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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OCTOBER 2010

BY: WENDY DOUGLASS

Remembering and celebrating the months gone by

It's that time of year when "time" is our most precious commodity...we seem to have so much to do and there are only so many hours in a day. The weeks swing by so quickly that it often makes us feel that life is fleeting. But I say "time out!" The best part of the end of a year is looking back and gathering up the memories and accomplishments that were part of the wonderful 12 months that have just passed by.

I hope that all of you reading this newsletter take time to count your blessings, and remember your accomplishments, your experiences, your friendships, your creative moments, your family get-togethers, your conversations, your thoughts, your connections, your travels, your successes, and your wonderful memories of the year that will soon be gone. This is one of the fun things about writing a holiday letter...you get to reminisce about those things before they fade away. I love getting out my notebook of holiday letters and re-living what we thought was important to share with family and friends over the years—the kids growing up, the family misadventures, the pet antics, our ups and downs.

It always brings a chuckle or a memory back to life as we move on to the next segment of our lives. Writing an annual holiday letter—even one of just a few bullet points of the highlights allows you to focus on what great things were brought into your life over the past 12 months...and these special family letters could provide the basis of a wonderful family history that you can pass on to future generations. Take the time this year to relax and capture these moments—for yourself and for the future.

May you all have a wonderful holiday season and a most joyous new year!

Wendy Douglass
President, CGHS

HISTORY FROM THE WYOMING NEWSPAPERS

Wyoming Tribune 15 December 1896, page 4

BY: WANDA WADE, EDITOR



The Skating Rink The Ice Needs Flooding and a Little More Light A Popular Pleasure Resort

A few days ago the Sun-Leader printed an article calling attention to the great popularity of Lake Minnehaha as a skating rink. Too much cannot be said of this coming resort for those who love the healthful outdoor sports such as skating in the winter and sailing or rowing in the summer. The ice which was perfect for some days both before and after Thanksgiving has become rough and coated in many places with sand and dust due to the high winds and wet surface of the ice. A little water run over the surface of the ice by use of a hose attached to the hydrant on Russell street, occasionally, would insure good skating all winter.

The Sun-Leader states that a movement is on foot to move the electric light from the corner of Russell and Eighteenth street to the island in the park. This is important if true. The facts are, however, that there is not now and never was a light on this street corner. The nearest light in this neighborhood is near the top of the hill on Nineteenth street at the corner of Pebrican. It would be a great mistake to think of moving this light, for it is the only light in the northeastern part of town, is situated on commanding ground and furnishes both light and protection to a large residence area. To remove it would leave the whole northeastern part of the city in total darkness. None of the permanent city lights should be moved to the island, but a temporary new light should be established thereon and only kept lighted up while the skating is good in the winter or rowing parties are on the water in summer. The light will be of little use to anyone except park visitors.

Minnehaha park is going to become an indispensable pleasure resort for Cheyenne people. Upwards of 200 skaters enjoyed the ice at the same time during the last cold snap, and the number of craft that paddled and rowed and sailed on the lake last summer astonished many who have indulged in much scoffing during the past three years. It will soon be fashionable for "those who come to scoff to remain to pray."

GREAT NEWS FROM LARAMIE COUNTY

By: WANDA WADE, EDITOR

Digital images of the Marriage Index for Laramie County from 1868 to 1985 and the Tract Indexes and Direct and Indirect Land Indexes are now viewable on the Laramie County Clerk's website.

You can access the images by visiting the County Clerk's web site at www.laramiecountyclerk.com and click on the words 'Marriage Licenses' in the blue box on the left hand side of the screen. The next screen will have the following paragraph. Follow the instructions to take you to the site for the images.

County Clerk - Marriage Licenses

NEW! The handwritten marriage indexes prior to 1985 are now available [here](#). These indexes are simply scanned images of the large index books; once you have located the book and page of the document for the index entry you need, you will still need to visit or contact the office to obtain a copy of the actual document.

Personally, from working with both the original books and microfilm, I can say that the quality of the images are outstanding.

Hopefully, soon more Wyoming counties will share their records on this type of resource.

Let's all give a **BIG THANK YOU** to Laramie County!



A WORLD WAR ONE EXHIBIT, DISPLAY, AND MEMORIAL

By: HENRY S. MILLER, MAJ. UASF RET.
VFW POST 1881 TRUSTEE

Vincent Bormann, a Decatur, Indiana resident and my Father-in-law was a WW1 veteran who served from April 6, 1917 until May 1919. He then returned home and was discharged. Vince enlisted at Jefferson Barracks, MO right after President Wilson declared war and was stationed at a Railhead Center in France. He was born in a German speaking community in Iowa in 1896 and spoke mostly German until he was twelve. He then attended a city school and learned English.

After his induction and training and upon arriving in France, he said his company was arranged from right to left-front to back with the tallest being at the right front. Next, his company was asked if any of them spoke German; to which my father-in-law and several others

answered yes. So the army, in it's wisdom, assigned the tallest German speakers (including my father-in-law) to MP platoons guarding military supplies going by rail or truck to the front and guarding German prisoners groups headed for US POW camps in the rear. After the armistice, he escorted the POWs out of France into Germany.

A picture, taken at the Cheyenne VA during 2009 Veteran's Day is part of my display, exhibit and memorial to him and to other members of my family and my wife's family who served in "The Great War" and who celebrated the original "Armistice Day". Other members of our local historical group exhibit clothing and materials from WW2 Army, WW2 Army Air Corps, WW2 Merchant Marine and 1950's Korea. However, no one else had any WW1 equipment so three years ago I set up a small display of his uniform, captured German helmets, WW1 Photo albums and newspapers from November 11th and 12th, 1918. They are part of what you see in my display since I now have accumulated a variety of other WW1 uniforms, weapons and materials.

Vince Bormann was a member of the American Legion from its beginnings in Indiana. He served as Commander of Adams Post 43 and later as Fourth District Commander when he represented the state of November 11, 1938 by placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. Bormann was also a member of the Elks and The Moose in Decatur. He married my wife's mother (Naomi Gass) in Decatur in 1921 and was an Indiana resident until his death in January. 1971.

Why he didn't join the VFW is unknown. Small town rivalry I guess.



LETTERS TO SANTA

BY
CG&HS MEMBERS

Dear Santa

I have been a good genealogist for years but for this Christmas could you please help me with finding information on my great great great grandfather Short?

Grandfather Short was one of the Tennessee volunteer sharpshooters who fought with General Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans in 1814 and possibly early 1815 against the British. I have been unable to discover his first name or the maiden name of his wife--Martha. Martha sometimes was listed as Patsey in the census. In the 1818 Washington County Illinois census Patsey is listed with her six children. There is not any mention of

her husband. It is presumed that he died in 1814 or 1815 in the war, on the way back to Tennessee to his family or on the way to Illinois with his family. Martha was born about 1780 in NC. Her oldest child--Bennet--was born in NC in 1801. The remaining five children were born in TN, Priscilla in 1803, William Henry in 1807, Thomas Jefferson in 1807, Lydia in 1810 and Alfred who died at a young age. Thomas Jefferson Short was born in Wilson County TN. They lived in Jefferson, Clinton and Washington Counties in Illinois.

Thank you, Santa, any help would be appreciated and Merry Christmas to you.

Pauline Short Sawyer



Dear Santa,

I have been a good genealogist for years, but for Christmas could you help me find all the information that the computer has lost over the years--like the socks the washer and drier lose.

Sue



Dear Santa,

I've been a good genealogist for years but for Christmas could you help me find more information for:

Daniel Moyer from Madison, Co., New York b. 1778 d. 1848 m. Margaret Dayharsh early 1800's

to break down the Brick Wall in my family research?

Bert Budd



Dear Santa,

I've been a good genealogist for the past few years but for Christmas I could really use your help in uncovering the whereabouts of a "Rachel Gassaway" in Ohio about 1810-1881 to break down the brick wall in my family research (she is my great great grannie). I need to find her a family and any records about her birth and death. I spent a week looking for her in Salt Lake City at the FHL, and even those records eluded me--she is still hiding. I promise to be good all year if you could just give me a BIG hint of her father's name.

Thanks, I'll be waiting!

Wendy Douglass



Dear

Santa,

I have been a good genealogist for years, but for Christmas could you help me with the name of my G.G. Grandfathers parents? I have three hand written papers I have received from my mom---one from a cousin of my mom's----that has two name written on it. On two papers there is one name and on the third there is a different name. I don't have his birth or death date or where he was born.

I have looked on Ancestry.com on the census section and can't find the head-of-house to match all the children on the papers I have. I can't find his name under the other section of Ancestry.com either.

One name is James Pearce, and I did find dates on two papers, saying born in 1796 in Devonshire, England. Came to the US in 1831 and wife is Susan Mitchell. Another James Pearce says came to US in 1828, naturalized in Wayne Co, PA 1831. Both papers have the same name and number of children.

The other name is William Pearce married at age 37 wife is Martha Mitchell married in her thirtys. Both born in England but married in the US. Thought to be Welch as from Cornwall, England. Their children are different than James Pearce.

John C Pearce, my GG Grandfather, has his name under both men. John C Pearce born 1836 in PA, died in 1932 Jefferson Co, KY.

Please help me.
Virginia Walters



Dear Santa,

All I Want for Christmas isn't my two front teeth. They've been gone for too long and I'm getting too old for that.

What I'd really like is a bronze plaque by the old maple tree in Antrim Michigan. You see that's where my third great grandfather is buried. His name was, and I guess still is William Day Frasier. He was born on 21 Feb 1797, and died on 29 Jul 1856. It was just a few day after he proved up on his homestead on Elk Lake near Elk Rapids, Michigan. He was one of the early, early settlers up in the Grand Travers area. Any way he had just gotten back from Duncan Land Office with the new patent on Gov. Lot No. 3 of Sec. 33, T29N. R9W. He had paid \$83.04 for 65.43 acres of lake front property. He had just gotten things taken care of on 1 Jun 1856 and then he dies a month or two later. I understand those were walking days up in that region and I guess he must have taken sick from swamp fever or something like that? I had another second great grandfather who was a surveyor in Niagara County, New York born just before William who died earlier of swamp fever, but that's another story. Anyway William not only was an early settler in the region, but two of his sons, Edward and Arville and his daughters Edith, Charlotte, and Laura Ann were also in the area. Laura Ann came to the region later as she had moved from Herman near her brother Eliada and that's where her mother went after William died. Susan, William's wife died on 21 May 1860 in Woodland, Herman twp., Dodge County, Wisconsin. Both William and Susan were born in Plum Hollow, Bastard twp., Leeds County, Ontario, Canada. Edith was married to Amos Woods, and Charlotte to Alex McVickers. Edward had married Matilda Curtis and they had a son Rufus who died as a young boy and is probably one of the four graves on William's homestead. Arville married Lucinda and they had a girl Hanna. Both Rufus and Hanna inherited parts of William's estate, so that means Edward and Arville both died early.

You probably didn't want to know all this Santa, but when I visited Shan Smith who along with her husband Richard own the portion of William's property she said it would be nice to have a historic marker there. Later when I talked with her she said it was hard to sell a place that was marked historic, but she would put up a plaque if I would get it so that's my request for this year and maybe several to come.

Thanks Santa.

Bert Budd

If anyone has suggestions that could help these members with their research, please contact them. Wanda



RESEARCH INFORMATION

By DICK EASTMAN, NOVEMBER 19, 2010

SUBMITTED BY LESLIE VOSLER

The Ten Commandments

In the course of writing this newsletter, I get to see a lot of genealogy information. Most of what I see is on the Web. Although some information is in books or in e-mail. Some of what I see is high-quality research. However, much of it is much less than that. Even the shoddiest genealogy work could be so much more if the compiler had simply spent a bit of time thinking about what he or she was doing.

Creating a first-class genealogy work is not difficult. In fact, it is expected. It should be the norm. Please consider the following "rules." If you follow these guidelines, you, too, can produce high-quality genealogy reports that will be useful to others:

1. Never accept someone else's opinion as "fact." Be suspicious. Always check for your self!
2. Always verify primary sources (see Footnote #1); never accept a secondary source (see Footnote #2) as factual until you have personally verified the information.
3. Cite your sources! Every time you refer to a person's name, date and/or place of an event, always tell where you found the information. If you are not certain how to do this, get yourself a copy of "Evidence Explained" by Elizabeth Shown Mills. This excellent book shows both the correct form of source citation and the sound analysis of evidence.
4. If you use the works of others, always give credit. Never claim someone else's research as your work.
5. Assumptions and "educated guesses" are acceptable in genealogy as long as they are clearly labeled as such. Never offer your theories as facts.
6. Be open to corrections. The greatest genealogy experts of all time make occasional errors. So will you. Accept this as fact. When someone points out a possible error in your work, always thank that person for his or her assistance and then seek to re-verify your original statement(s). Again, check primary sources.
7. Respect the privacy of living individuals. Never reveal personal details about living individuals without their permission. Do not reveal their names or any dates or locations.
8. Keep "family secrets." Not everyone wants the information about a court record or a birth out of wedlock to be posted on the Internet or written in books. The family historian records "family secrets" as facts but does not publish them publicly.

9. Protect original documents. Handle all documents with care, and always return them to their rightful storage locations.
10. Be prepared to reimburse others for reasonable expenses incurred on your behalf. If someone travels to a records repository and makes photocopies for you, always offer to reimburse the expenses.

The above "commandments" apply to online data as well as to printed information. Following the above "commandments" will increase the value of your work and make it valuable to others.

Footnote #1: A primary record is one created at or immediately after the occurrence of the event cited. The record was created by someone who had personal knowledge of the event. Examples include marriage records created by the minister, census records, death certificates created within days after the death, etc. Nineteenth century and earlier source records will be in the handwriting of the person who recorded the event, such as the minister, town clerk or census taker.

Footnote #2: A secondary record is one made years after the original event, usually by someone who was not at the original event and did not have personal knowledge of the participants. Most published genealogy books are secondary sources; the authors are writing about events that occurred many years before they wrote about the event. Transcribed records are always secondary sources and may have additional errors created inadvertently by the transcriber(s). Most online databases are transcribed (secondary) sources.



CURRENT OFFICERS OF CHEYENNE GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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If you have suggestions for newsletter or areas of interest you would like to share please contact me at

WADE_27043@msn.com or 307-638-3877

EARLY PHOTOGRAPHY

By: Wanda Wade

We see ads for Botox, plastic surgery and cosmetic creams to improve our appearances and wish there was an easy way to make those wrinkles and sags disappear. Well, all you need is a creative photographer, even in earlier days.

Even in 1915 photographers were using their own 'Photo-Shop' techniques. So don't always believe what you think you see in those old photos..

This image of an unidentified woman was probably taken in 1915-1917. The photo came from the Joseph Shimitz's Studio here in Cheyenne. His negatives, taken between about 1908-1929, were donated as a collection to the Archives and are a part of the Meyers Photo Collection. Many are portraits, but there are also quite a few local building and street scene shots.



Photo from the Wyoming State Archives collection.



UP COMING CHEYENNE GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

January 11, 2011 – Sherry Brich will present a program entitled "Dating Photos Through Clothing"

The Meeting will be held at the Laramie County Library. The business meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. and Sherry Birch's Program will start at 7:00 p.m.