

GENERATIONS

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Part 5

Help Wanted!

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Membership and Branch Information is available on page 27 of this issue or on our website. Full members receive four issues of *Generations*, general mailings, and are also entitled to one free Query per year, plus library privileges. Correspondence should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Please put return address on **both** letter and envelope.

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GENERATIONS

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Editor: David Farmer

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Deadlines: **Feb. 1, May 1, Aug. 1, Nov. 1.** Please give appropriate credit when reprinting excerpts. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; however, MGS does not accept responsibility for errors found in *Generations*, nor does it necessarily endorse opinions expressed therein.

Please be sure to spell-check your submissions, and attach appropriate permissions for reprints and your contact information.

From the Editor

[David Farmer](#) #2277

Why, when one gets older, retires and has time to enjoy life, does the summer go by so much faster?



That sure seems to have been the case this year. But holidays, family visits, travel and house renovations filled most of it. I trust each of you has had a great summer as well.

Here we are for the fall issue of *Generations*, and there are some new things. In an effort to make our Journal more interactive and be of greater value to all our readers, we are trying to introduce some new features. This issue has the 'Help Wanted!' section, where you can: ask readers for help on research challenges; enquire as to the whereabouts of relatives; request information and exchange unneeded reference material or certificates. These queries are intended to be simple and straightforward, with the tough ones going to the Research Services committee.

Next issue we hope to add the 'Tips, Tricks and How-tos' feature, which is just what it states. Readers can submit things they have learned over the years that might save another reader time and effort. Hopefully both of these items will be popular and stay with us in future issues.

We have a lot of great articles in this issue. Mary Bole has an excellent article on KOHA and how to use it effectively. There is a great story from Harry Troche on the 'Power of an Oral Interview'. Part 5 of the St. John's High School brings this interesting story to an end, as does the conclusion of the A.K. Dysart story. The story of John W. Ross, by Pat Sundmark, is an interesting story of families lost and found.

And of course we have all the regulars here as well. Enjoy the issue and see you when the snow is on the ground.

From the President

[Kathy Stokes](#) #125

As I write this message in early August, we are suffering through or enjoying, depending on your point of view, a prolonged hot spell without any rain to keep our gardens fresh and green.



The weather, however, gives us time to search for our ancestors in the graveyards of Manitoba, if that is where they are to be located, without the dark clouds of mosquitoes which are known to be located behind almost every tombstone. There is always a silver lining if we look for one.

If you have been to the MGS Library lately, you will notice the many changes that have taken place over the past months. There are new computers and a new machine for reading microfilm and microfiche and then printing things in some mysterious way from the attached computer. Having missed the instruction class on this wonderful piece of wizardry, I am at a loss to explain how it works, but please come in and try it out. We have new computers as well, and a variety of chairs to fit one and all. Many thanks are due to Gord McBean and Shawn Hilts for all the work they have done in getting the new systems up and running.

The Library Committee is busy as usual gathering new and hard-to-get books for us to use. Our collection of local histories is the best in the province. The membership committee will soon reveal its plans for more efficient service for all members thorough the use of on line services as well as the regular mail.

Thanks to the Southeast and Winnipeg Branch for organizing this fall's seminar. They have been meeting for months to bring us a truly spectacular gathering of speakers and displays to enjoy and learn from. Be sure to attend. See you there.



OOOPS!

The date of the demolition of the Kelly home in Marilyn Boyle's article 'Thomas Kelly and the Manitoba Legislative Building' should have read July 20, 1964 and not 1864. Our apologies to Marilyn.

Andrew Knox (A.K.) Dysart B.A., M.A., LL.B. LL.D.

continued

Ed Burrows

A.K.'s wife, Claire, died in 1918, the first Winnipegger to die of the Spanish Flu. She had contracted it on the train coming home from Cocagne, because the train was full of soldiers returning home from the war, and they brought the flu home with them. She left A.K. with three children to raise. He was devastated and so overwhelmed that he sent the children off to boarding school or to live with relatives. He moved into the Fort Garry Hotel. In late August, 1923, when the children came back to Winnipeg, A.K.'s sister, Anne, came with them and the family moved to an apartment at the corner of Broadway and Main.

One of his most interesting cases was the trial of King v. Earle Leonard Nelson who was accused of killing 24 women and one child. Nelson was one of the most prolific killers ever known. He would choose a house that displayed a sign saying "Room For Rent", gain access by posing as a prospective tenant, and, if he found a woman alone in the house, he would choke her to death, assault her body, and then steal jewelry and clothing. He became known as "The Gorilla Strangler", and his killings led from Philadelphia, to Chicago, San Francisco, Baltimore, Oakland, Buffalo and Winnipeg. The jury found Nelson guilty and recommended that

he be hung. A.K. had to make a difficult decision. Being a Catholic he did not believe in the death penalty. However, he knew that Nelson's horrendous crimes must be dealt with severely. After careful consideration he proclaimed the death penalty. There was no appeal and Nelson was hung on Friday January 13, 1928.

It was not only in law that A.K. Dysart excelled – he also was well known for his talents as a mediator in labor disputes. Among disputes that he arbitrated were those involving employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway, Canadian National Railway and the Winnipeg Electric Co. From 1929 to 1935 A.K. served on the Royal Commission set up to inquire into the Manitoba Government's disposal of the Seven Sisters' power site on the Winnipeg River, and chaired a Royal Commission to deal with whether or not Saskatchewan and Alberta had been compensated fairly when the Federal Government took over responsibility for their natural resources.

In 1933 A.K. was asked to sit on the Board of Governors of the University of Manitoba when it was discovered that there was a shortage in the University's funds and the existing board members had been let go. He was immediately elected Vice-Chairman. He became Chairman in 1934 and Chancellor in 1944 and remained as such until his death. The university awarded him an honorary Doctors of Law degree. He was also a member of the finance committee of the university. One of his last accomplishments for the university was locating and approving the purchase of a valuable set of rare books that later became known as "The Dysart Memorial Collection of Rare Books and Manuscripts" in his honor. Also, the street on the northern perimeter of the university was named Dysart Drive in his honour.

Unlike most judges, A.K. was very active in the community all during his years in Winnipeg. He was President of the Winnipeg Canadian Club, Vice-President and then President of the Association of Canadian Clubs, Chair of the

Commission of Naturalization Ceremonies for Canada, and committee Chair of the Winnipeg branch of the National Council of Education. He represented the Canadian Bar Association at the annual meeting of the American bar Association, where he was elected an honorary member of the American Bar. He also represented the University of Manitoba on the board of Trustees of the Manitoba Law School, and at the tercentenary of the founding of Harvard University. He was Vice-President, then President of the Winnipeg branch of the League of Nations Society, and served on the Board of the Dafoe Foundation, and was also active in his church. He was a member of the St. Charles Golf and Country Club, the Winnipeg Winter Club, the Manitoba Club and the Canadian Club.

In 1952 A.K. had a serious heart attack. His sister Anne nursed him back to health. But after a second heart attack, although less severe, his doctor advised him that a third would do him in. With that news, he and Anne planned what would be his last trip. It was to be an extended trip and was to include a boat trip from Thunder bay to Sarnia, visit his children Cecilia and Joe in Ontario, then on to Montreal to visit his son Knox, then on to Moncton and Cocagne to visit family and friends that he had not seen in years, They would then go down to Boston and back to Winnipeg. While in Moncton he had his third and final heart attack and passed away in his sleep. His body was returned to Winnipeg and he was buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in the Dysart Plot beside his wife. The newspapers held many acclaims about him.

He had a full and active life and contributed substantially to Winnipeg and his profession.

(Editor's Note: Ed is currently writing a book on the Dysart family and would welcome any further information our readers might have. Contact Ed directly at eburrows1@cogeco.ca or 1099 Clonsilla Ave, Suite 112A, Peterborough, ON K9J 8L6.)

MGS Research Services

Having trouble with your research, or just don't know where to start? MGS offers [Research Services](#) (for a fee). Our talented researchers are available to help you break down those walls. Call the MGS office on Thursday at (204) 783-9139 for further information.



HELP WANTED!

Having trouble finding an ancestor, or don't know where to look for certain types of information? Submit your query to *Generations* and perhaps a reader or two can give you some leads. If you need detailed or long term help, then please contact our Research Team through the MGS address.

Looking for ...

Cook/Ward

Looking for information and connections with descendants of **Neil Cook** (1833-1927), and his children, especially **Archie Cook** (1859-1940), his wife **Mary Josephine Ward (1864-1938+)** of "MacGregor" and **Bayard Cook (1874-1959)**.

I am also interested in any information on **Francis Ward (1832-1906/11)** and **Mary (McDonald) Ward (1841-1917)** that lived in St Laurent.

Please contact Karl Tuira (a descendant of Archie and Mary Josephine Cook), in Oakville, Ontario, via email at karl-tuira@cogeco.ca or via phone at 905-6924.

Thank you.

The Wrong Certificate ...

I ordered a copy of a Manitoba Notice of Death certificate only to find out that the deceased was not a member of our family as I had hoped. I would be pleased to mail the copy to a descendant. The name on the certificate is: William John McManus, born 1862 in Dublin, Ireland, died 24 April 1925 in Winnipeg. You can reach Ann Blake at gordann.blake@sympatico.ca.

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From The Past Rural Ramblings

Kathy Stokes #125

Gladstone Age & Westbourne County Advisor
15 June 1888

Mrs. Thomas Kirkland, 52 years, of Tupper Township died June 2, 1888. Born in County Armagh, Ireland on July 10, 1836, she married Thomas Kirkland in Wolford, ON September 14, 1854. Eleven children were born of this marriage: Robert Isaac, Matthew, Alfred, Albert, Sarah, Maria, Caroline, Thomas, Agnes, Maud & Samuel James. Mrs. Kirkland was buried in Gladstone Cemetery. Daughter Sarah died May 13, 1888.

Manitoba Free Press 1 November 1908 (all from the front page)

Beatrice Buck, four year old only child of Thomas Buck died after a horrible accident from burns she received when she knocked over a lamp on some stairs in her home. Her father

received severe burns while trying to put out the fire on her clothing.

Dr. H.R. MacKay of Rapid City died recently of internal problems. Born in Inverness, Scotland in 1864, he studied medicine in Edinburgh. He came to Canada two years ago and leaves a widow and four young children.

Fred Bonham, formerly of Redhill, Surrey, England, was killed in an accident south of Kenton, MB. He was driving a wagon load of grain when the team of horses were spooked by an automobile. They reared up and broke the wagon tongue. Fred was thrown from the wagon and killed instantly.

Winnipeg Free Press October 1, 1938

Martin Xavier Gilleran, an old time prospector in northern Manitoba died in Swan Lake recently. He was buried in Brookside Cemetery, Winnipeg.

Steven Bateman Casselman, 66, died in Deloraine on September 23. Born in Angus, Ontario, he came to Manitoba about 1892. He married Matilda McNaughton, formerly of Seaforth ON, in Dauphin in 1902. There were eleven children, Mrs. Ferdinand Holmes of Spalding SK, Mrs. Reg'd Westcott of Douglas MB, Mrs. Percy Lundy of Portage la Prairie, Mrs. Roy Hicks and Misses Aileen, Olive and Eleanor, sons Murray, Warren Armand, Harold, all of Lauder MB. Also surviving are brother James of Edmonton and sister Mrs. M. McBean of Winnipeg.

Winnipeg Free Press 13 October 1938

Mary Jane Sinclair, widow of Cuthbert Sinclair of HBC died in Winnipeg 10 October. She was born in St. Andrew's MB and received her early training at Miss Davis's school. Her grandfather was Edward Mowat. Mary Jane married at Norway House in 1877: thence she and husband Cuthbert travelled by York boat to Oxford House. Later they spent years at various HBC posts in northern Manitoba and Quebec. Cuthbert died in Montreal in 1900. Mary Jane is survived by sons Thomas of Montreal, Sydney, Stanley, Colin and Clifford, all of Winnipeg and

daughter Florence. She was buried in St. John's Cathedral Cemetery in Winnipeg.

Are These Your Ancestors?

Kathy Stokes #125

It has been many years since prominent young ladies of Winnipeg were presented to the Lieutenant Governor at what passed as "court" in our city. This was a much sought after and prized honour for these young women, called debutantes. Criteria for selection were probably not written down anywhere, but clearly the "debs" were daughters of men who were successful in business or professions. Just who decided the yearly selections and whether there were limits on numbers was also not clear from newspaper articles. In 1938 Mrs. C.E. McPherson, chairman of the event, presented the young ladies to Lieutenant Governor W.J. Tupper.

The ball at which the presentations were made also acted as a charity event. In the case of the 1938 ball at the Royal Alexandra Hotel, the charity being supported was The Back - To - The - Land Assistance Association, an organization which no longer is featured in the pages of our local newspapers.

The Crystal Ballroom was decorated with palms and ferns, mingling with standards of gold and combined with russet and white chrysanthemums. Fort Garry Horse Cadets, in their uniforms of scarlet, gold and blue formed a guard of honour. All in all, a very impressive and colourful gathering. Supper was served at midnight after an evening of dancing the Lambeth Walk and Big Apple.

Debutantes presented on this occasion were Nancy Martin, Jean Bawlf, Eleanor Riley, Pamela Hutchins, Jocelyn McWilliams, Jean Kickley, Sheila Smart, Evelyn Rogers, Clementine Adamson and Patricia Murphy (see lovely photo in newspaper 24 October 1938).

Most of those presented were attired in full length white or light coloured gowns, although the photo clearly shows at least one dark blue or black gown. Most ladies carried flowers such as roses and lily of the valley, but one had an ostrich feather fan.

Matrons, mothers of the debutantes and other young women in attendance were suitably dressed in gowns in a rainbow of colours, as well as black and white. The gowns were described in detail in the newspaper article.

I was surprised to see such the description of such an event in the middle of the depression when many were unemployed and money was tight. Clearly there were some who were not as negatively affected by Canada's economic situation and who had the social conscience to use the event as what we today call a fundraiser.

When, in Manitoba, were daughters of the city's important men no longer presented to the Lieutenant Governor? What were the benefits of being presented? Who decided to terminate this event and why? Do we, or the young women who would be eligible for presentation in today's busy world, miss this ball? What do the young women of today think?

MGS Volunteers

My Top Ten Reasons to Volunteer

Daryl Dumanski #1031

Reason # 3.

"You might need help yourself someday."

Connie Bart-Hamel
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Our Library

Mary Bole #884
MGS Librarian



How we are building the MGS library collection?

We have recently had a few instances demonstrating novel ways to increase our library collection and showing the generosity of our members.

A member who is downsizing her house took a number of books to *Nerman's Books and Collectibles*. Instead of trading the books, she obtained a credit and donated that credit to the MGS library. I talked to Gary Nerman about it and he said that he was more than willing to do that as long as they were books that he could use. Check it out: www.nermansbooks.com or visit him at 700 Osborne St. S., Winnipeg.

The second instance involved a member who was on holiday in England. There was a book that she didn't have enough time to peruse at that time, so she took all the details and donated the price of the book in order for us to purchase it. The book arrived recently and will be on the shelves soon.

The member of our committee who does our purchasing has been scouring the second-hand book stores in the city for local history books that we do not currently have in our library.

Recently we received a donation of a third copy of a book (we keep 2 copies of all local history books) and with permission of the donor were able to trade it for another book of equal value.

How about you? Can you think of a novel way of donating money or books to us? Help us

expand our library and provide even better service to our members. Please contact the MGS library at library@mbgenealogy.com.

Library Lines

Mary Bole #884

Books for September 2011

Manitoba

371.8 PCI	Portage Collegiate Institute yearbook: Tatler
282 GREY PAR	La Paroisse de Sainte-Claude, 1996 [Grey municipality]
285.8 WINN StA	St .Andrew's River Heights United Church
287.9 PORT TRI	Portage la Prairie: Trinity United Church
371.8 PORT AM	Arthur Meighen High School [yearbook]
610.73 WIN 2	Winnipeg city, Manitoba. Blue and white, 19-
REF 630 FAR	Farming in Manitoba, 1916 [book plus CDR]
796.96 RED	Red River Valley sports league, 1978 souvenir book
796.96 RIV	River East minor hockey association: souvenir year book, 19 -
929 MGS	Manitoba Genealogical Society newspaper articles
929 SUR	Surname index to <i>Generations</i> , 1976-2010 [computer file]
929.3 MAN AAA	Manitoba. Miscellaneous birth, marriage & death records
929.5 PROV OKA	Okansse cemetery (#1349) – Riding Mountain National Park

971.27 ALON SEA	Seasons of our lives: 1985: a history of Amaranth and District		City & Pilot Mound also REF copy
971.27 ARTH OUR	Our first century: town of Melita and municipality of Arthur also REF copy	971.27 MACD DOW	Down memory lane: a history of the Domain community, 1876-1967 also REF copy
971.27 BIFR ICE	Icelandic river saga also REF copy	971.27 MINI CRA	Crandall History Book
971.27 BIFR RIV	Riverton & the Icelandic River settlement: the early years	971.27 MORT BEC 2	Beckoning hills revisited: ours is a goodly heritage, Morton-Boissevain, 1888-1981
971.27 BLAN HIS	Blanshard RM, MB. History of Blanshard RM, 1884-	971.27 MOUN HAR	Hardships to happiness: history flows from Pine River and district
971.27 BRAN HIS	A centennial history of the Brandon Asylum	971.27 NCYP CAR 1	Carberry plains: 75 years of progress also REF copy
971.27 BRAN WHE	The wheat city: a pictorial history of Brandon	971.27 NCYP MEM	Memories of Fairview, 1878-1982 also REF copy
971.27 COLD LUN	Lundar Diamond Jubilee, 1887-1947 (plus index)	971.27 PEMB MON	La Montagne Pembina au temps des colons: historique des paroisses de la region de la Montagne Pembina et biographies des principaux pionniers
971.27 ELTO ECH	Echoes of a century [Douglas]	971.27 PORT BES	Beside the Burn: a history of Burnside and district also REF copy
971.27 EASP HER 2	Heritage II : a history of East St. Paul also REF copy	971.27 PORT CEN	Centennial history of the Portage plowing match, 1900-2000 also REF copy
971.27 GIML POI	The point and beyond: Arnes & district, 1876- 1990	971.27 PORT DEE	Deeper roots of Oakville also REF copy
971.27 GLEN PEO	The people of Souris & Glenwood: from earliest beginnings to present also REF copy	971.27 PORT GRE	Portage la Prairie: fifty years of flying training, 1940-1990
971.27 GRAH WOR	North-West Interlake Heritage: Moosehorn - Gypsumville	971.27 PORT ITS	It's about time: community histories
971.27 HANO EAS	East Reserve 125: Hanover Steinbach, 1874- 1999	971.27 PORT MAN i	Poplar Point, St. Mark's Manitoba history of its early settlement: an index
971.27 LANS LAN	Lansdowne story: grain, gravel, growth also REF copy	971.27 PORT MEM	Memories 1897-1997: the 100th anniversary of Trinity United Church of Portage la Prairie
971.27 LORN REF	Reflections-reflets: Somerset		
971.27 LOUI CHR	Chronicles of our heritage: pioneer stories from Clearwater, Crystal		

971.27 PORT REM	Remembering reminiscing with residents of Douglas Campbell Lodge	971.27 WINN FER	The Ferry Roaders: memoir of boys growing up on Ferry Road during the 30s & 40s in St.James
971.27 PORT SPE	Special edition of Reminiscences about Portage & district: in recognition of the P.C.I. Centennial	971.27 WINN WIN 12	Winnipeg visitors' guide
971.27 PORT WOR	Word pictures from the past: Oakville centennial 1891-1991	971.27 WWOR HOM	Home to Harding, 1879-1981 also REF copy
971.27 RHIN FOO	Footprints of a pilgrim people: story of the Blumenort Mennonite Church	971.27 WWOR AAA	Woodworth municipality, Manitoba. Miscellaneous records
971.27 RHIN PLU	Plum Coulee: a century plus, 1901-2001 also REF copy	971.271 GAR 1 i	First furrows: a history of the early settlement of the Red River country, including that of Portage la Prairie - index
971.27 SCYP BEN	Beneath the long grass [Glenboro]: the next 25 years v.2	971.271 GAR 5	Breakout during breakup
REF 971.27SIFT OXT	Ox trails to blacktop [Oak Lake]	Eastern Canada	
971.27 SIGL COM	Completing the century: memoirs of W. John Johnson	929.3 ONT ESS	The marriage registers of Essex County, 1858-1864
971.27 SNOR TWI	Twixt hill and vale: a story of Rathwell and surrounding district also REF copy	929.3 ONT WEST	The marriage registers of the Western District, 1796-1856
971.27 STAN OUR	Our 1-6 heritage: history of school districts of Deer Creek, Lindal, Elk Creek, Diamond also REF copy	929.5 ONT/DUR	Durham county, Ontario. Farewell cemetery
971.27 SWAN SWA	Swan River vignettes	929.5 ONT/DUR	Durham county, Ontario. Scugog Island Indian cemetery
971.27 WEST HIS	Historical sketches of Katrime and Beaver districts also REF copy	929.5 ONT/HAS	Hastings county, Ontario. Abandoned cemetery (near Albert), Tyendinaga Township
971.27 WEST MEM	Memories of home, 1882-1982: a pictorial history of the town of Gladstone and its pioneers	929.5 ONT/MUS	Muskoka County, Ontario.
971.27 WINC MOR	More golden memories, 1967-1991 [Dand community]	971.3 CARL ROM	Muskoka Falls cemetery
971.27 WINN ARM	Armstrong's Point: a history	971.3 GREY FAR	The romance of Fitzroy Harbour
		971.3 TAMI KIR	Farm lanes of Bentinck, 1850-2000
		971.5 THO	Kirkland Lake, Ontario
			Strangers from a secret land: the voyages of the brig <i>Albion</i> and the founding of the first Welsh settlements in Canada

Western Canada				
929.5	ADA	Eternal prairie: exploring rural cemeteries of the West	942.3	DEV Devon FHS 1851 census: surname index: East Stonehouse, Charles, Plymouth & Tavistock
971.1	BAH	Life and times of the Elk Valley sourdough	942.4	SHR Shropshire ancestors [computer file]
971.23	WHE	Wheat heart of the West: a history of Barons and district	942.5	IRB Irby-Upon-Humber, Lincolnshire ancestors [computer file]: parish records
971.24	SOUR SAG	The saga of Souris Valley (#7)	942.6	ESS Essex ancestors [computer disk]
971.24	TISD SAL	A salute to our pioneers: Clashmoor, Eldersley, Miner Creek	942.8	WHO Whorlton, Durham [computer disks]: parish records
Canada			942.9	MID Mid-Wales ancestors [computer disk]
306.6	MOL	Faith and fragility: religion and identity in Canada	Europe	
355	WIC	Promise you'll take care of my daughter: the remarkable war brides of World War II	943	CLU Clues: surname exchange
355.3	MUR	Winnipeg's ladies from hell: how the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada fought, remembered and grew in the regiment's first century of war and peace	949.3	MAN Belgium miscellaneous records
940.4	BIR	Ghosts have warm hands: a memoir of the Great War, 1916-1919	General	
940.53	FAD	Fading memories: Canadian sailors and the Battle of the Atlantic	929	ANC Ancestry reference library 2000 [computer file]
Great Britain & Ireland			929	DOU Time traveller's handbook: a guide to the past
942.1	CAM	Camden past and present: a guide to the Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre	970.1	WAL Encyclopedia of Native American tribes
942.1	LON	London ancestors [computer file]	979.7	SKA Skagit County centennial almanac, 1883-1983 [Wash., USA]
942.1	MAY	3London's underworld	977.3	ILL Illinois. Miscellaneous records
942.21	SUR	Surrey ancestors [computer file]	Family History & Biography	
942.21	YOR	East Yorkshire ancestors [computer file]	929.2	CAR 3 Carroll family tree: descendants of John & Jane (Donaldson) Carroll
942.21	BER	Berkshire ancestors [computer file]	929.2	GUI Guindon Newsletter [periodical]
			929.2	HUM Family sleuthing: chasing sunsets and falling leaves
			929.2	KEN The Kennedys, MacDiarmids, McDermids, Munros and other Glengarry-Stormont pioneers
			929.2	McN 1 A long way from Wolfe Creek
			929.2	McN 2 A family McNair : the ancestors & descendants of John McNair (1846-1924) & Ellen Campbell (1856-1928)
			929.2	STE 3 The Stewarts from Glen Lyon, Perthshire
			929.2	SWA The Swains of Scratching River

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Donations can be made to the Memorial Fund, the Library Fund or the General Fund. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$5.00 and are much appreciated

KOHA - MGS Online Library Card Catalogue

Mary Bole #884

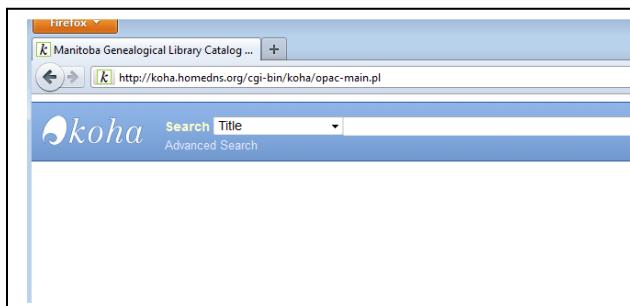
Are you searching for a book and you want to know if it is in one of the MGS Libraries? Check out the online [MGS Library Card Catalogue](#). KOHA has a new look. Check it out! (*Editor's Note: the term KOHA is not an abbreviation, but the Maori word for 'gift'*)

KOHA is an automated library program which puts our card catalogue on the Internet, allowing anyone to search the library holdings from home. It has been four years since my last article about how to use KOHA. We have now finished entering our collection and have updated our look. It has been done to make it easier for you to search.

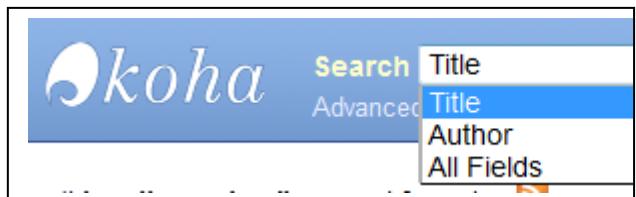
1) How do I get to KOHA or the catalogue?

Go to the MGS homepage found at [www.mbgenealogy.com](#) and scroll down to the link **KOHA – MGS Online Catalogue** and click on that.

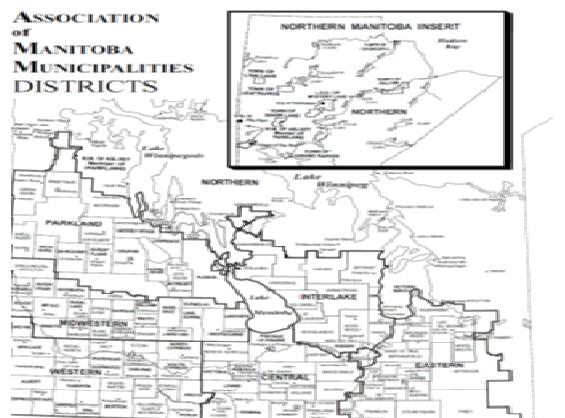
2) What does it look like?



- 3) Let us suggest that you need information on an ancestor who lived somewhere in Manitoba, near Morden.
 - a) Enter 'Morden' in the search line, leaving the rest the same.
 - b) Today we have 9 copies of books with 'Morden' in the title.
 - c) Leave 'Morden' in the search line, but change Title in the drop-down box to 'All Fields'.



- 3) Let us suggest that you need information on an ancestor who lived somewhere in Manitoba, near Morden.
 - a) Enter 'Morden' in the search line, leaving the rest the same.
 - b) Today we have 9 copies of books with 'Morden' in the title.
 - c) Leave 'Morden' in the search line, but change Title in the drop-down box to 'All Fields'.
 - d) This time there are 16 hits.
- 4) If the ancestor lived near Morden, but not in Morden, then you will have to find the name of the municipality in which Morden is located. (To find the correct municipality, refer to the map provided by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities at [www.amm.mb.ca/documents/Map-CURRENT 000.pdf](#)).



- 3) Let us suggest that you need information on an ancestor who lived somewhere in Manitoba, near Morden.
 - a) Enter 'Morden' in the search line, leaving the rest the same.
 - b) Today we have 9 copies of books with 'Morden' in the title.
 - c) Leave 'Morden' in the search line, but change Title in the drop-down box to 'All Fields'.
 - d) This time there are 16 hits.
- 5) For Morden, the Rural Municipality is Stanley. Now return to the search, put in 'Stanley Municipality' in the All Fields area and you'll get 53 hits.

KOHA has a very strong search engine. Please keep in mind that we are adding to the list weekly.

- 6) Can I get any more information about a book?

Click on one of the titles you have pulled up. It will give you the basics about the book. When you next go to the library you can go straight to the shelves and find the book using the Call Number.

ISBD [Normal View](#) [MARC View](#) [ISBD View](#)

Title: Church, family and village : essays on Mennonite life on the West Reserve

Publisher: Winnipeg: Manitoba Mennonite Historical Society, c2001

Description: x, 310 p.: ill.; 23 cm.

Call Number: Manitoba 971.27 STAN CHU

If you would like to see if there is any other information you can look at the Normal View or MARC View – you will discover that the book also has information on Rhineland municipality; that it was added to our collection January 2007 and; was paid for by MGS.

Advantages of using KOHA.

- 1) You can search for books at home before visiting the library. This saves time at the library as others may be using the computers.
- 2) Books by mail: this is a great tool for all of our members, especially those residing outside of Winnipeg.

Postal Rate

You can search our catalogue, find a book and then e-mail us the details at contact@mbgenealogy.com – ‘Attention Library’. As a library we can mail books to members in Canada for a special library rate. We have an arrangement with Canada Post. We

will mail the book to you for the cost of the postage. To give you an idea of the cost, a local history book (about 8½” x 11” x 2”) mailed to a Manitoba address costs about \$1. We send it with a return label which you must use. There is no cost when you send it back to us. The postal rate changes with the distance from Winnipeg. To receive this Library Postal Rate:

- a) You must be a member of MGS.
- b) You must pay the cost of the postage in advance
- c) You must live in Canada – our apologies to our out-of-Canada members.

We ask that patrons using this service give us \$5 or \$10 in advance. We keep accurate records and will reimburse money not used.

It must be stressed at this time that the library committee will help and assist patrons in the library, but we do not do research. If you are either a member or a non-member and would like information from a book that you have found on KOHA you should contact the Research Committee for further assistance at research@mbgenealogy.com. There may be a fee for this service.

Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.

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Book Reviews

Enid Dorward #4502

You can borrow these materials from the MGS library!



The Carroll Family Tree: Descendants of John & Jane (Donaldson) Carroll prepared by Elaine Rutherford. Portage la Prairie, 2010. 383 p, photographs, indices. (MGS library call number FH & BIO 929.2 CAR 3)

Elaine Rutherford has compiled a very comprehensive volume about the Carroll family. Their story began in Ireland, but moved to Canada when John and Jane Carroll immigrated to Huron County in Ontario. The book is divided into eight sections, the first being devoted to John & Jane, and the subsequent sections focusing on each of their seven children and their families. The sections are separated by a green page, and each section has a family tree and its own index. A numbering system has been used to identify each individual. The book is generously illustrated with photographs, newspaper clippings, and other pertinent items. The author has some copies for sale at \$30 each. She can be contacted at e.ruther@shaw.ca.

Farming in Manitoba. Issued by authority of Hon. Valentine Winkler, Minister of Agriculture & Immigration, Winnipeg, 1916. 72 p photographs. (MGS library call number: REF MAN 630 FAR)

This little booklet, published in 1916, contains testimonials from Manitoba farm men and women, who were each asked to write a letter about their experiences as farmers. The purpose of these letters was to inform persons from other countries, particularly Great Britain, about the advantages of farming in Manitoba. These folk were being encouraged and invited to move to Manitoba, and to become citizens. Many of the letters are accompanied by a photograph, and all are followed by the signature of the writer. They are from people all across Manitoba, and they describe the farm operations of the writers. They really do make Manitoba sound like the very best place to be a farmer! (One suspects that any negative letters were set aside by the Minister of Agriculture and Immigration!) Be that as it may, these letters provide a good cross-section of information about farm life in Manitoba almost a century ago. The library also has an index of the names of all the contributors.

Time Traveller's Handbook: A Guide to the Past by Althea Douglas. Toronto, Dundurn Press, 2011. 341 p. illus. bibliography, index. (MGS library call number General 929 DOU)

This handbook for Canadian genealogists is a collection of many types of useful information. It begins with a discussion of technological revolutions, from the Industrial Revolution (late 18th century) to the present day. Another chapter deals with documents of all sorts, and looks at problems related to handwriting, spelling and translation, and also provides a list of Latin terms and abbreviations. There's a reminder that family stories (such as being related to royalty) are not necessarily true, but they often contain a grain of truth (maybe great-great grandpa was really a butler in an earl's mansion). Other chapters deal with linear measure, land measure, money, methods of travel, trades and their tools, types of homes and living conditions in them, health, religion (including types of records) and military. Most chapters include a listing of books relating to the topic, and there are chronologies of various kinds, e.g. Canadian finance, health, and transportation changes. The book concludes with a lengthy list of pertinent historical dates from 1598 to the present. These are useful when considering the lifestyles of our ancestors and provide an understanding of how world or local events might have impacted their lives. This is a very useful book with an index that assists in locating the desired information. Recommended for genealogists, whether novice or veteran.

Canadian Parliamentary Guide. Ottawa, 1903- (MGS library call number REF 328.71 CAN) Have you ever noticed that long row of red books on the top shelf above the reference section? They are parliamentary guides which are published annually. The earliest one in the MGS library dates from 1903, then several copies for each decade from 1920 up to 2003. They contain a wealth of information, including biographical information about the Royal Family, the Governor General (and a list of previous Governors-General), members of the Privy Council, Senate and House of Commons. Federal election results from 1867 to the present day are listed in every volume, including the constituency and political party of each person and the number of votes received. There is a

section for each province and territory, giving area and population figures, names of present and past Lieutenant Governors, names of current provincial cabinet ministers, dates of legislatures since entering Confederation, lists of members, lists of constituencies, biographies of members, and results of the most recent election. In addition to this, there is information about the Supreme Court, the Federal Court, Court Martial Appeal Court, Tax Court of Canada, including biographies of judges, and lists of previous chief justices. There is a list of names of Canadian representatives abroad, along with contact information in each country. A directory of the Legislative Assembly of each province gives names, constituency, party, phone and fax numbers. There are similar lists of the Senate and House of Commons. An index provides easy access to information about every person who is named in the book.

It's time to get up on a step stool and look into these volumes for yourself!

Passing the Torch: 100 years...100 stories, St. John's High 1910-2010 [Winnipeg 2010]. 126 p. illus. (MGS library call number MAN 371 WINN StJo PAS)

This book was produced on the occasion of the centennial of St. John's High School. It begins with a summary of the history of the school, including such categories and sports, yearbooks, the school anthem, names of students who have been awarded the Order of Canada, Order of Manitoba and other similar honours, names of other graduates who became prominent, school songs and yells, and names of principals. From 1950 onward, there is a page for each year, with the highlights of that year listed, as well as names of some of the staff and names of students whose accomplishments were notable. An excellent look at the background of the first school in Winnipeg to celebrate a centennial.

Lounsbury – Marlatt Family History compiled by Ivan Hugh Lounsbury. Winnipeg, 2009. 103 p. illus. (MGS library call number FH & BIO 929.2 LOU 2)

Thomas Elymer Lounsbury married Sarah Jane Marlatt in 1874 at Tillsonburg, Ontario. Ivan Lounsbury has compiled a comprehensive genealogy of the Lounsbury and Marlatt families, many of whom lived at Treherne, and other southern Manitoba locations. He included numerous photographs, newspaper clippings, and quotations from family bible records. The author, Ivan Lounsbury, died in June 2011. MGS now has a book that describes in detail the ***Celebration of Life Service for Ivan Hugh Lounsbury*** (library call number FH & BIO 929.2 LOU). Many thanks to the donor of these two books.

BOOK REVIEW FROM A SATISFIED CUSTOMER

Sheila Champagne #5250

Producing a Quality Family Tree by Patricia Law. Salt Lake City, Ancestry, 1996. 278 p, illus. (MGS library call number: General 070.5 HAT)

This is a very technical book which I highly recommend for anyone that wants details on formatting and layout principles for a formal publication. Although the novice genealogist may find it too technical it does contain valuable information about documenting sources, etc. that are beneficial before you start compiling your family history. Even though it is dated in terms of the computer software that is now readily available, I consider it a valuable resource.

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Periodical Potpourri

Enid Dorward #4502

All publications mentioned in this column are available for loan from the MGS library.

GENEALOGICAL HOW-TOs

Family Tree (USA) (July 2010) Ten investigative strategies to locate living relatives and discover family history clues.

Family Tree (UK) (Nov. 2010) How to organize your family history.

Internet Genealogy (Oct-Nov. 2010) An article in this issue provides information about 15 websites for tracing female ancestors.

Lambton Lifeline (Sept. 2010) British Home Child research methods.

OGS Hamilton Branch (May 2011) Two articles on researching female ancestors and how to locate maiden names.

Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (Sept. 2010) An article describes how to get free genealogical books on *The Internet Archive*.

ONTARIO

Anglo-Celtic Roots (fall 2010)

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Ottawa, BMD records 1829-1949.

Bruce & Grey Branch (May 2011) Gives a list of Ontario newspapers available online.

Bruce Bulletin (Feb 2011) Bruce County strays found in the *Victoria Daily Colonist*, Victoria, BC (1928-29).

Families (Nov/10) Documenting Ontario war dead 1914 to 1950.

- (spring 2010) Leaving Ontario: online source for tracking Ontario migrants. A reminder of things to consider, along with an excellent list of online links and resources.

- (spring 2011) A timeline/overview of the history of settlement communities in Trafalgar Township 1806-1914.

Kingston Relations (Nov/Dec. 2010) Provides a list of Kingston city directories available online.

Lambton Lifeline (Sept. 2010) A two- page list called *Strays and Interesting "Findings" Buried*

in Alvinston and St. Mathew's R.C. Cemetery, Brooke Township".

Lanark Log (Feb 2011) Ottawa Ladies College and a 1904 address book (includes 49 names).

Leeds & Grenville Branch (OGS) News and Views (Jan-Feb 2010)

An article gives details about the respected Tweedsmuir Histories being digitized and available online.

- (June 2010) contains a list of marriage affidavits dating approx. 1894-1905. Includes date, and names of brides and grooms.

- (Sept/Oct/10) Transcriptions from Foxton Cemetery (aka Glazier Cemetery), Elizabethtown Township.

- (Jan-Feb. 2011) An article provides information about early Prescott newspapers.

- (March-April 2011) Quaker records in Leeds County – with lists of names.

- (May/June 2011) Voters list 1888, municipality of Kitley.

London Leaf (Feb. 2010) Land grant notice for Westminster Township, Feb. 8, 1812, gives a list of names.

- (May 2010) Vanneck Church 1840-1860: a list of names of members of the congregation (A to M).

- (Aug. 2010) List of names (M to W) from Vanneck Church.

*****NEW*** Muskoka Parry Sound Genealogy Group** (April 2011) This issue contains an index (A – D) of obituaries & death notices, Huntsville Forrester 1996 to 2000. Includes names of spouses.

Norfolk (Feb. 2010) Contains a list of births in 1869 in Norfolk County, Ontario, with child's name, birth date, gender, names of parents (A-C only).

- (Aug. 2010) C to J

Norfolk (Dec/10) List of names from the Port Dover Cenotaph, Port Dover, Ontario. There is also a list of Port Rowan commercial fishermen and punters.

- (Feb 2011) A list of names from the Port Dover Fishermen's Memorial

- (June 2011) Pictures from SS1 Houghton (1938) and SS6 Houghton (1950).

Notes from Niagara (Feb. 2010) Taken from Thorold Township Minute Book 1799-1842,

there is a list of farmers who registered marks for cattle, sheep and hogs, with registration date.

- (Aug. 2010) Report of Common Schools in the District of Niagara – a list with the names of townships and schoolmasters from June 1827.
- (Nov/10) Death notices of War of 1812 persons (from St. Catharines Newspapers).
- (May 2011) A list of names from the Sherkston Cemetery, Humberstone Twp., Welland County, Ontario.

Ottawa Genealogist (Mar/Apr/10)

Ottawa newspapers for family history.

- (Jan-March 2011) An article describes The Ontario Name Index (TONI) and tells what this huge index will include. Watch for updates!
- (Apr-June 2011) A list of names of citizens of Ottawa in 1846.

Our Waterloo Kin (Feb. 2010) Has a list of people who left Elmira, Ontario, to start a new life in western Canada in April 1900.

- (Nov/10) A list of baptisms from 1850

Perth County Profiles (Aug. 2010) Look for a list of names of students who wrote entrance examinations for St. Mary's Argus in July 1883. The list includes student name, school name, and marks received.

Quinte Searchlight (March 2011) Launch of "Upper Canada Land Petitions" online database.

- (June 2011) Provides a list of the mayors of the city of Belleville 1850-1955. (Biographies will be available free on the Quinte Branch website.)

Roots Branches & Twigs (Kent Co.) (Vol. 33 no.3 2010) Contains extracts from the Marine Directory of the Great Lakes (Detroit 1884), listing boats with the names of their Canadian owners.

SCAN (Simcoe County) Feb. 2010 This issue has a list of marriages transcribed from the register of St. John's Anglican Church, Cookstown from 1860 to 1895. Includes names of the couple, officiant, witnesses, whether by banns or license, also townships where bride & groom lived.

- (Nov. 2010) Upper Canada Land Petitions 1763-1865 – a newly released search index is now online.

Talbot Times (June 2011) The entire issue is given over to an index of the Elgin County

Centennial Edition of *St. Thomas Times Journal*, 1 August 1952.

Timberline (Feb. 2010) Genealogy in the Upper Ottawa Valley – researching the records.

- (Oct. 2010) Land and property ownership records from the Ottawa Valley.

- (June 2010) High school entrance exam results, *Pembroke Standard*, July 17, 1924. A lengthy list of names of those who secured their entrance standing, from several towns.

Toronto Tree (Jan-Feb 2010) Canadian Woodmen of the World Memorial with a list of the names from the memorial, along with place of origin and dates of birth and death.

- (Nov-Dec. 2010) An article tells about a new database of war memorials.

The Tracer (Oxford County) (May & August 2010) Jury list for Division Court #1 – District of Brock ca. 1846. This is a lengthy list of names.

- (May 2011) Contains the Town of Woodstock Directory 1852, with names and occupations.

Traces & Tracks (fall 2010) Gives an extensive list of websites for researching Wellington County, Ontario.

Trails (Essex County) (fall 2010)

Brief biographies of several men who served in World War I.

- (spring 2011) This issue contains two interesting lists: one is a list of babies and young children whose photographs appeared in the *Windsor Daily Star* in 1941, and the other is a list of Essex county photographers 1851-1925.

York Region Ancestors (Dec/10 and Feb 2011) An annual return of Captain Gamble's Company in the 2nd Regiment North York Militia June 4th 1833 (All names from King Township – the list gives name, lot number and age).

- (May 2011) A list of early York County pioneers.

OTHER

Family Tree (USA) (March 2011) How to research South African records.

Genealogists' Magazine (Sept/10) "Foreigners' bones in China" (Hong Kong and Macao).

Internet Genealogy (Dec-Jan 2011) This issue includes a listing of hard-to-find websites for places such as Czechoslovakia, Greece, Haiti, South Africa, Korea, Israel and others.

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Photo Key to Unlocking a Fascinating History: The Power of an Oral Interview

Harry Troche

(Harry Troche is an amateur historian with a particular interest in military history. He spoke to the Southeast and Winnipeg Branch about his experiences as an Oral Historian in September, 2010.)

I have never done any genealogical research in my life, which is surprising given my passion for history and 35+ year hobby of collecting military and police-related artifacts.

Much to my dismay I never took the time to ‘formally’ interview my father, a WWII veteran, to capture for posterity his recollections of the

war, both its horrors and lighter moments. Alas, as is the case with many of our veterans, he passed on many years ago and now all I have are a few faint recollections of the discussions we had during the 35 years we had together

Besides military history another passion in history for me is the study of the prohibition era ... perhaps as a result of my 32 year occupation as a customs officer and investigator. Many years ago I happened to meet a bootlegger in southeast Manitoba who was active in '*rum running*' in the 1920s and who even in the 1990s still worried about the ramifications of getting caught. After assuring him that the '*statute of limitations*' had long passed, he agreed to tell me much of what happened in those days ... but at a later date. Once again my naivety precluded me from acting immediately to meet with the gentleman and record his recollections for posterity. He, too, has since passed, another opportunity lost.

I vowed that I would never again let such opportunities pass!

So recently when my wife's friend told me her dad was a WWII veteran of the German army, I knew I had to act. I asked if she had any photos of him in his army uniform, and after a few weeks she presented me with a black and white photo of her dad with his sister circa 1942.

Being a uniform collector I immediately studied the photo and learned from the uniform and distinctive headdress he wore that her dad was not a regular soldier, but was in fact a German police officer - a group who often felt compelled to keep their past military service quiet after the war for fear that they would be labeled one of those who committed wartime atrocities in the concentration camps.



PHOTO: George Warkentin, 1941, with his sister

For the record, history has to some degree vindicated the legitimate civil police services of Nazi Germany, and this organization as an entity was not considered guilty of any wartime atrocities, unlike some of the other security branches of the Nazi organization.. This being said, there undoubtedly were some individuals in the police who may have been found to be individually criminally responsible of committing atrocities). I knew that I had “struck gold” and with the family’s encouragement and permission I set out to meet and interview this gentleman. He is one of only a few surviving wartime German policemen, and arguably one of the few ever interviewed in Manitoba.

Happily my determination led to an hour-long interview with a 91 year old gentleman with a most interesting past. A man who was born a Mennonite in pre-communist Russia, who spoke fluent German and Russian, and who, after wartime service in the German police, immigrated to Canada to farm, never having told the story of his wartime service to his family.

To help ensure that things went well I dug out a few WWII German police artifacts from my collection to act as memory ‘joggers’, and engaged my wife to act as the camera operator along with her friend (the gentleman’s daughter) to act an interpreter. The hour-long interview went well and the recollections flowed. As a

result, very interesting information was forthcoming, including recollections of the gentleman’s duty in traffic control for one of Hitler’s motorcades, and details of his hair-raising escape from allied captivity immediately after the war.

I was pleased with the results and I learned a great deal about doing such an interview. I would like to share these with others, should they wish to undertake something similar.

Lessons learned:

- ***Always get the family’s permission to interview, and involve them in process.***
- While it's good to do the interview in surroundings familiar to the interviewee, ***make sure that there are no interruptions.*** In my case this was a neighboring patient in the same room who yelled and moaned throughout our interview.
- ***Make sure you have an interpreter.*** I did and she was invaluable when her dad couldn't find the correct English words to describe an event (usually these were the emotional ones).
- ***Make sure you position yourself to the interviewee's 'good side'.*** In our situation it was a case of hearing loss.
- If doing the interview in a personal care home, schedule it outside of meal times so as not to be disturbed and so as to not negatively impact the interviewee.
- ***Position the camera in an unobtrusive and non-obvious place*** to ensure a ‘natural’ dialogue, and use a tripod to make sure it is steady.
- ***Leave yourself lots of time.*** I thought that the interview would be over quickly but after one hour my subject still wanted to talk! He indicated at the conclusion of the interview that he was back in 1943 and now had to ‘come back’ to the present time.
- ***Be prepared for emotions.*** The gentleman I interviewed lost his entire family during the war and when recounting the experience

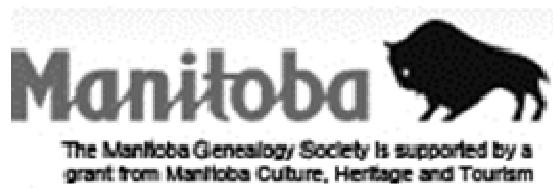
became very emotional and distraught on a number of occasions.

- **Understand the reasons for not previously saying much to friends and family.** My subject was ashamed to tell anyone about his wartime experience as he thought that he would be thought of as a Nazi war criminal. Once I indicated that I could see from the photo that he was in fact a policeman (which was a very honourable profession in WW2 Germany) he felt comfortable and at ease in talking about his past experiences.
- **Do some research.** Study photos and learn dates in order to determine what events may have happened at particular times. My subject remembered the date, July 1943, and circumstances, lots of Russian and German tanks, but not the event itself. I was able to help him identify the event as being the famous battle of Kursk, which is historically very significant as it was the largest tank battle ever fought during WW2.
- **Take some memory reminders.** I took some WW2 memorabilia including a WW2 German police hat. When shown these items he perked up and he was able to remember much more.
- **Afterwards, be sure to thank the interviewee,** and any other family or ‘helpers’ who participated. In our case we took our friend out to a nice lunch to ‘decompress’ as well as discuss what we learned.
- **Provide a copy of the interview to the family.** I made 3 copies of the DVD for the family and I have been told that they appreciated having them.
- Preparation and planning for the interview is very important but I learned that you also have to be flexible as things change during the interview. **So, be prepared and adapt as needed.**
- **Finally, if presented with the chance to interview someone, DO IT!** Don’t wait months, or even weeks later, as that may be

too late. Do it as soon as possible, otherwise you may regret it.

The interview itself was unlike any I have ever done before (and in my 32 year law enforcement career I’ve interviewed hundreds of people during an investigation). It really took a toll on me as well as on my wife and our friend. We were all emotionally drained afterwards!

All in all, I have to say I was very happy and honoured to have had this opportunity ... all of which resulted from a chance comment from a friend and a look at a family photo!



In Search of John W. Ross 1885-1920

Pat Sundmark #3834

In 1910 a young Scottish grocer from Elgin, John W. Ross, immigrated to Canada. He landed in Quebec on June 25th and travelled west to Winnipeg. Like many an immigrant, he arrived

at the old CPR station on Higgins Avenue and found a boarding house in the city centre at 717½ William Avenue. He had plans to open a grocery store and to provide a home for his bride-to-be who was to follow a year later.



PHOTO: J.W. and Margaret Ross

In September 1911, as she had promised, Margaret Fordyce arrived from Scotland via New York. They were married in Duluth at the

home of her cousin, Janet Brodie and her husband, James Falconer, who were also from Elgin.

In Winnipeg, John opened a store at 436 Rosedale Avenue in the Riverview/Lord Roberts area. Sometime later an opportunity came to open a store at the corner of Dorchester Avenue and Lilac Street. This was at the edge of the up and coming exclusive area of Crescentwood, where the fine homes of the wealthy lined the streets of Wellington Crescent, Grosvenor, Kingsway, Harvard, and Yale Avenue. John W. Ross Co., Groceries and Provisions, was established at 163 Lilac Street.



PHOTO: J.W Ross Grocer, 463 Rosedale Avenue



PHOTO: J.W Ross Grocer, 163 Lilac Street

John and Margaret lived for a time in the recently constructed Carrick Apartments on Corydon Avenue and then moved to the Guelph Apartments at 778 McMillan Avenue, at the corner of Lilac and very close to John's store. It was during their stay in the elegant Guelph Apartments that their daughter, Margaret

Hellen, (a common spelling of Helen in northeast Scotland) was born on 23rd December, 1916. They attended Westminster Presbyterian Church, which was constructed in 1912, and their daughter was baptized there in March 1917.

The family spent days at City (Assiniboine) Park, and took trips to Lake Winnipeg in the summer. John's business was successful enough to enable him to own a car, and have a membership in a golf club. It was after a game of golf at Assiniboine Golf Club in 1920, while trying to crank start his car, that John suffered a fatal heart attack. Unfortunately, Margaret was not in Winnipeg at the time as she and their young daughter were in Scotland on holiday to visit the family.

As the distance was so far and Margaret had no family in Winnipeg, the decision was made for a close friend to make the funeral arrangements. He sent letters and photographs of the gravesite in Elmwood Cemetery and then helped to settle the estate. John's estate seemed sizeable enough with the total value recorded in the probate documents as \$21,336.17. The disbursements, "in the due course of administration" according to the court documents, totaled \$19, 919.64. The probate documents stated further that The North Canadian Trust Company was allowed \$500, for their "care, pains, trouble and time in administration". The law firm of Andrews, Andrews, Burbidge, and Bastedo took \$444.23. After all the legal fees and administration fees and general expenses were settled poor Margaret and her daughter only received \$472.30! The estate had also included a share in Assiniboine Golf Club, which could not be sold, but ownership was never transferred to the widow.

Margaret stayed in Scotland, living with her parents to raise her daughter, but did correspond over the years with many of the friends she had made during her time in Winnipeg. In 1931 she returned to Winnipeg to visit old friends and allow her daughter to see the city where she had been born.

Margaret always spoke fondly of her years in Winnipeg and cherished her photograph albums showing people and places that were an important part of their lives. Margaret Fordyce Ross died in Scotland in 1970 leaving all her memories of life on the prairies with her grandson, Ronald Knox.

It was an email from Ronald Knox that started the search for John W. Ross and his life in Canada. Ronald and his wife, Linda, are avid genealogists. Although they had the bones of the story and some factual material, they wanted to fill out the flesh and get a sense of the life Ronald's grandparents had in Winnipeg. Ronald sent an email to MGS and to me outlining what he knew and asking what materials might be available in our Resource Centre to assist him. He and his wife had planned a trip to Winnipeg for 5 or 6 days to do their search and were seeking any input.

They had sent the email to the right people! Both Jim Rutherford and I had lived in the general area when we were younger and we were familiar with the places that interested them. I also had my Scottish grandparents buried in the Elmwood Cemetery and my grandparents and my mother were immigrants to the prairies close to the same time. I was intrigued!

Thanks to the Internet, I was able to advise Ronald where to find many things before he arrived in Winnipeg. He had already started looking and between us I think we searched all possible sources for information.

He was able to make application for his grandfather's death certificate and search the available censuses. He corresponded with the minister of Westminster Church and made an appointment to view what was available in the United Church Archives at the University of Winnipeg. He was also able to request material from the probate of his grandfather's estate, which the staff at the Manitoba Archives prepared for him when he visited. He wrote a letter to the current occupant of the apartment at

778 McMillan Avenue on the chance that there might be a response. This resulted in an invitation to meet the occupant and visit the suite where his mother was born and spent the first few years of her life. They also spent time at the Millennium Library.

While in Winnipeg, Ronald and Linda Knox visited all the places where his grandparents had lived, addresses where their friends had lived, and the sites of the shops they had owned. They toured Westminster Church, Assiniboine Golf Club, and went to Elmwood Cemetery where John was buried. They even travelled some of the time on the transit system, which they found very convenient! They also visited The Forks, watched the Canada Day fireworks, and went to the Manitoba Museum.

We spent several hours at the MGS Resource Centre where Jim Rutherford had compiled the search of the Henderson's Directories and other materials. We also sat down together to try to identify some of the places in the photographs that they had brought with them.

A trip to Elmwood Cemetery found John W. Ross's tombstone standing tall but in need of some minor repairs, which I had let them know before they arrived. Ronald's concern was that the date and age on the stone were not correct



PHOTO: John W. Ross tombstone

and he wanted to be able to correct the error. A couple of visits to a stonemason solved that problem. Ronald was pleased that within a month of their going home to Scotland the repair was completed and a photograph was sent from the stonemason for their approval.

Spending a couple of days with Ronald and Linda (and yes, we even went to Tim Horton's) and helping them find the material and information they wanted, left me feeling as if I had known the young John W. Ross and his wife, Margaret. After a pleasant evening with my husband and me sharing a meal and conversation with Ronald and Linda, I felt a kinship with them and hope to see them again someday in Glasgow.

They have kindly offered their help to any visitor from Winnipeg searching for roots in Glasgow by pointing them in the right direction.

If you are searching and would like their help, email me (pats@shaw.ca) and I will forward your request to them.

From the Manitoba Free Press 5 November 1908

"The Granite Curling Club women have formed a curling league. They have made a radical departure when forming their executive because they did not appoint a chaplain amongst their officers. It was thought that such an appointment was only necessary for the men's league."

My Thoughts About MGS

Marilyn J. Clayton

One day, in 1976, I was watching someone interview Eric Jonasson on television. I was living in The Pas, MB at that time. That was the beginning of my association with MGS. I signed up immediately and I received the first copy of *Generations* in the fall of 1976. I have all copies except the few years that I became too busy with my growing family and did not subscribe.

The MGS opened doors for me. I began my genealogical research in the fall of 1969. I was

expecting my first child and I wanted to research his family background. Genealogy help and information was very hard to find at that time. Most of my research was done by letter until we moved south.

I visited the LDS library in Winnipeg after we moved to Dominion City, MB. I also visited the MGS library (got lost on Albert Street when the library was down town. I doubt my two children who were with me, under duress, remember the experience).

While at Dominion City, I transcribed the cemetery. Now my children had things to say about that! "Mom, it's creepy, you crawling around the cemetery!" It took me two years to accomplish the job. I also bought a book called "Untangling the Tree" by Eric Jonasson in 1983.

Our next move was to Fisher Branch, MB. It was while I lived here that my research took a back seat to teenagers and a full time job.

I now belong to the South West Branch and the Winnipeg Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society. In the next few months, I hope to help a friend sort out her uncle's cemetery transcriptions and other genealogical findings. What materials the MGS does not have, his family will donate to the Society.

I cannot tell you how grateful I am to Eric Jonasson for starting the MGS. The last 35 years of research have been a lot easier.

Don't be afraid to take big steps. You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps.

- David Lloyd George

The Story of St. John's High School – Part 5

Chris Dewar #4408

Call to Arms

St. John's fourth decade started with a call to arms to which alumni responded with the same sense of duty as did their predecessors in 1914.

By the end of the conflict in 1945, hundreds of former students had served throughout the world to defeat the Axis powers. The Memorial Tablet records the names of the 155 individuals who gave their lives for the cause. Among them was John Baskerville (1931), a flying officer in the RAF and the son of a St. John's teacher, who was the first to fall in action. His name was given to the Cadet Corps formed at St. John's in 1941, which became the John Baskerville Air Squadron in 1943.



PHOTO: Practice makes perfect. Jack Shapira leads the troop of St. John's boys in this 1942 picture.

While the boys were involved in musketry training and drills, the girls added knitting to their activities in order to raise funds for the Red Cross. A Cadet Band was formed by Mr. Bailey to help the boys stay in step while marching. The students' War Efforts Committee spearheaded salvage collection, Red Cross work, buying War Savings Stamps and sending parcels overseas to St. John's graduates in the services, and then to refugees after the war had

ended. While rationing became a part of life at home, students' interest in sports and music did not diminish.



PHOTO: The 1945 St. John's Tigers captured the city football crown by defeating Isaac Newton in "the dirtiest and worst played game of the season." Team captain Norm Hill sits behind the trophy.

Home and School

The St. John's Home and School Association, long a dream of Mr. Reeve's, became a reality in 1941, when a constitution was adopted with its primary aim: to promote co-operation between parents, teachers and students. An executive with Mr. Allistair Stewart as president was elected.

As well, an Awards committee was created by council in 1945 to systematize the points and bars earned by students for participation in school activities – a system of recognition, reviewed annually, which remained a fixture at St. John's for many years. Bars could be won in each of four fields – academics, sports, citizenship, culture. If a student accumulated enough points for a bar in each field, she would earn a chenille "J". If the individual continued to earn the equivalent of four bars for a second year, she was awarded a school pin featuring a St. John's crest. The third annual award was a school ring. School letters, pins and rings were

presented to the award recipients at the Grad ceremony.



PHOTO: Miss Elsie Gauer left St. John's in 1949 to assume the position of Assistant Supervisor of Physical Education for Winnipeg School Division. Here she shares a Field Day photo op with students.

The school's first vice-principal, Dwight N. Ridd, an alumnus and former teacher, was appointed in 1945. Operettas were produced to great acclaim. Championship teams in football, basketball and other sports thrilled the student body. The Hi Freshman, a guide for the new student, and Student's Day were introduced in 1944. Favorite teachers retired and new ones, including Russ Pastuck, Stewart Dack, J. McAllister, Elsa Handel, Helen Hawryluk/Charney, Beulah Ross, Margaret Vant, Robina Whiteside and Mabel Christie to name a few, joined the staff. Bobby socks and saddle shoes became the newest fashion statement.

The Forties yielded another stellar group of alumni who made the name of the school shine

ever brighter. Among these luminaries are: athletes Bill Ezinicki (1942) and Sandy Gibb (1944), neurologist Dr. Norman Hill (1946); chess master Abe Yanovsky (1941); economist Sylvia Knelman/Ostry (1943); civil servant Bernard Ostry (1943); politicians Roland Penner (1941) and Sidney Spivak (1942); playwright and founder of the Manitoba Theatre Centre John Hirsch (1948); mathematician Israel Herstein (1940); violinist Donna Gresco (1943), educators John Potter (1940) and Cec Muldrew (1940); president of the University of Manitoba Ernest Sirluck (1940); historian Norman Cantor (1947); anthropologist Walter Hlady (1942); art collector and philanthropist Dr. Harry Winrob (1941); singers Wally Koster (1940), Rita Pleskow/Russ (1947) and Gladys Kriese (1948); businessman Bill Konyk (1948); ballet dancer Arnold Spohr (1942); documentary filmmaker Beryl Fox (1948); choral director Sheila Rittberg/Roitenberg (1947); authors Adele Wiseman (1945), Ed Kleiman (1949) and Jack Ludwig (1942). Whatever the field, St. John's grads have been a credit to their school and community.

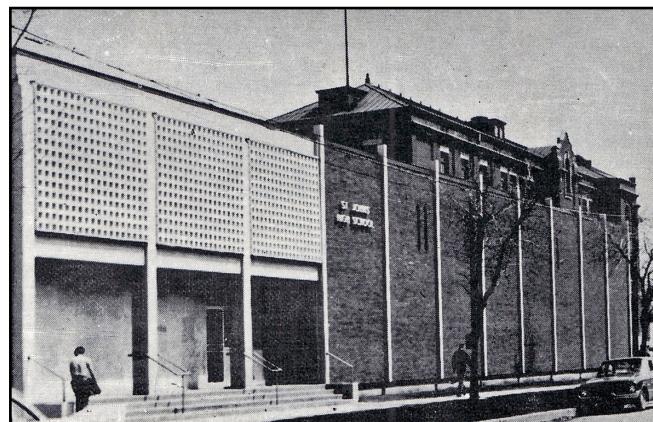


PHOTO: This rare 1962 view shows the entrance of the "new" building on Church Avenue with the roof and third floor windows of the original St. John's Tech behind it.

Old school opens new doors

The school basement had been flooded in 1950, the foundations of the gymnasium and auditorium had needed reinforcing and the tower had been partially decapitated during the

fifties, but the original building dominated the Salter Street skyline until 1967. The new St. John's at 401 Church Avenue came into being in three stages. The first, completed at the end of 1960, marked the beginning of St. John's as a junior and senior high school. The second stage, completed in 1964, saw the addition of specialized facilities such as language labs and home economics rooms. For six years, as construction continued, old and new functioned as one school. The cornerstone for the third and final addition was laid on November 25, 1966. The Canadian Centennial Year, 1967, brought the final move into the current St. John's High School building. A traditional Tea with tours of the new building celebrated its debut, followed by the quick demolition of the old structure.

Today tiger paw prints help newcomers and visitors navigate their way through the labyrinthine halls of St. John's. Renovations, alterations and repairs to accommodate new educational programs and philosophies have been made, but the building today in 2010, is essentially the same as the one completed in 1967. It has withstood the wear and tear of thousands of feet, leaky roofs, graffiti on its walls, smoking in the washrooms and staffroom, false fire alarms, the renumbering of its classrooms, break-ins and vandalism. It still holds "pride of place" in the memories of the majority of living St. John's alumni.

Some things have stayed the same during the years. The *Free Press* announced in 1979:

Principals see no evidence of race tension.

Much, however, has changed. Grade twelve became compulsory instead of optional in 1964. Enrolment climbed to the stratosphere in the early seventies. The rugby team was revived. Outdoor education became a popular option.

School Store practice for business future announced a 1976 headline. Practical arts and shops became co-ed.

Boys stir up kitchen havoc the *Tribune* education reporter wrote in 1980. The 75th anniversary and reunion in 1985, attracted thousands of former students and teachers.

Then, computers inspired awe in labs until they became ubiquitous in all schools and classrooms. Performing arts have become part of the curriculum instead of an extracurricular activity. In place of the Gilbert & Sullivan opera, the jazz choir and the band demonstrate and celebrate the students' skills and talents.

In 2010 the students may rally to the motto of "Tiger Pride," rather than to "Usque Ad Astra," but the school spirit beats just as strongly in the hearts of St. Johnians today as it did in yesteryear. The experiences of common effort, success and failure bind alumni to the students and teachers who preceded and followed them. At the first Centennial, celebrated June 17 to 20, 2010, two thousand former students and staff came to remember, honour and celebrate the people who formed, and the people who continue to create, the spirit of St. John's.

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Photo Credits

All illustrations are from materials in the St. John's High School Archives including various editions of *The Torch*, with the following exceptions. Photos of the four specialized classrooms are taken from the 1912 Annual Report of the Provincial Department of Education courtesy Manitoba Department of Education Library; the photo of Maxwell Wintrobe, MD, is used with the kind permission of Susan Wintrobe Walker; the 1924 Grad photo comes from the City of Winnipeg Archives with their permission; the 1927-28 class photo comes from Harry Walsh; the picture of the 1945 Tigers comes from Sam Singer, a member of the team; the three generations photo comes from Victor Spigelman.

News and Events from the Southeast & Winnipeg Branch, MGS

NEW SIG!

We are introducing a new Special Interest Group (SIG) this year, along with the return of old favourites: the Computer SIG and the Writer's Group. The new SIG is entitled "*12 Heads are Better than 1*". With a name like that, we anticipate some curiosity. Be sure to attend to find out what that is all about. The first scheduled "*12 Heads SIG*" will be Monday, November 28th.

Branch Programming Begins September 12

Monday, September 12—General Meeting—7:30 pm

Unlocking the Treasure Chest— What's Really at the MGS Resource Centre?

Our own Mary Bole, MGS Librarian, will be taking us on a tour of the Resource Centre. It will be a tour of discovery. All of us will learn about some treasured resource we've previously been unaware of, hiding in plain sight in our very own Resource Centre. Not everything is on the Internet, and much can be found at MGS, regardless of where your ancestors came from. Miss this presentation at your own peril—the key to solving your brick wall may be hiding under your nose!

Monday, September 26—Computer SIG—7:30 pm

Our NEW Micro-scanner and Microforms

What do you mean, microforms? This is supposed to be about computers! Didn't microfiche go the way of the Dodo Bird?

You may well ask this question, but our own Tech Geek, Gord McBean, will show us how everything old is new again! With the purchase of our NEW microform reader that scans microfiche and microfilms and transfers them to digital images that we can save to our files, we able to better use hundreds of resources here at MGS that have been gathering dust, alone and forgotten since the Internet craze hit. There are some true gems in our microform collection, and Gord will help us to make better use of them through technology.

More Monday Night Genealogy dates to remember:

October 17, General Meeting, 7:30 pm We're trying to arrange a tour off-site, so stay tuned for more details

October 24, Writer's Group—7:00 start time.

Generations Editorial Team

Many thanks to the great work done by the Editorial Team.

As you can see we have some vacancies to fill, if you are interested, send me a note at generations@mbgenealogy.com

Editor – David Farmer

Advertising Sales – *Debbie Degryse Clark*

Book Reviews – *Enid Dorward*

Book Reviews – *Bev Smith*

Editorial Consultant – *Joyce Elias*

From the Past – *Kathy Stokes*

Library/Library Lines – *Mary Bole*

Members' Interests – **vacant**

Periodical Potpourri – *Enid Dorward*

Photographer – **vacant**

Proof Reader – *Joyce Elias*

Volunteer Bios – **vacant**

Make a Donation!

Your financial support helps with:

- developing programs, collections and research resources for the heritage community
- upgrading equipment and subscribing to relevant resources in keeping us abreast with current research
- providing and maintaining a comfortable facility for our members and the public

You receive:

- the satisfaction in knowing that your donation will be put directly towards furthering the goals of the Society.
- a tax receipt for the full amount of your donation. As a registered charity these receipts are applicable in both Canada and the United States.

Manitoba Genealogical Society

E - 1045 St. James Street

Winnipeg MB Canada R3H 1B1

Phone: (204) 783-9139

www.mbgenealogy.com

Renewal MGS # _____ New Member _____

Name (Please print): _____

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Name and MGS # of Associate at same address:

MGS MEMBERSHIP FEES

Individual	\$40.00	\$_____
Associate	\$20.00	\$_____
Institutional	\$40.00	\$_____
MGS Branch Fees:		
Dauphin	\$20.00	\$_____
Beautiful Plains	\$10.00	\$_____
South West	\$10.00	\$_____
SW Assoc.	\$8.00	\$_____
Swan Valley	\$10.00	\$_____
Southeast & Wpg	\$10.00	\$_____
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G.S.T. not applicable. Federal income tax receipts are issued for donations over \$5.00.

OFFICE USE

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Time to Renew?

Is the expiry date on your address label one of the following dates - 2011/09/30, 2011/10/31, or 2011/11/30?

If so, your membership is expiring with this issue. Please copy the form on this page and remit with your payment.

Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.
E – 1045 St. James Street, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3H 1B1 Phone: 204-783-9139
contact@mbgenealogy.com www.mbgenealogy.com

Publications Order Form

<u>Book</u>		<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
A1	BIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES at the HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY Archives, Vol. 1	each \$33.00	_____
A2	BIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES at the HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY Archives, Vol. 2	each \$39.00	_____
A3	CARVED IN STONE. Cemeteries and Burial Sites in Manitoba. Revised in 1997	each \$25.00	_____
A4	FAMILY HISTORIAN'S GUIDE to Illness, Disease & Death Certificates	each \$25.00	_____
A5	FAST FACTS FOR FINDING FAMILY IN MANITOBA	each \$10.00	_____
A6	HANDBOOK for READING and INTERPRETING OLD DOCUMENTS ...with examples from HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY Archives, Winnipeg. Illustrated	each \$35.00	_____
A7	An INDEX of BIRTH, MARRIAGE & DEATH NOTICES FROM MANITOBA NEWSPAPERS Volume 1 (1859 – 1881) Marr / Deaths only	each \$25.00	_____
A8	Volume 2 (1882 – 1884)	each \$49.00	_____
A9	Volume 3 (1885) (<i>currently unavailable</i>)	each \$20.00	_____
A10	Volume 4 (1886)	each \$20.00	_____
A11	Volume 5 (1887)	each \$20.00	_____

Please Note: *Shipping & Handling for the first item \$4.50 and \$3.00 for each additional item.*

Total S & H	\$_____.
Total Order	\$_____.

Please check here if you would like to receive a free large pedigree chart with your order while supplies last _____

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Unit E - 1045 St. James Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3H 1B1
Telephone: 204-783-9139
Email: generations@mbgenealogy.com



Generations: Advertising Rates Schedule

		<u>1 ISSUE</u>	<u>4 ISSUES</u>
Full Page	7" x 9"	\$100.00	\$300.00
Half Page	7" x 4½" or 3" x 9"	60.00	180.00
Quarter Page	7" x 2¼" or 3" x 4½ "	30.00	90.00

Above ads must be camera ready and the proper size. Photos extra. Reduction/enlargement extra.

Classified Ads

Maximum of 3 (typewritten) lines x 7" = \$10.00 per issue or \$32.00 per year. Must be typewritten or printed clearly. Extra lines are \$3.00 each.

Business Card Ads

Actual business card or equivalent, 3½ "x 2" = \$20.00 per issue or \$60.00 per year. Camera ready.

Changes

Will be allowed in advertising copy at the yearly rate.

Copy Deadlines

February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1.

Send copy or enquiries to Editor, *Generations*, - address above or generations@mbgenealogy.com

Guidelines

The following guidelines shall apply to advertisements placed by MGS or appearing in Society publications.

1. All advertisements shall conform to MGS policy. The following outline of principles constitutes the policy of the Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. on advertising.

Purposes: [1] to advance the cause of genealogy; [2] to promote the interests of the Society; [3] to provide information to the public.

Content: any advertising placed by the Society or appearing in Society publications shall: [1] conform to the policies of the Society; [2] contain no statements that are false or misleading to the best of our knowledge; [3] ensure a regard for public safety and shall not depict situations which might encourage inappropriate, unsafe or dangerous practices; and [4] conform to the public standards of taste and decency.

Placement: advertising shall not be placed by the Society in any publication or media program that discriminates in its content on the basis of race, sex, language, religion, marital status, family status, source of income, or age. Advertising that appears in any publications of the Society shall not discriminate in its content on the basis of race, sex, language, religion, marital status, family status, source of income, or age.

Application of the Policy: Where any doubt exists as to the application of the policy, the Vice President of Public Relations and the Journal Editor of the Society shall decide.

2. Advertisements in MGS publications shall be directly relevant to members of the Society.
3. All advertisements shall be subject to the approval of the Editorial Committee. Where doubt exists as to the appropriateness of any advertisement, the Vice President of Public Relations & Vice President of Administration shall have the right to deny its publication.
4. All revenues from advertising shall go directly to MGS. Rates may be subject to change annually upon review and recommendation by the editorial committee and approval of the Council of the Society.

Revised March 2011



LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTRE

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:30 to 3:30

Wednesday Evenings 7:00 to 9:00 (until May long weekend)

Sunday 12:00 to 4:00

(It is always best to confirm Wednesday evening and Sunday opening times)

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If so, your membership is expiring with this issue.

PLEASE RENEW SOON. Membership form is on page 27.