening). Mike was waiting for me, but all I had to go on was his high school picture and he'd lost 50 pounds since he joined the Navy. He didn't want me to know he wore glasses, so had them off and he couldn't see me clearly. I wandered over to this man who looked kind of like the picture I had and asked if he was Mike – and he was. We had 2 weeks of fun getting to really know each other and falling in love before we had to go back to our jobs or school.

Over the next 2 years we continued to write – even broke up once – and saw each other 2 more times. When Mike was discharged from the Navy

in November 1969 he came and picked me up in Phoenix and we drove up into Utah and over to northern California, eventually ending up at his parent's home in Orange County. During that trip Mike kept starting to propose, but then would stop and say, "Oh, never mind." Whether this was shyness or just being obtuse I'll never know, but when we made a stop coming over the Sierra's on highway 50, I seized the opportunity. I proposed to him in front of the first outhouse on the right on Crystal Basin Road. Thankfully, he said yes and after 3 years and over 350 letters (I still have his) we were married in Phoenix in July of 1970. This year will be our 41st anniversary and I think I'll keep him another 40 or so years.

Monroe or Munroe?

By Barbara Hempill

Thanks to the work my cousin Donna Lou has done in researching our grandmother's genealogy, I learned that several generations back I have an ancestor in common with the fifth President of the United States, James Monroe [April 28, 1758 – July 4, 1831].

However, President Monroe's ancestors emigrated to the U.S. from Scotland many long years before my grandmother, nineteen year old Mary Morrison, said "Goodbye" to her family in late 1891 and boarded the *Circassia* leaving Glasgow and bound for New York. November is one of the worst months to sail the North Atlantic, and Mary never forgot how wretched she felt the entire twenty-one day trip. The six-guinea passage in steerage cost about \$25 in the currency of 1891.

In 1890 the States turned over control of immigration to the Federal Government, and Congress appropriated \$75,000 to build the first Federal immigration station on Ellis Island. While the new immigration station to replace Castle Garden was being constructed, the Barge Office on the Battery at the tip of Manhattan was used for immigration reception. During 1891 over 400,000 immigrants were processed at the Barge Office. Ellis Island did not open officially until January 1, 1892. Consequently, Mary was one of those

new arrivals who were screened at the Barge Office where she had to show not only that she was in good health but also that she had \$25.00 and the prospect of a job.

Rather than stay in New York, Mary headed for Chicago where she had heard there were job opportunities. The rapidly growing city on the edge of the prairie was bustling in a frantic effort to present a new face to the world during the Columbian Exposition of 1892-93.

Mary quickly found work as a nanny for the two little boys, Patrick Francis and Daniel Christopher, of the Healy family. Mr. Healy was a partner in the Lyon and Healy Piano Company, a large piano and musical instrument store in downtown Chicago. Mary's relationship with her employer must have been cordial because she named her first-born children, twin boys, Peter Francis and Donald Christopher (a Scottish version of the "Irish" sounding names).

Whether Mary was aware that she was the eighth cousin, four times removed, of a former President of the United States, is doubtful. After all, it was her mother's fifth great grandfather, Alexander Munro, who was a brother of President Monroe's second great grandfather, Major Andrew Munro. David Munro III of Katewell and Agnes Munro

were the parents of the two brothers as well as of George, Robert, John and Janet Munro.

Major Andrew Munro was captured at the Battle of Preston (between England and Scotland) in 1648. His punishment for supporting Charles I against Oliver Cromwell was banishment to the colonies in America. However, he received a land grant and established himself in Westmoreland County, colony of Virginia.

At some point the family changed the spelling of their surname to Monroe. His grandson, Andrew Monroe was his heir, and Andrew's grand-son was James Monroe, born in 1758, who was to become the fifth President of the U.S. in 1817.

Meanwhile Scotland settled into a somewhat unhappy union with England in 1707. However, in the highlands the Jacobites, who supported the disinherited Stuart claim, held out for another fifty years until they were soundly defeated in 1746 at the Battle of Culloden.

Times were hard on the small Scottish farms, and Mary's ancestor, David and Agnes Munro's son Alexander, became a tenant farmer rather than an owner of the land, as were his son and subsequent generations down to Hector who married a kinswoman, Janet Munro. Hector and Janet's grandson George married Mary MacDonald. George and Mary's daughter was my great grandmother. She married Peter Morrison, and their oldest daughter was my grandmother Mary MacDonald Morrison.

Two years after her arrival in the United States, Mary Morrison met William Morrison at the Scottish Club. Their marriage fulfilled a fortune-teller's prediction that my grandmother would marry but never change her surname. Nine children were born to their union, but two daughters died in infancy. My mother Robertina Dollie, was the middle child.

Thus, far back in history, President Monroe's descendants and I have ancestors in common.

David Munro III of Katewell , Ross And Cromarty, Scotland— m. -- Agnes Munro	
Alexander Munro	Major Andrew Munro
Alexander Munro	William Monroe
Robert Munro	Andrew Monroe
John Munro	Spence Monroe
Hector Munro 1748 -	James Monroe, President 1758 - 1831
John Munro 1788 - 1874	
George Munro 1810 – 1890 -- m. -- Mary MacDonald 1812 - 1863	
Peter Morrison 1832 – 1911 -- m. -- Johan Munro 1848 - 1917	
Mary MacDonald Morrison 1872 – 1934 -- m. -- Rev. William Morrison 1871 - 1932	
Robertina Dollie Morrison 1901 - 1973 -- m. -- George Kurth 1900 - 1990	
Barbara Elaine Kurth -- m. -- Hugh Hempill	

From FamilySearch Support Newsletter:

First Polish Indexing Project Now Available

With the addition of its first Polish project, FamilySearch indexing now has projects available in 11 languages. If you would like to help index Polska—KsiegiMetrykaine—Diecezja Lublin, 1902–1945, please contact FamilySearch or e-mail kontakt@piotrreszka.pl to learn more.

Errata

November 2010 issue

Douglas Northam, POW No. 1984
by Patricia Northam

Douglas Northam's camps included Bilibid, Philippines (3-4 days in May 1942), Cabanatuan, Philippines (May to November 7, 1942), Osaka Umeda Bunsho, Japan (November 24, 1942 to March 1945), and Tsuruga Shi-Osaka, Japan (March to August 1945).

Dublin Cemetery

By Richard Finn



Emily Bailey presented an interesting talk at L-AGS Study Group on Thursday, July 22, 2010 about how and why she is involved with recording and photographing the gravestones at the Dublin Cemetery.

A Dublin Cemetery plot map is on page 102 of the L-AGS publication "*Cemeteries of Pleasanton and Dublin, California 1990*". It is an old plot of the cemetery that is very much out of date as it shows roads and parking that no longer exist. It would be great if that old plot and the new city plot could be reconciled.

Emily's transcriptions and photos of the Dublin Cemetery are on www.calarchives4u.com - a great site that she and her husband put together. Other websites also have transcriptions and, or, photos taken at the Dublin Cemetery. Another site with lots of information is www.findagrave.com where someone called CountedX58 has taken photos of perhaps all the gravestones as well as transcribed them.

Emily gave us a big challenge. Bring up to date the information L-AGS has collected on the other valley cemeteries.

Emily said she is willing to help get us started. She has the skills and knowledge to get us going. How many accept her challenge? Let's pick a cemetery and bring the transcriptions up to date.

There are a large number of websites that have some information on the Dublin Cemetery. Here are a few:

www.usgwtombstones.org has a few photos of the Harlan graves at Dublin.

www.ci.dublin.ca.us has a little information on the cemetery but no index or photos.

<http://fineartamerica.com> has some wonderful photos taken at Dublin

www.obitlinkspage.com provides a State-by-State directory of obituaries and related resources

www.wikipedia.org the free encyclopedia

www.interment.net/data/us/ca/alameda/pioneer/index.htm a recent transcription of Dublin Cemetery is listed

www.totentanz.de has a listing of web pages

www.daddezio.com Italian Genealogy

www.dublinonline.com has five photos taken at the cemetery with write ups on four well known pioneers.

Cheryl Palmer has some photos of the Dublin Cemetery on <http://graveyardrabbitofsouthalamedaco.blogspot.com/> She is a "graveyard rabbit."



G. R. O. W.

Genealogy Resources On the Web — The Page That Helps Genealogy Grow!

Compiled by Kay Speaks

National Geographic's Interactive World Map.

A part of their amazing collection, this interactive map allows you to click any area and zoom to a bird's eye view. Continue to click until you see good detail of the areas of your ancestral research. <http://maps.nationalgeographic.com/maps>

Online Carpatho-Rusyn Knowledge Base. This independent website includes indexed genealogical information and other resources specific to this area. Look at 14-list of current and former village names and 15-village histories and photos collection. There is also an 1869 county census.

<http://www.carpatho-rusyn.org/indexgen.htm>

GenealogyBuff.com. This site provides over 200 free Ancestry.com databases, including census, birth, marriage, death and immigration. A form displaying a temporary rotating group of additional free to GenealogyBuff.com databases, courtesy of Ancestry.com, is also available; link 1-home page; link 2-free sites.

<http://www.genealogybuff.com/search.htm>

http://www.genealogybuff.com/ancestry_free.htm

Genealogy of Eastern KY & Southwest VA. A site dedicated to pioneer families that settled in the highlands. Their database links to information for about 56,400 individuals.

<http://tinyurl.com/Eastern-KY-SW-VA-pioneerfam>

Melungeon Genealogy. A group of dark-skinned people with European features found in the mountains of KY, NC, TN, VA, WV by explorers as early as mid-1600's; clearly not Native American, black nor white. Is your family a Melungeon? <http://tinyurl.com/MelungeonGenealogy>

Idaho State Historical Society—Idaho's Digital Archives. Website has 597,859 searchable online records. This small indexed collection includes death, e-publication, miscellaneous, historical and naturalization records for Idaho.

<http://digitalarchives.idaho.gov/>

Washington State Library. This website offers a free lookup service for obituaries found in their collection of Washington State Newspapers.

GOOGLE BOOKS TIP

Finding Genealogy Books To Download

www.books.google.com/books

Use these examples to access free "full view" genealogy books to read online or download. There are many family histories available. With new technology such as iPad's, reading digital books are now easier than ever. You need a free Google account to manage your personal eBooks collection—track purchases, downloads, what you have read or to bookmarked items you wish to read later.

Use your favorite web browser to access the Google Books search page (see link above). Use the simple search or click on Advanced Book

Search to narrow your search results. For this example we will use the simple search option, enter "genealogy free" and in the left column select "full view." Scroll down the results list of books to view the types of genealogy books available. Try adding more specific words such as "diary of" or "descendants of" or try adding a town name or surname to your search criteria. Let me know if you find this search successful. Ancestry magazines are also online for viewing. I found "Louisa May Alcott, Her Life, Letters and Journals" originally published in 1889 and edited by Ednah Dow Cheney to be interesting.

<http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/Obituaries.aspx>
<http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/default.aspx>

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Gravesite Locator. Search for burial locations of veterans and their family members in VA National Ceme-

teries, state veterans cemeteries, various other military and Department of Interior cemeteries, and for veterans buried in private cemeteries when the grave is marked with a government grave marker.

<http://tinyurl.com/NationalGraveLocator>

Autobiography of Hall Benson [*Halgrimur Bjornson*] as related by him in April 1962

Provided by Ileen Peterson

[Recently, in a Sunday newspaper, Ileen saw a picture of a woman looking for her lost cattle in Iceland. This reminded her of her grandfather's half-brother's oral autobiography related in 1962, in which he explained why they came to America. Hall was 92 when he recounted this information and died at age 98. There were other newspaper articles commenting on his sharp memory.]

"I was born in Fossgeroi, Jokuldal, Iceland on November 15, 1869. My father's name was Bjorn Hallason¹ and my mother's name was Sigurbjorg Sigurdardottir Hallason. Since the custom in Iceland was for sons to take their father's first name and add a "son" on it, my name was, therefore, Hall Bjornson. This later changed to Benson after we came to America because people found it hard to say Bjornson.

My father died when I was only about two years old, so I do not remember him. However, my mother remarried when I was four years old. My stepfather's name was Sigfinnur Peterson. I had one full brother, George. I also had one sister who passed away in infancy. My stepfather had one son by a previous marriage, Ole Peterson. [Ed: This couple, Sigfinnur and Sigurbjorg, had six children together, including Ileen's grandfather, Sigurd Peterson.]

Since I was quite young when we lived in Ice-

land, only a few incidents stand out clearly in my memory. I particularly remember shortly after my

Hall Benson's family of origin:

Mother:

Sigurbjorg Sigurdardottir [Sara Peterson] b. 07 May 1843 Iceland, d. 17 May 1917 Lyon County, MN.

Father:

+ **Bjorn Hallason**, b. circa 1834 Iceland, m. 10 Oct 1866, Iceland, d. circa 1874 Iceland

Siblings:

--- **Sigurlin Oddny Bjornsdottir**, b. 28 Apr 1867 Iceland, d. 18 Jan 1869 Iceland

--- **Hall Benson** [Hallur Bjornsson] (subject of autobiography), b. 15 Nov 1869 Iceland, d. 13 Apr 1968 Lincoln County, MN

--- **George Benson** [Jorgen Bjornsson], b. 10 Jul 1872 Iceland, d. 13 May 1948 Lyon County, MN

Step-father: who raised him and brought him to Minnesota + **Sigfinnur Petursson** [Sigfinnur Peterson] b. 26 Apr 1836 Iceland, m. 5 Oct 1876 Nordur-Mulasysla, Iceland, d. 11 Dec 1915 Lyon, MN

Step-sibling:

--- **Olafur Sigfinnson** (Ole Peterson) b. Iceland, d. 1935 MN

Half-Siblings:

--- **Bjorn Sigfinnson**, b. 26 Apr 1875 Nordur-Mulasysla, Iceland, d. before 1878 Iceland

--- **Carolyn Peterson** (Gudrun Karolina Sigurdardottir) b. 01 Apr 1877 Nordur-Mulasysla, d. 21 Jun 1894 Lincoln County, MN

--- **Johanna Peterson**, b. 1878 MN, d. MN

--- **Frank Vigfus Peterson**, b. 20 Aug 1880, d. 02 May 1957 San Bernardino County, CA

--- **Joseph S. Peterson**, b. 14 Mar 1884, d. 13 Mar 1953 Los Angeles County, CA

--- **Sigurd Harlan Peterson**, b. 27 Dec 1886 Lyon County, MN, d. 03 Jan 1963 Lane County, OR

mother had married Mr. Peterson, we were living in a sod house on the east coast of Iceland when a volcano erupted throwing approximately a foot of ashes all over the land. I shall never forget how excited all the women around there became as

¹Icelandic names differ from most Western family name systems by being patronymic (and sometimes matronymic) in that they reflect the immediate father (or mother) of the child and not the historic family lineage.

they were running around hollering: "This is doom's day." They really believed that it was the end of the world. Since the land could not be used for several years after this, my stepfather sold his land and we moved to the west coast of Iceland. The only transportation we had were little ponies. Our belongings were hung from these ponies when we moved. I remember my mother strapping me onto a pony for the ride across the island. We had a better home at this place. The house had a long hallway in it and shortly after we got settled the preacher came to visit us. Instead of tying his horse outside, he rode it on into this hallway, just for foolishness. Of course, he had to back the horse out again because the hallway was too narrow to turn around.

In June, 1878 the family sailed to America. The trip took approximately three weeks, as we had to lay over in London, England for a few days. We finally landed in Ottawa, Canada and took a train from there to Minneota² Minnesota. We landed in Minneota on July 4, 1878. Besides my mother and step-father, my brother, George, my step-brother, Ole, and I, there was a half-sister, Gudrun, and two adopted daughters...eight in all making the trip to America. The first winter we lived in Westerheim Township [north of Minneota]. The only shelter we had was a dugout in the ground. Over the top of it were laid tree limbs and hay. This is where eight of us lived that first winter.

In March of 1879 we moved to Lake Stay Township in Lincoln County (near Ivanhoe), where my stepfather took a homestead claim. We lived in a dugout there for about two years and in that time a house was erected. [Sigfinnur Peterson's homestead papers describe the house in detail.] Another custom of the Icelanders, both in Iceland and the first settlers of this country, was that the homes were named according to the lay of the land. Our home was named Hauhlid [pronounced Howaleeth which means "high slope"].

During those early days children were required to work away from home herding cattle in order to supplement the family income. When I was nine

²Minneota, a small city in Lyon County, is 170 miles west of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

years old I was working for some people herding cattle and one of the steers died of Black Leg. Unfortunately the people for whom I worked accused me of having beaten the animal to death. As a result they would not pay my parents the \$10.00 that I earned during those five months of herding cattle. Many years later, however, they confessed that they knew that was not true and offered to pay the \$10.00 to my mother. Mother asked me if I wanted the money, but I wanted no part of it. Mother finally did accept the \$10.00 only because they were desperately in need of money.

Children in those early days had very little opportunity for formal education of any kind. After we had lived at Hauhlid about two years, there was a man who moved there who had a book which was printed in Icelandic on one page and translated into English on the opposite page. He stayed at each home a week at a time, and the children congregated at the respective homes where he worked with the children that winter teaching them as much English as possible. The following winter one of the ladies in the neighborhood volunteered to teach at her home. She lived about two miles from our home. The children went to her house each day for about two months. The parents paid her \$2.00 a month, I believe, for each child. She taught us to read and write both English and Icelandic. The reading and writing consisted mostly of passages out of the Bible, as there were few other books to be had. The first school district was organized about 1884, at which time I was 15 years old and, therefore, big enough to do a pretty good day's work, so the work was more important than the schooling. However, I did learn to read and write both English and Icelandic.

On July 14, 1897, Ingebjorg Johnsdottir [Ida Johnson] and I were married on the farm of Lute Townsend, Ivanhoe, Minnesota, [Ida's sister's home]. Ida was also a native of Iceland having been born January 9, 1873 at Tokastodum, Iceland. Her parents were Jon Arngrimsson and Thorunn Sigurdardottir Arngrimsson. The custom as to names of girls was to take the father's first name and add "dottir". Therefore, her name was Ingebjorg Johnsdottir. Her mother passed away shortly after arriving in America in 1877. Ida

taught school about three years in the Arco-Ivanhoe vicinity. She later worked at a department store in Marshall. Since Marshall was 23 miles from her sister's home near Ivanhoe and there was no means of transportation, Ida used to ride her bicycle to her sister's home and back to Marshall on weekends. She had two brothers and two sisters: Arngrim, Sigurdur, Jennie and Helga. Her father died April 30, 1918.

We, Ingebjorg and I, lived on a farm near Ivanhoe until the fall of 1899, at which time we bought railroad land in Nordland Township in Lyon County and moved there.

We had nine children as follows: Bjorn Melvin (drowned in flood June 17, 1957); Caroline Jonina Thorunn (Mrs. Rudolph Hanson); George Lincoln; Vivian Eileen Sigurbjorg (Mrs. Roy Cunningham); Harold Arngrim; Joseph Sigurd; Frances Dorothy (Mrs. Kenneth Cruse); Eugene Howard; also one boy who died in infancy.

We lived in a four room house on the farm until 1915, when we built a new home. This home had steam heat and electricity which were very uncommon in those days. The electricity was supplied by our own Delco plant in the basement. We lived there until the fall of 1937, at which time we moved to Minneota, Minnesota. We built a new house in Minneota in 1948. Ida passed away in May of 1956.

When I became eighty years of age I decided to retire from all public offices. Prior to that time I had served in the following capacities:

Clerk of School Board (Dist. No. 29) - 1910 - 1930; County Assessor - 1908 - 1912; Telephone Board - 1910 - 1949; Supervisor of Township (Nordland) - 1910 - 1930; Cooperative Oil Co. Board - 1926 - 1949; Lyon County Commissioner - 1930 - 1950; I also served on the Elevator Board and Creamery Board for many years.

As of this date, I have 21 grandchildren and 34 great grandchildren."

Memorializing Mortality Through Research

Excerpts from *The Life of Fanny Bartlett*, by A.A. Phelps

By Judy Person

Fanny Lamson Bartlett was the mother of Elijah Hedding Bartlett, the father of Fanny Arvilla Bartlett, who was the mother of my maternal grandfather, Robert Oscar Schilling, whom we called Pete. He was a colorful character, horse mad all his life, and much less "civilized" than his grandmother Fanny would have approved. He had little schooling, swore a lot, and never drove a car, despite living until the 70s. He enriched the lives of his seven grandchildren by giving us horse rides and singing "Old Dan Tucker" while we rode on his knees.

The author used diaries and letters to her friends, as well as some contemporary personal recollections to write this biography. I am indebted to my first cousin once removed, Douglas Jojo of Tracy, for telling me about this book, which was chock full of religious references. He has also done our Bartlett tree back to the colonial Robert Bartlett, bless his heart.

Fanny Lamson was born August 14, 1799 in Bos-

ton, Massachusetts, the daughter of Samuel and Catherine Lamson. Her father was in the mercantile business, and died when Fanny was fourteen, in 1813 or so. Her mother was one of the earliest members of the Congregational Park Street Church, but "friendly" toward the Methodists, whose ministers were invited to preach in her house. Catherine died in 1829. This was the period called "The Great Revival," when many more fundamentalist religions flourished.

Fanny attended local schools, and later attended school in Nantucket, where she went as a sort of missionary in her late teens, after years of becoming ever more involved in religious affairs. In Nantucket, she was said to have an "amiable disposition." She said she went to dances and other light-hearted activities in Boston until she "became a Christian." Her circumstances were not conducive to self-denial, but "Fanny has got religion!" She was baptized on her 15th birthday, uniting with the Methodist Episcopal Church in

1814. After two years, she went into the "blessing of perfect love," deeper into her faith and works. She visited the sick and dying and the wicked, and exhorted them. The sins she mentioned were too much chat, a little gossip, and an interest in fashionable clothes. These seem to have been her "trials and temptations."

She moved to Nantucket on the second of January, 1820, meeting her future husband at the church, Dr. Oliver Cromwell Bartlett, descended from early colonist, Robert Bartlett. She found Dr. Bartlett in agony of soul, then moving with prayers in "sweet tranquility." On the ninth of January, Dr. Bartlett testified in church that he "had fallen and was saved near the borders of hell." He was several years older than her, a widower with five children, and a local minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a physician then residing in Nantucket. They were married on April 9, 1820. It was said she entered trials to her grace, meaning the society of the rich, who were not so religious.

In the next few years, two babies died, possibly mis-carried or stillborn, then on March 26, she recorded that her daughter, L. R., died of consumption, after several months of illness.

In April of 1827, her husband "concluded" to move to Aurora, New York, which they did in May of that year. Dr. Bartlett continued mostly in his medical practice, but was employed in part-time preaching in the Methodist Episcopal Church there, which kept him absent from home. (Having been married to a minister and then a doctor, I can vouch for those frequent absences!)

On February 25, 1828, Dr. Bartlett's mother died, and on April 22, 1829, another baby died. On July 26 of that year, mother Lamson died in Boston, and in November, Fanny's sister's orphaned daughter came to be raised by Fanny and Oliver. On January 30, 1832, their nine year old daughter died, and Fanny recorded that she was very "low." This daughter was buried on February 5.

On July 24, 1832, Oliver took appointment to the church in Jordan, New York, then in 1833 they moved to Aurelius, and lived "much more retired," but Oliver was still employed on the preaching circuit. Fanny records that they were "getting to be strong abolitionists" in a letter to

her lifelong friend Susan, and they continued in this interest throughout their lives. She wrote that they were "preparing a box for Oregon," presumably as a mission to the less fortunate in that place, and that their "Little Isaac was given back to us" after a grave illness.

"Hedding," Elijah Hedding Bartlett, said to be Mrs. Bartlett's son, told a friend that if there were an opportunity he would go forward for prayers at a re-vival meeting. She wrote, "Poor boy! He had not the strength to attend but twice, and then he could not go into the church on account of his difficulty to breathe. The first of last March he was seized very violently with spasms about the heart and chest. Bad spasms. These lasted from fifteen minutes to two and a half hours; with the most intense agony I ever witnessed...he has since manifested a sweet spirit, and rejoices in some measure, but is not so triumphant as we desire to see him." Later she writes, "Hedding is still feeble, and has not lain in bed for three months...he takes no nourishment but fruit and sugar and drinks. He rides out daily, and cannot live without much air night and day." The warm weather was very trying to his health. The doctor was more unmanned than ever before. She said Hedding's sickness rendered a great blessing to her.

They had a pleasing association with the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary and Genesee College, with Fanny being "Mother Bartlett" to the religious students.

They moved to Lima, Livingston County, New York on November 17, 1833, and she recorded that they were pleasantly situated in a beautiful village. Oliver was gone for three weeks for a "protracted meeting" beginning on December 28. They visited Nantucket on June 18, 1837, and were back in Lima on October 8. On March 27, 1838, Oliver was noted as being "recently much injured" when he was thrown from his sulky. On August 25, their youngest child was buried, and on January 30, 1841, the children all had scarlet fever, which "M has in the most malignant form," and in March her child remained very low. In April, this child, Melville, recovered, but the scarlatina had made him deaf.

Her daughter "M" was eleven on July 27, 1845.

On March 24, 1846, they moved to "our little

farm," a mile from the village, and in December their son, possibly George, was "absent in a wicked city," but on January 24, 1847, she "trusts George has been converted." On February 28, George and Mary "went forward and owned the Lord and his ordi-nances." On January 2, 1848 she records that "my dear husband is happy in God."

In July, 1849, her son Melville, "deaf and dumb," was thought to have the cholera that was rife, while Fanny and he were on the train to visit relatives in Boston. He recovered. Fanny visited the Bromfield Church in Boston, where she made her first public profession of religion. There was much cholera in Boston. She left Melville at the Institution for mutes in New York City, which seemed a desirable place. On August 3, 1851, Melville returned home after 10 months at the Institution, and Fanny was pleased to see him praying with his fingers at bedtime.

On April 22, 1852, Fanny worried at her hus-

band's feebleness, and on July 4, Mary was sick with typhus fever.

By March 1, 1853, George had become an active and useful Christian. But on the sixth Dr. Oliver Bartlett was sick, and in July she wrote that he was gradually declining. On the ninth of September, Oliver Cromwell Bartlett died at four A.M. "in holy triumph."

In May, 1859, her health had declined, and this anti-slavery, fiercely faithful Christian woman, went to her eternal rest. On May 18, the author said, "Mother Bartlett gently crossed the stream of death today, about twelve o'clock...her age was 59 years...a large group of friends witnessed her de-parture, amid silence and solemnity and tears."

Fanny Lamson Bartlett, as the mother of Elijah Hedding Bartlett, a Civil War farrier and veterinar-ian, was the grandmother of Fanny Arvilla Bartlett, who became the wife of Nicholas Schilling, and the mother of Robert Oscar Schilling.

MY GENEALOGY ADVENTURES, Part Two

By Robert A. Ware, (a Colonial-American)

In my previous article, "My Genealogy Adventures," May 2010, I described conversations that my father and I had on the front porch of our family residence. I had no idea that the information that he related to me about our Ware ancestors would become a life-long avocation for me.

The front porch relationship with my farther and my youthful activities in Takoma Park, Maryland were interrupted in 1943. First, there was my graduation from high school followed by a three year enlistment in the Navy. I was discharged early in 1946 and married Norma, my high school sweetheart. Next, I accepted a job offer from the Los Alamos Laboratory and was assigned to work in weapons division at their branch laboratory at Sandia Base, near Albuquerque, NM.

My family research project did not make significant progress in New Mexico because the libraries did not have collections of genealogy publications as we know them today. Their holdings favored southwestern family history but were al-

most nil on southeastern family history.

My genealogy project experienced its first eche-lon of dumb luck in 1956. Sandia transferred me for a three-year term to Yorktown, Virginia, which is located in the heart of Tidewater, and the homeland for the migrations of my colonial ancestors. I could not have requested a more meaningful change in my Sandia career because Tidewater was often referred to in my father's discussions of his family's history.

After we settled in Virginia, my family started taking day-trips throughout the "Tidewater" to gain geographical knowledge of the area. I had previously learned that the migration routes of colonists expanding the settlements of Jamestown and Elizabeth City, now known as Hampton, followed the rivers and tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay, mainly, because the waterways provided the main means of transportation. I planned an itinerary of day trips to include visits to the major Tidewater counties between the James and Rap-

pahannock Rivers. My purpose was to investigate the available documentation for research in the respective towns, courthouses, libraries, and churches. My findings were as follows.

Ware Population:

I visited the towns and communities in the area seeking persons who might have knowledge of their Ware ancestors. I stated my quest for information regarding the Ware family history and they were interested in the project but they could contribute very little information other than three or four generations of their immediate families. I had a pleasant surprise in Gloucester County on my way to Ware Neck. I came upon a general store signed as "Ware General Store".

I stopped and entered the store and was greeted by an elderly man of African American descent who introduced himself as George Ware. He informed me that his family had a long relationship with the Ware family and that they were slave labor in the various Ware enterprises. During my other travels in the area, I learned that the occupations of the Wares were lawyers, doctors, school teachers and mainly watermen and agrarians. I reviewed my notes at a later date and found that I did not have sufficient information to link the persons and their families together. Later in my research I learned that the persons that I interviewed were very distant cousins to me and of little value to my quest for ancestral information. I considered them to be collateral relations and excluded them from the construction of my family tree. I'll explain the rationale for this exclusion in a following writing about my genealogy adventures

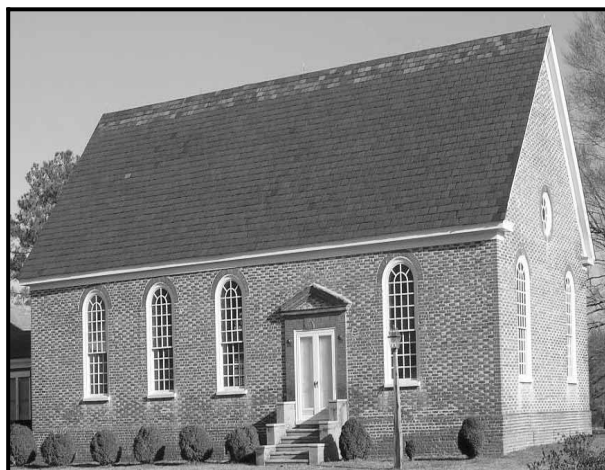
Court Houses:

Tidewater history conspired against me during my courthouse visits. The Tidewater area was occupied twice during the Union Army campaigns in Virginia. The Gloucester county courthouse was burned twice, once in the era of 1820 and again during the Civil War. Between the two fires all the colonial records were destroyed. All was not lost for me; however, because the county clerk advised me that a person named Polly Cary Mason had undertaken a project to find duplicate copies of the lost records and had published her

findings in two volumes which I could find copies of in the William and Mary College library. The records in the other courthouses that I visited were simply not organized for the convenience of genealogy researchers. Those records were either stored in the attic or in a remote archive and were not readily available.

Church Records:

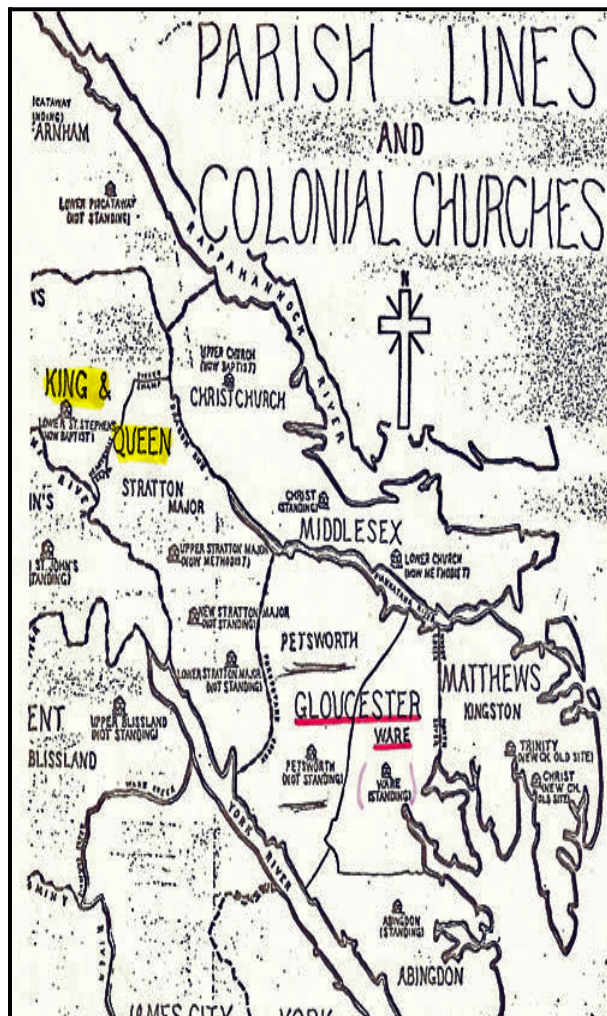
Not all of the churches that I visited had their vestry records available. Many of these important historical and genealogy records have been lost



Upper Church, Stratton Major Parish.

and very few exist today. Fortunately, the Virginia State Library has recognized the importance of this documentation and has undertaken a project to publish the surviving vestry records. I learned that the vestry book for Stratton Major Parish, in King and Queen County, was in the process of being published and I have since obtained a copy. In the meantime, we visited the church and found several brass placards with Ware names that indicated that the pews were allocated to Ware families. I later found that these families were connected to my family tree but this was not proven until I commenced my South Carolina research.

We visited the Ware Parish Church in Gloucester County and were disappointed that their vestry records were not available. The church's historic cemetery was in disrepair and the headstones had either been removed or had fallen over. The markers that were right side up were so weather



beaten that the names were either illegible or barely readable. Again, my quest for my Ware ancestors was inconclusive and I was disappointed because I thought that the liberal use of the Ware surname in the area would have been more productive.

Libraries:

The town and county libraries that I visited had very little to offer in the way of genealogical information. They had the standard historical information about the Virginia colony and biographical information, but nothing that would link me to my ancestors. The exception to this was the Hampton City library. It was designed to have a separate section for its genealogy holdings. I did find a booklet that contained information about the early colonists in the era of 1650 -1660. One

of these persons was named Peter Ware who performed various civic duties in York County. I copied all of the pertinent pages because Peter was an interesting person and a possible link. He was, and I'll include detailed information about him in writing about my next adventure.

I also visited the William and Mary College Library that was a genealogist treasure chest. The librarian, Earl Gregg Swem, collected a vast amount of Virginia's history and a major portion of it had been published in the William and Mary Quarterly. Searching thru the quarterlies appeared to be a daunting task until I discovered a two volume book entitled the Virginia Historical Index in which Mr. Swem had compiled a composite index for the existing quarterlies. Needless to say, I copied as much of the Ware information as I could in the time that I had available.

I also found the publications of Polly Cary Mason that I had mentioned before, in two volumes entitled "Records of Colonial Gloucester County Virginia." They were published in 1946 and 1948 respectively and most recently republished as two volumes in one by the Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD. In general and in my opinion it is not worth pursuing the land plots as published because the plot boundaries were identified by landmarks and landscape and the tidewater areas is completely urbanized. It would require the services of a person who researches historic titles and a forensic surveyor to find a given plot in the current landscape. However, I did find a recording of a land sale consisting of "423 acres on April 10, 1667 to John & John Waller (buyer)." The plot description read: "Ware P. (seller)" and described the plot boundaries. I had previously read that Peter Ware, Junior, and John Garrett, Peter's brother-in-law, had sold property belonging to Peter's father "long dead." I learned later that the senior, Peter Ware, was my 7th great-grandfather. I'll write more about Peter in the next chapter of my adventures.

In conclusion, the information about my colonial ancestors was there in the Tidewater history. But, from a personal point of view, I did not know the protocols for successful genealogy research and found myself over my head in a genealogical swamp.

Future General Meetings

Congregation Beth Emek, 3400 Nevada Court, Pleasanton, CA 94566

Visitors are always welcome

March 8, 7:30 p.m.

Patrick Lofft — Clues Leading to Ancestral Villages

April 10, 7:30 p.m.

Cath Madden Trimble — California Cousin

May 10, 7:30 p.m.

Lisa Louise Cooke — *Inspiring Ways to Capture the Interest of
Non-Genealogists in Your Family*

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