



CAMROSE BRANCH ALBERTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ROOTS AND SHOOTS

June 2013

Volume 10 No 5

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2013 CGS Executive

President	Janine Carroll
Secretary	Adele Goa
Treasurer	Sharon Olsen
Librarian	Bev Webster
Editor	Joan Conley
Website Committee	Adele Goa Joan Conley

*“The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change;
the realist adjusts the sails.”*

William A. Ward

BRANCH NEWS

Adele Goa and I continue to work on the website. I have to say that if neither of us had personal lives, we might make more progress on the website! It's very time-consuming but will be worth the wait! The highlighted links on the 1st page are working so that you can still access previous Roots and Shoots newsletter issues. The “new” link to a list of the Executive members works, but the “new” link to the Newsletters does not yet work. As we noted on Page 3, “Please be patient. I'm a work in progress.” – Joan Conley



Our CGS May meeting was very interesting! Librarian Feena Stromberg entertained us with stories while teaching us about Interlibrary Loans. Member Adele Goa gave a short talk on “Cluster Genealogy” using personal examples. (Cluster Genealogy is basically including family members/neighbours while searching for your ancestor – check out the residents in the farm nearby, he or she could have been a future groom or bride!) John Stoddart, recently returned from a trip to the States, told of visiting the Wounded Knee Battleground and Cemetery in South Dakota. He said it was very sobering, and recommended that we visit the site if we have the opportunity.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 13, 2013 Meeting – Topic: “Adoption” - Wendy Roth and Jack Cunningham

July & August – No CGS meetings during the summer

Sept. 5, 2013 – Community Registration Night at the Camrose Field House, 6:30 – 9 PM. CGS members will have a display table.

Sept. 12, 2013 – Regular CGS Meeting, 7:30 PM in the Camrose Public Library Boardroom

Our Fall/Winter meetings will be Oct. 10, Nov. 14. Dec. 12, 2013 is our Christmas meeting - we invite friends, have goodies and coffee, and fellowship. Topics TBA...

Oct. 19, 2013 - Genealogy Workshop – 1 - 4:00 PM in the Camrose Public Library Boardroom - Guest Speaker will be Alison Freake, Conservator, Access & Preservation Services, Provincial Archives of Alberta (PAA). Topic: Identifying and Preserving Old Photos.

TIDBITS

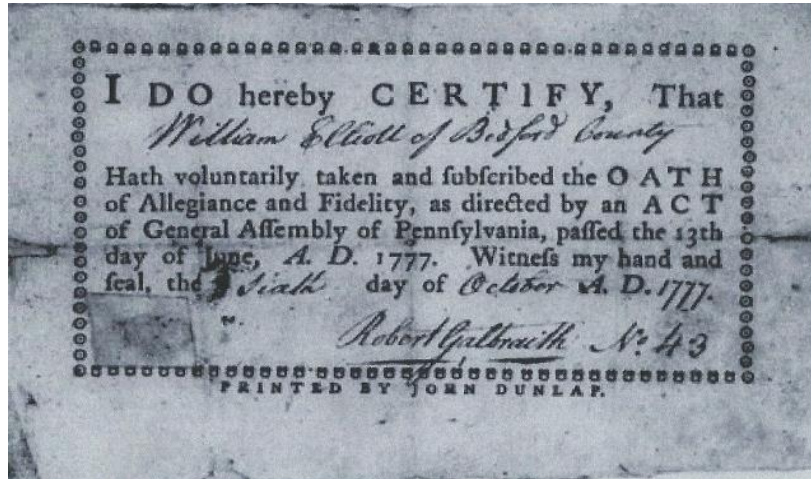
From The Camrose Canadian newspaper, June 9, 1943 – Page 2:

“Toothpaste Tubes Become Munitions”

“More than 1500 pounds of tin have been recovered from toothpaste and shaving cream tubes collected on Canadian National sleeping cars and turned in for war salvage. Melted down, the tubes yield about a third of their gross weight in tin.” - Submitted by Joan Conley

The Camrose Canadian, Jan. 10, 1929 -

“A young man from Meeting Creek who runs a trap line after school was surprised to find a gopher in one of his traps, which he had set out for the purpose of inducing a weasel to give up his overcoat.” - Submitted by Fay Carlson



In 1777, if settlers in America wanted land in the “New Country”, they had to sign this “Oath of Allegiance” to the (English) King George 3rd.

GENEALOGY ANGELS

Recently, I received help in my Family Tree search from two “Genealogy Angels”. All genealogists have run into a “Genealogy Angel” at least once.

Mid-May, fellow CGS member Adele Goa and I were working on the CGS website. While taking a break, we started talking about our most recent searches and finds. I mentioned my paternal great-aunt Margaret Anne (Annie) Carson who has intrigued me from the beginning of my search. When I told Adele that Annie (is rumoured to have) travelled across Canada with Mackenzie King (acting as his secretary) during his Liberal leadership campaign, her interest was immediately piqued. Adele had recently found Mackenzie King's personal diary online and was fascinated by it...perhaps there was something in there about my Annie...

I had “put Annie to rest”, so to speak, since I hadn't been able to find much more on her than what the family had told me. Adele was visiting the Provincial Archives of Alberta the following week and offered to see what she could find on Annie.

Much to my delight, the next week Adele found Annie's burial place (Hillside Cemetery in Medicine Hat), Annie's Plot Number and the Burial Listing on the Medicine Hat website. Annie was also found on www.findagrave.com. Adele e-mailed a copy of Annie's obituary from The Medicine Hat Daily News February 18, 1944 to me! Now, I had an exact death date and so much more than I had hoped for...

I couldn't give up the search now! Adele had inspired new interest in Annie and her youngest brother James Henry Carson, who had been killed in WW1 and was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for his bravery. Last September, during my first visit to Europe, I visited James' gravesite in Aubigny, France. Although I already had plenty of information on James' war service, I realized that there was much more to be found in his history.

I decided to send a query to our AGS Medicine Hat Branch. I was very specific as to the information I was looking for (while hoping that I didn't sound “too particular”). This is where my 2nd Genealogy Angel came onto the scene...Kathy Gleisner replied to say that she would be looking after my query and would get back to me soon.

Kathy found a picture of Annie and one of James at the Medicine Hat Archives; also James' Memorial Card. She obtained a Township Map showing James' farm, found his hardware store (Annie helped her brother with the store), and a small history on James Carson in Whitla, Alberta, along with a history of his brother Dr. George Carson.

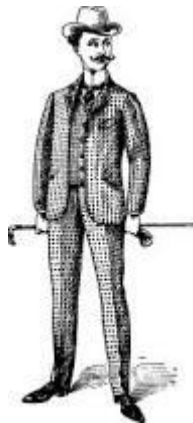
I wanted to know the cause of Annie's death. The funeral home lists cause of death as heart failure. Kathy also found out that Annie worked as a reporter for The Calgary Herald!

I searched the Medicine Hat City website and found a listing of Annie's burial information, but where there should have been a "Y" indicating that "yes, there is a gravestone", it was blank! Knowing that my Carson family had been so prominent, I was dismayed to see that there was no gravestone for Annie! ...but, upon sending a query to the City of Medicine Hat, I got a reply stating that there is indeed a stone!

My "Genealogy Angel" Kathy went out to the cemetery and took a picture of Annie's gravestone. Then Kathy asked for my mailing address so that she could send all of this to me! A few days later, that precious envelope arrived. There was so much information on Annie and James, and I will be forever grateful for my two "Genealogy Angels"!

Submitted by Joan Conley

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY TO ALL THE DADS OUT THERE!!!



HAVE A GREAT SUMMER, EVERYONE!

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