

FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER



December 2005 VOLUME 13 NUMBER 2

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As we come to the beginning of another New Year, even a genealogist can make some resolutions for furthering the family research. Here are a few ideas to add to your list of New Year's Resolutions:

1. Identify one specific "roadblock" in your research and create a list of "next steps" to get around that hard spot. Keep a sharp focus on that specific roadblock and be very explicit about each step you will take to find the correct path around it.
2. Ask one of the volunteers at the Fiske Library to assist you in your research - they have good ideas and can possibly trigger some new avenues of thought for your research plan.
3. Join the local genealogical society in your area and find a partner (or two) with whom you can discuss your research plans. Bouncing your ideas off of someone else can be very helpful in finding the focus you need.
4. Ask your genealogical society to schedule a field trip to the Fiske Library - Thursdays to 3 p.m. and all-day Fridays are reserved for organized groups to have exclusive access to the library

and the volunteers. These are perhaps the most successful research days in the library, because friends are helping friends sift through the material.

5. Think about who will get your research notes and accumulated files when you are gone...resolve to leave written instructions on where your files are located and to whom they should be given. If you cannot identify an interested member among your children or grandchildren, consider finding a genealogical library as the next repository of your research.
6. As you plan your charitable gifts for 2006, consider a contribution to your genealogical library, where small gifts accumulate to create a book fund that keeps the resources current in the library.
7. When you review your will, consider a legacy to your genealogy library.
8. Resolve to volunteer at your favorite genealogy library on a monthly basis. Volunteers are always needed for one, three or four hour sessions. You will help someone else get started in his or her research and you will learn new directions for your own work.
9. Identify the geographical area

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RESOLVED: THE BEST OF INTENTIONS...CONTINUED

MINNESOTA EXPANDS THEIR VITAL RECORDS ON-LINE

(Continued from page 1)

where you do the most research work and donate relevant reference works from that state or region to your local genealogical library. You will get the benefit of a charitable contribution, you will be able to use the reference work as needed and others will benefit for your efforts.

I believe it is better to make a few really good resolutions and try to keep them than it is to make a top ten and find there are too many to accomplish any of them. So if you need a tenth resolution, make it a resolution to accomplish all of the above!

Happy New Year!

Gary A. Zimmerman, President

2006—FISKE RESEARCH TRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY

The annual Fiske Research Trip to Salt Lake City has 39 people signed up, and there is only room for one more person!

Tour leader Betty Kay Anderson has advised that she would accept either one person who wants to share a room with an existing enrollee or another two people sharing a room. The trip departs from Sea-Tac on Wednesday, January 11 and returns on Saturday, January 21.

Betty Kay can be reached by e-mail at:

bettykay@hctc.com or snail mail at 10111 E. State Route 106, Union, WA 98592.

The Minnesota Historical Society now has an expanded contract with the State of Minnesota to preserve, index and provide public access to birth records from 1900 to 1934. This involves over 1.8 million records. The first 12 years are now transcribed and searchable on line at

<http://people.mnhs.org/bci/> covering the years from 1900 through 1911.

The new agreement allows the Historical Society to forward via e-mail the details of each birth record for a fee of \$8.00, but no paper copies of birth certificates will be released. The agreement also prevents the release of out-of-wedlock birth details until they are over 90 years old. The information from this database is "non-certified" and if official records are needed the request must still be made to the appropriate state health department.

Death records in Minnesota may be reviewed through the Minnesota Historical Society as well. Death registration was not required until 1908, but the Society had made a death record card file for the years from 1900 to 1907. Their on-line database covers details from the card file for 1905-1907 and from the state death certificates from 1908 to 1996. The index is at

<http://people.mnhs.org/dci/> .

When this program was last described in the Fiske Newsletter for September 2001, the death database only extended from 1908 - 1946.

FAMILY HISTORY ARCHIVE AT BYU

Brigham Young University (BYU) offers a new Family History Archive as part of its on-line collections. In collaboration with multiple campus libraries within the BYU system and with the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, full digital images of thousands of family history resources are being made available at www.lib.byu.edu/fhc/ with good graphics (in PDF format, requiring Adobe Acrobat to access the images) and versatile search engines to locate specific topics.

By early December, over 4400 titles were included in this collection. Most of the resources seem to be personal family histories or local county histories. It is recommended that one start by searching for keywords, rather than full text searching. You can submit a surname, a geographic area, a title or an author for a quick "keyword" search. The resources identified in the search are briefly described in the results report. Selecting a given result leads to a frame on the left hand side of the screen that identifies key sections of the resource; selecting a given section then presents a list of specific pages in that section. Once a page is on the screen in the Adobe Acrobat, you can use the Adobe search function (the pair of binoculars at the top of the page) to find a specific word or word sequence on that page.

As an alternative, you can browse the entire Family History Archive, working through the 4400+ titles. Selecting a specific title then takes you to the table of contents of that work. If you find an index in the volume, you can quickly decide if it is worth further research.

The first title in the browse mode is "1597-1997: Four Centuries of Descendants of Joseph Clarke of England and Dedham, Massachusetts," by Alan R. Clark, a 10th great grandson.

The author of this work writes in his introduction, "One might ask with good reason why anyone would spend nearly 30 years collecting birth, death and marriage data and numerous other historical trivia of one's dead ancestors. Genealogy becomes an addiction. It gets into your psyche. It is a huge jig-saw puzzle with endless missing pieces. There is always a question wanting an answer. Genealogy is truly a science all its own. There is a methodology, theorizing, and experimentation."

You may look at this book within your browser one page at a time or you can download the entire 120 page book into your browser or onto your desktop. That is sometimes easier to work with, but it requires a broadband connection to acquire the 26 Mb file in a reasonable time span.

Larger volumes may be divided into seven or eight separate sections for complete download or for printing the entire work.

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City is now amending its Library Catalog entries for the books in this BYU on-line collection. When you find a specific book in the FHL catalog that has been digitized, there is a hot-link to the BYU website and you can have direct access to the digital version of the book. For example, the catalog entry for S.B. McGavran's "A Brief History of Harrison County, Ohio," published in 1894, now has a new sentence added that reads, "To view a digital version of this book, click here."

When you have exhausted the Family History Archive, go on to explore the other digital collections on the Brigham Young University website. There are many more opportunities at this site to expand your genealogical research.

Gary A. Zimmerman

FISKE LIBRARY—NEW BOOK & PUBLICATION ACQUISITIONS

BY STATE:

Connecticut

- Mystic Memories

Delaware

- Early Church Records of New Castle Co., DE, Vol. 1

Georgia

- Polk Co. Georgia Marriage Book A - 1850-1880

Iowa

- Jefferson and VanBuren
- Pioneer Family Records and Stories of Ancestors in Hardin Co., Iowa

Illinois

- History of Adams Co., IL
- History of Tazewell Co., IL
- Marriage Records of Washington Co., IL (6 volumes covering 1910 - 1969)

Indiana

- Guide to Manuscript Collection of the IN Hist. Soc. and IN State Library
- Hendricks Co., IN Deaths and Burials
- Lincoln Township Cemeteries, Hendricks Co., IN
- Sources for Genealogy Searching in Indiana

Kentucky

- Letcher Heritage News
- Nelson & Spencer Co. Kentucky Cemetery & Graveyard Tombstones, #2
- Old Kentucky Entries and Deeds

Massachusetts

- Corbin Collection, Vols. 1, 2, & 3 (CD's)
- Corinthian Lodge of Concord, MA
- General Alumni Catalog, Boston University, 1918

- Guide to Holdings in MA Libraries

Maryland

- Baltimore Co. Marriages before 1730
- Eastern Shore Gen. Abstracts from Cambridge Herald
- Harford Co., Maryland Marriage Licenses 1777-1865
- Revolutionary Records of Maryland

Maine

- Ancient Pemaquid (in Maine notebook)
- Genealogy in America, Vol. 1, MA & Maine

Minnesota

- Guide to Swedish Sites in Kanabec and Isanti Counties, MN

Missouri

- Belated Census of the Earliest Settlers of Cape Girardeau Co., MO
- Parkins Guide to Tracing your Family Tree in Missouri

Nebraska

- Vital Statistics Guide in Nebraska

New Hampshire

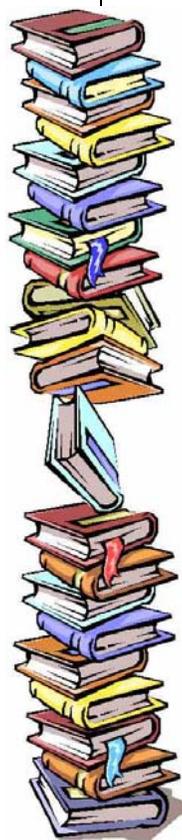
- Colonial Gravestone Inscriptions
- History of Cornish
- History of Wolfe Borough

New Jersey

- Anniversary of New Brunswick, NJ
- New Jersey Genealogies 1600-1800 (CD)

New York

- Handbook for Putnam Co. History and Genealogy
- History of the Township of Shawangunk
- Simmendinger Register (NY Palatines)



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FISKE LIBRARY—NEW BOOK & PUBLICATION ACQUISITIONS

(Continued from page 4)

Oregon

- History of Oregon
- Oregon Historical Quarterly
- Visitation Cemetery, Verboort, OR

Pennsylvania

- 1784 Berks Co., PA Archives
- 18th Century Records of the Germantown Reformed Church of PA
- Lancaster Co. PA Records of the 18th century, Vol. 1, 2, & 3
- Land Records of York Co., PA 1771-1775
- Laurel Messenger, Somerset Co. (periodical)
- Pastor Billheimer records, Baptisms and Marriages (in Notebook)
- Pennsylvania Lutheran Church Records, Vol. 2
- Publications of the Hist. Soc. of Schuylkill Co., PA
- Reading - Berks Co., PA
- Scotch-Irish of Colonial Pennsylvania
- Washington Co., PA Area Key

South Carolina

- Guide to South Carolina Gen. Research and Records
- South Carolina in the Revolution

South Dakota

- DeSmet, yesterday and today

Tennessee

- Marriage Records of Washington Co., TN 1787-1840

Washington

- Clearbrook, WA

- Evolution of Buckley, WA
- The Way it Was on the Rattlesnake (Prosser)
- Totem - Yearbook of Lincoln High School (Seattle) 1910, 1913, and 1929
- Viking Yearbook of Puyallup High School, 1956

West Virginia

- Ohio Co., WV index, Vol. 11

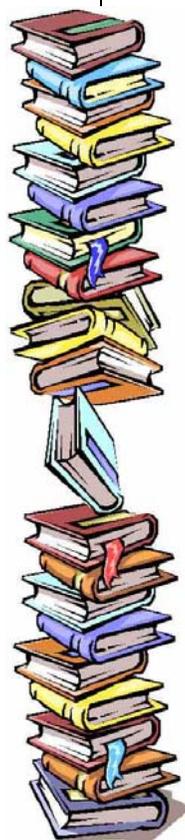
FAMILY HISTORIES:

- Adams Families of Southeast Kentucky
- Familienbus-burholzhausen
- Joseph Cox
- The Cram Sourcebook
- Goldfinch Family History
- Marckz-DeMan
- Index of Persons named in the Mead family of Fairfield Co., CT
- John Pabodie
- James C. Paris
- Ramsey Family History
- Chronology of the Stalnaker Family
- VanAlstyne-VanAlstine Family History, Vol. 1
- Resolved Waldron's Descendants
- Webb Cousins Family Reunion
- Whitney Genealogy

GENERAL RESEARCH INFORMATION:

- Spanish Records Extraction
- State and Special Census records A-MT (Vol. 1)
- Family History - The basics and beyond

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FISKE LIBRARY—NEW BOOK & PUBLICATION ACQUISITIONS ...CONTINUED

(Continued from page 5)

- Lineage Book - DAR #47
- Pension List of 1818
- Public Records on Line
- Producing a Quality Family History
- The Volunteer Soldier in America
- Carmack's Guide to Copyright and Contracts
- Researching your American Indian Ancestry

RESEARCH MATERIAL ON OTHER COUNTRIES:

Canada (Quebec)

- Les bases de l'histoire d'Yamachiche 1703-1903

England

- Genealogy Atlas of England and Wales
- Nottingham Family History Society

Germany

- Emigrants from Fellbach 1735 - 1930

Ireland

- Report of the Deputy Keeper of Records, 1984, Ireland

Sweden

- Tracing your Swedish Ancestry

Recent donors of books and publications include Margaret Jenkins, Britt Kimmerer, Mary Peters, Dorothy Sprague, Mary Stevenson, Carlidine Van Allen, and Marion West, who donated her recently published book. We have also received very generous donations from the LDS Library in Salt Lake City. We much appreciate all these contributions to Fiske Library.

CORRECTION: The book entitled "Vina" (Weirick) listed in the last newsletter should have read "Weirick/Myrick" and the donor listed as Phyllis Beaulieu. We thank her for this story of her ancestor.

Mary Stevenson, Librarian

WINONA (MINNESOTA) NEWSPAPER PROJECT

The library at Winona State University has created an on-line archive of three newspapers published in the late 19th and early 20th Century in Winona, Minnesota.

When completed, the newspapers will extend up to 1925 and include over 123,000 pages. You can search by keyword, or read each issue page by page. The search engine produces a small arrow that points precisely to the search word on each page where it was found. Be sure to read the short list of "search tips" to get the most effective response to your query.

You can print the specific article or you can have it sent to your e-mail box. Most pages are very legible, but in a few cases, the copy was not sufficiently clear to permit accurate indexing by the optical scanning program. If you have Minnesota roots, you may want to try this out at:

www.winona.edu/library/databases/winonanewspapers.htm

None of this material is in the historical newspaper collection at www.ancestry.com



CANADIAN CENSUS 1911

Library and Archives Canada have now opened a searchable website for the 1911 Canadian census at

www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/1911/index-e.html but it will require a little more effort than in earlier census enumerations to find your family information. In 1955, the microfilming of the 1911 census was authorized, with the original paper sheets to be destroyed upon completion of the transfer to film. The quality of the filming varied and in some instances the film is illegible, but there is no recourse since the originals were already destroyed.

Searching is by geographic location only. There is no surname index prepared at the present time. The census covered the nine provinces and two territories that were part of the Canadian Confederation in 1911. It is fairly easy to identify the various districts and sub-districts that were used for this census, which was taken on 1 June 1911.

Census districts were organized by province or territory. In the Yukon Territory for example, District 217 contains 25 sub-districts. There is a very clear map of the Territory in MrSID format. It can be magnified with very clear labels showing the

smallest areas of habitation. The community of Whitehorse is found in sub-district 24. There are 30 images covering this sub-district and each can be either viewed in PDF or MrSID format, in your browser or downloaded to your desktop.

The census very clearly shows the individual family units, with each individual listed by name and relationship to the head of the household, marital status (single, married, widowed, divorced or legally separated), the month of birth, the age at the last birthday, the country or place of birth (if Canadian, province of birth is listed), the racial or tribal origin (nationality may be listed here, e.g. Irish, Scotch, Canadian), and religion (R.C., Presbyterian, Anglican, Lutheran). The enumeration ends with number of months in school during 1910, ability to read and to write, and which language is commonly spoken.

While it takes a little more work to access these details, this database is a welcome resource for Canadian family history research.

Gary A. Zimmerman

FISKE LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday	Noon to 8:00 pm
Thursday	3:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Friday	Reserved for research groups (greater than 8 persons) from outside the greater Seattle Area. Contact the Library to make reservations.
Saturday	10:00 am to 3:00 pm
2nd Sunday of Each Month	1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

CASTLE GARDEN DATABASE ON-LINE

August 1, 2005, marked the 150th anniversary of the use of Castle Garden as the immigrant processing center for the Port of New York City. In the 34 years from 1855 to 1889, more than 8 million immigrants passed through this facility near the Battery in lower Manhattan. As part of the sesquicentennial events, a new database was opened at www.castlegarden.org and you can now conveniently search for immigrants listed in the customs lists in the custody of the National Archives.

This database is the property of the Battery Conservancy. The search is similar to that offered at www.ellisland.org by the Statue of Liberty - Ellis Island Foundation.

The basic search at castlegarden.org is free. An advanced search that gives more information about the person in question is available for \$45. You can search for a specific individual or you can search for a surname. You can pick a range of years or select a specific year. For example, a search for Daniel Sullivan in the range from 1845 to 1855 yields 324 hits. The first entry is for a 3-year old child by that name, who arrived in New York on 3 May 1849 on the ship John Currier.

A search for the surname Sullivan in the range from 1845-1855 only on the ship John Currier yielded 37 names, but there is no way from the basic search to determine if they were traveling together or separately. A search for Sullivan on the John Currier in 1849 only, reduced the list to 21 persons.

All of the basic information in this database comes from the National Archives film in series M237, Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, 1820-1897, in 675 rolls.

Ancestry also has a searchable database from the same series of microfilm, but covering only rolls 95-580 at the present time. They advertise their database as NY Passenger Lists 1851-1891. When you find an appropriate entry, you can see the actual image from the NARA microfilm of the passenger list to get the context of the passengers as they were listed on the customs list. You may access this database at the Fiske Library or at www.ancestry.com and then select Search > Immigration > New York Passenger Lists, 1851-1891.

Steven Morse has developed some quick one-step search programs for accessing the Castle Garden records on line. See his material at www.stevemorse.org and then locate his section on Castle Garden. This same page will also help you navigate through the Ellis Island database and several other useful on-line resources.

Gary A. Zimmerman

**FISKE GENEALOGICAL
LIBRARY WILL BE
CLOSED DURING THE
HOLIDAY SEASON
FROM
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21,
2005
TO
JANUARY 4, 2006.**

HELEN WATERMAN, FISKE VOLUNTEER “EXTRAORDINAIRE” DIED NOVEMBER 13, 2005

Helen Waterman, a regular Saturday volunteer at the Fiske Library since 2000, died November 13, 2005 at the Bayview Manor where she was living. She had taken on the huge project of sorting and alphabetizing Arthur Fiske's half million-card collection and filing them into the old oak filing cabinets that the Winterscheids purchased for the Fiske Library from the University of Washington Suzzallo Library.

Except for the final few of 510 card file drawers, Helen had completed this task before her illness forced her retirement in the fall of 2005. Carol Matzke and Mary Stevenson assisted her so that the project was completed.

Helen had been a medical records administrator in California at the Naval Hospital and came to Seattle to head the Medical Records Department at the University of Washington Hospital when it opened. Darlene

Hamilton, of the Seattle Public Library, remembers that Helen was president of the Seattle Genealogical Society in 1971. She typed and transcribed the manuscript for the "Washington Territory Donation Land Claims" book published by SGS, and worked on two major volunteer projects for the Seattle Public Library.

For a more complete story of Helen's many contributions to the PNW genealogical community, see the Fiske Newsletter for January 2003. Her enthusiasm, accuracy and determination to complete projects serve as an inspiration to us all.

Carolyn Blount

FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation Newsletter is published four times per year by the Fiske Genealogical Foundation, 1644 43rd Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98112; phone (206) 328-2716 email gzim@fiskelibrary.org web site <http://www.fiskelibrary.org>

The Fiske Genealogical Foundation is a non-profit service organization that provides genealogical training, resource materials and support to members.

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FISKE GENEALOGICAL FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP

Wednesday Seminar Series
(10 sessions) \$30.

Annual Library Membership \$40.

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plus Full Year Seminar Series
(30 sessions) \$75

Newsletter -Subscription Only
4 Issues—\$6



FISKE WINTER CLASSES 2006

All classes will be held from 10:00 am to 12 Noon in the Library at 1644 43rd Avenue E. in Seattle (in the Madison Park neighborhood). Tuition is \$5 per class or \$30 per quarter. An annual library membership with educational privileges is \$75. All sessions are led by Gary A. Zimmerman, unless otherwise indicated.

Date 2006	Class Name and Instructor
4 January	Family History Library Catalog and Research Resources. Gary Zimmerman & Betty Kay Anderson
11 January to 21 January	Salt Lake City Trip– No Classes for two weeks.
25 January	Introduction to computers Dave Ault
1 February	Scots to America
8 February	Colonial Passenger lists Karl Kumm
15 February	Rhode Island Genealogy
22 February	Immigration
1 March	Genealogy in the Great Plains
8 March	Heritage Library Visit – 10:00 a.m. at Library in Sumner, Washington
15 March	Hoosier Genealogy: the best places to search in Indiana
22 March	Preservation of Genealogy Artifacts and Family Records. Carolyn Blount

GOOGLE KNOWS!

What post offices were in any county in the United States on September 1, 1870?

Search Google Books and you will have the answer in moments. This might be very helpful in your family research for great grandfather!

Go to <http://books.google.com> and select the advanced search. Type in the search string "X county", inserting the name of the county for X but without the quotation marks, into the box for the "exact phrase." Drop down to the publication date and enter between 1870 and 1873. Let the search begin. You will get a page out of a book from the public domain entitled "List of Post Offices and Postmasters in the United States: Revised and Corrected to September 1, 1870."

If you enter Clallam County and the date range of 1870 to 1873, you will get one book returned to you and it will open to the correct page for Washington Territory, showing two post offices: one at New Dungeness (the county seat) and one at Port Angeles. The county seat is always listed in italics with parentheses around *c.h.* for court house.

This book was contributed to the Google Books project by the Widener Library at Harvard University.

Gary A. Zimmerman

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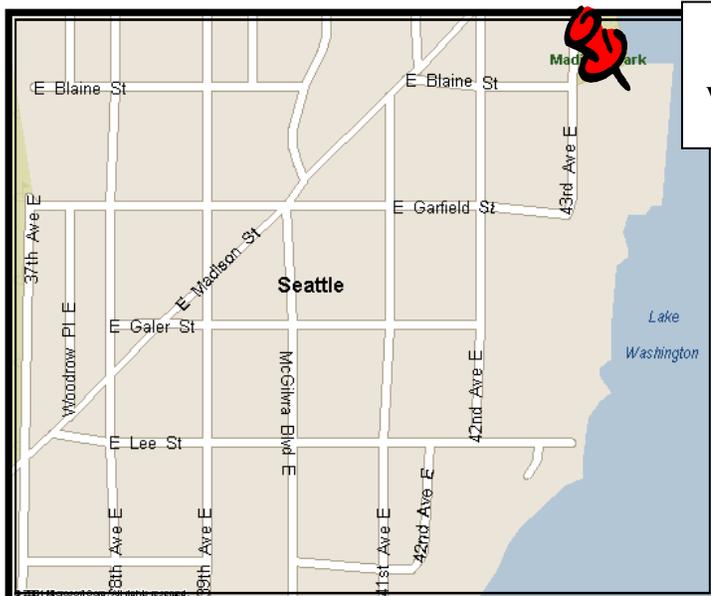


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HOW TO FIND US!



**Fiske Library is located
on the lower level of the
Washington Pioneer Hall.**

- Drive east on East Madison Street until you see a Starbucks Coffee shop to your left, and a one way street sign ahead.
- Ease to your right and follow East Blaine Street to the end of the street.
- The Washington Pioneer Hall faces onto 43rd Ave. East. The Fiske Genealogical Library is located on the lower level of the building.