

# generations

*The Journal of the Manitoba Genealogical Society*

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# GENERATIONS

THE JOURNAL OF THE MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Cover: The Brandon Agricultural Extension Centre, where the Manitoba Genealogical Society will hold their *Seminar '82*. Registration forms for the Seminar and for accommodation are included in this issue of generations.

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## Computerizing The Family Organization

( A Simple Approach)

by Joanna W. Posey

One of the most exciting challenges in the world today, and in our personal lives, as well, is the adaptation of computer technology to meet the needs of those around us. Through the use of a quality home computer system, the lay person has the unique adventure of enhancing the use of time and effort to create more time for himself. The old adage of needing a 48 hour day to accomplish goals will not drop from the lips from the judicious user of the home computer system. The same is true of the family organization staff who incorporates advanced technology within their goals and projects. The system definitely will save the time of many who manually labor in the routine workings of the family organization. Computers, even the very word, frightens most of us, due to the stereotype frequently encountered by ideas projecting scientific equations, strange verbal lingo, and odd looking equipment. All of these fears may be "laid to rest" in the understanding that the average person, with a little guidance, may learn to use the basic home computer system to his greatest advantage. The author speaks with authority in that proclamation. Likewise, the use of such a system within the scope of the family organization, will enhance organizational goals, free time of staff members, organize data in entry and retrieval in such a way, that eventually the family will regard the equipment as "indispensible". This article will show specific, tried and tested, uses of a quality home computer system within the workings of the family organization. The computerization of family associations need not be mysterious or difficult, but relatively, simple by following basic guidelines or suggestions.

### THE EQUIPMENT:

There are many computer sales representatives who are not familiar with the needs or "workings" of the family organization. Basically, these personnel know the assets and, hopefully, the limitations of each piece of equipment they represent. The equipment, the key board, typewriter styled terminal, "television" monitor, disk storage drives,

cables, printer, etc., is 'hardware' in computerese. The programs, computer instructions, which are on disks are called software. It is the intermeshing of hardware and software which will meet the pre-defined needs of the family organization. Family organizations 'needs' come first, itemized and well-defined. The selection of hard and software will be determined by the specified needs. It is essential to know, however, that the more 'K' a computer has, the more beneficial it will be to the user and the more applicable programs available. The author, initially, purchased a 48K Apple II plus and got along marvelously. It is suggested that a video monitor for the computer be purchased at the onset. Television sets hooked to the computer terminal limits family organization applications. In shopping for a quality home computer system, look for the integrity of the sales firm. Sales reputability, hardware serviceability, and software replacability are key factors essential to user happiness. Sales philosophy and 'authorized factory dealerships' will add strength to user confidence. Be selective in your computer company, in hardware and software decisions. In hardware comparisons, keep in mind that, eventually, the computer system will need to expand in hardware capabilities. The system a family organization purchases should have telecommunications and hard disk expansion capabilities. A quality printer is a must. A sophisticated dot matrix or a letter quality are great options to enhance the system.

The software to use for a family organization record keeping system are numerous. However, through experience, the author has discovered that most of the family organization "workings" may be handled by one program, a database management system. There are many programs for genealogical management on the market which may fit the needs of the organization. But through trial and error, the author maintains that one database management program will handle the organization business; i.e. memberships, income, mailing labels, reunion memos, subscription renewals, membership pedigree charts, etc. as well as all genealogical and historical information in the organization repository.

#### THE DATABASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The excitement of using a family organization computer comes with the creation of computer files, designed by the user. The challenge is quite enjoyable. With each family organization need, a new computer file can be created for that need. The well-directed use of equipment and software will successfully meet the needs of

the family organization. After testing many programs in actual experience, the author has settled on one database program to do almost all of the record keeping and filing for the family organizations. The following examples are from the PFS program designed for the Apple II plus.

#### MAILING LABELS:

With the use of the PFS database management program, a design for mailing lists took form. Not only the name, address, zip were listed, but whether the person was an organization member, correspondence inquirer, newsletter subscriber. Also mentioned on the same screen was information relating to the family branch connection, and subscription expiration. Granted, it takes a little time to key in all membership data but the retrieval on just this one file design is fascinating and extremely practical. For example, keying in the retrieval instructions (which are most simple), the computer will print all or part of each file. It will search for one keyword or name or in a combination of multiples. With just a tap of several keys, the computer will locate all newsletter subscribers and print mailing labels, pre-sorted on pressure sensitive labels. It will also run a search on subscriber expirations, or inquiries or branch connections. When there is a need to know which members are descendants from a branch uncle, the computer will search all of the storage disk and produce a list of names, addresses and zips. From a mailing standpoint, it takes the place of an efficient secretary, but the beauty of this design is that genealogical research may be co-ordinated to minimize the expenditure of resource duplication. When research data is found, in seconds the computer will tell which persons would be interested in receiving that data, and prepare mailing labels for just a select few in that category. One computer file design enables time efficient use by organization staff officers. The benefits in this area must not be overlooked. One design with multiple uses, saves time, effort, cost and duplication.

#### FAMILY GROUP SHEET ARCHIVES:

The same PFS program is used. A new file design was created. Included was husband's name and data, wife's name and data, parentage of both; names and dates of children birth; other surnames on the sheet, different states listed and number of family group sheet in archives.

The retrieval of this data is tremendous. A search, again, may be run for one individual or in a multiple of keywords. As a letter is received inquiring of data on a person born in a given state, other info is unknown, the computer will search the name and the state and show the holdings in the archives on that person by page number. The page is xeroxed and sent to the inquirer. Missing children, inaccurate dates, or undocumented places of family members which are cumbersome to many family organizations may be expertisely handled with the use of the home computer system and the database management program. Searches take seconds, results are projected on the screen and/or printed on paper. No longer is the need for a manual search page by page, file by file. Time is shorter, yet the system makes more of it. Is it magic? Many senior citizens claim that it is.

#### 1850 U.S. CENSUS:

The Posey Family became involved in Posey surname extraction in the 1850 Census. The extractions from film to paper was a long task. A database form was designed for the 1850 Census file: All names, ages, places of birth, other data, other surnames in household, specific township, county, state with full documentation was included for each household. Racial Color was also keyed in. Through this design, the entire 1850 census was put on one floppy disk. It has become an index of immeasurable wealth. Not only can individual search be run, but racial patterns and demographic mobility can also be charted. Movement of clusters and families. Missing brothers or sisters can be found, in their own household away from the parental family. Studies can also be made on occupational movement, real estate ventures and other insights which may provide clues to other records to locate and document the family. Other census extractions are in the plans, but the use of the computer alleviates all mountains of unorganized data. Searches are done in seconds, much faster than the thumbing methods of manual labor.

#### BITS AND PIECES:

What to do with all of the bits and pieces of loose data where no one really knows which file would be best. Ah, Yes! Another data file to be created. The bits and pieces file is literally a catch all. No matter what the once 'misfit' data sections are, they now have a perpetual home. This file is an important asset to the family organization.



### MISCELL FILES:

The files are too numerous to mention. Each computer user in the family organization will have the ability to design their own filing system. However, in just a short time, files for marriage records, calendar of genealogical searches, identity graphs, research goals for branch line problems, cemetery records, etc. may be created for the need. Tens of thousands of names may be kept on several disks. All available in ready access for instant searches.

For the family organizations who sponsor family welfare projects, as food storage, car loans, hospital funds, blood banks, the computer system will be able to keep those records, as well, with a database management program 'designed' for these personal family needs.

### THE TRENDS:

The future holds a wealth of technology just at our fingertips. The cost of the home computer system is within the reach of most families and family organizations. It is not surprising to think of family organizations eventually, via telecommunications, linking to vast computer data banks and exchanging genealogical information. Nor is it unrealistic to think of one family organization linking with another via satellite to exchange data.

Learning to use the home computer system takes some effort and guidance. But, the beauty of the system is that lay persons may use the equipment in a relatively short period of time. The family organization's well-defined needs, coupled with quality, expandable hardware and wise selection of software, will increase the harmony within the organization, expedite the access of data, eliminate hours of manual labor, and produce time to spend on family organization projects in goal achievement. Yes, the computer will bring people, family members, closer together in many ways. Certainly, the computer will be enjoyed and appreciated by all who have been helped by it. It is here to stay and worth every penny of Investment!!!

TOPONYMY, THE C.P.C.G.N. AND YOU

by G. F. Holm

Surveys & Mapping Branch, Province of Manitoba

This article will give you an insight into the relatively unknown science of toponymy, the agencies responsible, the rules and regulations and the procedure concerning the submission of geographical names.

Toponymy is the study of our geographical names - rivers and lakes, cities and towns. These names, often referred to as toponyms, form an integral part of our communication systems, especially locational mechanisms like maps and signs. The names transmit essential information without which the map becomes a puzzle and virtually useless.

The uniformity and accuracy of these names on maps and documents is an absolute necessity and the agency responsible is the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (C.P.C.G.N.). This Committee has given our nation an enviable record in the research and maintenance of names, with its greatest assets being the central storage of data and the achievement of national standards for the gathering, examining and decision processing of geographical names.

WHY AND WHEN WAS THE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED?

The surveyors and map makers of the late 1800's recognized the lack of an authority to deal with the complexity, standardization and stability of the names being recorded on their maps and plans. So in 1897, the Canadian government established the Geographic Board of Canada.

Initially, this Board was responsible for nomenclature and research in geography but its function was reduced to the verification of names for mapping as well as the recording of names.

As a result of this change in emphasis from geographic research to strictly more nomenclature work, the Board was re-organized in 1948 to become the Canadian Board of Geographical Names. To provide for geographical research in Canadian Toponymy and to acknowledge the authority of the provinces in the matter of place names, the Board was replaced in 1961 by the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names.

#### WHAT ARE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES?

It is responsible to deal with all questions of geographical nomenclature affecting Canada and to undertake research and investigation into the origin and useage of geographical names. Names within provinces become decisions of the Committee as decided by the respective provinces, and in the territories, national parks and Indian Reserves as determined by the Federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. The names in Manitoba are the responsibility of the Minister of Natural Resources.

The Committee advises on a program of research and investigation into the origin and use of geographical names, and publishes decisions resulting from research.

#### WHO ARE ITS MEMBERS?

Seven representatives from federal departments concerned with mapping, archives, defence, translation and territorial administration and a representative appointed by each province. Manitoba's representative is Allen C. Roberts, the Director of Surveys and Mapping Branch, as appointed by the Minister of Natural Resources.

#### WHAT RULES OR PRINCIPLES EXIST?

The principles of nomenclature which guide the decisions of the C.P.C.G.N. are contained in its booklet entitled 'Principles and Procedures'. There are fourteen such principles and they include:

- a) First consideration should be given to names with established public use.
- b) Established names that have proved acceptable and satisfactory should not be changed or altered.
- c) Duplication of new names to the extent that it may result in confusion should be avoided.
- d) Personal names should not be used unless it is in the public interest to honour a person by applying such a name to a geographical feature; the application of a personal name during the lifetime of the person concerned should only be made in exceptional circumstances.

#### WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE CONCERNING THE SUBMISSION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES?

Any individual or organization may propose a name for a previously unnamed feature or suggest a change in an existing name, provided they comply with the established principles and procedures.

An application form can be obtained from the address below. The consideration of proposed names or name changes may require considerable time, particularly when local investigations are required.

Individuals or organizations contemplating publications which include unapproved geographical names not listed in the current Annual Directory - Manitoba Geographical Names, should submit proposals well in advance of publication dates. The publication of unauthorized names will not result in their official recognition.

It is recommended that the principles be carefully consulted to ascertain the suitability of proposed names.

#### WHERE CAN YOU GET FURTHER INFORMATION?

Inquiries concerning geographic names in Manitoba, proposals concerning new names, changes in the form, spelling or applications of existing names, should be directed to A. C. Roberts, Manitoba Member, C.P.C.G.N., or Gerry Holm at the Surveys & Mapping Branch, 1007 Century Street, Winnipeg, R3H 0W4 Ph. 633-9543.

## HUMAN INTEREST NAMES

Human interest place names are those which are most likely to spark the who, what, where, when and why questions from interested persons. A few of the names in this category are Flin Flon, Jenpeg, Star Mound, Mystery Lake and Oak Hammock Marsh.

### FLIN FLON

The tale of the discovery and naming of the famous Flin Flon Mine is recalled in an authentic first hand account of the episode. "How Flin Flon Got Its Name" by Tom Creighton and is reprinted here from "Northern Lights", July 1942, a magazine of the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd.

In the summer of 1915 six prospectors, Dan Milligan, Dan and Jack Mosher, Tom Creighton, Leon and Isador Dion were gathered together doing some work on a mineral discovery which had been made earlier in the year about one hundred miles north of The Pas -- at that time the end of the steel -- the jumping-off place for the far north.

As if sympathetic genii had conspired to aid them, a name for the discovery was already at hand. Four of the party while prospecting along the Churchill River the previous summer had picked up the remnants of a paper-backed novel on a portage where some pioneer had lightened his load. "The Sunless City" was the title, and the leading character was Josiah Flintabbatey Flonatin, contracted by the prospectors to "Flin Flon". It told of a subterranean domain where gold was so plentiful that it was literally a base metal -- truly the Mecca sought by all prospectors. The coincidence of finding such a fanciful tale by the prospectors seems almost incredible. More so because the concluding pages of the novel had been torn off and its finders were not to know where the hole was supposed to be located through which Flin Flon reached the earth's surface on his flight from the subterranean domain. But, by a strange coincidence there was a conical hole about ten feet in diameter on the discovery.

Jack Mosher was doing some panning of the dirt in the hole and when he got a rich showing of gold in the pan due to the concentration from the surrounding leached ore, Tom Creighton facetiously remarked: "That must be the hole where old Flin Flon came up and shook his

gold dust laden whiskers, so what do you say if we call the discovery Flin Flon?" The other prospectors immediately assented, and from that time the discovery was known as Flin Flon, despite the fact that later on some of the other interested parties objected to the name as sounding too much like flim flam, but the prospectors insisted on the Flin Flon and overcame all objections."

#### JENPEG

This name applies to the hydro generating station and accompanying settlement on the Nelson River (West Channel) above Cross Lake. Mr. A. N. Andrew, an engineer with the Water Resources Branch, suggested this name while he was in charge of fast water soundings and dike-line surveys in the region during 1950 and 1951. When a name was needed for the point of land where the west channel of the Nelson joined Cross Lake, he and his co-workers agreed on a combination of the first names of two secretaries back at the office in Winnipeg, "Jennie" Kitkowski and "Peggy" Johnston. It is interesting to note that such a name may not be acceptable today if proposed for an unnamed feature. However, the name had been in existence for over twenty years and as a result had become well established and according to the "Principles and Procedures" of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, well established names and names in public use get first consideration.

#### STAR MOUND

This hill located 3 km northwest of the community of Snowflake was officially known as Nebogawawin Butte until January 10th, 1977. The name was changed to Star Mound as a result of the Federal/Provincial toponymic field research program undertaken between 1975 and 1978. Star Mound was found to be the only name in local use. The Star Mound school is now located on the mound, approximately 100 feet above the surrounding plains.

Place Names of Manitoba, Geographic Board of Canada, 1933 provides the following information on the name: "Nebogawawin; butte, 1-10-1; also known as "Star Mound" and "Dry Dance Mountain"; where the Indians before going on the warpath were accustomed to dance and fast three days and nights; in later years near the half yearly rendezvous of the Red River buffalo hunters, about five miles east".

### MYSTERY LAKE

This lake is located near the City of Thompson and is one of the largest nickel mines in the world. In 1972 this office received the enquiry -- "What is the significance of this name?" Several persons questioned about it just said 'it's a mystery to me', but we didn't stop there! Mr. D. E. Munn, the President and General Manager of INCO in Thompson advised us that a member of his field exploration department recalled talking to a Mr. Gordon Murray in 1955, who claimed to have named the lake. It was learned that Mr. Murray was in his eighties and President of the British Columbia Chamber of Mines. Return correspondence from Mr. Murray revealed that his wife had actually named the lake. It came about like this. News of his 1927 discovery claims reached other prospectors at The Pas. He was away when they came to his base camp, so his wife told them he was at "Mystery Lake", the location of which remained a mystery to them for some time. The name's 'mystery' had been solved, our enquiry answered, and the name through usage, well established.

### OAK HAMMOCK MARSH

This is a well known marshland just north of Winnipeg embracing 3,500 acres. Several proposed names were reviewed prior to the approval of Oak Hammock Marsh on June 23, 1972. According to the Oak Hammock Postmaster, in correspondence with the Geographic Board of Canada in August 1928, "The name 'Oak Hammock' originated from the old settlers of the Red River Valley about 1800. The Oak Hammock is on the N.E. 1/4 Section 27, Township 13, Range 3 E.P.M., and in the year 1874 was taken up by the late Adam McDonald as a homestead, and he then called the place Oak Hammock as his place of abode, this hammock of oak comprised at the time from 15 to 20 acres, situated on quite a high knoll and is the only oak in any quantity for many miles around. Some of the Oak measure from 18 to 24 inches at the butt. Much of the Oak still remains -- Hence the name "Oak Hammock". Formerly a partially drained wet meadow the area received a Wildlife Management designation in 1973 and it is known as the Oak Hammock Marsh Wildlife Management Area.

The discussions surrounding these human interest names have been just samples of the information contained within the toponymic files of the Surveys and Mapping Branch at 1007 Century Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 2E6.

### HOMESTEADER ROOTS

In 1872 the Canadian Department of Agriculture and Immigration began distributing posters announcing "FRUITFUL MANITOBA -- HOMES FOR MILLIONS -- THE BEST WHEATLAND AND RICHEST GRAZING COUNTRY UNDER THE SUN". They lured hundreds of individuals and families to brave enormous hardships to develop a prosperous Manitoba for future generations. These pioneer settlers were known as homesteaders and 'sod busters'. Some came before the completion of the surveys while others arrived with the waves of immigrants to start 'fresh' in a new land. They stayed on to build multi-cultural and multi-lingual communities which lived in harmony to create the backbone of Western Canada. Many of their names have been perpetuated on geographical features near their homesteads as a perpetual tribute to their considerable contribution to Manitoba.

If you're wondering who could apply for homesteads under the Dominion Lands Act during the period from 1872 to 1930 under the Federal Government's administration of our resources, here is what the Act specified: "Every person who is the sole head of a family, or being a male, has attained the age of eighteen years, and who is a British subject or declares intention to become a British subject, and who makes application in the manner hereinafter provided, shall be entitled to obtain entry for a homestead for an area of available agricultural land, not exceeding one-quarter section ... the theoretical area of one hundred and sixty acres ... and a fee of ten dollars shall be payable with the application." It was in the Portage la Prairie region on July 2nd, 1872 that John Sanderson became the first person to apply for a government homestead.

Obtaining a patent (legal ownership) to the land was not this easy as there were homestead duties that had to be fulfilled. For example, the settler had to reside in a habitable house on the homestead for at least six months of the year during a term of three years; and in all cases the land had to be worked during each of the three years and a reasonable portion of the breaking was required to be seeded in two of those years.



After June 1st, 1908 a homesteader was required to break 30 acres of the homestead of which 20 had to be cropped before applying for patent.

Prominent farmers whose names were perpetuated in community names were:

Alexander Thompson Spiers, Homesteaded, 1882, the SE quarter section of Section 16 - Township 10 - Range 21 West of the Principal Meridian;

John O. Bell (Belmont), 1882, NE 20-5-15 W.P.M., Belmont was known as Craigilea until 1891 when Mr. Bell requested the station be called Bellsmount by the Northern Pacific Railway Co.;

Alvey Morden, 1874, NW9-3-5W, also in 1874 Wilmot Morden and Franklin Morden homesteaded the NW5 and NE5 -3-5 W.P.M. respectively;

Roland was named after Roland McDonald, a farmer and lumber merchant, 1879, SW10-5-4 W.P.M., prior to 1880 it was known as Lowestoft;

Binscarth became a post office in 1883 being named after a farm for purebred stock established in the vicinity by the Scottish, Ontario and Manitoba Land Co. (1886, NW17-19-28W) of which William Bain Scarth was the founder and Manager.

During the 1975 - 1978 toponymic field study many pioneers and other local residents, interested in the history of their respective communities, were interviewed. Hundreds of new local names were identified and recorded, among them being many named after homesteaders. The following list provides the reader with twenty-five such names being a mere handful of those recorded. The name of the homesteader is the probable origin of the name which reflects the original ethnic backgrounds of the regions. In some cases the type of terrain is also reflected in the name.

Wigle Springs, near Assiniboine River, Philip Wigle, SW34-9-17 W.P.M.

Czornyj Lake, W. of Clear Lake, Michal Czornyj, 1911, SW32-19-21 W.P.M.

Goldie Lake, SW. of Whitewater Lake, William Thomas  
Golding, 1889, SW22-1-23 W.P.M.

Musgrove Ravine, SW. of Boissevain, Elizabeth Jane  
Musgrove, 1884, SW14-3-20 W.P.M.

Hipkins Spring, E. of Souris River, Alfred Hipkins,  
1882, SW28-3-26 W.P.M.

Hunters Lake, SE. of Pipestone, Bruce Hunter, 1885,  
SE34-6-26 W.P.M.

Harrison Bridge, Assiniboine River, William Harrison,  
1885, NW36-9-24 W.P.M.

Cooleys Marsh, W. of Shoal Lake, William E. Cooley,  
1895, NW18-17-25 W.P.M.

Cavers Spring, N. of Rock Lake, James Cavers, 1879,  
NW1-3-13 W.P.M.

Mooneys Lake, SW. of Rock Lake, John Mooney, 1888,  
SW6-2-15 W.P.M.

Thorsteinson Lake, NE. of Pelican Lake, Helgi  
Thorsteinson, 1880, NE2-6-14 W.P.M.

Gerolamy Lake, E. of Pelican Lake, Benjamin Gerolamy,  
1882, NW22-4-13 W.P.M.

Lac Labossiere, E. of Swan Lake, Edward Labossiere,  
1884, SE4-5-9 W.P.M.

Lac Rondeau, E. of Swan Lake, Jeremiah Rondeau, 1878,  
NE31-4-8 W.P.M.

Hood Bridge, Assiniboine River, Victor Ormiston Hood,  
1900, NE24-10-8 W.P.M.

Hamiltons Flats, S. of Assiniboine River, Edward  
Hamilton, 1883, NE24-9-9 W.P.M.

Rinns Point, E. of Pembina River, Adam Rinn, 1884,  
NW36-1-8 W.P.M.

Fargeys Ravine, E. of Pilot Mound, Thomas L. Fargey,  
1879, SE23-3-10 W.P.M.

Harlow Drain, Flows NW. into the Roseau River, Daniel  
Harlow, 1874, NE26-2-3 E.P.M.

Lac Phaneuf, SE. of Richer, Isie Phaneuf, 1902,  
SE32-7-8 E.P.M.

Quite often more than one member of family homesteaded  
land in close proximity to one another as evidenced  
by the following names:

Sinkers Slough, S. of Rock Lake, George Sinker, 1896,  
SW2-1-13 W.P.M. and James Sinker, 1896, NW2-1-13 W.P.M.

Gimbey Creek, (formerly McGillis Creek) near Cartwright,  
Chargles Wellington Gimby, 1883, NE32-1-14 W.P.M.,  
and William Joseph Gimby, 1883, NW32-1-14 W.P.M.  
and Frederick J. B. Gimby, 1884, NE2-1-15 W.P.M.

Watsons Lake, N. of Pelican Lake, Martin R. Watson,  
1886, SE10-6-16 W.P.M., and Peter Watson, 1887, SE4-  
6-16 W.P.M.

Langs Valley, E. of Souris River, James Lang, 1881,  
SW2-6-18 W.P.M., and Edward Lang, 1882, NE2-6-18 W.P.M.,  
and George M. Lang, 1881, SW4-6-18 W.P.M.

Sibbald Creek, Flows S. into Assiniboine River, Thomas  
W. Sibbald, 1882, SE12-11-22 W.P.M. and William Sibbald,  
1882, NE2-11-22 W.P.M.

The geographical names and their locations discussed  
in this article are by no means all the features or  
agricultural regions perpetuating homesteader's names.  
For example along the Whitemouth river, Prette Falls,  
Ostlund Falls, Nevas Falls, Leeyus Falls and Nakka  
Falls originate with the names of the early settlers  
in that region. If any readers have questions con-  
cerning these or other specific geographical names,  
please contact A. C. Roberts, Manitoba Member,

C.P.C.G.N. or Gerry Holm at The Surveys & Mapping  
Branch, 1007 Century Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3H 0W4, ph. 633-9543.

MANITOBA'S GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES CONTINUE TO BE NAMED  
AFTER ITS WAR CASUALTIES.

More than 1800 lakes, rivers, creeks, etc. have been named after Manitoba's casualties of World War II. This application of casualty names is a fitting memorial and affords society a means of recognizing the contribution which these brave Canadians made so we could live in peace and human dignity.

After the end of the Second World War, The Geographic Board of Canada, now known as The Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, established a policy to use names of decorated casualties for any unnamed features requiring names for mapping and resource development purposes. As a result, names such as Mynarski Lakes and Wernham Lake now appear on maps of Manitoba.

Mynarski Lakes, (56 10' - 99 12'), was named on April 5th, 1949 after P/O Andrew C. Mynarski, VC, Reg. No. J087544 who was awarded a post-humous Victoria Cross for his act of heroism. While on a bombing mission over France, his Lancaster bomber was hit by enemy fire. Before bailing out he tried to free a fellow gunner trapped in his turret. The gunner had a miraculous escape when the aircraft crashed. He subsequently testified that had Pilot Officer Mynarski not attempted to save his comrade's life, he could have left the aircraft in safety and would, doubtless, have escaped death. He was named a member of Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame in 1973.

Wernham Lake (56 56' - 97 25'), was named on December 7th, 1950 after F/L James C. Wernham of Winnipeg, Reg. No. SJ006144 who was one of 47 airmen shot by the Germans following an escape from Stalag Luft 3 prisoner of war camp, on March 26, 1944. He was taken prisoner in 1942 and later mentioned in dispatches. The escape attempt and execution of the airmen is the subject of the book The Great Escape by F/L Paul Bricknell.

The resuming of peace time mapping programs by the Federal government as well as requirements for larger scaled provincial maps resulted in the depletion of the decorated casualty list names. In 1955 the then Canadian Board on Geographical Names adopted the policy to use any of the World War II casualty names whether decorated or not. When Manitoba's member of the Board received the copy of the casualty list in April, 1955, 36 names of decorated and 32 names of undecorated service personnel had been applied to features in our province.

The Manitoba list is titled: "Fatal Casualties World War II who, on appointment or enlistment gave their addresses within the Province of Manitoba." The list is divided into three divisions (Royal Canadian) Navy, Army and Air Force and lists 153, 1982 and 1579 names respectively making a total of 3714 names. The information included in these lists is confined to place of enlistment (according to 1931 Census Divisions); Regimental Number; Name (Surname, given name and initials); Date of Death (Day - Month - Year).

The majority of the 1800 names used to date were applied to features during the 1970's as a result of increased federal and provincial mapping programs. In some cases names were applied within areas corresponding to the place of enlistment, however, the highest concentration of names is in the northern regions where vital resource mapping was required. Samples of some of the names used from the Casualty List are:

Boatfield Lake, N.W. of Crowduck Lake; (50°16' - 95°24'), was named in honour of Tpr. Jack Boatfield of Winnipeg, Reg. No. H77433 who died October 10th, 1944 while serving with the 12th Manitoba Dragoons.

Eastholm Lake, N. of File Lake; (54°59' - 100°18'), was named in honour of Pte. Eric E. Eastholm of Winnipeg, Reg. No. H6160 who died in October 1942 after serving with the Winnipeg Grenadiers in Hong Kong.

Pannebaker Creek, flows into Machichi River; (56°48' - 92°00'), was named in honour of Tpr. Robert C. M. Pannebaker of Roland, Reg. No. H26760, who died June 11th, 1944 while serving with the Fort Garry Horse regiment in France.

Wilkie Lake, W. of Tadoule Lake; (58°40' - 99°20'), was named in honour of Nursing Sister Agnes Wightman Wilkie of Carman, Reg. No. 078010, who died when the SS Caribou was torpedoed off Newfoundland October 14th, 1943.

When initiated, this naming program based on the casualty lists, included advising the next of kin of the naming of a feature after their relative. The then Canadian Board on Geographical Names used the addresses given by the service personnel on the date of enlistment but as these addresses became more and more out of date over the years this practice had to be discontinued. Many relatives hear by word of mouth or from articles such as this that a feature has been named after their relative.

Commemorative Name Certificates - Since 1972 a 12" x 16" Commemorative Name Certificate has been available upon request to next of kin as tangible evidence of the official naming of a feature after their loved one. The initial certificate is provided to the eldest next of kin. Duplicate certificates for other members of the family or friends are available at a nominal charge.

Further information on geographical names and Commemorative Name Certificates, and locations of features named after the Casualties can be obtained by contacting the Surveys & Mapping Branch, 1007 Century Street, Winnipeg R3H 0W4, phone 633-9543.

## GENERATION GAPS

"Generation Gaps" is the query section of Generations where researchers can seek the help of others who may be researching the same families. Members may place up to two free queries each year. Additional queries, or those placed by non-members, may be inserted for a fee of \$2.50 each time the query is printed.

Gilbey Samuel James b. 9 Jan. 1876, Ware, Hertfordshire, England. Prts. William Gilbey & Hannah ?. Immigrated to Canada alone c.1890. Traveled in Canada and the U.S.A. (known to have lived in San Francisco for a time). Settled in Winnipeg c.1904. m. Ellen Mathilda Perkins (b. 10 Aug. 1876, Bathurst Township, Lanark Co., Ontario. Established own stationary business - Samuel J. Gilbey Stationaer at 386 Bannatyne ave. Resided 544 Langside from 1909 until death. d. 7 Aug. 1938, Winnipeg. Known to have had a brother William Richard Gilbey (called Dick) b. date?, England. Immigrated to Canada c.1903. Lived for a time in Winnipeg, moved to Saskatoon, c.1916, where he was in the "fruit business". m. Lucy?, date ?,w. ?. Had two daughters Doris m. Andrews and Muriel m. J.B. Bowman. Would like any information on these people or their descendants, will exchange information. Mrs. Ellen J. Glinka, 7111 Delwood road, Edmonton, Alta. T5C 3A8.

Herron Isabella Jane Herron, b.circa 1831, ?Peterborough Co., d. 1893 Gilbert Plains, Man. Married Christopher Crowe at Dummer Tsp. Peterborough Co., 1848. Who were her parents? Mrs. A. Jean Tucker rr#3, Dauphin, Man.

- Robertson      Alexander Robertson, b. circa 1826 Scotland, d. 1892 Sanford, Man. Married Jane Boyd circa 1850, ? place. (Jane b. 1833, Monaghan Co. Ireland, d. 1870 Bruce Co. Ont.) Married 2nd time early 1870's, ? place. Name of 2nd wife not known. Residence Sanford, Man. Three daughters-Annie, married a Parker, Lena married H. Sawyer, 3rd name not known. Would like info re: 2nd wife and children thereof. Also place of birth in Scotland, of Alexander. Mrs. A. Jean Tucker, rr#3, Dauphin, Man. R7N 2T6.
- Bolton          Burton William - b 1868 Weston Ont. moved with family to Minnedosa, Man, 1876. m. Nov. 1903 to Madge Muirhead, Neepawa. Children: ?? Date and place of Death : ?. Ms. Shirley P. Rawlinson, 805 N.E. Colorado Lake dr., Corvallis, Oregon, 97330.
- Bolton          George Alfred - b. 1871 ? Editor Neepawa Register 1905. m. to whom & when? Children: ? Brother of Burton W. Bolton. Death: ? Ms. Shirley P. Rawlinson, 805 N.E. Colorado Lake dr., Corvallis, Oregon, 97330
- Gunn            Alexander - born approximately 1764 in the parish of Kildon, Scotland. M. Christiana ? Came to Red River with the 1813 group of settlers who landed at Churchill. Christiana died at Churchill on 20 September, 1813. Alexander and his son John William arrived at the settlement in 1814 and settled on lot #7. I would like any information on Alexander, Christiana, and John William. I need birthdates, birth places, marriage dates, death dates, and brothers and sisters, if any. Ms. Diana L. Myers, Box 26, Jensen rd, R.R. #3, Prince George, B.C., V2N 2S7.
- Gunn            Donald - born approximately 1832 at Kildonan, Manitoba Married Catherine Matheson born about 1833. They had ten children. I require birthdates, marriage dates, death dates and spouses for Donald, Catherine and their family. Donald was the son of John William Gunn. Ms. Diana L. Myers, Box 26, Jensen rd. R.R. #3, Prince George, B.C. V2N 2S7.