

# W.I.S.E. Words

*The Newsletter of W.I.S.E. Family History Society*

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*Celebrating 26 Years!*

## Maggie's Many Mysteries

*--Clair Villano, great-grandniece*

*For history as far as I can see is not the arrangement of what happens, in sequence and in truth, but a fabulous arrangement of surmises and guesses held up as a banner against the withering truth.*

*-- Sebastian Barry, The Secret Scripture*

I remembered walking up a slope, past a statue of the Blessed Virgin and into a large red brick building. My grandmother, Clair Cross Pittman, was taking me to see her only living Cross relative, the ancient Aunt Maggie Cross. I was eleven and a half years old in August 1948; our family had returned from Japan and was staying with Joy relatives in the D.C. area. My memory holds only the vision of a small frail old lady with wild white hair. Maggie was the oldest spinster sister of Clair Pittman's father, John Joseph Cross, who died in 1895 when my grandmother was twelve, more than fifty years before this visit.

Sixty years later, I was able to put another piece of the Irish ancestor puzzle in place. The records left by descendants were vague but I felt if I could find Aunt Maggie's history I might get some clues about my elusive Cross ancestors. The path to discovery about Aunt Maggie in particular and the Cross family in general was crooked and devious. The more I uncovered, the less I knew and the more mysteries appeared.

### ***Mystery #1: When and where exactly was Margaret A. (Maggie) Cross born?***

Somehow, a man named Thomas Cross, born in Ireland, came to the United States. There

are some passenger records that identify a man who was born about 1830 coming to these shores, but no proof positive that he is "my" great-great-grandfather. Somehow, a woman named Margaret Cloon (transcribed as Cluien or Clune), born in Ireland about 1840, came to the United States. And by 1858 these two immigrants were married, living in St. Louis and had a daughter named Margaret A. Cross. This much I knew from the 1860 Missouri census and a city directory of the same year. They lived in two locations along the riverfront with a family named James and Mary Whalen and children, which is consistent with Thomas' occupation as a drayman.

Because they moved to Mobile when Maggie and her brother, John Joseph, born in 1860, were very young, Alabama, rather than Missouri, would be listed for them as their birth state. In addition, there was some question of Maggie's birth year – was it 1857 or 1858? In 2003, I found correspondence in Maggie's civil service work file which indicated that she provided a baptismal certificate to affirm her correct birth date was June 3, 1858 (not 1857 as often listed). The certificate was sent to the Civil Service Commission in 1928, but there was no copy in the files. This was the clue that sent me searching for an on-site researcher in 2009 who was able to locate the baptism records of both children at St. Patrick's Church in St. Louis. David Lossos had the

*--continued on pg 56*



## President's Message

Summer is over, and what a summer it was, infused for some of us with the culture of Britain and Ireland. Many W.I.S.E. members volunteered at the Highlands Games in August and several, including my husband and me, visited the lands of our ancestors. We visited family in Belfast and also went to Scotland.

Once again, I played my game of seeking out strains of British practice and tradition that I see every day in Denver – and in looking for bits of Americana over there. They all drive on the wrong side of the road – how did that happen? But, the similarities are far more common, and I'm wondering: Who influenced whom? Could the Beatles have become rock stars without Elvis? Did that funny country-western band in Donegal know that its music originated with the Ulster-Scots who came to the colonies 300 years ago?

Our two cultures copy each other indiscriminately, and jokes, music, slang and fashion jump the ocean at the speed of light. Here's a taste of the cross-cultural currents.

We met the owner of a bookstore, *No Alibis*, in Belfast, David Tarrant. He specializes in mysteries, and we soon learned that he visits Denver and among his acquaintances here are two of our best mystery writers, Stephen White, and my old friend, John Dunning.

Coors beer and street advertising are big in the United Kingdom, and I nearly fell off a curb in Belfast when I saw an astonishing convergence of the two: a compact-size taxi covered from grille to taillight in a garishly colored ad for that Rocky Mountain brew.

Glasgow, Scotland, is surprisingly easy to navigate, on foot for us, though drivers, too, must appreciate its layout. It's built on a grid system – modern by European standards which grew up by paving cow paths and wagon roads, all curvy and confusing.

These Brits and Irish don't seem to mind expressing their opinions on American politics. In fact, they act like they **are** us, going on and on about Barack Obama, Bill Clinton or whoever is in the news. I'm impressed with how much they know – far more than Americans know about their politics – but I wonder: How would they like it if I let loose on what I think about the queen or, God forbid, Irish political parties? A particularly notable fellow this trip was a cabbie in Belfast who was a native of Algeria. That the U.S. now has an African-American president meant a lot to him: "It shows America is changing," he said.

Then there's the matter of consumer goods. Belfast folks do not have Ziploc bags, and I can't imagine how they live without them. We, on the other hand, don't have streaky bacon, baps, rhubarb yogurt or fizzy water dispensed in vending machines. But we both have those ubiquitous plastic grocery bags, huge do-it-yourself stores like Home Depot, verdant parks, nice little restaurants and pizza. We're equally committed to historic preservation and education, though I'll never figure out their system. Astonishingly, to me, religious bodies are involved in public education, and integrated schools in Northern Ireland are those that admit both Catholics and Protestants. We, on the other hand, do not have much rugby or folksy horseracing tracks, a pocket of distinct culture if ever there was one.

Then, there are newspapers – they proliferate. Any shop has up to ten from a local area, backing every political position. The tabloids are brassy and amusing, hard to believe a word they publish. Still, I wish we had these choices.

Britain, Ireland and America: Mostly, a variation on the themes we know so well – freedom of expression, various forms of the free market, commitment to democracy and to fair play. I cheer the brilliance of our Founding Fathers who separated church and state, and I am glad we kicked out King George III. But now we revel in our shared history, customs and friendship. Long may it wave.

*Zoe von Ende Lappin* □



## W.I.S.E. Family History Society

W.I.S.E. Family History Society is dedicated to research in Wales, Ireland, Scotland, England, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Attention is also directed to the emigration and immigration of these peoples as well as heraldry and one-name studies. Monthly meetings are generally held the fourth Saturday of most months at the Central Denver Public Library, Gates Conference Room, 5th Floor. Membership is open to anyone with interest in family history and genealogy. Membership dues for the calendar year are \$12 for an individual or \$15 for a family living at the same address. The W.I.S.E. Family History Society publishes W.I.S.E. Words four times per year. A subscription is included with membership dues.

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## England Jurisdictions 1851

Donna J. Porter shared her excitement over news from FamilySearch Labs on their England Jurisdictions 1851 project. The notice reads:

"The England Jurisdictions 1851 project simplifies research by consolidating data from many finding aids into a single searchable repository that can be accessed by clicking in a parish boundary. Features include contiguous parish and radius search lists and relevant jurisdictions as they existed in England in 1851. Data includes changes to parishes prior to 1851 and lists of non-conformist denominations in a parish. (requires Internet Explorer 7, Firefox 3, Safari 3 or newer)."

This mapping feature can be used to find more information about the area involved. In addition to parishes, the maps can be used to show the County, the Civil Registration District, the Diocese, the Rural Deanery, the Poor Law Union, the Hundred and the Province by clicking on the drop down menu items at the top of the map. Self-help instructions are provided, and Donna encourages everyone to give this flexible new tool a try. □

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### *W.I.S.E. Program Schedule*

<b>26 September</b>	<p><b><i>Genealogy and English Parish Churches – Paul Kilburn</i></b></p> <p>English parish churches still dominate many of the villages of England. These houses of worship are still busy religious and social centers, and they often remain the only physical connection to our English ancestors. This talk will picture many of these churches with their adjacent reverend's houses. The genealogical records they once housed have been relocated, but many genealogical features still remain to connect with your ancestor.</p> <p>Paul Kilburn is a W.I.S.E. member and England country expert. A past president of W.I.S.E., Paul has been a genealogist for over 30 years, and a member of several genealogical organizations. He has travelled extensively in search of ancestral roots – Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Holland, France, Germany and Poland -- and traces his ancestry back past the Mayflower to William the Conqueror and Charlemagne. □</p>
<b>24 October</b>	<p><b><i>Accents and Dialects of the British Isles – Panel of Speakers</i></b></p> <p>The program will feature native-speakers from Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England. We'll listen to them individually and enjoy their conversations. We'll talk about the dialect differences heard from various parts of the British Isles. A list of websites will be handed out for further listening and study of accents. □</p>
<b>5 December</b>	<p><b><i>British Tea Time – Judy Williams</i></b></p> <p>Bring your favorite holiday goodies to share. We will discuss how and when tea made its way to the British Isles, and learn what impacts British tea time had on the rest of the western world. We will also explore the different traditions of taking tea through the British Isles. This, and more, as we sample some special holiday teas.</p> <p>Judy Williams is a certified tea specialist who enjoys sharing her passion for tea with others. She speaks on the history and art of tea, teaches classes on tea and conducts tea tastings for private parties and tea cafes. She is a member of the Specialty Tea Institute and the Tea Association of the U.S.A. □</p>

--continued from 53

“luck of the Irish,” for the records were in the first of five churches he thought might hold the records, given the family's location.

***Mystery #2: Why did mother Margaret and brood go to Washington, D.C., in 1872?***

In 1880, the family is living in Washington, D.C. What motivated the pregnant widow, Margaret, and her brood of five to head for Washington, D.C., after her husband's death in November 1871(?) Her youngest child, Edward, was born in D.C. in 1872. For years I thought that she or her husband must have had relatives there. I never could find a Cross connection, although the family plot at Mt. Olivet is adjacent to another Cross plot. That family had

totally different roots and occupations and there is no hint of any relationship to the family of Joel Cross.

Recently, when I learned from two sources that Margaret's family name was Cloon, I hoped I would find family members in D.C., but that also has proven to be a dead end. There are no families who could possibly be kin in the nation's capital. Now I believe it was the prospect of work for the federal government that drew mother Margaret.

***Mystery #3: How did the family get the political clout from Mobile, Alabama, to land the younger Maggie a lifelong job at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP)?***



The work file of Maggie Cross held two amazing letters. The first was written on January 10, 1873, by Congressman Charles Waldron Buckley (1834-1906), who apparently was a rather controversial preacher / politician / judge from Alabama.<sup>i</sup> He was a carpetbagger (a Northerner who went South after the Civil War to profit from the Reconstruction).

*Hon. Geo. B. McCartee, Supt.  
Printing Bureau*

*Dear Sir,*

*Margaret Cross is desirous of getting a situation in your Department. Her mother was formerly from Mobile and this accounts for my interest in the matter. I hope as you have but few from the South you will provide her with a situation.*

*Respectfully Yours,  
C. W. Buckley*

George McCartee was the chief of the bureau from 1869-1876. A nine-page anonymous and undated pamphlet, *Startling Disclosures! The Bureau of Engraving and Printing and Its Head. A Nest of Corruption!* was published by "An Employee" and may well have caused his resignation citing ill health in 1876.<sup>ii</sup>

*Hire since February 21, 1873, second class Press girl, possible retention; write to Spencer.* (undated and unsigned note but stamped "April 18, 1873.") General George Spencer was a senator from Alabama at the time and the BEP was only eleven years old; when it opened in 1862, it had only six employees.<sup>iii</sup>

Maggie was hired as a parts assistant at the age of fifteen (she had stated, apparently, that she was born in 1857 which made her sixteen for the records). For some reason she lasted only three months on the job. There is no explanation why in May, 1873, she was "*Removed.*"

Perhaps the job was not deemed permanent, or there was a hiring freeze or there were other cutbacks in federal employment. Or perhaps the allegations in the pamphlet were true: "Within (McCartee's) department he is supreme and irresponsible. He appoints and discharges, he audits and pays, he contracts and purchases without restraint of supervision. In this nest of corruption ... he presides over a

horde of timid dependents, and is surrounded by an array of spies and informers." (p. 3).

Then the second letter, which was dated April 8, 1876 on letterhead of the Imperial Hotel in Washington, D.C. (*Jason S. Pierce, Proprietor*).<sup>iv</sup>

*Hon. George E. Spencer,  
U.S. Senator Present*

*My Dear General!*

*Bearer of this, Miss Maggie Cross, is the young lady from Mobile, Ala, who was discharged from the Printing & Engraving Bureau, and about whom all your friends from Ala. united in the request to you, to have her reinstated as speedy as possible, as her family is in very distressing circumstances.*

*We did all we could to allay the suffering but we could do but very little. Hoping that you will, according to your kind promise, do all in your power, to get her in her former position, I am, Dear General,*

*Yours truly,*

*Paul Strobach in his own name*

*and by authority request of C & H. Mayer, Gen. Slaughter, Gen. Denton, F. Anderson, George Turner, Ch. Hayes, H. R. Burgess, P. I. Parks, C. Buchanan and others, all of Alabama*

Paul Strobach and C. Mayer were embroiled in Republican politics in Alabama and Washington D.C.<sup>v</sup> The Republican National Convention was held in Washington in June, 1876; perhaps Strobach, who was a delegate, was in town preparing for the convention and enlisted the others as supporters. Strobach and Mayer, like Senator Spencer and Congressman Buckley, were all carpetbaggers.<sup>vi</sup>



*Senator George E. Spencer  
(1868-1879)  
(<http://bioguide.congress.gov>)  
Spencer founded the town of  
Breckinridge (later spelled  
Breckenridge), Colorado in 1860.*

In 1876, mother Margaret, widow, did have six children; Maggie, 18, was the eldest child, and the sole support of the family. There is this undated note added by Senator Spencer:

*This is a particularly meritorious case. Her necessities are very great. She has six children to provide for and has no means at all. I hope Mr. McCartee will give her a place.*

*Geo. E. Spencer*

Therefore, it seems McCartee was still the chief in early April. It was a time of upheaval (and scandal) in the BEP, with chiefs serving only one year. Henry Jewell, who followed McCartee (to whom the first letter was written), was chief in 1876-1877. I suspect the change happened in April, because Senator Spencer sent another note to the new chief.

*April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1876*

*Mr. Jewell,*

*Will do me a great favor by re-hiring Miss Cross. She is deserving and very needy.*

*Mr. Geo. E. Spencer, U.S.S.*

Chief Jewell was in turn succeeded by Edward McPherson who served until 1878. O.H. Irish (1878-1883) was the chief when Maggie was finally reinstated, 3 years after this appeal; she had just turned 21.<sup>vii</sup>

My guess is that the senator found some work for Maggie while working on the reinstatement (between 1876-1879). The senator was perhaps otherwise distracted. Spencer, who was a widower, married a young actress in 1877. They honeymooned in the Black Hills, Dakota Territory, and his bride wrote a novel about Calamity Jane, under her pen name of William Loring Spencer.<sup>viii</sup>

Maggie's signature appears on the Oath of Confirmation, July 29, 1890, notarized by Jas. N. Fitzpatrick. The appointment from the Treasury Department, signed by Secretary W. Windom, listed her as a "Printers Assistant - Operative." She worked continuously until June 2, 1930, when she was 72 years old, having been granted a two year extension beyond age 70 in 1928. Her career as an "operative" was not glamorous: counting and shifting of paper in wet rags preparatory to printing government securities and postage stamps, for the Wetting Division of the Bureau. Lucky for Maggie, she obtained her post before the 1883 Pendleton Act which made many government positions available only through competitive written examination.

Mary and Johanna Joy, born in County Kerry, Ireland, and sisters of the woman - Birgetta Carrie Joy - who married Maggie's brother

John Joseph Cross in December 1881, worked at the BEP during this time. Perhaps that's how John and Birgetta met. My grandmother's husband, Mendoza Pittman, also worked there from 1903-1949, and was with us on that 1948 visit to Aunt Maggie.

Maggie's top pay was \$0.55 per hour. Apparently the government erroneously counted her employment start date as December 1872, because in the documents it states she had worked 55 years, 3 months and 9 days on March 15, 1928. At actual retirement, she had a 57 year work history with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing; her pension annuity was \$763.20 per year. Maggie's record was surpassed by Emma Brown, who worked at the BEP from the age of 11 (1865-1924), a 59-year career.<sup>ix</sup>

#### ***Mystery #4: What happened to Maggie's younger sister, Ellen?***

I found various members of the Cross clan in the 1890-1898 city directories. I presumed sister Ellen was dead, because after being listed as a sponsor on my grandmother's baptism form in 1883, I never found her again. In 2008, on an instinct, I tried to trace the man, Charles Barnes, who was sponsor of another Joy child (who died young) in 1885. And there he was in 1900, married to a woman named Ellen, born in Alabama. This was Maggie's sister, confirmed by a funeral notice in 1937. Ellen died when I was 7 months old, so no wonder I never heard her name. I was able to trace the family through the census records for the next 30 years. I found the names of Ellen's sons, and scoured the Internet to discover the address and phone number of Dr. Paul Barnes, age 80, a psychiatrist in the D.C. area, and spoke with him just before Christmas, 2008.

#### ***Mystery #5: Where did Maggie live after 1930, when did she die and where was she buried?***

For ten years I searched every grave site where Joy or Cross family members were buried, wrote to every Catholic organization and old persons' home in the D.C. area. Always the same negative reply. It was Dr. Barnes who



mentioned that Maggie “died in the fall of 1949; she lived at Sacred Heart, but of course it’s gone now.”



Again the Internet was my friend, for I found the site for Sacred Heart Home in Hyattsville, Maryland. It was established in 1916 by the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit as a place to live while they studied at Catholic University. When the costs of upkeep of their home became burdensome, the nuns “invited ladies who wished to live their remaining years in a religious environment to join them.” Today the same order has a nursing home on the site but from 1920-1960 it was a private residence. Sister Vacha Kludziak, SSML, wrote “As it shows in our register your Aunt Margaret Cross entered Sacred Heart Home on June 15, 1944, and died on October 28, 1949.” With that information, I quickly found a death certificate in Maryland, and the trail led to Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Washington, D.C. Margaret Cross was buried there after all, but in the family plot of the Barnes family, with no marker to give a clue.

There are many other mysteries surrounding Maggie:

- Was the “son of T. Cross” stillborn in Columbia, Missouri in April 1862 and buried in Mobile, Alabama, Maggie’s second brother, born while the family was enroute from St. Louis?
- Where were Maggie and sole surviving brother William in 1900? They are not listed in the census, nor are they with any Barnes family members.
- How did Maggie come to own the house at 11 Myrtle Street, in D.C., where sister, Ellen, lived in 1910 and where Maggie was a lodger, living with her sister’s brother-in-law in 1920? In 2008 her grand-nephew, Dr.

Barnes, told me during our one phone contact that “Aunt Maggie left the house on Myrtle to my father and he sold it to send me to Georgetown University.”

**And the biggest mystery?** Where in Ireland did her parents come from and when and where were they married? A researcher’s quest is never over!

#### Lessons learned in my ten-year search:

**Never presume anything.** I assumed sister Ellen had died young, after being the sponsor at my grandmother’s 1883 baptism (at age 16). No family researchers had turned up any clue to her existence. She was not buried in the family plot, but then neither was Maggie.

**Look again.** Something as sensible as looking at my records with a new eye in 2008 solved the mystery of Ellen. I noted that a Charles Barnes was the sponsor for another Cross, Thomas, who died in infancy.

**Remember the old clues.** I then remembered a long-deceased Joy cousin saying “Charles Barnes, the auto dealer, would know about the Cross family.” Because a Joy sister had married some other fellow named Barnes, I couldn’t make sense of this clue, but I made a note of it. I started following that lead years later and, sure enough, the father of the auto dealer was also named Charles, who married Ellen Cross.

**Ask for help.** I told a staff member at the National Archives in Lakewood of my frustration searching for Maggie. I received a name and e-mail of a person to contact for civilian employment records.

**Be willing to pay.** I spent about \$250 in research costs, cemetery donations and record fees to find data that gave me the answers, and I don’t begrudge a penny of it!

<sup>1</sup>Fleming, Walter Lynwood. *Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama*. Columbia University Press, NY, 1905.

“C.W. Buckley was a Radical Representative from Alabama, a former (Freedman’s) Bureau reverend, who worked hard to convict the white people of the state of general wickedness.” In the index he is listed as “car-



petbagger, agent Freedman's Bureau. He was Chaplin of the 47<sup>th</sup> USC Infantry during the Civil War." He was born in New York, educated in Illinois and Wisconsin, graduated from the Union Theological Seminary in NYC, and served as congressman from 1868-1873. Later he was a probate judge in Montgomery and a postmaster.

<sup>ii</sup><http://lcweb2.loc.gov/service/gdc/sed0001/2006/20060801001st/20060801001st.pdf>

This is the pdf version of the "Investigative Imperative" accusing McCartee of corruption. Library of Congress, HG573.S7 (187?)

<sup>iii</sup><http://www.moneyfactory.gov/document.cfm/18/101/101>

The establishment of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing can be traced as far back as August 29, 1862, to a single room in the basement of the main Treasury building where two men and four women separated and sealed by hand \$1 and \$2 United States Notes which had been printed by private bank note companies. Today there are approximately 2,500 employees who work out of two buildings in Washington, D.C. and a new facility located in Fort Worth, Texas.

<sup>iv</sup>*The Washington Post*, May 21, 1878.

Imperial Hotel, Washington, D.C. First class room and board per month, \$50; per week, \$17.50; per day \$2.50 to \$3. To meet the wants of the traveling public, this first-class hotel has reduced its prices from \$4 to \$2.50 and \$3 per day. J. S. PIERCE, Proprietor.

<sup>v</sup><http://files.usgwarchives.net/al/madison/newspapers/itemsfro1168gnw.txt>. *The Huntsville Weekly Democrat*, November 30, 1881, Madison County, Alabama.

The following taken from the *N. Y. Tribune*, explains itself and clearly shows what sort of material President Arthur (1881-1885) is controlled by in the political affairs of Alabama: Messrs. Paul Strobach and Charles F. Mayer, of Alabama, held a conference with the President today, in regard to political affairs and prospects in that State. It is understood that Federal appointments in Alabama was discussed to some length, and it was represented to the President that, by a proper recognition of the native white element, which is animated by progressive ideas and opposed to Bourbon methods, a liberal movement, similar to that which revolutionized Virginia politics, can be begun with every prospect of success. Messrs. Strobach and Mayer left for home tonight, feeling greatly encouraged.

<sup>vi</sup>Wiggins, Sarah Woolfolk. *The Scalawag in Alabama Politics, 1865-1881*. University of Alabama Press, 1977.

<sup>vii</sup>[http://www.moneyfactory.gov/uploads/BEP\\_History.pdf](http://www.moneyfactory.gov/uploads/BEP_History.pdf). BEP History, 2004.

<sup>viii</sup>Mrs. Spencer (nee May Nunez, b. October 1848, d. May 13, 1921) was the niece of the colorful William Loring, after whom she was named. See <http://loring.atonimartinis.com/index.html> for history of

"Old Blizzards" who fought for 50 years under the U.S. Confederate and Egyptian armies.

<sup>ix</sup>See endnote 2.□

## Mark Your Calendar

—Sandy Carter-Duff

Mark your calendar! Join the Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England Family History Society on February 20, 2010, for an all-day seminar slated to *Maximize Your British Isles Research*. Paul Milner is the featured speaker. You need not be a member to attend.

Last year's seminar focused on our Irish ancestors. It prompted me to get more tools to find my hidden Irish. Our next seminar broadens our tool-base to address more countries covered by our society name. If you're like me, you have ancestors who are from or who traversed through Wales, Scotland and England as well.

National U.S. lecturer, Paul Milner, a native of Northumberland, England, will present a seminar of four lectures. His topics will be *Finding Your English and Welsh Ancestors: The Big Four*; *Effective Use of England's National Archives: New Resources for British Isles Research* and *Tracing Your Ulster-Irish Ancestors*. These topics were carefully selected to be wide-ranging and useful to many.

Mr. Milner is a professional genealogist and lecturer who has lived in the United States since 1975 and specialized in British Isles genealogical research for 25 years. He is the co-author with Linda Jonas of *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your English Ancestors: How to find and record your unique heritage* (2000), and *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Scottish Ancestors: How to find and record your unique heritage* (2002), both published by Betterway Books. Milner's books are available at the Denver Public Library.

The seminar will be held in the lower level conference center of the downtown Denver Public Library, 10 West Fourteenth Avenue



Parkway from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration fee is \$30 (\$35, if paid after February 12). Registration information is available from Sandy Carter-Duff at [sandy@carduff.com](mailto:sandy@carduff.com) who prefers e-mail contacts or at 303-777-1391. In the case of inclement weather, refunds will only be made if DIA or DPL are closed. □

### Homecoming Scotland 2009: International Gathering of the Clans

--Bonnie L. Wright

Thousands of people gathered in Edinburgh, Scotland, July 24-26 for the world's largest Clan Gathering and Highland Games. The weekend was the centerpiece of Scotland's Homecoming 2009 celebrations, also marking the birth, 250 years ago, of the national poet, Robert Burns. My family and I were privileged to be there.



Events occurred all over the country throughout the summer, but on that weekend, all attention was focused on Edinburgh. One highlight was a meeting of more than 100 clan chiefs, the largest ever recorded. According to *The Independent*, it was also the first time since Sir Walter Scott's Royal Pageant in 1822 that so many clans have been seen together in the city. The main topics of the chiefs' meeting were the future of the clan system and the role of the clan chief.

Other weekend events were open to the public, who flocked to them in huge numbers. It had been hoped that 40,000 would attend the Gathering, but news reports put the crowds at the

Highland Games in Holyrood Park at closer to 50,000. Even the notoriously wet Edinburgh weather cooperated, with Saturday in particular being mostly sunny, warm and dry for the opening of the Games.

The Games were opened by the patron of the Gathering, Prince Charles, known in Scotland as the Duke of Rothesay. (In England, Wales and Northern Ireland his official title is Prince of Wales.) He and his wife, Her Royal Highness and Duchess of Rothesay (whom we know as Camilla), attended several functions. Opening the Games on Saturday morning and wearing a kilt made of the ancient hunting Stewart tartan, the duke described the weekend as the "most splendid of gatherings ... a stirring meeting of Scotland's history and its living heritage". He praised the diversity of modern clan chiefs, adding, "Thankfully, in 2009 the lives of clan chiefs and their clansmen, both in Scotland and abroad, are somewhat less blood-soaked and unhappy than those experienced by thousands of their ancestors..." He saw Burns' legacy as brighter than ever: "I happen to believe that it is Scotland's traditions of writing, language, speech, music and poetry which will continue to nourish this and future generations."

After the duke's remarks, the audience was treated to marches of massed pipe bands, their bagpipes skirling and their ancient weapons proudly displayed. Then, the delighted crowds watched contestants tossing the caber, lifting huge stone balls onto high barrels, throwing a 56-pound weight for distance and participating in the ever-popular tug of war.



The games of strength were only one part of the Games. We also watched highland dancing

exhibitions and competitions and many acts on two main stages. Most popular was singer Julie Fowlis and the Red Hot Chilli Pipers. There was a storytelling tent and a climbing wall for the children, and a Taste of Scotland – samples of a variety of Scottish foods.

The Clan Village, a tent village representing 125 clans, was unforgettable. Here, the clans proudly displayed their tartans, badges and other mementos, and shared fellowship (and sometimes a “wee dram”) with clan members from around the world who had “come home” to Edinburgh for this wonderful weekend.

Because we had Gold Passports, the entrée to both the Games, the Parade of Clans and the Gathering pageant, we were able to participate fully in everything.

On Saturday evening, about 20,000 people lined the street to watch the Parade of Clans, up the Royal Mile from Holyrood Palace to Edinburgh Castle. We were in the midst of the marchers. Our clan name is Lumsden, and we marched among our fellow clansmen behind our clan banner, our chief and other clan officials, with a piper immediately behind us. Traditional costumes – kilts and tartan skirts and dresses – were everywhere.

On arriving at Edinburgh Castle, we made our way to our seats to take in a pageant entitled, *Aisling's Children: Tales of the Homecoming*. It began with the founding of the Scottish nation and ran through to the present day, telling the dramatic story of the clans' role in the history of Scotland. There were about 200 cast members, with music, dance and narrative, as well as spectacular lighting and audiovisual effects. Although the night was chilly, seats in the stands on the Castle Esplanade were cozy, well worth some discomfort to experience this magical production.

Highland Games continued on Sunday. We chose to explore Edinburgh shops and tourist locations rather than return to Holyrood Park.

All in all, our weekend in Edinburgh was nothing short of fabulous. It was a wonderful start to the next two weeks, during which our family toured Scotland, visiting some places from

which our forebears hailed and some that were just of tourist interest. The event organizers have hailed the Gathering a big success and are considering making it a regular fixture, since the economic benefits surpassed expectations. If they do so, you can be sure we will be there. □

## Pilgrims' Parish Churches Part I

—Paul Kilburn

Parish churches played a big role in the lives of Pilgrims who sailed to New England on the *Mayflower* in 1620. The Pilgrim Separatists had their religious origins in Lincolnshire and adjacent Nottinghamshire, where several of the future leaders lived and worshipped. The Pilgrim story is well known, but the role of parish churches in this area much less so. For these were the people who eventually separated from the Church of England, became Separatists, and sailed for Amsterdam, Holland, in 1608, and eventually Leyden. Some of them sailed first to England and eventually to New England. These two Pilgrim articles talk first about three of the early leaders and their churches, and second about a fourth leader and their final exodus from England.<sup>i</sup>

My wife and I took a genealogical trip to England a few years back, and finding and exploring the area of these early Pilgrim activities was one of our objectives. We were pleasantly surprised to discover that the English today are most cognizant of the Separatists' activities, that the Pilgrims are hailed as near heroes. They also provided a flyer and map (Fig 1) called *The Mayflower Trail*.<sup>ii</sup> These flyers were available at all bed-and-breakfasts in the area, for this is Pilgrim country, and they provide a large tourist attraction. This flyer made exploration of the churches and meeting halls where the Separatists had worshipped easy to locate. We were able to drive the trail in a single day, and on the second day we explored Fishtoft on the Humber some sixty miles to the south where the Pilgrims first attempted to sail to Holland. We also visited Boston with its jail



where several of the leaders were incarcerated after their arrest in 1607. Fortunately, they were later released, else our history of New England would be very different.



*Fig. 1: Pilgrim Country in eastern England. Babworth, Scrooby and Austerfield became the religious center for these Separatists who first tried to leave England at Fishtoft near Boston where they were arrested. The following year they successfully left England for Amsterdam at Immingham.*

The story of these Separatists really begins with Reverend Richard Clyfton (abt 1553-1616) who, as pastor of the Babworth Church from 1586 to 1605, preached separatism to his Anglican congregation which included William Brewster of nearby Scrooby, later to become one of the major leaders of the Pilgrims in Leyden, Holland and Plymouth, and young William Bradford of nearby Austerfield, later long-term governor at Plymouth. Discussion groups held in the rectory after church led to the formation of a breakaway movement by the Pilgrims and their eventual exodus to Amsterdam in 1608. Clyfton was deprived (fired) in 1605 for refusing to make the sign of the cross and preaching against church rituals after being parson at Babworth for 19 years. Clyfton, a graduate of Cambridge, the hotbed of Puritanism and Separatism, was such a good preacher that Brewster and young Bradford regularly walked the six and eight miles from their homes to listen to his sermons. He had preached in this corner of England since 1586, was over 50 by now, had a long white beard, and became the leader of this informal congregation.

After his deprivation he moved to Scrooby, where two years later he led the group to Amsterdam and died there in 1616. He is buried in the Zuiderkerk in Amsterdam.

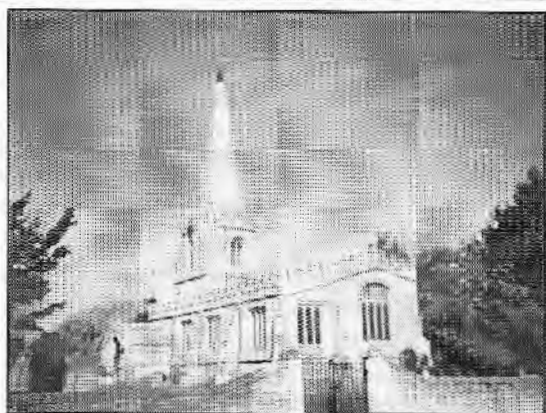
The Babworth Church is a 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century church (Fig. 2) quiet, isolated, and surrounded by trees.<sup>iii</sup> The local postmaster gave us a key to the church and we examined both the interior and exterior and were delighted to see a bearded fellow in pilgrim dress being photographed for future advertising. The few houses at Babworth hardly classify it as a village and the well-maintained church dominates the scene.

Some six miles to the north is the village of Scrooby, the center of the religious development of this group of Separatists, and where many of the members lived before emigrating to Holland. Their church services were not held in the large and impressive single-spired St. Wilfrid's Church (Fig 3), but in a manor house still standing on the edge of the village.



*Fig. 2: The All Saints' 15<sup>th</sup> century Parish Church in Babworth where leader Richard Clyfton preached.*

So many visitors want photographs of the manor house that the present occupant prohibits access to the property. It was with some difficulty that I talked him into getting close enough for my own photo. The old parson's house near the church still stands and is considered the home of the Brewster family. It was from Scrooby that the group first left on foot for Fishtoft in 1607 and attempted that first unsuccessful embarkation for Holland.



*Fig. 3: St. Wilfrid's Parish Church in Scrooby. William Brewster grew up in this village and worshipped in this church until the Pilgrims started their own congregation.*

St. Wilfrid's church is the most prominent building in Scrooby and was the church where William Brewster worshipped for most of his life. The church is described as Perpendicular Gothic and building began in the 14<sup>th</sup> and continued into the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It is built of mainly of native limestone, except for the unique octagonal steeple, which is built of sandstone.



*Fig. 4: The Manor House in Scrooby where these Pilgrims worshipped for two years before leaving for Holland.*

Brewster (b. abt 1560) became a very influential leader of the group. He spent some time at Peterhouse College of Cambridge University as well as the Netherlands, and gained his ideas of church reformation during this period. His leadership became apparent during their stay in Leyden, and he joined the first group to leave Leyden in 1620. As the only university educated member of Plymouth Colony, he became the senior elder of the colony, serving as its

religious leader in the early years. He died in 1644 in nearby Duxbury.

A few miles north of Scrooby is the village of Austerfield with its ancient Norman church, St. Helens dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. This church is also built of limestone and has a bellcote at the west end of the nave with two bells. This ancient church lacks the tall tower so typical of later churches.

The church is well maintained, capped in an unusual fashion with two visible belfry bells, and has the original font where Bradford was baptized. The day we were there the cleaning lady and her daughters gave us a tour with commentary, and we had a delightful time with them.

Austerfield is William Bradford's birthplace (1590) and where he has become the local folk hero. Bradford became governor of Plimoth Plantation in Massachusetts and for 33 years was a most remarkable leader responsible for the continued success of that early Plantation. Much of what we know about the early years at Plymouth comes from his meticulous diary *Of Plymouth Plantation, 1620-1647*. Bradford died in 1657 in Plymouth.

More about the Pilgrims in the next issue of this newsletter.

<sup>i</sup>Much of the information in these articles taken from classic book on the Pilgrims by George Willison, 1945, *Saints and Strangers*.

<sup>ii</sup>The key leaflet with a map is simply called *The Mayflower Trail*.

<sup>iii</sup>Information on Babworth and its church is from the 1990 commemorative booklet entitled *All Saint's Church, Babworth*; information on the Scrooby church from the *Scrooby Village Guide* and the internet *scrooby.net*, and the Austerfield Church, a pamphlet by Malcolm Dolby, 1991, *William Bradford of Austerfield*.<sup>7</sup>

## Castles of Ulster

—Marilyn Lyle

When you think of the British Isles, you cannot help but think of castles and forts and huge



estates. The castles were needed for defense fortifications in times of great conflict and there were many. Some castles are in ruins now and some are intact, but most can be visited. There are also local history and cultural centers near many of them, which can be helpful for family research.

If you are going to Ulster, there are three castles that will be interesting to visit. In Donegal is a castle called Donegal Castle, which was built by Sir Hugh O'Donnell who was chieftain of the O'Donnell clan around 1474. This castle is built on the River Eske and at that time was the finest Gaelic castle in Ireland. It was built on land that once held a Viking fortress. The O'Donnell family ruled Ireland for 1000 years but finally fled to Spain in the Flight of the Earls in 1607. They tried to destroy the castle by fire before leaving, but enough was left for the English Captain Brook to take over and restore it in the Jacobean style. It fell into disrepair after the Cromwell invasion, but today is fully restored.

The Dunluce Castle is located on the Antrim Coast near the Giants Causeway. It sits on a high rocky cliff and over time some of it has fallen into the sea. The story is that during a fierce storm, part of it collapsed into the sea taking a huge wedding party with it causing many deaths. It was built around 1200 and enlarged in 1500-1600. It is thought to have been built by Richard de Burgh but taken over in 1565 by "Sorley Boy" MacDonnell and his family. He was a Scottish chieftain who ruled the northern coast of Ireland and was called the Lord of Isles. Queen Elizabeth I was not happy about that and ordered Dunluce to be taken. He lost this unique castle to Shane O'Neill and then to Sir John Perrott, an English subject. "Sorley" MacDonnell was forced to swear allegiance to the English Kingdom, which enabled him to retain some authority over the castle.

In County Fermanagh is the Enniskillen Castle on the banks of the River Erne. Hugh Maguire, chieftain of Fermanagh and his brother Thomas built it in 1415. It was a stronghold to

guard one of the few passes into Ulster making it strategically important.

It had a square shape with twin towers and cone shaped turrets. Hugh Maguire was known as "The Hospitable" chieftain who promoted music, poetry and education during times of peace. After the O'Donnells and the O'Neills attacked Enniskillen, portions of the castle were destroyed to prevent English control. It was of no avail as it eventually became an English garrison.

No matter what area of Ireland you are touring, you will find a castle or two to visit and the experience will enrich your knowledge of the local history. □

## Welsh Surnames

—*Samuel O. Kuntz*

Surnames first appeared in Europe between the eleventh and fifteenth centuries with the patronymic surnames in Wales being adopted in the nineteenth century. The word surname comes from the French word "surnom," or the Latin "super nomen," signifying above the name. At first, surnames appeared before the given name.

Most surnames fall into four categories:

- Surnames derived from first names, include Johnson, Fitzhugh, MacNeal, Petrowsky, and Paulowitz, referring to a male ancestor, but occasionally they are matronymic.
- Occupational surnames refer to the bearer's occupation. Examples are Cooper (barrel maker or a cooper), Cook, Smith, Baker, Jenner (a joiner) and Taylor.
- Locational or topographic surnames are derived from the place where the bearer lived. These include Woods, Ford, Grant, Shannon, River and Bush. The Dutch use "Van" in front of the place meaning "from," an example is Van Buren. The Germans use "Von" to designate "from."
- Surnames derived from nicknames or sobriquets, include Young, Black, Brown, Long and Good.

As the world became more populated and as towns grew many people had the same given or Christian name. In order to distinguish them, people would sometimes include where they came from in their name, such as Thomas a Becket, or by their occupation, as John the butcher. Or they would use a descriptive word such as a color or size of the individual. Some nationalities, such as the Welsh, used the patronymic system. At the time of William the Conqueror, in 1066, the Normans began using surnames.

In Wales the patronymic naming system was the predominant way of naming people. In the Welsh language "mab" means "son of," and "verch" means daughter of. "Mab" was contracted to "ap" or "ab," thus a son named Hugh whose father was John would be called "Hugh ap John," or William whose father was Owen would be called "William ab Owen."

The 1536 Act of Union (an English law which incorporated Wales as a part of England) provided that all official documentation in Wales was to be carried out in the English language. This meant that Welsh names were registered in an anglicized form. The process of civil registration in 1837 completed the long transition to fixed surnames.

My great-great-grandfather who was born in 1797 was the first in the family that anglicized his name. When he was born he was given the name of Robert, his father was John, so he was called Robert ap John or Ieuan in Welsh. He changed John to Jones and took the name Robert Jones.

Many of the Welsh, when they anglicized their names or took surnames, just dropped the "ap" from their name and took their father's first name as their last name. Some added an "s" to the name so you have the names like Owen and Owens, Williams, Hughes, Jones (son of John) and Davis (son of David). In some cases the officials combined "ap" or "ab" with the first name to come up with names like Prichard (son of Richard), Bowen (son of Owen), Powel (son of Howell). Price (son of Rhys) and PWilliam (son of William). Other names which

came from John include the name Jenkins, a corruption of a Flemish version of John, and Evans which came from Ieuan as did John, or Jones.

Two brothers may have taken two different last names depending on who the English official was at the time they acquired a surname. For example, one might have been Owen and the other Owens or Bowen, one Reese and the other Price, one Richards and the other Prichard.

Some Welsh took a surname based on location or a nickname, but the prevalent method of taking surnames was to take the first name of their father as their last name. Thus it is common saying that if your last name sounds like a first name you are probably Welsh.

In Wales, even though some surnames were taken shortly after the 1536 Act of Union, many people did not take them until they were forced to in 1837 by the civil registration process forced upon them by the English. Thus, surnames are fairly new to the Welsh people. This can and does pose significant problems for genealogists. Also it creates difficulties in trying to tell people about where they came from in Wales. For unlike Scotland, a surname in Wales cannot be attached to a region. One's last name only depended on his father's name and people named John or Ieuan, William, Hugh, Owen lived all over Wales. □

### New at Denver Public Library

— Zvon Ende Lappin

W.I.S.E. has been putting its book fund to good use with the purchase of new material for the British Isles genealogy collection of the Denver Public Library. These include two volumes on the Irish in eastern Canada, a series of 12 books with titles beginning "My Ancestor Was ..." and a volume on tracing migrants from Ontario, the latter donated by James K. Jeffrey on behalf of W.I.S.E. Here are summaries of each:

Punch, Terrence M., *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853*,



volumes 1 and 2, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2008.

If your Irish ancestors – Catholic or Protestant – immigrated in the 92-year span covered in these two neat volumes, you may find unexpected details about them here. But beware: We're talking about the maritime regions of Canada – Nova Scotia, Labrador, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Cape Breton Island and Prince Edward Island – not Quebec, where many of our ancestors disembarked.

Punch himself is a Nova Scotian and he has combed hundreds of sources, both obscure and obvious, to come up with hundreds of names, including spelling variations. All are indexed. His sources include burial records and headstones; military records; lists of convicts transported to North America; a rare, early census or two; lists of Loyalists. Many are names of persons who went from Ireland to America, then north to Canada after several years. Punch claims that all are original sources, though he cites works of others that have helped him in his research. Each volume also contains a bibliography and an alphabetical list of ships.

Though millions of Irish either passed through eastern Canada on their way south to New England or settled in the Maritime Provinces as farmers or fishermen, genealogists have long been confounded by a dearth of records, especially compared to those in New York and New England. Punch goes a long way to rectify this. Each volume totals about 195 pages.

Watts, Michael J. and Christopher T., *My Ancestor Was in the British Army*, London: Society of Genealogists Enterprises Limited, 2009 update of 1991 original.

No sources of genealogical information are more intimidating than foreign military records. Even if family lore puts your ancestor in Wellington's Army at Waterloo, it's exceedingly difficult to know where to start, especially if he was a soldier, not an officer. If you're lucky enough to know the name or number of his regiment, you're way ahead of the game.

Now this pair of British brothers, Michael and Christopher Watts, has devised a guide to British Army records especially for the family historian. It's based on their experience, well-organized and logical, and meant primarily for researchers with access to sources in the Britain and Ireland. Americans would use it as a starting place, a means to become familiar with the maze of records. Many of these are available at the Family History Library and branches as well as online. (The authors list four pages of Web sites, some of them subscription.) A trip to the British Isles would be the next step. By then, this 303-page guide likely would have become indispensable.

Perhaps the most important suggestions offered by the Watts brothers cover the question: How do I find my ancestor's regiment? First, an approximate date is mandatory. Then, you must know whether you're looking for an officer or a common soldier – the former is far easier to research. With those two points in hand, more or less, you're ready to look for the organization in which he served, for almost all records are arranged by regiment. The authors provide a most comprehensive list of possible routes, both at the National Archives in Kew at the Scottish National Archives in Edinburgh as well as many other possibilities. Also, they advise that records before and after 1914 are organized in completely different systems.

(Titles of the 11 other books in the series were listed in *W.I.S.E. Words* newsletter for July, August and September 2009.)

Stratford-Devai, Fawne, *Leaving Ontario; Sources for Tracking Ontario Migrants*, Campbellville, Ontario: Global Heritage Press, 2008.

Those Irish, Scots and English who settled Upper Canada – Ontario as we know it – were adventurous and optimistic souls, and many left the province for the western reaches of both Canada and the United States. It became an exodus in the 1880s as economic conditions, the promise of better land, completion of the trans-Canada railroad and wanderlust propelled these industrious people to pull up

stakes and head out. Tracing them can be difficult, and Fawne Stratford-Devai has compiled a guide for family historians in search of their Ontario families.

It's part primer for any genealogist – check census records, naturalization records, church registers, follow the neighbors, too – as well as a guide to particular sources that could help, such as border crossing records. She emphasizes the need to search in both America and Canada, for these people were going into wide open spaces and could pop up just about anywhere. Railroads were burgeoning, and it wasn't hard to get around. Ontario suffered from this mass migration; the Prairie Provinces and states as well as the Pacific Northwest benefited.

The strong point of the spiral-bound volume of 80 pages is list after list of Web sites that may provide clues and answers. The most fascinating part is contemporary accounts from Ontario newspapers describing the departure of friends and neighbors as they heaped their goods into railcars, herded their livestock onto the train and headed west. A reporter went along on part of one such journey, then described the logistics and commented on the circumstances. He mostly liked what he saw and heard. Some articles named everybody leaving on a particular train on a particular day, and there's a complete index of names, surnames and given names, used throughout the book. Maps are sparse, however, so the researcher is advised to come up with his own.

The author has written exhaustively on Canadian genealogical research – her Web page lists 13 book titles, several of them multi-volume, plus a list of articles – and she is one of three sleuths on a Canadian television show, *Ancestors in the Attic*. □

### Summer Outing to Leadville

--Margaret Kadziel and Kendrick King

W.I.S.E. members and guests got out-of-town on our outing to Leadville, on June 27th.

Travelers included Terry Quirke, Duane Woodard, Susan and Don Clasen, Margaret Kadziel and Doug Rowe, Kendrick King, Alice and David Sveum and Ken and Harriet Oehlkers. The group wasn't large enough for an organized tour, but individually, they wandered though the National Mining Hall of Fame Museum. Lunch was taken at the historic Delaware Hotel.



After lunch, several toured the Tabor Opera House, while others wandered around town. Research in the genealogy room of the local public library appealed to Duane and Margaret. Doug and Margaret did the two car tours through the mining camps, very car unfriendly – wouldn't do it on a wet day – but, worth the effort. They travelled through the area now famous for J.J. and "Molly" Brown who lived in a mining camp their first year of marriage. They also drove to one of the higher elevations (about 11,500 feet) to see the Little Johnny Mine. □

### New Books at Denver Public Library

--James K. Jeffrey

Placed on the shelves at DPL in August:

Atkinson, Jeremy. *Clogs and Clogmaking*  
G685.32 A875cL 2008.

Baldwin, Nick. *Old Delivery Vans*  
G629.223 B193oL 2009

Benford, Mervyn. *Milestones*  
G388.130941 B436mi 2002

Fearn, Jacqueline. *Thatch and Thatching*  
G695.0941 F311th 2004



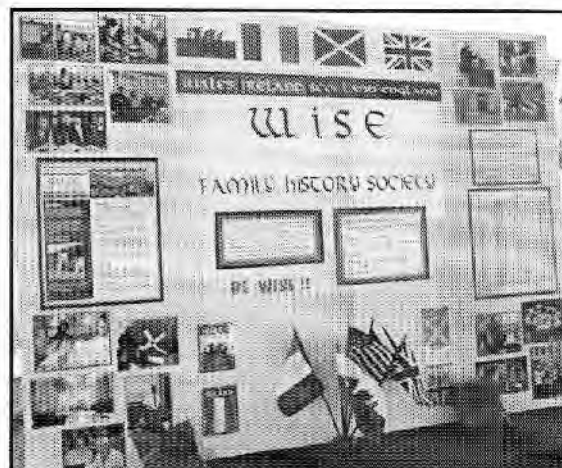
- Garner, Lawrence. *Dry Stone Walls*  
G631.270941 G186dr 2007
- Gascoigne, Margaret. *Discovering English Customs and Traditions*  
G390.0942 G211di 1998
- Hallett, Anna. *Almshouses*  
G725.550941 2004
- Hallett, Anna. *Markets and Marketplaces of Britain*  
G381.10941 H154mar 2009
- Hans, Fred. *Old Poultry Breeds*  
G636.50941 H189oL 1999
- Harris, Richard. *Discovering Timber-Framed Buildings*  
G721.0448 Harris 2006
- Hayes, Geoffrey. *Coal Mining*  
G622.3340941 H326co 2000
- Henson, Elizabeth. *British Sheep Breeds*  
G636.320941 H398br 2009
- Kaye, David. *Old Buses*  
G629.22233 K182oL 2006
- Kelley, D. W. *Charcoal and Charcoal Burning*  
G338.4766274 K287ch 1986
- Kilby, Ken. *Coopers and Coopering*  
G674.82 K551co 2004
- May, Tevor. *Victorian and Edwardian Prisons*  
G365.94109 M4514vi 2006
- Mountfield, David. *Stage and Mail Coaches*  
G388.3410941 M8646st 2003
- Pearson, Lynn F. *Discovering Famous Graves*  
G726.80941 P3171di 2004
- Rutherford, Sarah. *Victorian Cemetery*  
G929.541 R933vi 2008
- Sadler, Nigel. *Slave Trade*  
G306.362096 S126sL 2009
- Scabornie, Malcolm. *Celtic Crosses of Britain and Ireland*  
G736.50941 S438cc 2009
- Swann, June. *Shoemaking*  
G338.476853 S972sh 1986
- Tams, Richard. *Victorian and Edwardian Sportsman*  
G796.094109 T151vi 2007
- Toms, Jan. *Animal Graves and Memorials*  
G636.088709 T599an 2006
- Williams, Merfyn. *Slate Industry*  
G338.2754094 W6307sL 2002 □

## 2009 Highland Games

--Nancy Craig

For the forty-sixth year, the St. Andrew Society of Colorado hosted Highland Games. Over those decades, the event has evolved to become a celebration of the Celtic countries, in addition to the Rocky Mountain Games were traditional competitions for athletics, dancing, and piping.

This year, the Games were held on August 8th and 9th. Once again, W.I.S.E. partnered with Denver Public Library to provide people, maps and reference books to answer guests' questions.



Obviously we can only give a cursory look into their needs, based on their family surname or a tidbit of a family story such as, "I know my great-grandpa came from somewhere in Scotland."

We were fortunate to have a larger and more open tent this year versus the rather cramped quarters we've had in past years. Until the breezes tipped it over, the new display board and flags of the four countries (plus the U.S. flag) were featured prominently to showcase W.I.S.E. and our activities. We were able to anchor the large, framed map of Scotland to a tent stake!

We had people who came from Castle Rock, Colorado Springs and Greeley to help this

year, in addition to the ones from the Denver metro area. Saturday's workers were Chris Webb, Elaine Radney, Linda & Warren Pearce, Marilyn Lyle, Mary Williams, Milly Jones, Starr Jaegler, Stephanie Hayward, Cathy Brandon and Eileen Langdon. Sunday's workers were Dan and Fran Parker, Diane Barbour, Duane Duff, Peter Hughes, and Sandy Carter-Duff. Thanks to everyone. I hope YOU enjoy the games as much as I do every year.

### Membership Report

--Nancy Craig

Welcome to our new members who joined over the summer months: Nancy McCurdy, Robert Rushforth and the Richard Wilson family (Mom, Dad and two daughters). Currently, membership of the W.I.S.E. Family History Society is 154 members.

### Calendar of Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Speaker / Sponsor</i>	<i>Topic</i>
September 26	1:00 p.m.	Gates Room, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Denver Public Library	Paul Kilburn	Genealogy and English Parish Churches
October 24	1:00 p.m.	Gates Room, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Denver Public Library	Panel of Speakers	Accents and Dialects of the British Isles
December 5	1:00 p.m.	Gates Room, 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Denver Public Library	Judy Williams	British Tea Time

*For details about upcoming programs sponsored by W.I.S.E., please turn to page 56.*