

Bruce Bulletin

Bruce County
Genealogical Society
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<http://www.rootsweb.com/~onbcgs>



Volume 22, Issue 1
February 2015
ISSN 1184-7387

Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

Date: Monday, March 9, 2015 at 1 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Internet Genealogy with Anne Goeden.

Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Introduction to Family History and Genealogy

Date: Monday, May 4, 2015 at 7 pm
Place: Hanover Library Media Centre
Topic: Internet Workshop

Highlights of Previous Meetings

November:

Bruce County Genealogical Society met on Monday, November 24, 2014 at 12 noon for their annual pot luck luncheon. Tasty German foods and beer were enjoyed by those present. The theatre room was well filled to hear the presentation by Patrick Kelly on German Immigration in Bruce County.

He outlined the history of German emigration from the time of the Roman occupation of Europe to the 19th century. A first wave of people of German descent arrived in Nova Scotia. They were of the Mennonite faith and left Pennsylvania at the time of the American revolution. German settlers claimed a block of land in the Kitchener Waterloo area.

A second wave of immigrants came to Canada from the Alsace Loraine area in the early 1800, many of them rejecting compulsory military service in their homeland.

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From 1827 to 1835 50,000 Germans arrived in Canada. They tended to settle with groups of friends who spoke the German language. The 1854 Land Sale in Bruce County encouraged many to own land in the Carrick and Culross area.

Anne Goeden provided a guide to Researching Our German Ancestors in the Research Room. She reviewed records including passenger lists, German newspapers on microfilm, cemetery transcripts and German baptism records.

Pat Kelly's second half focused on the role of German immigration at the time of WWI. He showed examples of the anti German propaganda and told of the paranoia of the time. Many immigrants were welcomed at Pier 21. Much information can be found on the Pier 21 website.

Doug Lennox thanked everyone for coming and Pat and Anne for their interesting and informative presentations.

The annual meeting proceeded with the review of the Minutes and Treasurers report. Committee reports were given . Sue Schlorff confirmed bookings for 2015 meetings. Volunteers are requested for Family Day activities in February and also the Paisley Steam Show in August. Anne Goeden will respond to a request from the Hanover Public Library for an Internet Workshop. Audrey Underwood installed the officers for the coming year.

Queries

1. My name is Alf Stanley and I live in Brandon, Manitoba. My great great grandpa **William Stanley** and his son my great grandpa **John William Joseph Stanley** lived in the Paisley and Chesley area from 1875-1890. John Joseph William later moved to the Miami area of Manitoba but William Stanley passed away in Ontario in 1890. John was

married to Isabelle Buchanan and they had the following children while in the area: William Albert 1875, Alexander 1877, Frederick 1879, Jessie 1881, Henry McLaren 1883, Ellen Agnes 1884. We have been unable to find the cemetery that William was buried in. We are also looking for any other information on where he was buried and any other information on this family. Email: astanley@mymts.net



2. I sure would like to know where this is. I found it amongst my great uncle's pictures. The Stanley family lived in the Paisley, Williamsford, Holland area of Ontario in the 1800s. Could this be a picture of a grist mill or some other kind of mill from Ontario. Email: astanley@mymts.net

Possible Solutions to the Picture Question:

This mill could be in Elderslie Township. On page 74 of the History of Elderslie Township under Williscroft it says "One of Williscroft's industries was a sawmill and grist mill on Snake Creek on Lot 9, Concession 12 built there by Jehoiada Shipman."

John Joseph William Stanley farmed on Concession 11, Lot 14 which contained 110 acres. He was a Sawyer and a Miller. The only Stanley I found in Elderslie and Bruce County in 1881 was a George Stanley. (Sylvia)

I would think by looking at the photo it would be possibly Chesley as the sawmill on Con.11 near Salem was moved by the Elliotts to Chesley. There is too much water to be in the Williscroft area I think. It is a great photo and would be interesting to find location. It could be Williamsford or Holland Centre area. **(Judy)**

3. Searching for **William and Margaret (nee McKenzie) McDonald**. Resided in Kincardine Township, Concession 9, Lot 4 (1851). Married Zorra West on July 4, 1851. Contact: D. Brenda Cooper, 1542 Admiral Tryon Blvd, Parksville, BC V9P 1Y3

4. I have in my possession a tin plate of a studio portrait of three rows of gentlemen posing for the camera. Listed in the picture (front row-left to right) are Charlie Hatch, Jim MacDonald, Alec MacDonald. Possibly taken around 1884. I know the McDonald family moved to Chilliwack, BC late 1880. Any details that can be provided would be appreciated. D. Brenda Cooper, 1542 Admiral Tryon Blvd, Parksville, BC V9P 1Y3



5. **THOMSON/THOMPSON, CATHERINE** nee **BRYAN** (1835-1900) Died Elderslie Township. Said to come from Limerick, Ireland but where precisely in County Limerick? Contact: Tom Bryan

Email: bryan414@btinternet.com

6. **BRYAN, Michael**. 1833-1890. Born Ireland. Married Hannah Snell, 1878. Alberta b.1879, James 1882, Robert (my grandfather) born 1885. All lived around Chesley, Elderslie Township. Michael's sister was Catherine Bryan (married George Thomson) Many ancestors of Catherine and George still live in the area, including the Manery family. Any information about Catherine Thomson would perhaps shed light on her brother Michael, my great-grandfather. Any information about their life in Ireland would be especially very welcome. I have never seen a photograph of my great-grandfather Michael, who is buried in Tara Cemetery.

Contact: Tom Bryan (Kelso, Scotland)
Email: bryan414@btinternet.com

7. **HOLMES, JOSEPH** My Gt Gt Grandfather Joseph Holmes(born England c. 1810) first appears in Chinguacousy 1851 with family born in Canada from 1837. In 1861 the family was in Mono, Simcoe County. In 1871 the family was in Bruce Township, Bruce County. I can follow his wife Hannah Giles Holmes through to her death on 28th of July 1894 in Amabel Township, but Joseph disappears (dies) between 1871 and 1881. I am hoping that his death certificate would provide vital information. They were all Wesleyan Methodists. Hannah Giles Holmes was living with her son's family James Holmes in Greenock township in 1881, and in Amabel Township in 1891.
Email: Selwyn Holmes
Selwyn@danselgallery.co.uk

8. **THEW, Barbara May**. I have been searching for my father's mother's family for many years. I know that she was born in Wiarton, Bruce, Ontario in 1867. I have a little more information that I will be glad to share with anyone who

might be interested. Father, William Thew. Mother Barbra May Cameron. Email address: antionette6@live.com I may be contacted at: Barbara M. Watson, 215 W. Brown Road, Mesa, AZ 85201 United States

9. **PORTER** – Ireland / Manvers / Arran / Wiarton. Looking for relatives and information about Porter families in Ontario who immigrated from County Cavan, Ireland. Children of **William Porter & Margaret Marshall** from Manvers Township, Ontario who resettled in Arran Township c.1861 are: William and Isabella Porter - children: Lavinia Francis (Chebott), William Joseph (Sarah Miney Dick), Alecia Jane (Carruthers), David Frederick, Letitia Berry (Slater), James Alman, Annabella (Duff), Washington, Sarah Maria (Spears), Harriet Emma (Thompson), Lillian Alda, Mary Louisa (Boomer), Wilfred Stanley. Hugh Porter married Julia Chabot / Chebott in Arran. Children: Mary (Hinds), William Marshall (Adams), Louis, Hugh, Hilton, David Henry, Frederick Marshall, Herbert Augusta, Harvey Elmo, Clarence Russel, Earnest Eugene. Robert Porter married Letitia Faulkner - children: Mary E. (Tippin), Jeremiah, Elizabeth, William, Joshua, Florence Letitia (Cvitkovich). David Porter married Emily Thompson in Southampton, resettled in Wiarton, Ontario. Children: William, David Henry, Charles Marshall, Alexander Sinclair, Garnet Roy, Albert Richard, Gladys (adopted). Other Children of William Porter and Margaret Marshall are: Charles Marshall, Mary, Martha Marie, Matthew, Joshua, Ann Jane, Joseph and Benjamin. Email: rapinideb@hotmail.com

Origin of English Surnames

Courtesy of Ancestry.com website

Many of us have surnames passed down to us from ancestors in **England**. Last names weren't widely used until after the Norman conquest in 1066, but as the country's population grew, people found it necessary to be more specific when they were talking about somebody else. Thus arose descriptions like Thomas the Baker, Norman son of Richard, Henry the Whitehead, Elizabeth of the Field, and Joan of York that, ultimately, led to many of our current surnames. There are perhaps 45,000 different **English surnames**, but most had their origins as one of these seven types:

Occupational

Occupational names identified people based on their job or position in society. Calling a man "Thomas Carpenter" indicated that he worked with wood for a living, while someone named Knight bore a sword. Other occupational names include Archer, Baker, Brewer, Butcher, Carter, Clark, Cooper, Cook, Dyer, Farmer, Faulkner, Fisher, Fuller, Gardener, Glover, Head, Hunt or Hunter, Judge, Mason, Page, Parker, Potter, Sawyer, Slater, Smith, Taylor, Thatcher, Turner, Weaver, Woodman, and Wright (or variations such as Cartwright and Wainwright) — and there are many more.

This kind of name also gave a clue about whom a servant worked for. Someone named Vickers might have been a servant to Mr. Vicker, and someone named Williams might either have served a William or been adopted by him.

From the obscure fact department: In medieval England, before the time of professional theater, craft guilds put on "mystery plays" ("mystery" meaning "miracle"), which told Bible stories and had a call-and-response style of singing. A participant's surname such as King, Lord, Virgin, or Death may have reflected his or her role, which some people played for life and passed down to their eldest son.

Describing a personal characteristic

Some names, often adjectives, were based on nicknames that described a person. They may have described a person's size (Short, Long,

Little), coloring (Black, White, Green, or Red, which could have evolved into “Reed”), or another character trait (Stern, Strong, Swift). Someone named Peacock might have been considered vain.

From an English place name

A last name may have pointed to where a person was born, lived, worked, or owned land. It might be from the name of a house, farm, hamlet, town, or county. Some examples: Bedford, Burton, Hamilton, Hampshire, Sutton. Writer Jack London’s ancestor may have hailed from London.

From the name of an estate

Those descended from landowners may have taken as their surname the name of their holdings, castle, manor, or estate, such as Erne or Staunton. Windsor is a famous example — it was the surname George V adopted for the British royal family.

From a geographical feature of the landscape

Some examples are Bridge, Brooks, Bush, Camp, Fields, Forest, Greenwood, Grove, Hill, Knolles, Lake, Moore, Perry, Stone, Wold, Wood, and Woodruff. Author Margaret Atwood is probably descended from someone who lived “at the wood.”

Patronymic, matronymic, or ancestral

Patronymic surnames (those that come from a male given name) include Benson (“the son of Ben”), Davis, Dawson, Evans, Harris, Harrison, Jackson, Jones (Welsh for John), Nicholson, Richardson, Robinson, Rogers, Simpson, Stephenson, Thompson, Watson, and Wilson.

Matronymic ones, surnames derived from a female given name, include Molson (from Moll, for Mary), Madison (from Maud), Emmott (from Emma), and Marriott (from Mary).

Scottish clan names make up one set of ancestral surnames. These include Armstrong, Cameron, Campbell, Crawford, Douglas, Forbes, Grant, Henderson, Hunter, MacDonald, and Stewart.

Signifying patronage

Some surnames honored a patron. Hickman was Hick’s man (Hick being a nickname for Richard). Kilpatrick was a follower of Patrick. Wondering whether your family name is English? Try plugging your surname into the

Ancestry **Last Names Meanings and Origins** widget. Type in the surname “Duffield,” and you’ll see it’s English, a “habitational name from places in Derbyshire and East Yorkshire, so named from Old English Dufe ‘dove’ + feld ‘open country.’”

Family & Fine Linen in Ireland

By Denise Cheer

Imagine a stone house in the early 1800s standing solidly in the emerald hills and green pastures of Ballyhill, Antrim, Ireland. There at the front door on this warm May morning sat Sarah Armstrong, my 3x Great Grandmother tirelessly pumping the foot treadle of her spinning wheel to slowly turn the combed flax fibres into yarn that wound onto her bobbin. Her husband, John, appeared at the door to retrieve a full spindle to continue to weave the fine linen cloth on his loom in the main room of their house.

Four of their daughters, Martha age 24, Sarah 22, Nancy 15 and Mary, only 12 were Tambourers. They carefully embroidered Celtic designs and flowers onto the finished linen, white on bleached white cloth or brownish-white on the natural linen products. The finished material was taken off to the market at the end of each week. It was a family business making it possible to earn money to remain on the farm in the hard times. The boys worked away from home and only Letitia, the youngest at age 10, attended school.



Ballyhill is located about a half hour west of Belfast, Northern Ireland. Our tour guide and researcher, Brian, from the Family Ulster (familyulster.com), provided the opportunity and expertise for my sister and I to actually experience where and how our ancestors lived so long ago on this research tour. That stone house is no longer there but many of the stones that were probably a part of it line the lane into the yard of a much newer house built on the same land. Only a knock at this door was needed to produce the friendly owner and his 2 wiggly dogs. He was quite happy to chat about the line of owners before his time. Before leaving we had to photograph my sister waving from the imaginary kitchen of the stone house, the sheep with their lambs in a nearby field and smell the fragrant lilac and Hawthorne blossoms.



Our next stop was to the smaller city of Lisbon where we visited the Linen Museum and discovered much more about the growing of flax and the occupation of our ancestors. Flax growing and linen weaving were and still are traditional occupations in Ireland. The flax is strong stemmed and is tall, about a metre in height when ready for harvest. It has a soft blue flower that appears as a symbol on some Irish insignias.

Traditionally, many members of families were involved in pulling the flax from the ground and removing the seeds. It was then allowed to dry after which came the nasty smelly process of Retting. The men placed the sheaves of flax stems into ponds for about 10 days to rot the core of the stem releasing the long stringy fibres. The stinking heavy loads were removed from the ponds and left to dry again for a few weeks. Now the stems were beaten resulting in a tangled mess of fibres. These were combed by hacklers leaving the fibres soft and straightened ready to spin into a continuous thread of yarn.

Sarah would attach this bunch of fibres at the top of her spinning wheel and pull piece by piece into a single string, wetting it with her saliva to join the fibres together. A bobbin may take several days to fill and several bobbins were required by John to weave into a piece of cloth.



After touring the museum my sister and I were now well aware of the extremely tedious work and long hours our ancestors had endured to make a living. Towards the end of the 1830s mill spun fibres replaced the spinning wheel and then industrialization of the weaving around 1850 eliminated the need for hand weaving on looms. It was at this point due to loss of land, occupations and political and religious unrest that many Irish, including our 2X Great Grandparents emigrated to Bruce County Ontario Canada and others to the USA. The past had spun us into the present and we continued on to the rest of our journey.



Belfast City Hall



Giant's Causeway

News from the Bruce County Archives

Ann-Marie Collins, Archivist

Sue Schlorff, Archival Assistant

Deb Sturdevant, Archival Assistant



Kincardine Newspapers

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre has facilitated the microfilming of Kincardine Newspapers from 1865 to 1971. Many issues up to 1933 were not available to be microfilmed. See "[Inventory of Kincardine Newspapers on Microfilm, 1877-1932](#)" on the "Search Our Archives" page of brucemuseum.ca for a detailed listing of available issues. The collection of *Kincardine News* is more complete up to 1971, with the exception of the year 1937. The microfilm reels are available to view both in the Research Room and at the Kincardine branch of the Bruce County Public Library. **Krug Family Fonds**

Archives staff and volunteers continue to work at processing the material contained within hundreds of boxes donated by the Estate of Bruce A. Krug. The Krug family of Chesley played a significant role in the history of Bruce County through their involvement in the furniture manufacturing industry, historical organizations, and conservationist activities. Bruce Krug created scrapbooks for every former township of Bruce County consisting of newspaper clippings, historical notes and summaries of interviews he conducted with Bruce County residents. Volunteer Robin Hilborn is working to create indices describing the contents of each scrapbook. Indices of the following scrapbooks are available to view on the "Search Our Archives" page of brucemuseum.ca: Albemarle Township, Amabel Township, Arran Township, Brant Township, Bruce Peninsula, Miscellaneous and Marine. More scrapbook indices, as well as finding aids related to thousands of photographs and Krug Bros. Co. Limited records will be added in the coming months.

Archives Events

Archives Awareness Week During the week of April 7-12, 2014, we will be celebrating Archives Awareness Week by providing free admission to the Research Room and guided tours of the Archives storage room at 10:00 a.m. (1:00 p.m. on Sunday). The storage room is normally closed to the public, so this is a unique and rare opportunity to see where the collective memory of Bruce County is stored. Items of special interest will be set out for viewing.

Archives at the Library Archives staff will visit local Bruce County libraries and showcase archival material from that specific area. Visit the libraries to chat with Archives staff, ask questions, and see what they have brought.

1. Southampton Branch Library, Lunch & Learn Program – Tuesday, March 3, Noon – 1 p.m.
2. Port Elgin Branch Library, Lunch & Learn Program – Thursday, March 5, Noon – 1 p.m.
3. Lion's Head Branch Library – Wednesday, March 11, 2–4 p.m.
4. Tara Branch Library – Wednesday, March 25, 2–4 p.m.
5. Kincardine Branch Library – Wednesday, April 1, 2 – 4 p.m.

Archives Hours

The Research Room is open Tuesday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. until the end of March 2014. Please check our website for holiday hours and call ahead if you are planning to view items stored in the archival storage area. The Bruce County Archives is part of the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, 33 Victoria Street, Southampton, Ontario, 519-797-2080, ext. 129.

Bruce County Genealogical Society-2014

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Newsletter

The newsletter is published quarterly: February, May, August, November. Articles of interest may be submitted for inclusion and should give credit to the original source.

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