From the Editor:

“I consider family to be the rock on which we build our communities. It’s important.” ~ Don Getty

This quote was made by the Premier whose government instituted “Family Day” in Alberta in 1990. The act made our province the first to have a February long weekend and the first to dedicate a holiday to a vital institution, the family. The date for that holiday in our province has come to be the third Monday of February. It is to be noted that family has always been a prominent feature in the life of our province since its inception in 1905. At a time when most political leaders were men long both on experience and in years. However, here our first Premier Alexander C. Rutherford was different as he had a family with two children, Cecil Alexander (age 15, in 1905) and Hazel Elizabeth (age 12, in 1905), another child Marjorie Cameron had died as a toddler in April 1905. A young and vital province began life with a leader with a young and vital family that grew with the province which was most appropriate for a new province.

For genealogists, Family Day should be one of special meaning as family is central to all we do in our quest for our past, our present, and our future. Some may find that the day may serve as the beginning of their genealogical new year, a day for making plans and schedules for this addition of their annual genealogical work. However, on a day devoted to family, there is something almost sacrilegious in working alone, all closeted away, it is a day to become involved in activity with others especially with family.
members. There are numerous activities going around in our city and around the province in which you may do this. A number of these projects allow you to visit the past, a past in which your family may well have played a part or to learn about the skills and resources needed in the pursuit of one’s family history. Take one such activity in for Family Day this year. If you are a little more daring, you might design your own activity for the day, perhaps, one involving family history - genealogy.

However, the spirit of family needs to be in view for more than a single day. It needs to come forth throughout the calendar year. It needs to be evident not only in our homes but in all that we do. Those same values that serve us well in our families will serve us well in all groups of which we are members that share a common purpose. As a genealogy society or branch, we share such an interest, one centered on “family.” Should our relationships within a group with this focus not reflect the values that families perpetuate? One idea central in most families is shared responsibility of each member according his or her ability to contribute. Every member has a part to play in improving the lot of the family and everyone does his or her part. As members of a branch as in a family, we all benefit from the gifts that each person brings to the group. The more people that contribute to the group, the richer and more able a group becomes.

So, in this month of Family Day celebrate family. Consider your gifts and how you can use them to celebrate the values of family within all groups that participate in throughout this year. ~ John
Dear Edmonton Branch Members,

Welcome to 2017. As we start off this new year I am optimistic that many positive things will continue to happened around Edmonton Branch.

We are looking at electing a new board of directors at the annual general meeting on Feb.23. So be sure to get your memberships renewed. We will elect a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Most of our volunteers in Standing and Ad Hoc Committees will remain.

Ken Fearnley, our treasurer designate has been in training and working with AGS bookkeeper Shirley Keller and myself to learn working of the “Sage” accounting system and the various systems used by the branch. The accounting system will allow us to co ordinate with AGS and help to save on audit time and expense. This has involved adjusting account numbers and re thinking how we assign expense accounts. Ken can be reached at treasurer@edmontongenealogy.ca.

We have also welcomed a new webmaster, Donna Parker. We have been very fortunate to have Donna volunteer as she is experienced in the industry. As she learns what the Branch does, please help her along. Donna can be reached at webmaster@edmontongenealogy.ca.

I would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Debbie Pietrzkowski our past webmaster. Debbie has done a wonderful job of keeping us in touch and keeping our website up to date. Debbie also worked with Christopher Pietrzkowski to bring the Edmonton Public Library index on line and the Probate Indexes and other projects. These indexes have brought in research inquires which help support the branch. Debbie also served as our treasurer for a year, designed our Cards for mailout and arranged business cards. You are missed Debbie, we wish you good health and good luck with your future endeavors.

We also said goodbye to Sheila Majeau in 2016. Sheila sent out all those wonderful cards and expressions of sympathy and congratulations. Bev Wardell cards@edmontongenealogy.ca is now doing this and we appreciate Bev stepping up to take on this important function. I have on several occasions been thanked by a recipient who was so surprised and touched to receiving a card by mail.

We are still looking for a trainee or volunteer for Clandigger. John Althouse has done a terrific job and would like to offer someone the opportunity to put their stamp on our Newsletter. If you interested, please talk to John. clandigger@edmontongenealogy.ca.

As my term as president comes to an end I look forward to engaging in a supportive role as Past President. I have met so many generous people who have shared their time and wisdom with me. You know who you are and thank you. Being Branch President is not easy but what you do and accomplish is what you choose to take on and make of it. Working with friends make it easy.
Thank you all for your participation and support of Edmonton Branch AGS.
I look forward to seeing you at our next general meeting.

**Donna Shanks,** President

president@edmontongenealogy.ca

**IMPORTANT!**

Please note that our Edmonton Branch has a new Webmaster, **Donna Parker**. In the transition period between the old and new webmaster, there have been a few hiccups. Please, continue to format your notices for Branch meetings, etc. as you have in the past, but please email them to our new webmaster at edmontonagswebmaster@gmail.com OR webmaster@edmontongenealogy.ca
Mark Your Calendar!
February 23, 2017

Annual General Meeting

7:30 pm at the Edmonton Branch AGS Library

Year End Reports
Branch Business
Election of Officers

Your 2017 membership must be paid in order to vote at this meeting.
MARCH 11TH ~ 10am - 3pm
Edmonton Branch, AGS #162, 14315-118 Ave, Edmonton

LEARN ABOUT FRENCH CANADIAN GENEALOGY!
An introduction to useful websites and new ways to look at them.
There will be time for one on one help with your French Canadian research, including translating of documents. $25 AGS members/$45 non-members

Name: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
______________________________________
Phone: ________________________________
Email: ________________________________
Please check one: ☐ Member ☐ Non-Member
Payment: ☐ Cheque (payable to AGS, Edmonton Branch)
☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard
Card Number ________________________________
Expiry Date ________________________________
Cardholder’s Name (as it appears on card) ________________________________
Signature ________________________________
Date ________________________________

Mail or Deliver to: Alberta Genealogical Society, Edmonton Branch,
4162, 14315 - 118 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5L 4S6 OR Fax: 780.423.8980
Phone: 780.424.4429 Email: edmontonbranchags@gmail.com
Hear Ye, Hear Ye, the Alberta Genealogical Society is presenting the Ye Olde Genealogy Faire in what promises to be an exciting fun-packed and informative conference. Notable authors, historians and specialists will enlighten the audience with presentations on Irish, English, French, German genealogy, DNA technology and more.

Genealogical conferences are a great place to meet and mingle with the people who "speak your language" and face the same challenges. View the marketplace: the exhibits, the products and services that could make your research so much easier. You will go away with experiences of real lessons learned, dozens of ideas, and innovative solutions that you can use immediately.

Watch for AGS announcements regarding our 2017 Conference, and plan to join us on

**22nd and 23rd April 2017.**

We would love to see you there! For more information or to register follow the Conference Section of the Alberta Genealogical Society website at

[http://www.abgenealogy.ca/2017-ags-conference](http://www.abgenealogy.ca/2017-ags-conference)

**Conference speakers include:** John Althouse, Lisa Ann Alzo (webinars), Kyle J. Betit, Ruth Blair, Peter & Linda Darby, Susan Haga, Gena Philibert Ortega, John D. Reid, Gary Schroeder, Diahan Southard, and Dave Tyler.

**Please note Venue Change from Previous Conferences!**

**Location & Lodging**

Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre Edmonton

4520 – 76 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T6B 0A5

Friday thru Sunday, 21–23 April 2017
Special Interest Groups aka SIGS
AGS Library at 162, 14315 – 118 Avenue
Park anywhere but the 4 spaces north of AGS Library parking

February Meetings

At the time of publication, these were the only details available.

**German** Wednesday February 1, 2017 @ 7:00 pm  “German History as Shown Through Maps ” by John Althouse and “Das Kindergarten” by Jo Nuthack Also, adding to the sign-up sheet for future meeting programs. Contact John Althouse <althousejh@shaw.ca> or Jo Nutack <jornu@telus.net>

**England / Wales** Thursday February 2, 2017 @ 7:00 pm “Hilda of Whitby ” plus “Strange Characters of Devon” by Jeanne Annett. Back to the Basics #5...Did You Know? “Understanding Poor Law Records” by Helen Thornitt. “Understanding Census Records” by Ruth McConnell. Also discussing the idea of amalgamating SIGs in the Fall of 2017. Coordinators Bev Wardell at kiriw@telus.net, or Louise Perkins at weezie450@hotmail.com

**Scotland** Monday February 13, 2017 @ 7:30 pm. “In Search of My Hebridean Ancestors” Allison Akgungor will present an account and photos of her 2013 trip to the Island of Islay. Contact Joyce Willard at jwmkwillard@outllook.com

**Canada USA** Wednesday February 15, 2017 @ 7:30 pm. Come and work on your genealogy, check out or return resources before the holidays, and bring your questions in Scottish genealogy. Join us for our social. Contact Joyce Willard at jwmkwillard@outllook.com

**Edmonton Branch Annual General Meeting**
Thursday February 23, 2017 @ 7:30 pm!
Please remember that your 2017 membership must be paid in full to vote or take part in this meeting in any way!

The 2017 booking calendar is now in the usual place on the front desk. Coordinators, please, book your dates for the next year.
At the time of publication, these were the only details available.

**Ukrainian SIG** Wednesday, March 1, 2017  **Note change of time!**  7:00 PM Details of this meeting unavailable at time of publication Contact: Natalie Edwards at <ntedwards@shaw.ca>

**England Wales SIG** Thursday, March 2, 2017  **Note change of time!**  7:00PM “Open Library Night” return or take out resources, use the library resources, bring your questions and brick walls to discuss with other members of our SIG, and come to network and socialize. Contact Bev Wardell at kiriw@telus.net or Louise Perkins at weezie450@hotmail.com

**Postscripts** Wednesday, March 8, 2017 @ 7:30 pm  **It’s About a Place!** A presentation by a members versed in researching the history of a house and a video reviewing the use of GOOGLE Earth. Further details in the March “Clandigger” and by mail out.. Also, an introduction to Postscripts 2017 Writing Challenge and discussion about Planning for future meetings. Contact: John Althouse at mentorcentre@shaw.ca

**Reunion** Monday, March 13, 2017 @ 7:30 pm Genealogy program "Reunion for Macintosh" - Creating Charts, Using the Marking feature, and Other items? Other Macintosh questions you may have. Bring your laptop or other mobile device and follow along. Bring any and all questions - sharing / asking questions is how we all learn. Contact Laura Turnbull at ljturnbl@telus.net

**Irish** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 @ 7:30 pm.  **An Update on Online Resources for Researching Irish Ancestors.** Contact desmond.wynne@telus.net or val_peden@yahoo.com

**DNA Group** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 @ 7:30 pm No details available at time of publication. Contact Lynne Duigou <lynneduigou@shaw.ca> or Donna Shanks <donna@shanks.ca>

**Computer Genealogy (aka Compugene)** Thursday, March 16, 2017 @ 7:30 pm. “Preparing a family history document using Family Tree Maker.” Contact Neal Finn at neal.finn@telus.net

**Edmonton Branch Meeting** Thursday, March 23, 2017 @ 7:30 pm. No details available at the time of publication.
Peter Goutbeck

(1922 - 2016)

On November 23, 2016, long time AGS member Peter Goutbeck (Member # 1006 since 1980) passed away quietly at his home. Peter was an active member of the Edmonton Branch AGS. He was actively involved in many genealogy activities including cemetery recording and indexing projects for Edmonton Branch and AGS. Lyn Meehan, AGS Communications, writes, “Peter was very instrumental in the early days of AGS, and even then continued to give. He contributed very informative articles about technology, transcribing cemeteries and his Dutch ancestry to Relatively Speaking from 1982 to 2001.” He served as Chair of and was active in the Cemetery Recording Committee from 1983 - 1997. He also actively was coordinator and worked as an indexer in the Recording and Indexing Committee from 1981 - 1994. Eventually, this group would compile the “Master Genealogical Data Bank” a database of cemetery information covering most cemeteries from Coutts in the south to Indian Cabins in the north. In the words of Norma Wolowyk, Peter was one of the people “instrumental in making this a reality.” In 2010, the Edmonton Historical Board (EHB) awarded Peter and the other workers on our Cemetery Database and Census Nominal List the “EHB Recognition Award.” All one needs to do is walk around our library and examine the wonderful finding aids to see evidence of Peter’s contribution to AGS and to genealogy in Alberta. For their efforts, Peter and his wife Rose were awarded a Life Membership in AGS (1996).

Lorran “Larry” Clark

(1928 - 2016)

We recently received the sad news that long time Edmonton Branch member Lorran “Larry” Clark passed away on December 26, 2016. Larry (Member # 1088 Since 1980) was active in Edmonton Branch where he was Branch President between 1982 and 1983. In a release from Historical AGS information: Mary Ann Legris, AGS Historian/Archivist and Lyn Meehan, AGS Communications, it is also noted, “Larry Clark will be sadly missed. An AGS member since 1980, Larry was an enthusiastic volunteer within the Society, and known for his professionalism and kindness to one and all. Larry lived by the motto: "Be honest, and whatever you do, give it your best." He represented these values in whatever he did: served as Edmonton Branch President from 1982-1984, President of AGS from 1991-92, and so much more. Larry is most memorable in playing a leading role in Tracing Your Family Tree courses in the 1980s [1981 - 1993], Cemetery Recording with Peter Goutbeck in the 1990s, 1990 Conference Chair and devoted his time and energy with The Canadian Heraldic Authority for AGS to be granted their Coat of Arms. Life time member of AGS, Larry is survived by his wife Joan, children, great-grandchildren and generations to come.” Edmonton Branch wishes to extend our sympathy to his wife Joan and all family members. Larry will be greatly missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to know him and work with him. For their efforts, Larry and his wife Joan were awarded a Life Membership in AGS (2001).
Most of us will agree the arrival of a new year is an exciting time.

For we genealogists, a new year stretching before us is one that will hopefully be filled with finds and discoveries about our ancestors and the times they lived in.

The year 2017 offers up some “extra added excitement” in that Canadians will be commemorating the 150th Anniversary of Confederation. All across this great country, our nation’s history revolving around confederation, immigration, homesteading and settlement will be celebrated. Genealogy and history go hand-in-hand as we all know!

Perhaps your ancestors arrived in eastern Canada even before Confederation in 1867, meaning your Canadian roots are deep. Or, you may be like me having had both maternal and paternal grandparents arrive in Canada and homestead on the Canadian Prairies in the early 1900’s.

Regardless and whether you are a first generation Canadian or a fifth generation Canadian, 2017 is certainly a time to be proud of your Canadian heritage.

The year has been dubbed “Canada 150”; there will be numerous events and exhibits to mark Canada’s Sesquicentennial during the next twelve months. A number of these will happen locally in Edmonton with a huge focus on Canada Day celebrations not only at the Alberta Legislature, but in many locations around the city.

The first celebratory event was held December 31st ... the outdoor New Year’s Eve Celebration event at Churchill Square, downtown. And in our nation’s capital city of Ottawa – the year 2017 was welcomed with spectacular fireworks enjoyed by the thousands who attended plus many Canadians who were watching televised coverage.
Exhibits with a historical focus ...

Several exhibits will be featured during 2017 in the Edmonton area and may link to your family’s history in some way.

The Provincial Archives of Alberta (this summer) will celebrate our province’s unique contributions to Canada with a special exhibit (information on the name and specific dates to be released at a later date). Over at the Alberta’s Legislature Visitor Centre (thus summer and autumn) displayed will the exhibit titled “The Dream We Form By Being Together.”

Downtown at the Alberta Crafts Council, an exhibition is planned for early May to mid August to tie in with “Canada 150 – Women’s Hands Building A Nation.”

Two new permanent additions ...

If you have Ukrainian roots, you will be interested in an exciting unveiling taking place this summer at The Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village just east of the city. You’ll be able to see the newest additions to this open air museum - the restored home built by the grandparents of Alberta’s former premier Ed Stelmach as well as a farmstead once owned by Galacian settlers.

Celebrating history through song and dance ...

Edmonton’s Greenwood Singers present “O Canada – A Sesquicentennial Spring Celebration” in April while Edmonton’s Kokopelli Choir will present a concert titled “A Canadian Roadtrip” in May.

Also in May, Alberta Ballet will present “Our Canada” (featuring the music of Canadian singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot).

Closing out the Canada-150 year, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra will perform “Sesquie For Canada 150” during December.

For these concerts check websites of the groups mentioned where you can get further information on specific dates, ticket costs etcetera.

Photographs accompanying this article courtesy of the author.
Commemorative coins ...

The Canadian Mint has introduced a commemorative set of coins *(Celebrate Canada’s 150th Coin Series)* and if you collect coins as part of your “visual” family heritage, this set may well be worth looking into purchasing. See www.mint.ca for details.

The Canada 150 logo ...

The design of the logo is based on a series of celebratory gems arranged in the shape of a maple leaf. The logo of course will appear on signage, flags and souvenir items.

It would be a good idea to save something with a logo on it to add to your family history collection for future generations to see.

Canadian Museum of History

If travel plans this year include a visit to Ottawa, the Canadian Museum of History will open a permanent exhibition in conjunction with Canada Day 2017. The exhibition is titled “*Canadian History Hall*” and will tell the stories of our country and how Canada’s past is still relevant today.

In closing ...

2017 – a great year to have Canadian ancestors on our family trees!

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As Denise has noted in her article, 2017 is “*a great year to have Canadian ancestors on our family trees!*” It is also *a great year to write family history* whether it be an extensive history, a collection of family memories, or simply an article on a relative or family event. Your family has been a part of Canada’s history. It does not matter whether your ancestors arrived in times immemorial, prior to our nationhood, have been here for the duration of the 150 years of our history, or are more recent arrivals. All are a part of that history; and all have a story to tell! To encourage this, the Postscripts SIG unveiled its 2017 Writing Challenge at its January meeting. We have also distributed a poster on the challenge. We welcome anyone whether an experienced writer or novice to take up this challenge. It is open to anyone who is interested. So, we encourage all Edmonton Branch members to consider keeping their family history alive by creating a written record of all or part of it. Please take time to celebrate Canada’s 150th Birthday by sharing at least a part of your family’s story.
looking for an Update

ROY BROWN

a presentation by John J. N. Chalmers

On November 20, 2015, John Chalmers made a presentation titled “Looking For Roy Brown” in which he told us of his search for the final resting place of World War I Canadian aviator Arthur Roy Brown and the role that then 11 year old school girl Nadine Carter played in discovering that elusive site. John returned to our Edmonton Branch meeting one year and four days later to share with us the updates to the initial story. This article summarizes John’s update.

A great story has a life of its own and develops into new and often unexpected vistas. When Roy Brown was inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame on June 4, 1915, many observers may have believed that the initial story had reached its denouement. However, this was far from the case. The initial story of the discovery of the final resting place of Arthur Roy Brown has been such a story. John Chalmers presented the new developments in the story that have occurred over the past year. These included the publication of a story of Brown which Chalmers wrote which appeared in the November 2016 issue of Airforce Magazine and a number of shorter articles in other publications.

Some of these developments have occurred in Carlton Place, the birth place and boyhood home of Roy Brown. In recognition of their famous son, the town has instituted “Roy Brown Day,” an annual local holiday. So, it was only natural that when John was in nearby Ottawa for this year’s induction ceremonies for the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame that he would take the time to make the short journey to Carleton Place in an effort to learn more about the man who is reputed to have downed the Red Baron in a dog fight during World War I. John visited several places around the town that were connected to Brown. Near the town hall, there is a large mural vividly displaying the fateful battle between Brown and the Red Baron with an inset portrait of Roy Brown.

John discovered much more related to Brown in his visit to Carlton Place which he shared with us through words and photographs. He visit Moore House which is home to the “Roy Brown Society.” Half of the building’s main floor contains displays, artifacts, photographs, and even models of the Fokker and Sopwith Camel biplane in honour of Roy Brown. Our presenter also visited the Carlton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum. Here, he was able to view a numbers of artifacts from Brown’s early life. There was a toy horse that Roy Brown had and likely rode into imaginary forays as a child. The horse is scarred by the wounds from these dream forays, but rich in character. The horse is to be conserved and put on display in glass case in the museum just as it is wounded but with its character intact. The museum is also preparing a virtual display on Arthur Roy Brown.
Aside from museums, many of the places that Brown would have lived in or stopped at during his youth remain in Carlton Place. John Chalmers told us of several of these sites which he visited during his time in the town. The building that once contained grist mill where Brown’s father was the manager remains. The house in which Brown was born and a cabin built in 1913 which the family used are also there. As John illustrated in his presentation, when a person visits a place synonymous with a particular chapter of a person or for that matter a family, the visitor can gain new insights into the person or family’s life.

During the past year, John also found a number of new artifacts related to the Brown story. He located a photograph of the 1911 Carlton Place Independents hockey team. It shows Roy Brown as one of the members. In addition, it shows three other young players who also would distinguish themselves as Canadian aviators during World War I. He found that one line of Brown’s through the Brewster family could be traced back to the Mayflower. He also located a reprint of an article which first appeared in Liberty Magazine in 1927 and was later reprinted in 1976 about the dog fight between Brown and the Red Baron. The authorship of the article is attributed to Brown. The problem is that not one word of the article came from Brown. This example demonstrates that we as genealogists need to be careful when it comes to sources. Just because a statement appears in print, in the media, or most certainly in social media does not mean that it is fact.

John Chalmers also provided new details that had emerged since his initial presentation to us a year ago concerning the burial site for Roy Brown. Once again, our presenter indicated that Nadine Carter, a school girl, played a significant role in this chapter of the saga. Roy Brown had been buried in Aurora Cemetery on March 14, 1941 In March 1955, he was “raised and cremated...according to his wishes.” But this where the mystery had developed. When queried the surviving members of the Brown family did not know where his ashes had been placed. It was Nadine Carter, the 11 years of age, who found the answer. This discovery led to articles in the Toronto and Ottawa Sun newspapers. As a result of her work, Nadine was invited to be a guest at the ceremony at which Arthur Roy Brown was inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame in 2015.
However, our presenter noted that Nadine’s efforts related to Brown did not end with the discovery of his elusive burial site. She noted that the site of his inurnment had been marked rather unceremoniously with a cement block about the size of a brick with only the impersonal designation “60 A” inscribed into it. Nadine thought a more fitting tombstone was needed. She applied to the “Last Post Fund” to see if she might secure a military tombstone to mark the site in Necropolis Cemetery in Toronto. Her efforts were successful. So, one hundred years after the war in which he distinguished himself was fought, a military tombstone was placed at the final resting place of Arthur Roy Brown and his wife Edyth. John Chalmers showed us a short video of Nadine and her sister Clarise attired in their cadet uniforms placing flowers at the site of the newly acquired tombstone. You can see this video “Nadine Carter commemorates Arthur Roy Brown” on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=amYMANeOy44.

The Ottawa Citizen of June 30, 2016 reported on the event for the placing and dedication of the headstone for Arthur Roy Brown. The ceremony was attended by about fifty people including John, Nadine, dignitaries and members of the Brown family. On July 1, 2016, two plaques remembering Roy Brown were erected in Stouffville, Ontario. For John Chalmers’ complete article on these events see http://www.cahs.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1048:a-headstone-for-captain-roy-brown-dsc&catid=1201:august-2016

In this presentation, John Chalmers raised a number of interesting points which we as genealogists and writers of family history need to recall. Often after the initial telling, a story, a history continues to evolve and change. As new details to a story are brought to light, the initial tales should be enlarged. Also, it is a good idea to consult the authorities, those who have done to the work, no matter how unlikely the source may initially appear to be. Nadine had through her efforts located Roy Brown’s final resting place and in the process gleaned a good deal of information about Brown. John related in the presentation how he had attempted to locate where the engine of the Red Baron’s plane was located. He had even discovered a likely location for this artifact. When he mentioned this to Nadine, she indicated that she believed it to be in another collection which is exactly where it turned out to be. We can always learn so much from those who know the terrain in which we seek direction.

In spite of these updates, this story may not be over. The major players in it all may add to it or develop new and unique stories beyond it. Nadine has become interested in the working with “Wounded Warriors.” Clarise, Nadine’s older sister, is one of the cadets who has been selected to travel to Vimy Ridge for the 100th anniversary of that important battle. John Chalmers has many new writing and video projects; some of which he most likely will be sharing with us at some future point. No history, not even a family history, can truly ever be said to be complete.
“Every day's an adventure when I step out of my door. That's why I usually wear a hat and keep my head low.”
– from Steve Buscemi

The Ontario Genealogical Society held its annual conference in Toronto on June 3 - 5, 2016. This particular edition of the conference was aptly titled “Genealogy on the Cutting Edge.” It had a wonderful array of offerings for anyone with an interest in genealogy whether a seasoned veteran of the art or a mere novice. The forty-eight sections offered contained something for anyone regardless of their level of experience or area of research and interest, including presentations dealing with the latest technology, DNA, and social media. So, upon hearing of this wonderful event, two members of Edmonton Branch Pam Forsyth and Carolynne Ross set off for an “awesome genealogical adventure” at the OGS Conference in Toronto. They told us of their many adventures there in a presentation as the second part of our Edmonton Branch meeting of November 24, 2016.

Pam began the chronicle of their adventure by recounting their experiences on the opening evening of the conference. The opening address by Judy Russell of the “Legal Genealogist” examined ethical genealogy in the milieu of the 21st Century. This presentation provided an opportunity for reflection. Beyond this presentation, there was much to experience during the initial evening. A number of attendees wore t-shirts sporting emblazoned with humorous mottos such as “I Dig Dead People” that perhaps only genealogists can decode and truly appreciate. There were tools to help the adventurers access the events of the conference more effectively. The conference was available free for download, but it was also possible if necessary to buy a print copy of it at the conference. In addition, “Find My Past” sponsored a conference app which also acted as a guide and provided many conference extras. Yes, this app was available at no cost!
The conference included many excellent presenters well known to genealogists. These included Dave Obee who delivered the banquet speech. Other notable speakers were Lisa Louise Cook, Stephen Young, Maurice Gleeson, Judy Russell, John MacEntee, Thomas Reid, Linda Palermo, CeCe Moore, Gary Schroeder, Gail Dever, James F.S. Thomson, and many more. (Note: A few of these presenters will be at the upcoming AGS Conference in April). There simply too many great presentations for one to take in. This diversity provided well for the varied interests of the attendees. Due to this and to maximize their conference experience, our two intrepid adventurers took in different sessions (with one exception) during the conference.

In the Expo Hall, many vendors presented their wares; wares to facilitate and enhance the work of genealogists. The major genealogical online family history resources were present. Also among the vendors present were those familiar to genealogists who attend AGS Conventions such as Lisa Lois Cook and Alberta’s own Shop the Hound. There were also a wide array of tables sponsored by a variety of groups including archives, libraries, special interest groups, authors, book sellers, and local genealogy groups. The hall was a cornucopia for the genealogist. The displays introduced the tools needed by genealogists ranging from paper charts to new and cutting edge technology, kits, and methods. There was even a display for the 2017 Ontario Genealogical Conference, things were planned well ahead for the next chapter. The adventurers had a clear sense of where the next chapter of their adventure could lead.

The conference provided our adventurers opportunities to socialize. There were other Albertans present at this conference. In addition, they were able to discuss their personal areas of genealogical interest with others present who shared that interest. Such associations can often add pieces that are absent or at least provide the direction needed to seek and hopefully find them.

Displays in the Expo Hall included vendors familiar to Edmonton Branch conference goers like those of Lisa Louise Cook and Shop the Hound as well as a boding of things to come.
The pre-conference tours offered opportunities for our adventurers to explore archives and libraries around Toronto that might be of interest and significance in their genealogical work. Both took advantage of these. Armed only with a city map they set off into the unknown wilds of Toronto. Carolynne provided a summary of some of the journeys she made. These included trips to the Toronto Reference Library and the Toronto Archives. She was armed with a particular task that she hoped to achieve while she was there. This is an excellent strategy. While she didn’t discover exactly what she had hoped to find, she did gain bits of information that provided additional information on the problem.

Both Pam and Carolynne returned safely from their “amazing genealogical adventure.” Both felt that the experience was enlightening in providing them with new understandings and tools which will ultimately enhance their genealogy. We all can learn much from their adventure. Our two adventurers heartily recommend the conference adventure to all who are interested in genealogy. No, the OGS Conference may not necessarily dovetail with your interests but somewhere there will be a conference that will. Embark on an adventure and travel to it. You like our adventurers will gain much from such a conference experience. If you might like to begin with a less involved adventure, you might consider as your first step attending the AGS Conference here in Edmonton in April! See you there!

Our two Edmonton Branch travellers found much of value in their awesome adventure at the OGS 2017 Conference. They encouraged us to share the adventure by taking in a genealogical conference somewhere, too!

Photographs for this article courtesy of Pam Forsyth
As members of the Edmonton Branch, we have many means at our disposal that enable us to learn genealogical skills and access resources that we need to do our personal genealogy work more effectively. The greatest of these resources are the collective knowledge of our members and their volunteer efforts for our branch, our society and genealogy in general. Nowhere does this happen better than within our ten Special Interest Groups (SIG). This article which begins with a confession, will examine some of the problems that our SIG currently face, and offer a few suggestions that may help.

I began my genealogy about a decade ago. I quite early in went out and purchased a subscription to a major commercial genealogical data site. Here, I must confess that I began with the belief that I could do all my genealogy using only this website. Yes, I was destined to become an “ancestry junkie.” Fortunately, fate mercifully intervened. I began to note that there a good number of problems developing in my work and methodology. In addition, while I found that the website met many of my needs related to ancestors in North America, it was lacking when it came to providing earlier family members outside North America and relatives who had remained in Europe. The site proved particularly bleak when seeking information on families who originated in Eastern Europe. There had to be something better!

As I began to arrive at this conclusions, a most fortuitous thing happened. I acquired a copy of the “Edmonton Heritage Festival / Open Doors” brochure. It noted the location of the AGS and indicated that one could tour and use the resources there for free for the duration of the festival. I liked that price; besides what could I lose? So, I came to the library, was hooked, and purchased by first membership. It took a while before quite by chance I stumbled into my first SIG meeting. I quickly realized their value especially for those who have progressed beyond the most basic research. Here, I was able to find members who shared some research interests with me. Some of the group members had been involved in research in an area for a long time and had an in depth knowledge that can only be achieved through extensive practice over an extended span of time. These groups have provided me with a better understand of genealogy and how it must be done. They also have acquainted me with resources of which I otherwise have been unaware. They also provided a forum in which to ask questions, discuss concerns, network, and even meet members on a social and personal basis. These SIG provide focused communities in which its members share their common interests, their collective knowledge, and provide a forum to advance their genealogical work.
Through my time as a member, I have seen or heard of many Sessions offered within our varied SIG that have been special and enriching. The England Wales SIG brought together about a half dozen members who had been children in the United Kingdom during World War II to relate their personal recollections of the time skillfully enhanced with relevant photographs ably organized by Terry Gregory. An article in the Wetaskiwin Branch newsletter told the story of a German soldier from World War II “Wehrpasse” (a portable personal service record) which had been found on an airbase in Germany after the war and brought to Canada by the person who found it. Members of Wetaskiwin Branch and our German SIG worked together to locate surviving members of the soldier’s family and ultimately to return it, the only record of a father’s wartime service to his family. The Ukrainian SIG has had a number of presentations by Dr. Radomir Balish who has introduced us to the Portal for the Alberta Ukrainian Genealogy Project, an excellent resource for anyone doing research on the Ukrainian Canadian families from Edmonton northeastward.

When many of us were in a panic because “Family Tree Maker” was cancelled or when Windows 10 appeared to be destroying what we had so carefully assembled, Neal and Brent of Compugene (Computer Genealogy SIG) provided us with insight into what we could do to right these problems. Laura Turnbull in Mac Reunion SIG does similar helpful work with members who prefer to use Apple computers and related software in their genealogical work. Desmond Wynne has made several research trips to archives in Ireland and is well-versed in a multitude of websites for Irish genealogy. He provides his knowledge and expertise free to members at meetings of our Irish SIG and periodic workshops. Gary Durie provided a detailed explanation of the events of the War of 1812 along with photographs and maps of many of the sites (some of which no longer exist) while attired in a uniform reminiscent of those worn by British troops in that war. The Scotland SIG recently had Margaret McInall present a session on her experience in using the My Heritage website. This presentation points out another plus of our SIG: sometimes the presentation of one group may actually be of interest to other members who are not regularly members of that group or even non members. We encourage all members to attend any presentation of any SIG that may interest them. For non members, you may attend one such meeting as guest. If you find it of value, we heartily encourage to take out an AGS membership and make it a regular event.

In my time as an AGS member, two new groups have formed to help develop interests related to new interest areas in genealogy. Postscripts formed as a group who could share ideas and resources related to the writing of family history and ultimately encourage members to write it. In September, members presented short varied personal writing works titled “My Life to Now in Five Photos.” A more recent group formed after an initial workshop for those who have an interest in learning about DNA as a genealogical tool and discovering what testing tells them. Now, this is nowhere close to all the wonderful sessions that members of the various SIG have been able to share in over the past few years. It is only a sampling but shows the variety and richness that we can discover as members of one or more SIG. Yes, there is indeed value in our SIG. Remember they are free! But there are currently some problems that need attention.
Many of our SIG currently are at a crossroad. The work involved in planning and preparing for them has become too heavy for coordinators who in some cases have been in the role for a very long time without much relief or in a few cases where they have taken the role temporarily until someone was willing to step forward and assume it. In a few cases, coordinators are questioning the value of continuing some SIG as attendance has been low. There is discussion currently going on about combining some SIGs or in a few cases even closing one or more of them. It is essential to have a dedicated group assuming leadership roles to make each SIG work most effectively. In my personal view, either of these would be unfortunate, and we would all lose as a result. Are there actions that each of us could take that could

Just as 100 years ago, Lord Kitchener as portrayed in the poster to the left needed good men to be enlist. Your SIG needs you, our SIG members, to step up and take an active role in them. There are many roles which you can assume to do this. Here are a few ideas that you might consider. The first ones relate to the role of the coordinator. The coordinators are the people who do the planning, develop the program, and get people to provide presentations. Most of the SIG have a single person who coordinates them. This places an extreme responsibility on a single person. In those with two or in one case for a short time three coordinators, the work of planning could be shared. There is an additional benefit as the input of a number of people should lead to a more diverse and varied program.

Above their role in developing, planning, and operating meetings, there are a number of ancillary tasks which the coordinators are called upon to carry out at the same time. By having members step up to assume some of these tasks, the coordinator becomes much more free to concentrate on the major demands and responsibilities for these meetings. So, what are some of the tasks that one could do to ease the work of the SIG coordinator? Each meeting needs a person to act as the chair, the person who keeps the meeting running. This does not always have to be the coordinator. Is this something you could do occasionally? At most meetings, the computer, projector, and other AV needs must be set up? Is this something you could do? Some SIG have incorporated drinks and snacks into their meetings? Is this something that you could take charge of? It would be nice to have one or two members act as greeters, setting out the sign-in sheet, welcoming old members, meeting new ones, and orienting the new members and guests to our library. Is this perhaps something that you could do? As the library is available during the SIG meetings, it would be helpful if one of our regular librarian might be available to check out and take in books and announce times during the course of the evening when he or she would be available to do this. A few meetings bring out so many members that it becomes necessary to re-configure the tables in the room. Yes, not everyone that attends is in the physical shape to do this, but for those who are this might be something for which they could become responsible. Sue Phillips has for many years now prepared for distribution at the EWSIG a short written newsletter called “Sue’s Tidbits.” It is nice to leave a meeting with something. Is this something you could do for a SIG that you regularly attend? The tasks that you can do that will assist your SIG coordinator without having you get up and present are many and varied. Are there some of these that you can do?
Like it or not, the greatest need facing a coordinator is getting individuals to make genealogical based presentations on topics of interest to the group. One major presentation appears to work well in many SIG. I have heard a variety of rationales presented to explain why one is not doing presentations. I have heard, “I’ve already presented everything that I know.” Remember that our membership constantly changes, and if you have not given a particular presentations for a number of years, it is quite possible that these new members benefit from you revisiting it. Also, in some cases, there may well have been updates since your initial presentation which might be of interest to members of your SIG. Also remember at times it is valuable to review the basics of what we do. Newer members may be unaware of them, and our more experienced members need occasionally to be reminded of them or see them from a different perspective.

I have also heard numerous members state, “but I am not a presenter.” I understand this because believe it or not, I felt uncomfortable and not at all confident in front of a large group of adults once. Far too late, I did something to resolve this as it had remained a problem for far too long. One way of facing this fear is by trying mini presentations like those the England Wales SIG do using their recently revived “Job Jar.” These presentations last ten to fifteen minutes on a topic of genealogical interest to the SIG drawn from the jar perhaps one that the presenter isn’t even familiar with. This is doable as the internet and genealogical magazines provide a wealth of information that may be researched, and as genealogists, we are able to research. This can take some interesting turns as recently a member did a short talk on the British brewing industry with no prior knowledge. The presenter also was not a drinker. Such short presentations can be invaluable as they build capacity, confidence, and a level of comfort in group members. These little forays into the world of public presentations may well also lead to the presenter providing a longer presentation somewhere in the future.

Even if you do not feel ready to present, there are ways that you may help your coordinator fill the programming needs of your SIG. At other times, you may hear a presenter at another event who might cover a topic that might fit with the interest of your SIG. In such cases, note the title of the presentation, where you heard it, secure the contact information of the speaker, and pass it on to your SIG coordinator. Every new idea, every possibility helps to better plan fuller SIG meetings. Also, if you are a more seasoned presenter and feel that you have a presentation that a SIG might benefit from, please let the SIG coordinator know. Sometimes, things slip by because information simply is not passed along to the right person.

Recently, a number SIG coordinators have voiced a need for SIG members to step forward and help. Without extra assistance, there are signs that some of our SIG would slip into oblivion. If SIG are to truly work, they must become an effort in which all members who are able share in the work. So, I end with an appeal, if you do value the SIG that you regularly attend, please, consider what you can do to assist and contact your SIG coordinator and offer to do what you feel you can. With your tangible assistance, not only will our SIG endure and continue to inform and motivate us, they will also prosper. Thank you in advance for any help you may provide!
Joni Mitchell’s anthem “The Circle Game” expounds upon the cyclical nature of events. What goes around, eventually comes around again. Recently, the work on Edmonton’s new “funicular” a sort of outdoor elevator in our river valley just below the historic Hotel Macdonald. Like most things, this is not a totally new idea in Edmonton but a modernized version of an old one, in this case, “The Edmonton Incline Railway.” Where was “The Edmonton Incline Railway” located? When was it erected? When did it close?

(Answer on p.29)
Upper left: Marian Sim and Fran Losie.
Upper right: Laura Turnbull, Fred and Sandra Van Eldick.
Middle left: Bev Wardell and Debbie Was.

’Twas the month before Christmas and all through the library,
The SIgs were celebrating the season in full reverie.
The English SIG studied apt topics with care
In hope that genealogy answers would be found there!
In the German SIG friends old and new,
Gathered to share a research tip or two,
Each member shared a tale of a Christmas
gone by,
How quickly it seemed the evening did fly!

Above: Deb Boeschler and Peter von Lipinski.
Right: Greg Falkenstein and Sylvia Hertling.

In the Scottish SIG, Margaret opened a website, and showed us a resource that for some genealogists brought sheer delight,
The group took some time mingle and meet and enjoy some baked Christmas treats!

Above: Margaret McInall introduces members to the “My Heritage” website.
Right: Members of the Scotland SIG take in the presentation part of their “Open Library Night” before socializing.
Due to calendar adjustments of the past, it was the Ukrainian SIG who celebrated Christmas last.

Our members came to hear of the customs from afar, such as children awaiting the first evening star.

There was even a taste of kutcha for all in place, and discussions of ancestors they all hoped to trace.

So, as the Christmas Season comes to an end, keep close its spirit until it comes once again.

Top left: Nadia K provides a summary of traditional Ukrainian customs. Top right: Natalie Edwards welcomes our members. Mid left: Jessica L, MLA from Fort Saskatchewan brings greetings. Mid right: Dr. Radomir Balish updates members of the Alberta Ukrainian Genealogy Project. Lower left: Kutcha.
In the News

Need Help Untangling Your French Canadian Roots?

Edmonton Branch member Susan Maynard who is also a member of “La Société généalogique du Nord-Ouest” is assuming a regular library shift in the Edmonton Branch AGS Library. She will be on duty at the AGS Library on the fifth Thursday in all months that have a fifth Thursday beginning in January 2017. She has stated that as time allows in these shifts, she is willing to assist members with their French Canadian genealogy research.

Branch Members Are Requested to Submit Their Volunteer Hours for 2016

Any Edmonton Branch members who have volunteer hours for the Branch or Society for 2016 are asked to please submit them as soon as possible. They should send to Ivy Trumpour at email address which is itrump@telus.net

Edmonton Branch and AGS Need Casino Volunteers


We need up to 50 volunteers for this event.
Please consider helping with this fundraising project for the Alberta Genealogical Society which is also a major benefit for Edmonton Branch.

We need people to fill the positions of: Manager, Banker, Cashier, Chip Runner, Count Room Supervisor and Count Room Worker. There are 3 shifts per day with varying times.

For further information, please contact Laura Turnbull, AGS Casino Chairperson by email <ljturnbl@telus.net> or phone 780-962-4303 or 780-498-0605

Local MLA Attends January Ukrainian SIG

Ukrainian SIG - January 4, 2017 - We were honored to have MLA Jessica Littlewood attend our meeting. MLA Jessica Littlewood is of Ukrainian descent and give a short talk plus greetings from the Alberta Government. Radomir Bilash, Project Director for AB-Ukr Genealogical Project provided an update on the project and supplied copies of 2017 Nomination forms for Pioneer Certificates plus a Map showing East Central Alberta ca 1930 (copies are available at AGS). 2017 is the last year for nominating your ancestors who immigrated to this area by 2014. Nadia Kryschuk gave a wonderful presentation on Ukrainian immigration to Canada followed by Ukrainians Celebrations at Christmas. Members enjoyed a taste of Kutya (wheat with honey & poppy seed), traditional first dish served at Ukrainian Christmas Eve supper on January 6th. Thanks to all who brought treats for the social. A special thank you is extended to Doreen Duckett for her generous assistance for a long time at our Ukrainian SIG meetings.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Suggestions for the meetings and speakers are most welcome. Anyone wishing to chair the meeting or give a presentation, please contact Natalie Edwards. Dennis Worobec will provide the May presentation regarding his trip to his Ukrainian villages and archives in Lviv.
FINAL YEAR: Aberta - Ukrainian Genealogical Project Is 2017!

Edmonton. The Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project is pleased to announce the release of its 2017 Nomination Form for the Final Year of the Centenary Pioneer Recognition Program. The new form can be accessed through its website: https://sites.ualberta.ca/~ukrville/fhp.htm. A digital copy of the nomination form, in pdf format, can be filled out electronically, saved, and emailed back to the Project office, along with required historical documents sent along as attachments. Nomination forms may also be printed, filled out by hand, and then returned via email (as a scanned document), fax or mail. Together with supporting documents.

The form also includes the criteria for nominating an individual or family, as well as research hints which can help nominees in their family history research. In addition, the website provides direct links to online homestead records, ship lists, censuses, and other finding aids.

The Centenary Pioneer Recognition Program honours all pioneer families, Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian alike, who settled in east central Alberta before the First World War. Eligible pioneers are recognized with Centenary Pioneer Recognition Certificates on Ukrainian Day at the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village. A year later, their names will appear on the Centenary Pioneer Recognition Monument, also at the Village. Nominators are not required to be current residents of the original homestead in order to submit a nomination.

Calling all surrogate nominators:

With 2017 being the final year of nominations for this program, the Project is also looking for “surrogate” nominators to help us complete the Centennial Pioneer Recognition monument. These nominators may include neighbours of ancestral pioneers or people who are just interested in undertaking family history. Just as with regular nominations provided by descendants of the early pioneers, surrogate nominators must provide the documentation to confirm that those being nominated were residents of east central Alberta prior to 1915.

For more information about this program, please call the Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project at (780) 431-2324, by e-mail at AB-Ukraine.Genealogy@gov.ab.ca, or by mail:

The Alberta-Ukraine Genealogical Project 3rd Floor, Old St. Stephen's College 8820-112 Street Edmonton, AB T6G 2P8 AB-Ukraine.Genealogy@gov.ab.ca Tel: 780-431-2324 Fax: 780-427-0808.

Your Top 15 Online Genealogy Collections in 2016 as Selected by Gail Dever

There have been some interesting genealogical resources added in 2016. Blogger Gail Dever has listed her favorite 15 with a few extras that deserve honorable mention. These include a number of Canadian sites. For her complete list see: http://genealogyalacarte.ca/?p=14163
Finding the Unique in Memoir: Telling Your Story, Your Way

Caterina Edwards and Jean Crozier are offering another of their excellent 2-day weekend writing workshops, March 18 and 19, 2017. In Edmonton. Fee: $265.00 per person. To register, go to the website and follow the links at http://www.findingtheunique.com/memoir/

Scandinavian Genealogy Cheat Sheet from Family Tree Magazine

If you are doing family history or genealogy related to the Scandinavian nations, this sheet (3 pages) might be of use to you. It includes these categories: “Peak Scandinavian Immigration to the United States,” “Patronymic Surname Suffixes,” “Online Resources” for Denmark, Norway, and Sweden with links, “Scandinavian Parish Records Language Terms,” “Scandinavian Alphabets,” and “Patronymics Timeline.” This is a great resource for anyone beginning the study of their Scandinavian roots and perhaps, for the seasoned genealogical researcher as well. See the site at http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/scandinavian-genealogy-cheat-sheet#

Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Launches Digital Archive Collection from Gail Dever’s Blog “Genealogy à la carte”

“The University of Alberta’s Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS) has launched a website that provides free access to a number of digitized publications about Ukrainians in Canada.” These resources include: newsletters, journals, books, research reports, press releases, audio visual, photo gallery, and other materials. To access this site, go to https://cius-archives.ca/

Gene Awards 2016: The Best and the Worst in Genealogy

These awards instituted a decade ago provide insight into developments in genealogy. These include primarily software and other technologies. Strangely, some of the products listed have come to our attention at Branch and SIG meetings. Other genealogists appear to have shared the very same frustrations and rewards as many of us had during the past year. It is reassuring to know that we are not alone! For this interesting site, visit http://www.tamurajones.net/GeneAwards2016.xhtml

Sound for the Unreadable from Leanne Garlock Balfour, Face Book page

Did you know Google Translate offers the opportunity to listen to your translation? May be helpful in seeing how surnames changed as people immigrated... Initially, when I enter a surname in my family tree, "Baltas" in English does not appear to resemble the visual translation back to Greek, which is "Μπαλτάς"... but when I click on the speaker icon of the Greek version, it's obvious how the name became Baltas - that's how it sounds. Editor’s Note: This may be particularly helpful to those of who are doing genealogy related to Russia, Ukraine, or anywhere with a different alphabet who do not know the language.
“The Edmonton Incline Railway” was located where 101st Street intersects with the river bank near the current site of the Chateau Lacombe Hotel, the Edmonton Journal Building, and McDougall United Church. It was opened in 1908. The elevator which was the idea of some local businessmen was 230 feet long and allowed teams with wagons to be moved easily from the river valley to the top of its bank. The project almost immediately ran into financial trouble. It went into liquidation on February 2, 1909. It was reorganized in April 1909 as “Donald Ross Incline Railway Company Ltd.” However, its financial woes continued. In 1910, the company requested permission from the city to close during winter months between November 1 and April 1. There was no service on the incline railway during the winter of 1910-11 and 1911-12. Before the incline railway could open on March 1, 1912, the City declared it unsafe. Rather than make the required repairs, the company decided to sell the railway. Perhaps, the High Level Bridge which was nearing completion may have contributed to this decision. However, ultimately, no buyers could be found The company running the incline railway was closed just three years after its inception in 1912. The tracks were pulled up leaving a scar on the hillside that remained visible until the building of the Chateau Lacombe in the mid-1960s. The inclined railway remained a curious, largely forgotten footnote from Edmonton’s history until it was repurposed in the form of the concept for the “funicular” in 2005. Yes, in the words of Joni Mitchell, we “Go round and round and round in the circle game.”
**The Convention Schedule for 2017**

News of Conferences and Conventions of potential interest to genealogists has begun to arrive. Here is a listing of some of which have been informed.

**February 8 - 11, 2017** “Roots Tech,” Salt Lake City, Utah. Further details see [https://www.rootstech.org/](https://www.rootstech.org/)


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**Cards Sent**

Gail Cockwill: Get Well Card, following recent surgery.

December 19, 2016

Wendy Langkass: Sympathy Card, for Mother’s recent passing.

December 29, 2016

Larry Clark: Sympathy Card to wife Joan and family.

January 5, 2017

Peter Skitsko: Get Well Card, following recent surgery.

January 5, 2017

Each month Edmonton Branch member Bev Wardell sends out cards on behalf of the Branch to members and their families on behalf of our branch and its members. If you know of an Edmonton Branch member or the family of a member who should receive a card please provide a member of our executive with the details.
Another Place to Look for Old Photos of England Tip from Alison Glass

For photos of places in England check this out “Francis Frith: Old Photos, Maps, Books and Gifts.” Type Eppleby in the search box and you will see where my parents lived and their 'shop' and be able to read my 'memories.'

Newfoundland Online

If you are interested in Newfoundland and Labrador based genealogy, you should examine this site http://ngb.chebucto.org/

Conditional Baptism from “First Hand: Once an Immigrant” (CBC) A baptism entry in an Irish Roman Catholic church register contained a notation “conditional baptism.” The priest explained that when a baby appeared to be in distress at birth, the midwife had been given the authority to baptise in lieu of the priest. However, if the child survived, there would be a latter baptism in the church. This church baptism would be a “conditional baptism;” the “condition” being in the midwife event that the midwife had not administered the rite properly it took effect in the church ceremony.

Book of Possible Interest

At the recent Ukrainian SIG Meeting, two books were mentioned and displayed for the members. Here are a few more details on those books and one that has been brought to our attention since then.

Reflections of Ukraine - Ukrainian Churches of the Saskatchewan Countryside is available from the coauthor Lloyd Virag at Box 88, Lebret, Sk. SOG 2YO for the cost of Cost of book is $39.95, $2.00 GST, $5.00 shipping, for a total of $46.95 (make cheques payable to the author). Book will be shipped when payment is received.

The other book First Star I See Tonight: Ukrainian Christmas Traditions written by Orysia Tracz. is available locally at Alberta Council for the Ukrainian Arts (ACUA) | at 9534 - 87 Street, Edmonton, AB T6C 3J1

A third book has also been brought to our attention. UCWLC: Builders of Home, Faith and Community by Lena Sloboda, HLM These books will not be sold, but given away for free, any donations to the UCWLC will be accepted. Cheques should be made out to: Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada, Edmonton Eparchy. Distribution of the book, entertainment and light lunch will be held at St. Basil's Cultural Centre, Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017, 1pm -3 pm

At Our February Meeting

7:30 pm February 23rd 2017
at Edmonton Branch Library,
#162, 14315 - 118 Ave. NW, Edmonton

“Edmonton Branch Annual General Meeting”

- Business
- Election of Officers
- Reports
- No presentations

Join Fellow Genealogists for this Important Meeting!
Library News

Come & Check it Out!!!

Our Take & Donate

Magazine Extravaganza

Genealogy magazines old & new with more to come

Do you have magazines you’re finished with? Add them to our collection and take a couple in return

I was saddened to read of the passing of Larry Clark at Christmas time. When I joined Edmonton Branch in the 1980’s, Larry was a very active and involved member. He was in charge of the Tracing Your Family Tree course and I offered to help.

That was back in the days when TYFT took place on 10 consecutive Tuesday nights and was held in a local school. And I never see our Coat of Arms without remembering his work on it.

My sincere sympathy to his family
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**MARCH 2017**

- **Sunday, 5 March**: Reunion SIG 7:00 pm
- **Monday, 6 March**: Irish SIG 7:30 pm
- **Tuesday, 7 March**: Irish SIG 7:30 pm
- **Wednesday, 8 March**: Postscripts SIG 7:00 pm
- **Thursday, 9 March**: Ed Br Exec Mtg - 7:00 pm
- **Friday, 10 March**: Genealogy Group 7:30 pm
- **Saturday, 11 March**: Library Open 10:00am to 3:00 pm

**Library Open**

- **Sunday, 5 March**: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- **Monday, 6 March**: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- **Tuesday, 7 March**: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- **Wednesday, 8 March**: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- **Thursday, 9 March**: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- **Friday, 10 March**: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
- **Saturday, 11 March**: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Special Days**

- **Monday, 12 March**: St. Patrick's Day
- **Saturday, 18 March**: Library Open 10:00am to 3:00 pm

**Library Night**

- **Sunday, 5 March**: 7:00 pm
- **Monday, 6 March**: 7:00 pm
- **Tuesday, 7 March**: 7:00 pm
- **Wednesday, 8 March**: 7:00 pm
- **Thursday, 9 March**: 7:00 pm
- **Friday, 10 March**: 7:00 pm
- **Saturday, 11 March**: 7:00 pm

**Other Events**

- **Sunday, 5 March**: St. Patrick's Day Library Open
- **Monday, 6 March**: Irish SIG 7:30 pm
- **Tuesday, 7 March**: Irish SIG 7:30 pm
- **Wednesday, 8 March**: Postscripts SIG 7:00 pm
- **Thursday, 9 March**: Ed Br Exec Mtg - 7:00 pm
- **Friday, 10 March**: Genealogy Group 7:30 pm
- **Saturday, 11 March**: Library Open 10:00am to 3:00 pm