



# HAPPY CHRISTMAS

# **MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.**

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**Wednesday Evenings 7:00 to 9:00 (Closed December 15, 2017 through March 21, 2018)**

**Sunday Noon - 4:00 (mid-October to mid-May)**

The MANITOBA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC. is a non-profit organization, formed in 1976, and incorporated in 1982. The Society promotes and encourages interest in genealogy and family history in Manitoba.

**Membership and Branch Information is available in this issue, or on our website (<http://mbgenealogy.com/>) or on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Manitoba-Genealogical-Society-Inc-7054423205>). Full members receive four issues of *Generations*, general mailings, and are also entitled to one free Query per year, plus library privileges. Our preferred method of contact is via e-mail to one or more of the addresses indicated below. Any regular mail 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



Here we are at the end of another year, with lots of exciting things coming for 2018.

The decision has been made to provide only an electronic copy of *Generations*, beginning with the March 2018 issue. See the item on page 3. I know it won't make some of you happy, but given the financial constraints MGS has, it is the best decision.

Please bear with us as we make format changes, add new content and generally make *Generations* even better. Make sure your e-mail address is on file with MGS, so you will not miss an issue.

We welcome a new regular author, Anne Letain, and her column "The Stories You Find" and her first article "Be Careful What You Wish For!" You will find her articles fun and well worth the read. See page 8.

There is also a great recount of the life of Dan Martel, written by one of our newest members, Brad Roberts. The story gives a great insight into the life of Dan in the early 1900s. See page 18.

There are several important 'messages' that you need to read in the "Messages to Members section. See page 3.

And of course we have our excellent regular features and a few laughs on "The Last Laugh".

With the new delivery method, *Generations* will be changing its look (but not its content) to make for easier on-line reading. Watch for it next issue.

Merry Christmas to all and may the New Year be full of blessings and good things.

Enjoy the issue.



## From the President

Jayne Paradis #0045



It is hard to believe that another year is nearly over.

Once again, we are open Sundays, and Wednesday evenings (check the website for Wednesday evening openings during the winter). Sundays aren't as busy as they have been in the past – it would be great if we saw more people come out.

While Gord McBean has taken a break from being on the executive, he is still helping with MANI. Look for his update in this issue. A lot of work has certainly gone into it. I use MANI all the time while at MGS or at home and see this as a real benefit of my membership.

This year, we will be presenting the first annual Joan Whiston Volunteer Award. Joan was a great supporter of MGS and I know that the first recipient will be very deserving. (*See the item later in this issue explaining the criteria and process to nominate someone for this Award.*)

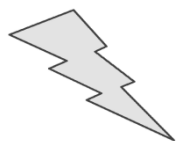
As I write this, winter certainly has arrived. Christmas will soon be upon us. I hope that everyone's Christmas and Holiday Season is a happy one.



## The Front Cover

Like the last issue, this cover image tells a story, or perhaps many stories. The original is from a vintage German postcard (p.ebner, pintrest.com). Are the children leaving Christmas for another family? Are they giving up their favourite Christmas gift for another child? Regardless of the story, the image says so much about the Christmas season.

## Messages to Members



### ***Generations* is Going Electronic!**

At the MGS Council meeting held in June of this year, the decision was made that effective January 1, 2018, *Generations* will only be provided in an electronic format. This switch has been coming for some time. It has been a difficult decision and much discussion has been held related to the many aspects of this decision.

The primary rationale for this decision has been financial. MGS no longer has (and hasn't for some time) the resources to print 4 issues of *Generations* per calendar year. Other expenses are rising, (rent, utilities, technology, etc.) making it difficult to finance *Generations* in a cost-effective manner.

Other options considered were: to reduce the number of issues to 2, possibly 3 per year; reduce the length of each issue (fewer pages equal less cost); reduce the quality of the journal (move from printing to photocopying). In order to maintain the quality, the frequency and the content, the decision was made to produce only an electronic version.

Why is this good for you, our members? There is still no additional cost for *Generations*! You will continue to receive 4 issues per year, filled with stories, information, and tips to help you be effective genealogists. And yes, we will keep the Last Laugh page, as we all need a good laugh now and then.

With the electronic version, you will get full colour, and working links to other sites to expand the information presented. The goal is to also change the format to make it easier to read on-line. These changes are planned to be implemented in the March 2018 issue. We are no longer limited to any particular length, so we can publish more and longer articles, stories, more pictures, more of what you want.

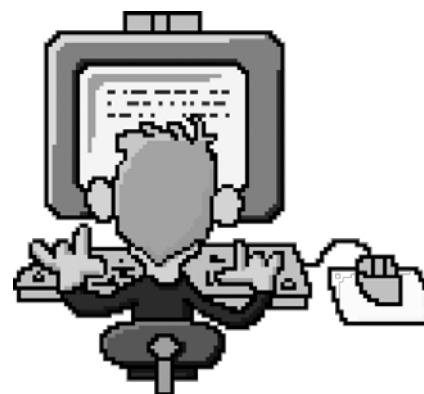
So what is the down side of this decision? Well, some of us really prefer to read our 'magazines' in paper format, along with our tea or coffee or

beer, or in my case, with breakfast. It will take a bit to get used to and that is why, for 2017, everyone who received a printed issue also received an electronic copy to compare.

There will be some glitches. We need your patience, at least for the March issue as we make changes. Also we need you to do two things: first, we need you to remain members of MGS. Your membership is important and valued. If you have real concerns, then please let us know by e-mail ([contact@mbgenealogy.com](mailto:contact@mbgenealogy.com)), phone or letter. Second, we need to make sure that each of you has an e-mail address on file here at MGS, for without that, we cannot send your copy of *Generations*.

*Generations* is also available on the MGS web site.

Thank you for your indulgence and do not hesitate to offer suggestions. We will work hard to ensure the quality of *Generations* remains high and the value to you even higher. Thank you for your support.



### **Call for Changes to the MGS Constitution**

*The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. is scheduled for June 2, 2018. As per the following process, 90 days prior to this AGM is March 2, 2018, while 30 days prior to the meeting is May 2, 2018.*

The Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. (MGS) Constitution is the document that outlines how

MGS will operate. From time to time it is necessary to make some changes to the document. As per the constitutional requirements, here is the process for making these changes:

*Section 15.2* A **call** for Notices of Motion to amend the Society Constitution shall be published in the Society journal at least 90 days prior to the AGM.

1. The Executive shall review all Notices of Motion received to ensure that wording is appropriate, but shall not change the intent of any motion.
2. All Notices of Motion received shall be distributed by electronic or paper means to the membership not fewer than 30 days prior to the AGM.
3. All Notices of Motion shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

If you wish to suggest an amendment to the constitution, please send your revision to the Vice President Administration, Virginia Braid, at [vbraid@mymts.net](mailto:vbraid@mymts.net) no later than April 2, 2018, to allow time for review and distribution.

If you would like to look at the present wording of the MGS Constitution (dated June 6, 2015), it can be found on the website at <http://mbgenealogy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/MGS-Constitution-June-6-2015.pdf>



## **Nominations for the Joan Whiston Volunteer Award**

This new award has been established in memory of Joan Whiston who served as President of the Manitoba Genealogical Society for several years. It will first be presented in December 2017 at the Volunteer luncheon with subsequent

awards being presented annually at the Annual General Meeting, along with the other MGS awards.

The Criteria for nominations are:

1. *The Nominee shall have exhibited outstanding volunteer service over time, with preference given to members not currently serving on the MGS Executive or MGS Council.* (For example, volunteers from local branches, volunteers working in the MGS Resource Centre, volunteers involved in indexing and transcribing cemetery records, etc.)
2. *The recipient cannot have previously won the Florence Cox Award.* (To see a list of previous Florence Cox award winners, use this link to our website: <http://mbgenealogy.com/volunteering/eric-jonasson-award-of-merit/>)
3. The deadline for nominations is December 4, 2017. Please send your nomination(s) to the Vice President Administration, Virginia Braid, at [vbraid@mymts.net](mailto:vbraid@mymts.net). *Describe why you feel your nominee would be a worthy recipient of this award.*
4. Descriptions of the Joan Whiston Award, along with all of the MGS Awards can be found at <http://mbgenealogy.com/volunteering/volunteermember-service-awards/>



## **Vacant MGS Executive and Vacant Positions**

At the present time there are a number of vacant positions:

1. The Executive



- a. Vice President Information Technology,
2. Standing committee Chairs (who also sit on MGS Council)
  - a. Computers
  - b. Grants and Applications
  - c. Office Coordinator.
  - d. In order for MGS to run smoothly, we need to fill these positions. If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, know of someone else who might be a good choice, or would be willing to help on a committee but not be the chair, please contact President Jayne Paradis at [jparadis@mts.net](mailto:jparadis@mts.net). Thank you for considering to help MGS with our many administrative tasks.

Job descriptions for each of the vacant positions can be found on the MGS web site at <http://mbgenealogy.com/home/about-us/> under Job Descriptions.



### Who uses the MGS Web Site and Facebook Page?

The MGS web site contains a lot of useful information about the workings of MGS and about genealogy in general. But who reads it? How many of our members ever look at it?

MGS also has a Facebook page – did you know that we have 850 different people who “like” our page? Again how many of these people are MGS members?

It would be very helpful for the MGS Executive and webmaster to know the answers to these questions. To help us out, we are preparing a short survey that we will include in the next

issue of *Generations*. Please respond when you receive it.

The MGS web site is found at <http://mbgenealogy.com>, while the MGS Facebook page can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/Manitoba-Genealogical-Society-Inc-7054423205>




### KOHA Update

The KOHA link on the front page of the MGS website is **NOT** working. Please use <http://koha-opac.bole.ca> until further notice. We apologize for any inconvenience.

KOHA is the MGS Library/Resource Centre online catalogue of all books and reference material held in the library, searchable by title, author and keyword. You can search from home or at the Library.

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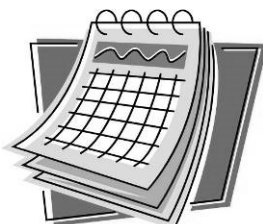
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## MGS Calendar Planning

The following dates are provided to help you in planning to attend and participate in the various MGS events throughout the coming year of 2018.

Month	Date	Event
January		MGS Council Meeting. Dauphin Branch AGM
February	1	Submission deadline for March <i>Generations</i> *Prepare notices of AGM, nominations, awards for <i>Generations</i>
March	1	March <i>Generations</i> mail-out
April	21	SW Branch Seminar & Heritage Dinner (2018) MGS Council Meeting (Portage la Prairie)
May	1	Submission deadline for June <i>Generations</i> Email/mail AGM agenda and notice of constitutional changes (if any) Red River Heritage Fair (School history projects) Manitoba Day - MB Museum South-east/Winnipeg Branch AGM
June	1 2	June <i>Generations</i> mail-out MGS Annual General Meeting MB Highland Gathering
July		
August	1	Submission deadline for September <i>Generations</i> Folklorama - Scottish Pavilion
September	1 29	September <i>Generations</i> mail-out MGS Open House in conjunction with Culture Days
October		
November	1	Submission deadline for December <i>Generations</i> Put notice in <i>Generations</i> calling for constitution revisions
December	1	December <i>Generations</i> mail-out MGS Volunteer appreciation lunch Library closes for Christmas break





## The Stories you Find

Anne Letain

*Anne Letain lives in Ladysmith, British Columbia and caught the genealogy bug about five years ago. She has had an extensive career in education, teaching at public and private schools as well as at the University level. She joins Generations as a featured author sharing stories related to genealogy.*



## Be Careful What You Wish For!

Anne Letain

Searching your family roots has become a very popular pastime. You can't avoid the ubiquitous ads on television or the emergence of TV programmes where celebrities find their surprising histories. The BBC has some 17 seasons of "Who Do You Think You Are?" in its archive. Genealogy is also big business for companies which sell DNA profile kits to the general public. Never has it been easier to find out where you come from. Records from all over the world are now digitized and readily available at modest cost.

About five years ago, I succumbed to the allure of the chase and decided to explore my own family roots. Like so many of the profiled celebrities, my knowledge of my personal past was sketchy and largely hearsay. I approached some of my first cousins – only to discover that they knew as little as I did. Early on in the quest, I came to believe that while nothing was deliberately hidden, there was much that was not brought up or spoken of. The big question then was "Why?"

As part of the grey hair/no hair demographic, I can reflect back and be certain that I've led a largely unblemished life. I've been married since the dinosaurs to the same person. I'm the parent of two successful daughters. I have had the privilege of an excellent education. I'm a bit of a problem in social situations because I really don't do alcohol, coffee or tea. I'm a non-smoker. I had a speeding ticket once which I'm

inclined to blame on a cattle liner. My greatest sin might be my addiction to Hawkins Cheezies.

As I began my initial research, I began to understand why I (and the other relatives) had been kept in the dark. The biggest real surprise was the pervasiveness of the criminal element in our direct family lines. Criminal behaviour that could not be excused or explained away by poverty, poor living conditions or lack of opportunity.

Of course, all three conditions were prevalent in the Irish ghetto of Leeds where my family had migrated in the 1840s from Co. Mayo, Ireland as a consequence of the great Irish famine. Most Irish immigrants were absorbed into the great industrial machine of the British Midlands, particularly the woolen and cotton mills. But my family never seemed to gain a toehold. They became street hawkers and rag sorters, although my two times great-grandfather did become a cloth dresser, an occupation closely associated with drunkenness. He died in the Menston Mental Asylum.

As I continued to delve into the past, I frequently found myself emotionally exhausted and near tears because, as I moved from relative to relative, things simply became more and more awful.

There was my Uncle Anthony who spent so much time in the Leeds Assizes for drunken and disorderly behaviour that he must have been on a first-name basis there. Ultimately, he was sentenced to three months hard labour for wounding his long time common-law spouse (one Sarah Ingram) in a public house, bending a kitchen knife on her head.

My heart broke for Uncle Michael who was picked up at twelve living rough and begging on the streets of Leeds. His parents were described as intemperate and his father in a mental asylum. Michael was sentenced to four years in the Leeds Industrial Training School where he did learn to read and write. Michael gifted himself with a middle name when he was conscripted to the Great War. He never served as he died in the Clayton Workhouse Hospital of tuberculosis just after enlistment.

The chief claim to fame for two other uncles, Francis and Patrick, was being included on the National Register of Habitual Criminals. The register provides almost too much information regarding scars, tattoos, and other physical anomalies. The brothers were regularly written up in the newspapers of the day, and Francis was once described as “impudent thief” and both were assigned “rogue and vagabond” status which certainly did not help them when in court.

The bad acting was not confined to the boys. An aunt, Mary, spent a considerable amount of time in court. In 1900, she was sentenced to two years in the “St. Joseph’s Inebriate Reformatory for Catholic Women”. The Inebriate Reformatories were a great social experiment by upper class Victorian women to reform and remove female riff-raff from the streets. The movement was a spectacular failure as the inhabitants would complete their sentences and instantly re-offend. The conditions of the reformatories were superior and more pleasant compared to what the women had come from.

Anthony, Michael, Francis, Patrick and Mary are merely some of the many sad and sorry family members I found. I often became upset over people who had died a century ago, and I’d have to give myself a break from all the misery.

The easiest recourse would be to deny my lineage, call it all a mistake. But that wasn’t to be when I did my DNA profile and learned that 75% of my genetic material was squarely located in the area of Connaught, Ireland, where these ancestors had come from.

Oddly, only one person ever left Leeds – my great grandfather, arriving in Saskatoon in 1911 and scraping together enough money to bring his wife and seven children the following year. Things were not easy in Canada but over time there was haphazard improvement for the family and in the ultimate of ironies, considering our documented criminal past – a grandson became the first Chief Provincial Court Judge in British Columbia and is considered the architect of that particular judiciary.

Yes, the penny had finally turned. At my mother’s funeral, an old family friend sought me

out to tell me he had attended because he wanted to tell me how much my father had meant to him – he told me my dad had taught him “morality”. That to this day, when things were difficult, he would ask himself “What would H..... do?”

All things considered, I don’t think he could have given me a better gift.



## From the Past

### Rural Ramblings

Kathy Stokes #0125

*Winnipeg Tribune*, August 4, 1927

A postal convention held in Winnipeg in early August 1927 which provided a couple of stories about the early history of two Manitoba towns:

Eli SHILSON of Snowflake, Manitoba, became the postmaster in that town in 1888 and was paid the miserly sum of \$14.00 per year to render service for some 25 residents of the town. Shilson found it necessary to run a general store as well in order to provide for his family.

Eli Shilson was born in England and came to Winnipeg in 1880 where he worked as a tailor on Market Street near Main Street, later moving to Morris, Manitoba. He also served as a teamster during the Riel rebellion, although he carried no guns. Now in his 39th year as postmaster in Snowflake, he serves the town of 500 people and enjoys his work.

The other postmaster who was featured in the *Tribune* article was John MAGWOOD of the town of Margaret, who opened the new post office in Margaret in 1891, with the first rural mail delivery in Canada.

Magwood hailed from Boissevain and volunteered to deliver the rural mail for \$1.00 per year per subscriber as well as being paid \$10.00 per year at the beginning of his term. In

1927, he was being paid \$382 per year.

All was not easy for Magwood for a short while. In 1906 he was dismissed without notice and was replaced by R. A. McMILLAN, doubtless a political appointment. McMillan quit two days later in favour of playing football (soccer?) instead. McMillan returned to his old job and worked until 1911 when he finally received an official appointment once again, after there was a change of government.

The town of Margaret was named for McMillan's mother.

The Chautauqua movement in the Winnipeg and Manitoba area differed from those in other parts of Canada and the USA. The movement attempted to institute programs and entertain people in order to create British/Canadian sentiment in western Canada, thus promoting good citizenship. Programs in Manitoba were undertaken to promote philosophy, wisdom, striking truths and the value of cooperation between capital and labour. Programs included lectures, male quartets, and travelogues with slides etc. delivered around the province.

*Winnipeg Tribune*, January 20, 1927

Jane MCKENZIE, nee CONDY, wife of former MP Kenneth McKenzie, died January 10, 1927 in Portage la Prairie, aged 75 years 6 months. She was born in Scotland and came to Canada about 1874. She married Mr. McKenzie in Hamilton, Ontario and they came to Manitoba later in the '70s.

Mr. McKenzie died about two years previously. Two of her 8 children predeceased her – Mrs. Ray and Thomas McKenzie. Surviving are Adam at Carberry, Mrs. MacDougall at Morley, Mrs. Hall in Santa Barbara, California, Kenneth, James, William, John and Mrs. Gillis, who live in the area near the McKenzie homestead at Burnside. Burial was in Burnside Cemetery. Mrs. McKenzie had great force of character and was kind and charitable.

*Winnipeg Tribune* February 24, 1897

At Alexander, Manitoba on February 16, Mrs. Elizabeth Hockin MCKAY, wife of W. McKay died. Formerly of Prince Edward Island, she

leaves six children – Rev. D. D. McKay of Brainerd, Minnesota, and Mrs. J. Melville Roddick of Brandon Hills are the only ones mentioned.

February 25, 1897

Frank HUCKERBY and H. M. SECORD of Morris returned home from attending meetings of the Grand Lodge IOOF in Winnipeg.

March 18, 1897

John HAZELWOOD, returned from Winnipeg after a three-day stay there with his blushing bride (Vital Statistics says she is Lizzie WILLSON). His male friends had arranged a fine party for him but had to cancel it when the train was running very late. Instead, the next day they congratulated him by smoking cigars in his honour. Was this a common way of showing best wishes more than a century ago?

March 19, 1897

Watson Montgomery CROSBY died this day. He was born at French River, New London, Prince Edward Island, on June 10, 1857, taught school and farmed. He came to Manitoba in 1879 and resided in Roland and Hargrave. His parents and siblings settled here in 1896. Crosby was active in the community, serving on the Wallace Council for 11 years and also as the Reeve of Wallace. He had recently been elected as an MLA for the area. Burial will take place in Virden.

April 1, 1879

A tragic accident occurred near Macgregor, Manitoba, on March 30. Mark Edward HARRISON, a freight conductor with the CPR left the caboose to walk along the tops of the rail cars towards the front end. He slipped between the third and fourth cars and fell head long onto the track where three cars passed over him, fracturing his skull and causing other injuries. At 36 years old, he leaves a wife and four young children, all of whom reside in Winnipeg.

May 29 1897

John LOGAN, a Clandeboye farmer was visiting his doctor when he died suddenly while awaiting his turn to be examined. He was 50 years old and unmarried.

## Are These Your Ancestors?

Kathy Stokes #0125

This issue's column is a potpourri of tidbits, explanations or definitions, which have been sitting in my files for a while.

*Genealogists' Magazine*, Journal of the Society of Genealogists, June 2017:

Over many centuries, parts of the United Kingdom have had various successful ways of keeping track of their people. First it was through church records and later through civil registrations. I know that we who have British relatives are frustrated beyond words when we cannot locate a marriage, thus depriving ourselves of the bride's surname. However, with the passage of centuries, Church of England records became clearer and provided more information and at some point, registers were provided to the clergy to assist in their record keeping. Nonetheless, it became obvious that relying on church records was not enough. Parish records were not easy to access; storage of these records was often careless resulting in water damage or rotting papers; yearly transcripts of records to bishops were often not forwarded appropriately. Records from churches other than those of the Church of England were not easily available, nor were many of them kept as accurately.

Finally, in the mid-1830s, studies were undertaken to find more accurate means of keeping track of the population for purposes of such things as defense, social planning, taxation, actuarial studies and voting. Government in the time of King William IV (Queen Victoria's uncle) decided to study ways to better estimate and plan for the people who lived in his realm. Suggestions were put forth for comment. Many people saw this as interference between the state and the churches. In one example, a clergyman objected to having a child's name being put on a registration form before the child was baptized. In his view a Christian name being given to a child was a sign and memorial that the child was dedicated to God and the name of said child should not be put on a document such as a

registration form until baptism had been performed.

Such objections were overcome eventually and as of July 1, 1837 the new registration rules came into effect. However, some people (often my ancestors it seems) ignored the rules. Finally, in 1874 a stricter set of rules was developed and fines were imposed, particularly for failure to register births within a six month period. Today the British system is fair and more in line with peoples' needs than services many Canadian provinces provide.

From *The Beaver*, Exploring Canada's History, June/July 1989

Abraham Bercovitch, an Orthodox Jew was born in Odessa, Russia. He served in the Russian army and came to Canada in 1905 at age 29 after recently marrying in Russia. In 1913, Abraham, by then 37 years old, began to develop sores on his feet along with a yellow discharge caused by skin being rubbed off by his shoes. This condition was treated for the next eight years by using household remedies which produced whitish or blue scars. When there was a swelling on one foot, another would develop on the same place on the other foot. Soon his hands and later his face became afflicted with the same condition. A Winnipeg doctor suggested that syphilis may have been the cause of the condition. When treatment failed to alleviate the condition, Bercovitch consulted Dr. Gordon Bell of Winnipeg who diagnosed leprosy as the disease which was causing his illness.

It was decided to send Abraham to the William Head Quarantine Station near Victoria, B.C. His wife chose, against advice, to accompany him. Transporting Abraham to Victoria was fraught with difficulty and was extremely expensive. Canadian National Railway at first required of him monies to cover 25 first class fares, totaling \$1,343.75 for one first class colonist car. Fumigation costs of \$15.00 would be required as well.

The Bercovitches did move to the Quarantine Station and later to Bentinck Island on

Vancouver Island. In mid-February 1928, Abraham developed a cold which quickly developed into something stronger and he was once again very weak as he had been suffering from chronic heart problems for some time. He died on February 15, 1928. His body was shipped back to Winnipeg in a sealed coffin which was lined with metal. He is buried at Shaarey Zedek Cemetery.

The Headstone of Abraham Bercovitch, located in the Shaarey Zedek Cemetery.



How would you like to have the following job? I found this in a British journal as a career description for some enterprising fellow.

#### INSPECTOR of NUISANCES

*Wanted:* A person employed by the parish council to inspect for breaches of the law, e.g. bad sanitary conditions, obstruction to footpaths, roads etc., inspection of refuse heaps, smells and unsanitary conditions of all kinds such as ditches, gutters, drains, privies, cesspools, ash pits, and dwelling places where animals are kept. Reports also must be made about unclean ditches, gutters and watercourses along any highways.

I wonder how much that job paid!

In days gone by, what we today call domestic violence was not often a subject of an article in the newspaper. Today, almost all news outlets carry stories of such happenings every day. The subject is being talked about, but will the various ways being suggested as possible means to decrease the violence help to control this problem?

In the *Winnipeg Free Press* of November 2, 1934, an interesting story appeared. Gustav Shorer, 31 years old, was arraigned in court on a

charge of attempted murder for shooting Mrs. Tilly Hoevenaeghiel. She received a bullet wound to the side of her head. How did this situation come about?

There had been a dance at the Viking Social Club at 347 Broadway in Winnipeg which the victim had attended. At the end of the evening Shorer suggested that he would like to escort Mrs. Hoevenaeghiel to her residence. She refused his offer. Enraged, he pulled a 25 caliber German automatic pistol from his pocket and shot her in the head. The bullet glanced off her skull, but she bled profusely. Friends were shocked. Then he turned the gun on himself holding it to his head and pulling the trigger. The gun failed to fire. Police were called and Storer was arrested. Mrs. Hoevenaeghiel survived the wound to her head.

Crescent Drive Park in Fort Garry has had a long and varied history. Today it is well maintained and used by many city residents. For many years, it was the place for amateur archers to hone their skills. Picnics were and still are today, very common, local church and community picnics as well as such things as cross country school races in the fall. It was and still is a local Lovers' Lane.



The GHEMSA Hut - 1930s

In the 30s and early 40s there was a log cabin on the river bank in the park, called GHEMSA HUT. The hut sold hot dogs, soft drinks and candy. It was a favorite place with both Fort Garry residents and others who visited this lovely large riverside park which today is called Crescent Drive Park.

The name GHEMSA HUT was derived from the first letter of the name of each of their six children – Guy, Hanz, Edouard, Monique, Simone and Anna. In attempting to learn more of this family, we have been completely stumped because no one who remembers the Hut can remember the family's surname. Can anyone help with this problem?

READERS - If you wish me to research a particular article or topic from the Manitoba newspapers at my disposal, please forward details to me via the MGS site.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



## Our Library

Mavis Gray #0008

### Honouring Armed Forces Veterans and the Fallen



The MGS Library has several books which name individuals who served in Canada's Armed Forces, and/or those who died serving their country. Some may name those who received particular honours. The following is a selection of those books:

#### Pre-World War I

*List of Officers and Men Comprising the North-West Field Force which Suppressed the Rebellion of 1885.* Canada 355.3 LIS

*Honour Roll of the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men ... North West Field Force ... 1885.*

Canada 355.3 HON

*Index to Canadian Service Records of the South African War, 1899-1902.*

Canada 355.3 IND

*Canada General Medal Roll, 1866-70.* Canada 355.1 THY

#### World War I

*The C.E.F. Roll of Honour—Members and Former Members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force Who Died as a Result of Service in the Great War, 1914-1918.* Reference 355.3 CAN

Riddle, David K. *The Distinguished Service Order Awarded to [Members of] the Canadian Expeditionary Force ... 1915-1920.* Canada 355.1 RID

Riddle, David K. *The Distinguished Conduct Medal [Awarded to Members of] the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1914-1920.* Canada 355.1 RID

Riddle, David K. *The Military Cross [Awarded to Members of] the Canadian Expeditionary Force, 1915-1921.* Canada 355.1 RID

#### World War II

*They Shall Grow Not Old—a Book of Remembrance* [Canadian airmen and airwomen, WWII]. Canada 355.1 ALL

*Veterans of Icelandic Descent, World War II, 1939-1945.* Europe 949.1 VET

*Manitoba List of World War II Fatal Casualties.* Manitoba 355 MAN

*Honours and Awards, Canadian Naval Forces, World War II.* Canada 355.1 PAQ

Ashton, Martin. *Canadian Medal Rolls, Distinguished Conduct and Military Medal, 1939-45 and 1950-53.* Canada 355.1 ASH

Ashton, Martin. *Canada Medal Rolls, Distinguished Flying Medal, 1939-1945.* Canada 355.1 ASH

#### General

*A Place of Honour - Manitoba's War Dead Commemorated in its Geography.* Manitoba 917.127 PLA

*1000 Brave Canadians – the Canadian Gallantry Awards, 1854-1989.* Canada 355.3 BLA

*Age Shall Not Weary Them--Saskatchewan Remembers its War Dead.* Reference 910.3 SASK2



*Military Service Recognition Book (Royal Canadian Legion. Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Command).* Reference 355.3 ROY

*Ukrainian Canadian Veterans, Royal Canadian Legion, 1926-1986.*

Canada 355.1 UKR

MacFarlane, John M. *Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Royal Canadian Navy, 1910-1939.* Reference 355.3 COM

MacFarlane, John M. *Canada's Admirals and Commodores.* Reference 355.3 CAN

MacFarlane, John M. *Canada's Naval Aviators.* Reference 355.3 CAN



## Library Lines

Mary Bole #0884

MGS Librarian



We are discarding books mainly because of lack of space and some because the information is on the Internet, or Ancestry, etc. Some are just not genealogical topics. Once a number are discarded a list is made and will be posted on our MGS web site. If you want one please contact me at [library@mbgenealogy.com](mailto:library@mbgenealogy.com) – they are free.

However good genealogy books which we have duplicates of, or newer additions, will be offered to branches first.

We are still looking for members willing to index Manitoba books for MANI – but remember first to check with Pat Allan or me so time is not wasted on duplication.

We do have a good collection of CDRs – please check them out. We have tested them, and all work, but they are slow to show up on the screen.

**Please be advised that KOHA, our card catalogue, is now available at:**

<http://koha-opac.bole.ca/>

## Manitoba

**306.3 Kin** Kinnear, M. *A Female Economy: Women's Work in a Prairie Province, 1870-1970,* 1998.

**355.1 Sin** Sinclair A. *Life and War Poems,* 2010.

**371 Winn** *General Byng High School Reunion, Sept 24 & 25,* 1997.

**971.27 Mins** *Tent Town, 1898-1979, the History of Minitonas and District, index,* 2017.

**971.27 Winn** Smith, D. and Olito, M. *The Best Possible Face: L.B. Foote's Winnipeg,* 1985.

## West Canada

**971.24 Payn** *Paynton Through the Years, 1903-2017.* [2 CD-ROMS]. [Paynton, Saskatchewan]

## Great Britain and Ireland

**625 Tra** Drummond, D. *Tracing Your Railway Ancestors, a Guide for Family Historians,* 2010.

**941.4 Clo** *Old Parochial Registers, Deaths and Burials Index, Closeburn Parish, Dumfriesshire, 1737-1847,* 2007.

**941.4 Dun** *Old Parochial Registers, Deaths and Burials Index, Dunscore Parish, Dumfriesshire, 1770-1839,* 2005.

**941.4 Hut** *Old Parochial Records, Deaths and Burials Index, Hutton and Corrie, Dumfriesshire, 1817-1818, 1822-1854,* 2004.

**942.2 Ber** *Berkshire Overseers Papers. Vol. 8, Faringdon Union.* [Microfiche]

## Family History and Biography

**929.2 Jos** Countryman, J. *907: Reminiscences of the Josephson Family, 907 Merriam Blvd., Fort Garry, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada,* 2000.

## General

**304.8 Cha** Chaliand, G. *The Penguin Atlas of Diasporas,* 1995.

**929.1 Lar** Larsen, P. *Crash Course in Family History*, 2010.

**929.1 Lar2** Larsen, P. *My Family History Toolbox: a guide to cutting-edge tools, gadgets and apps...*, 2012



## Book Reviews

Enid Dorward #4502

*These books have recently been added to the MGS library collection and are available for loan. (Ask about low postage rates for out-of-town members.)*



When doing your research in Canada's Prairie Provinces, you will need to check on place names, in order to locate where your ancestors settled. Here are several books that focus on place names of the three Prairie Provinces.

***Geographical Names of Manitoba***, a publication of Manitoba Conservation, is a very comprehensive alphabetical listing of Manitoba place names, each with a brief paragraph describing its history and the origin of the name. 323 p. (MGS library call number: MAN 917.127 GEO)

***Ghost Towns of Manitoba*** by Helen Mulligan and Wanda Ryder. Surrey, BC, Heritage House Publications, c1985. 160 p. illus. Stories of now-deserted Manitoba towns, along with photos of the remnants of many of those towns. (MGS library call number: MAN 910.3 MUL)

***Our Towns: Saskatchewan Communities from Abbey to Zenon Park*** by David McLennan. Canadian Plains Research Centre, 2008. 468 p. illus. Information about Saskatchewan towns, arranged alphabetically and including numerous colour photographs. (MGS library call number:

WEST CAN 910.3 MCL)

***Ghost Towns of Alberta*** by Harold Fryer. Langley, BC, Stagecoach Publications, 1976. 200 p. illus. index. Stories about dozens of towns that, over the years, have declined and disappeared. (MGS library call number: WEST CAN 910.3 FRY)

***Over 2000 Place Names of Alberta***, expanded third edition, by Eric J. Holmgren and Patricia M. Holmgren. Saskatoon, Western Producer Prairie Books, 1976. 301 p. An alphabetical listing of place names, including towns, lakes, and mountains, most with information about the origin of the names. (MGS library call number: WEST CAN 910.3 HOL)

## The Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc. is a registered charity.

Donations can be made to the Memorial Fund, the Library Fund, or the General Fund. Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$10.00 and are much appreciated

## Periodical Potpourri

Enid Dorward #4502

***Important reminder*** - When you visit the MGS Resource Centre, don't forget to check the publications that are received by e-mail and are *only available to read on MGS computers. Here's how to find them:*

### 1. Click on MGS indexes icon

***1.1. Click on Journals shortcut.***

***1.1.1. Select desired journal title.***

***1.1.1.1. Click on the edition you want to see.***

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

Just a few of the periodicals recently received by e-mail are:

***Okanagan Researcher*** (Kelowna)

***Living Connection*** (Nova Scotia)

***Rooting Around Huron*** (Huron Co., Ontario)  
***Talbot Times*** (Elgin Co., Ontario)

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

## MANITOBA

***Manitoba History*** (Summer 2017)  
Mennonite immigration to Manitoba.

## CANADA

***The Bulletin*** (Kawartha Branch OGS)  
(August 2017) Ten free Canadian genealogical web sites.

***Cleveland FHS*** (September 2017) A selection of families who came from North Riding of Yorkshire and parts of South Durham who lived or died in a different place from where they were born.

***Leicestershire and Rutland FHS*** (September 2015) An article about Bertie Chapman, Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians WWI).

***Past Tents*** (September 2017) Land disputes between Canada and the United States in several locations.

***Sib Folk News*** (Sept 2017) An account of three sisters from the Matches family who emigrated from the Orkneys to Canada early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## EASTERN CANADA

***Connections*** (September 2017) Recent on-line advances in geography relevant to genealogists.

## ENGLAND

The library has received a donation of several recent editions of journals from ***Leicestershire and Rutland FHS*** and ***NNWFHS (Nuneaton and North Warwickshire FHS)***.

***Anglo-Celtic Roots*** (Fall 2017) A lengthy and fascinating story of Edwin Miller, who was Queen Victoria's coachman.

***Berkshire Family Historian*** (June 2017) Jane Austen's Berkshire links.

***Cleveland FHS*** (July 2017) Great advice for researching in County Durham.

***Cornwall FHS*** (June 2017) Brief biographical information about military personnel whose names appear on the War Memorial at Lostwithiel (WWI & WWII).

***Family Tree Magazine (UK)*** (July 2017)  
A very helpful listing of free resources for family history research.  
– (August 2017) - Tips on getting more information about ancestors who fought at Passchendaele.  
– Planning a trip to your ancestral village.  
– (October 2017) - Using historic maps when doing genealogy.  
– Tracing Royal Navy ancestors.  
– (November 2017) The dramatic history of the Wrens, women in the navy.

***Nuneaton and North Warwickshire FHS***  
(August 2014) Special edition: Stories from the Great War.  
– (July 2014) A listing of municipal cemeteries in and around North Warwickshire.

## EUROPE

***East European Genealogist*** (Summer 2017)  
“The Ukrainians: Under a Common Sky”.  
***Mennonite Historian*** (September 2017)  
Mennonites and middle names.

## IRELAND

***Family Tree Magazine*** (July 2017) How Irish land records can help you.  
***Internet Genealogy*** (August/September 2017)  
Researching Irish newspaper archives.

## ONTARIO

***Bruce Bulletin*** (August 2017) A Bruce county nurse in WWI.  
***Leeds and Grenville Branch News and Views*** (July/August 2017) Land Grants:  
– Upper Canada Land Books Book C (November 1797)  
– (September/October 2017) Martha Elizabeth Moore Bellamy: Living through Canada's first years and beyond.

**Perth County Profiles** (August 2017) Perth County has a new tartan, in honour of their Scottish heritage and Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There is also another article with the story of clans and tartans.

**Quinte Kin** (September 2017) Chronicles of a WWI soldier.

**SCAN** (Simcoe Co.) (August 2017) Several pages are devoted to information about the Pratt family.

## SCOTLAND

**Aberdeen and North-East Scotland FHS** (August 2017) Aberdeen granite workers of Barre, Vermont. The article concludes with a lengthy list of people born in Scotland, taken from the 1900 census in Barre.

**Borders FHS Magazine** (October 2017) This issue provides a listing of Presbyterian church records that are now available through the ScotlandsPeople web site found at <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk>

**Scottish Genealogist** (September 2017) A Perthshire merchant's tale: Charles Blair 1760 – 1829.

## USA

**Generations** (New Brunswick) (Fall 2017) Some early settlers in New Netherland (in New York state).

**Internet Genealogy** (October/November 2017) Slave insurance records.

**Minnesota Genealogist** (Vol. 48 No. 3 2017) Midwest historical geography for genealogists.

## WALES

**Family Tree Magazine** (August 2017) Tracing your ancestors' occupations in Wales.

**Glamorgan FHS** (September 2017) *Short walk to Zandvoorde* – an account of one person's search for an uncle who died at Ypres.

## WESTERN CANADA

**Relatively Speaking** (August 2017) Taking care of your family photos. (*This magazine comes*

*from the Alberta Genealogical Society. I think it is one of the very best journals that we receive here at MGS! Excellent writing and interesting topics!)*

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## A Hard Times Christmas

Stephanie Wood #5549

The following story originates in a letter written Stephanie's Nana during the Great Depression (there is no specific date provided). The letter was found in some old papers stuffed into a box and stored away. "It was a very emotional read as I well remember my Nana who was there well into my adulthood. I also knew the "loving old lady" mentioned in this story. She was my Nana's paternal maiden aunt who spent her last years living with my grandparents."



Margaret Josephine Guadet AMERO (1898-1989)

Nana and my grandfather had 11 children which consisted of 4 sons and 7 daughters of which my Mom was the oldest.

This story was written in pencil and was one page of small hand writing and there is no date on this story. The original letter has been transcribed to make for easier reading. The

grammar, spelling and intent of the original letter has been preserved.

*U. Hard times Christmas.*  
 During the depression of the 1930's, times were very hard indeed. Work scarce and very low wages. My husband fortunately had part time work at lowest wages. With six little children there was no choice. Living on a small farm, our garden supplied vegetables, few apples, cow supplied milk, cream for butter, a few chickens for eggs and meat. Small earnings supplied flour, molasses, tea, etc. All well fed and healthy. Gifts of food, preparations started for Christmas. Knitted mittens, caps, socks for all necessary articles of clothing, scraps made doll clothes and quilts. My husband made doll beds, cradles, rocking chairs for girls, sleds and whistles for boys. No store gifts. With a few used toys from kind neighbours, all was ready. Our own decorations for the tree, paper and cranberry chains, wreaths from natural evergreens. The best week my husband had a list for treats, candies, raisins, peanuts etc. to bring on Christmas Eve. A cake and few cookies made, chicken for Christmas dinner ready. Children gathered closely for the story of Jesus' birth in the stable at Bethlehem, which they loved. Then tucked in bed with loving kisses. Songs of Christmas lulled them to sleep. Husband arrived with usual necessities and mail. Poor earnings could not supply treats, a sad disappointment. We decided to make a bit of candy for a treat. Before starting, the forgotten mail was opened. A small parcel with six tiny oranges, few packets each with six candies, a few peanuts, entire treats we needed; Sent by a beloved old lady who had no children and was all alone. Christmas morning was wonderful to see and our own perfect gift. When tucked into bed that night and asked how was Christmas, all answered "the best yet". None was ever as hard as that year, although never as happy, but always about the same way, with always the same answer, "the best yet". I am old now, children long gone. Some not able to come for Christmas, but all come at least once a year. They shower me with gifts but no Christmas is more deeply loved and more unique than our hard ~~time~~ Christmas with so much love, which with what Christmas means. I am now thankful in many ways of reliving our beloved and loving Christmas through the following years.

*Signed — Mrs. A.  
 Mrs. Hugh Amero,  
 R. R. 2, Digby, N.S. Phone 245-5212*

#### A copy of the original handwritten letter

The following is a story written by my maternal grandmother, Margaret Josephine Amero, nee Gaudet, from a Christmas past when my mother, Louise Margaret Wood, nee Amero, was a child. My mother's family had lived in Nova Scotia for many generations and as an Acadian, past ancestors had been deported by the British during the great Expulsion [Expulsion] of the French in the late 1700's from l'Acadie (Nova Scotia) but that is another story for another time.

During the story's time frame, the family's resources were meager as was the case for many families of that era all across this country. Following is my Nana's story.

#### Nana's Story

During the depression of the 1930s, times were very hard indeed. Work scarce and very low wages. My husband fortunately had part time work at the lowest wages. With six little children, there was no choice. Living on a small farm, our garden supplied vegetables, few apples, cow supplied milk, cream for butter. A few chickens for eggs and meat. Small earnings supplied flour, molasses, tea, etc. All well fed

and healthy. Fall approaches, preparations started for Christmas. Knitted mittens, caps, socks for all. Necessary articles of clothing; scraps made doll clothes and quilts. My husband made doll bed, cradles, rocking chairs for girls, sleds and whistles for boys. No store gifts. With a few used toys from kind neighbours, all was ready. Our own decorations for the tree, paper and cranberry chains, wreaths from natural evergreens.



James Hugh AMERO and Margaret Josephine GAUDET

The last week my husband had a list for treats, candies, raisins, peanuts, etc. to bring on Christmas Eve.

A cake and few cookies made, chicken for Christmas dinner ready. Children gathered closely for the story of Jesus' birth in the stable at Bethlehem, which they loved. Then tucked in bed with loving kisses. Songs of Christmas lulled them to sleep.

Husband arrived with usual necessities and mail. Poor earnings could not supply treats, a sad disappointment. We decided to make a bit of candy for a treat. Before starting, the forgotten mail was opened. A small parcel with six tiny oranges, few packets each with six candies, a few peanuts, entire treats we needed; Sent by a beloved old lady who had no children and was all alone.

Children's joy Christmas morning was wonderful to see and our own perfect gift. When tucked into bed that night and asked how was Christmas, all answered "the best yet". None was ever as hard as that year, although

never lavish, but always spent the same way, with always the same answer, “the best yet”.

I am old now, children long gone. Some not able to come for Christmas, but all come at least once a year. They shower me with gifts but no Christmas is more dearly loved and remembered than our hard times Christmas with so much love which is what Christmas means.

I am also thankful we found many ways of repaying our beloved and loving old lady through the following years.

Signed - M.A.  
Mrs. Hugh Amero,  
R.R.2, Digby, N.S.



## The Story of Daniel Peter Martel

*Brad Roberts*

*(Brad Roberts is the frontman and singer-songwriter for Winnipeg's own Crash Test Dummies. A distinguished alumnus of the University of Winnipeg, he received an Honors B.A. in English Literature and Philosophy, taking the Gold Medal in both departments. Brad has devoted hundreds of hours to researching his family history. He currently resides in New York City. He is also a brand new member of the Manitoba Genealogical Society. Welcome!)*

As the self-appointed family historian for the Roberts tribe, it was with great relish that I recently turned to investigate my great-grandmother's third and final husband, Daniel Peter Martel, an immigrant farmer who settled

in Manitoba's Asessippi Valley during the early 20th century.

Dan was a somewhat paradoxical character. He lived deep in the countryside with only bare essentials, toiling over the land, yet he always drank his tea with the great ceremony of a civilized man—out of the saucer, pinky aloft. A wide mustache and sympathetic eyes made him a dead ringer for Geppetto of Pinocchio fame. Though many of his peers were stoical pioneering types, Dan was a gentle soul, full of compassion, spiritually attentive. He abstained from alcohol, but did not condemn those who imbibed. A deeply Christian man, he was nevertheless tolerant of all kinds and creeds. Even animals flocked to him: my father claimed he once saw Dan coax a bird from a tree onto his finger.



**Daniel Peter Martel**

Though I never met Dan — he died 16 years before I was born — my father memorialized him in such vivid conversation during my childhood that I felt I knew him. Now at 53, I tasked myself with researching the man behind the myth. Because my father knew Dan only as an elderly man, I was particularly interested to learn about Dan's early life: where he had come from, who his parents were, what jobs he'd had, when and perhaps why he'd immigrated to Canada.

I had reason to believe Dan was born in Guernsey (one of the Channel Islands, just off the Norman coast), and I was encouraged to find his birth certificate there: Dan was born at



home on a street called Pont Valliant in the Vale parish, to parents Daniel Martel (senior) and Rachel Allez on 4 May 1875. This discovery made it simple to trace his whereabouts on the Guernsey censuses of 1881, 1891 and 1901, where we get a simple profile of his life every ten years.

In the first census (1881), Dan, at age 5, is the oldest of four children. He is living with his parents, and is already a “scholar” or student. In the next census, (1891), we see Dan’s mother has been widowed, and parish records tell us her husband died in December of 1888, when Dan was 13. Dan, now age 15, works at a greenhouse, helping to support his four younger siblings. A boarder lives with them at this time, probably to help pay the rent. Finally, on the census following (1901), when Dan is 25, we see that there is a new head of the household: Dan’s step-father, a blacksmith. A look at Guernsey’s marriage records tells us Dan’s mother had remarried three years previously, or a decade after Dan’s father’s death, in 1898.

Dan is absent from the following Guernsey Census of 1911, and so it stood to reason that he must have come to Canada sometime after 1901. Consulting ship’s passenger lists, I found him leaving for Canada at the age of 27, on the *Bavarian*, arriving in April of 1903. Knowing Dan had owned his farm in the Asessippi Valley, I wondered if he’d availed himself of the Homestead Grant Program. Consulting the registers, I found his signature for application in August 1906, three years after his arrival in the “New World.”

Back issues of the local newspapers gave me an idea of Dan’s standing in the community, for his name appeared often in those early days of settlement, particularly in the *Russell Banner* (a newspaper which is still going strong.) There I read, among other things, of Dan’s famous herd of Black Angus cattle; of his election as Fire Guardian; and of his appointment as Sunday School Teacher.

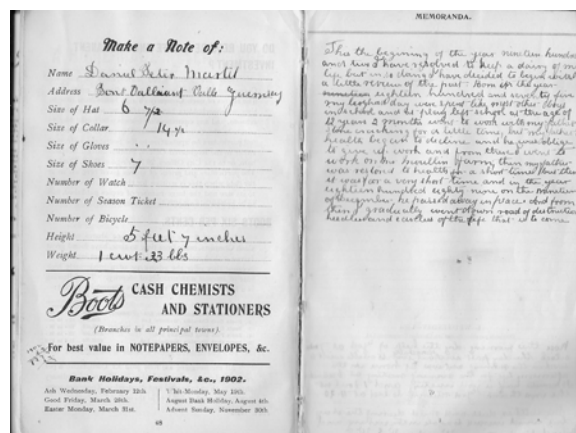


Dan and his prized Black Angus bull 1945

Dan married only late in life, and the *Banner* reports his marriage to my great-grandmother, on 5 Apr 1941, when Dan was 65. Three years later, the *Russell Banner* reports on the couple’s trip to Toronto, perhaps Dan’s only journey away from his farm during all the years he lived in Canada.

His death followed a year later, and his obituary tells us that a plan to return to Guernsey for a last look at his homeland was thwarted when he died very suddenly on 12 Aug 1946. My father was present at Dan’s passing: after supper, Dan had gone outside to rest, complaining that he felt fatigued. Minutes later, he was dead.

At this point I concluded that there was nothing more I could learn about Dan. However, before I wrote up the results of my research, I decided to contact Dan’s niece, Marilyn Liske nee Parmentier, who had inherited Dan’s farm. Marilyn, also a self-appointed family historian for her own family, was kind enough to lend me a diary Dan kept in 1902, the year before he emigrated.

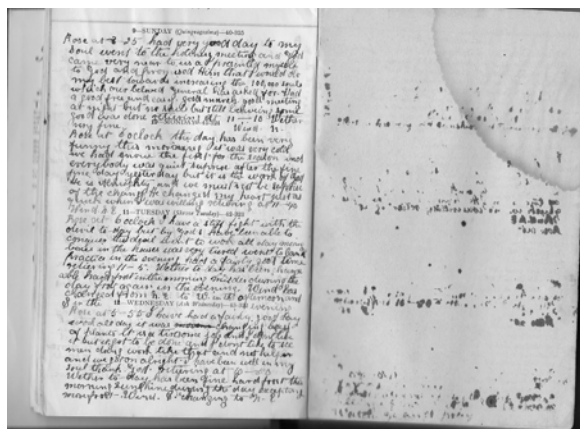


Dan’s Diary - The Beginning 1902

Diaries can be a great disappointment to the family historian, for often they are little more than a record of chores accomplished, or the weather – important stuff for the diary-keeper, perhaps, but rather dull reading for the outsider. Dan's diary, however, was not of this kind. In fact, it is a most intimate record of Dan's inner troubles, which, as it turns out, were considerable at this time. Here was a completely different man than the almost saint-like character that had been painted by my father.

Dan's diary was begun on New Year's Day, 1902, when he was 27 years old. In the opening paragraph, Dan tells us that he has "resolved" to keep a diary, and we soon learn that Dan's attempt at a journal represents a commitment on his part to start fresh after many years of a troubled existence.

In his opening paragraph, he tells us that he quit school at the age of 12 to work in a quarry with his father, but that by the end of the year, his father's health had begun to fail; and, in December of 1888, when Dan was 13, his father died. "And from then on," he wrote, "I gradually went down a road of destruction, heedless and careless of the life that is to come." Given this declaration, it would appear that Dan has been struggling for fourteen long years, ever since his father's untimely death.



Dan's Diary - Entries from early 1902

A road of destruction? What was on this road to destruction? Women? Gambling? Dan never says, but I would hazard a guess that Dan's difficulties were, at least in part, related to alcohol. In the pages that follow, Dan records

his attempt to turn his life around, which for him means regularly attending religious meetings, most often with the Salvation Army. Known for their social activism, the Salvation Army was very much part of a larger temperance movement that began in the 1820s, and they placed a heavy emphasis on the avoidance of alcohol. Many of their early converts were alcoholics, and I suspect Dan was attracted to this feature. It would help explain his total abstinence from alcohol by the time my father knew him.

Dan played in the Salvation Army Band, going to rehearsals after work; and though, as he writes, "it seems a long time to wait for supper... it is the work of God and I do it with a smile." In an entry made towards the end of his diary, Dan writes: "The last day of the week has come and it has not been the worst one, taking things all round.... went to work all day, and in the evening worked in the tea garden for a little time... went to the [Salvation Army] open air meeting in the evening... had a good time." "Two drunks," he adds wryly, "came and knelt at the drum head."

...

Dan's diary leaves off in May, 1902; less than a year later, he is on his way to the "New World." One wonders: was Dan's departure part of his over-all effort to begin life spiritually anew? Of course it is impossible to know for sure. In any case, Dan must have regarded the diary as an important personal record, for he took it with him from Guernsey to Canada, and kept it for the rest of his life. Perhaps he revisited it in times when his faith was shaken.

Given his almost saintly reputation, the revelations in his diary show a side of Dan that perhaps few understood. I realize that Dan may not have intended for anyone to see his most inner thoughts during a time when he was struggling to maintain his faith. I cannot know how Dan would feel about his personal journal falling into my hands, or what he would think of his struggles being made public. And while part of me would like to finish by dealing with this

moral issue, I confess it is for entirely selfish reasons that I've chosen to share this.

(The author plans to publish the diary in full, with an introduction and footnotes, in 2018. Copies will be made available for the MGS.)

*An excerpt from Dan's diary, February 9–15, 1902*

*Rose at 3.25... had very good day to my soul. Went to the holiness meeting and God came very near to us; and I presented myself to God, and promised Him that I would do my best towards increasing the 100,000 souls which our beloved General has asked for. Had a good, free and easy march. Good meeting at night, but no souls, but still believing some good was done. Retiring at 11—10. Weather very fine. Wind N.*

*10—MONDAY—41-324*

*Rose at 6 o'clock. The day has been very funny. this morning it was very cold. We had snow, the first for the season, and everybody was quite surprised after the fine fine day yesterday. But it is the work of God, He is Almighty, and we must not be surprise[ed] at the change He changed my heart just as quick when I was willing. Retiring at 11—49. Wind N.E.*

*11—TUESDAY (Shrove Tuesday)—42-323*

*Rose at 6 o'clock. I have [had] a stiff fight with the devil to-day, but by God's [help, I] have been able to conquer the devil. Went to work all day moving boxes in the houses. Was very tired. Went to band practice in the evening, had a fairly good time. Retiring at 11—50. Weather to-day has been changeable. Hard frost in the morning, milder during the day, frost again in the evening. Wind has changed from N.E. to W. in the afternoon and S in the evening.*

*12—WEDNESDAY (Ash Wednesday)—43-322*

*Rose at 5—55 I have had a fairly good day. Work[ed] all day, it was changing lots of plants. It is a tiresome job and I don't like it, but it got to be done and I don't like to see men doing work like that and not help and we got on alright. I have been well in my soul thank God. Retiring at 10—50. Weather to-day has been fine hard frost this morning Sunshine during the day excepting more frost Wind S. changing to N.E.*

*13—THURSDAY—44-321*

*Rose at 6 o'clock The whole of the day has been a battle with the enemy of my soul but by trust in God I have had the victory. My desire every moment is to please God but when I would right evil present[s] itself and it is a fierce battle. But thank God we can win. Went to the meeting in the evening it was a band league service, we had a good time, retiring at 10—50. Wether has [been] very cold, sunshine at time[s], very dull otherwise*

*14—FRIDAY—45-320*

*Rose at 6—5 Had a fairly good day. Was at work and have been able to keep close to God in spite of the feelings of the flesh, but by trust and prayer I have had the consciousness that I was really saved. In the evening I was working at that job in the fowl-house and retiring at 11—10. The weather has been fine but cold, no frost in the morning, but freezing at night. Wind N.*

*15—SATURDAY—46-319*

*Rose at 6 o'clock this morning. I have been keeping the week and meeting in view, and praying that God would bless the efforts that are going to be put for the Salvation of Souls. Went to the open-air meeting in the evening we had a real good time. There was some time [i.e., it has been a long time] since we had a[n] open air on a Saturday night and tonight it was good, retiring at 11—20. Weather cold & dry Wind N.E.*

*MEMORANDA*

*The week's review seems to be a week of warning, for Wednesday the news were about that a young man while working in a ladder was knocked down by a runaway horse and almost killed. Saturday the news of a man falling from a tree breaking his his back, and another [man] while working on the roof of a house, the ladder gave way and was almost killed. Is not expected to live. God is calling in many. It pays to be ready. Watch ye and pray.*



## MGS Welcomes Our New Members

The Manitoba Genealogical Society would like to extend a warm welcome to all the new members who have joined the Society between January and October 2017.

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Ramona Advocaat	Sunna Furstenau	Marisa Moore
Rosemary Alder	Sheldon Gardiner	Robert Morrison
Jessica Anderson	Adele F. Goa	Rebecca Nelson
Geoff Barker	Marilynn Gozda	Sue Oleksiew
Trisha Bazilewich	Laurie Green	Randy M Olson
Denyse Beaugrand Champagne	William Griffith	Dennis Parsons
David Bellerive	Adele Gunnarson	Darlene Passama
Kristel Best	Robert Haglund	Tanis Podobni
Byron Blevins	Anna Marie Hall	Sharon Poliués
Lisa Bobbie	Lorne Hallgrimson	Doug Pollen
Lynda Bobiak	Paul Hamelin	Gary Quast
Roger Boe	Kimberly Harrison	Barbara Raaen
Nancy Borne	Wendy Harrison	Martha Ravensdale
Cydney Briggs	Terry Hartley	Tamara Reimer
Del Briscuso	Chester Helmeczi	Dawn Reynoldson-Blaine
Donna Brown	Sherry Henry	Brad Roberts
P Dianne Brydon	Judy Hill	Connie Roberts
Donald Burroughs	Beverley Holder	Megan Roberts Lask
Danielle Cabernel	Daniel Huzyk	Robert Roe
Craig Cameron	Sharon Ikonen	Shirley Rosche
Karen Cardinal	James Jacuta	Cameron Ross
Gregory Carr	Anton M Jopko	Jean-Louis Sala
Yolanda Chegus-Graham	Jan Jopko	Jennifer Schau
Karen Chorney	Daphne Kelly	Krista Siebel
Debbie Clark	Linda Keys	Caitlin Smith
Norman Clubb	Richard King	James Smith
Roderick Craven	James Kirkpatrick	Judy Smith
Howie Crichton	Noreen Kirkpatrick	Mike Smith
Linda Cripps	Heather Klemp	Janina Smithson
Merrilee Davies	Andrea Knight	Judith W Solsken
Anne Davison	Mildred K Laing	William A Soule
Frank Dawson	Roxanne Lambert	Brian St. Germain
Hadi Dehais	Jessica EL Landry	Jeri Strickland
Randall Deminick	George Leach	Wendy Sutton
Margaret Drylick	Samuel Levi	Kaley Taylor
Holly Dube	Pamela Logan	Janice Thevenot
P Louise Ebbesen	Ken Lowther	Ronald Unrau
Marg Eisler	Carl Lucas	Delores Wallbridge
Diane Ellis	Audrey Lucier	Patricia Wepruk
Eric Ethier	Dimitriy Malyshev	Daniel Wetzel
Susan Evans	Irene Marks	Kenneth Wiebe
Ken Fehr	Patricia Masniuk	Philip Wiwchar
Deborah Feisst	Lisa Mattice	Norma Wolowyk
Angela Fiebelkorn	Samantha McCrea	Brenda Zastre
Carol Flannery	Julia McIlvride	The Ontario Genealogical Society
Vanda Fleury-Green	Leslie McKendry-Smith	Heritage Committee, RM of St. Clements
Jim Francis	Stephen McKendry-Smith	

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## **Donations to MGS April 2017 to September 2017**

The Manitoba Genealogical Society would like to recognize and thank all who have made memorial donations, cash donations, and material donations for the Library between April 2017 and September 2017. Your contributions are very much appreciated.

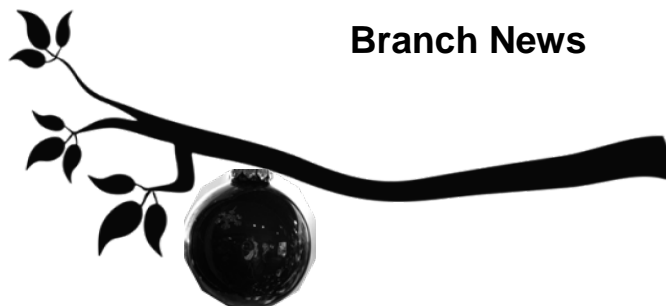
**Elizabeth Borup  
Susan Bracken  
Virginia Braun  
Yolanda Cheguis-Graham  
Diane Clendenan  
Jim Conner  
Bill Curtis  
Annette Fuoco  
Lynn Francis**

**Douglas Gray  
Norman Howe  
David Krestanowich  
Elmer Lepischak  
Keith Maitland  
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Brad Roberts  
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Sheila Woods  
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**Thank You!**



## Branch News

### Monday Night Genealogy - Southeast & Winnipeg Branch

If you are an MGS member living in the Southeast or Winnipeg area, consider joining the Southeast and Winnipeg Branch. We run an educational program at the MGS Resource Centre on St. James Street on Monday evenings starting at 7:00, and are usually finished before 9:00. Branch members can attend at no extra charge but non-members are requested to pay \$5.00 each time they attend. Branch membership costs just \$12.00 a year and members receive the monthly e-Zine which gives more details of upcoming programs, summaries of past programs and other items of interest to Branch members. Here is our schedule for January to June 2018. ("General" meetings may start with a very brief business meeting. "Presentations" usually don't. At a "12 Heads" meeting a facilitator introduces the topic and then everyone has a chance to speak.)

Date	Meeting Type	Topic	Presenter
January 15	GENERAL	Rooster Town and Other Road Allowance Communities	Tricia Logan
January 29	PRESENTATION	On-line Family Trees – Cousin Bait or Publication of Your Research?	Gord McBean
February 12	GENERAL	Following the North Star to Canaan – The Journey from Slavery to Freedom	Susan Wellman
February 26	COMPUTER SIG	DNA Triangulation	Louis Kessler
March 12	GENERAL	Letters from Lea – The Ninette Sanitorium	Terry Létienne
March 26	PRESENTATION	Back to the Orkneys	Mary Anne Inkster
April 16	GENERAL	Genealogical Software Revisited	Kathleen Kristjansson
April 23	12 HEADS	Exploring our DNA Matches	Sheila Woods
May 14	AGM	TBA	
May 28	PRESENTATION	My Scottish Ancestor – a Harem Bride	Barbara Becker
June 11	GENERAL	TBA	
Saturday June 16	TOUR	Manitoba World War One Museum, Riverton MB	Bruce Tascona



## Dauphin Branch

Here is another good news item submitted by the Dauphin branch:

A piece of Manitoba's history is in the process of being restored. One of the oldest cemeteries in Manitoba is calling on members of the McKenzie family to help restore a historical grave site.



**Little Britain Cemetery** (Source: Judy Rekrut and CTV News)

Chief Trader for the Hudson's Bay Company Roderick McKenzie his wife and a couple of their children were laid to rest in Little Britain Cemetery located along the Red River south of Lower Fort Garry. The cemetery says the first known burial was Catherine McKenzie, daughter of Angelique and Roderick McKenzie in 1851.

Roderick and Angelique were both buried next to their daughter after they passed away in 1859. The McKenzie's youngest son James was also buried there. Engraved on his headstone it states,

"In Memory of JAMES youngest son of Roderick and Angelique who was frozen to death January 2, 1860 aged 28 years."

The McKenzie burial plot resides in front of Little Britain United Church surrounded by an iron fence and stone wall. The cemetery said the rough winters have caused the two-inch limestone headstones to deteriorate.

*(For the complete story please see the CTV News web site at [http://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/a-piece-of-manitoba-s-history-is-in-the-process-of-being-restored-1.3653409#\\_gus&\\_gucid=&\\_gup=GSEmail&\\_gsc=UuG5XN](http://winnipeg.ctvnews.ca/a-piece-of-manitoba-s-history-is-in-the-process-of-being-restored-1.3653409#_gus&_gucid=&_gup=GSEmail&_gsc=UuG5XN)*

On a more personal note, Shirle McGimpsey, of the Dauphin Branch, tells us that her 4<sup>th</sup> Great-Grandparents are buried in this cemetery.



## Are You Sure That's Against the Law?

*The Claremont Courier*

*Vol. 5, Issue 3 - March 2011*

There are some very unusual laws on the records of towns, cities and municipalities in North Carolina, USA. Even though it seems they were initiated for logical reasons for the time period, many are still active and carry some form of punishment if broken.

### North Carolina Laws

1. "No one may be a professional fortune-teller and if one wishes to pursue the practice as an amateur, it must be practised in a school or church."
2. "It's against the law to sing off-key."
3. "Elephants may not be used to plow cotton fields."
4. "If a man and a woman who aren't married go to a hotel/motel and register themselves as married, then according to state law, they are legally married."
5. "All couples staying overnight in a hotel must have a room with double beds that are at least two feet apart."
6. "Persons in possession of illegal substances must pay taxes on them."
7. "Organizations may not hold their meetings while the members present are in costume."
8. "Bingo games may not last over five hours unless it is held at a fair."

# The Story Tellers

## We are the Chosen

*Author Unknown*

In each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve.

Doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who has gone before. We are the storytellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called, as it were, by our genes. Those who have gone before cry out to us, "Tell our story!"...So we do.

In finding them, we somehow find ourselves. How many graves have I stood before now and cried? I have lost count. How many times have I told the ancestors, “You have a wonderful family; you would be proud of us.” How many times have I walked up to a grave and felt somehow there was love there for me? I cannot say.

It goes beyond just documenting facts. It goes to who am I and why I do the things I do. It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and indifference and saying, "I can't let this happen." The bones here are bones of my bone and flesh of my flesh. It goes to doing something about it. It goes to pride in what our ancestors were able to accomplish, how they contributed to what we are today. It goes to respecting their hardships and losses, their never giving in or giving up, their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family.

It goes to deep pride that the fathers fought and some died to make and keep us a Nation. It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they were doing it for us. It is of equal pride and love that our mothers struggled to give us birth. Without them we could not exist, and so we love each one, as far back as we can reach.

That we might be born who we are. That we might remember them... So, we do.

With love and caring and scribing each fact of their existence, because we are they and they are the sum of who we are. So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation to answer the call and take my place in the long line of family storytellers.

That is why I do my family genealogy, and that is what calls those young and old to step up and restore the memory or greet those whom we had never known before.



## The Last Laugh



### Generations Editorial Team

If you are interested in working with the Editorial staff in some capacity, please send note to [generations@mbgenealogy.com](mailto:generations@mbgenealogy.com)

Editor – *David Farmer*

Editorial Consultant – *Janice Butcher*

Proof Reader – *Joyce Elias*

Advertising Sales – *David Farmer*

Features:

Book Reviews – *Enid Dorward*

From the Past – *Kathy Stokes*

Library/Library Lines – *Mary Bole*

Periodical Potpourri – *Enid Dorward*

### Make a Donation!

(You can use the Membership form on this page to submit your donation)

Your financial support helps with:

- developing programs, collections and research resources
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- providing and maintaining a comfortable facility for our members and the public

You receive:

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- 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.

### Time to Renew?

Is your membership expiring with this issue? (Check the EXPIRY DATE on the back cover) Please copy or clip the form on this page and remit with your payment.

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Manitoba Genealogical Society Inc.**

**Unit E-1045 St. James Street**

**Winnipeg, Manitoba R3H 1B1**

**Telephone: 204-783-9139**

Email: [contact@mbgenealogy.com](mailto:contact@mbgenealogy.com)

Web: [www.mbgenealogy.com](http://www.mbgenealogy.com)

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Dauphin	\$10.00	\$ _____
Southeast & Winnipeg	\$12.00	\$ _____
Southwest	\$10.00	\$ _____
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\*Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$10.00 or more.

Please contact me re volunteer opportunities at MGS. ☐

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### ***Generations: Advertising Rates Schedule***

	<u>1 ISSUE</u>	<u>4 ISSUES</u>
Full Page/2 column width	\$150.00	\$500.00
Half Page/2 column width	\$ 80.00	\$200.00
Quarter Page/1 column width	\$ 40.00	\$ 90.00

Please supply your ad as a Word document of the correct size in an e-mail attachment. A proof will be sent for your approval before printing. Photos should be supplied as a jpeg (300 dpi). Minimum photo manipulation charge \$15.00 and \$15.00 each additional 15 minutes .

#### **Classified Ads**

Maximum of 3 (typewritten) lines x 1 column width for \$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 = \$20.00 per issue or \$60.00 per year. Camera ready.

#### **Changes**

Changes will be allowed to advertising purchased at the yearly rate at a cost of \$15.00/change. Changes must be received by the copy deadline.

#### **Copy Deadlines**

February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1. Send copy or enquiries to Editor, *Generations*, at the address above or [generations@mbgenealogy.com](mailto:generations@mbgenealogy.com)

#### **Guidelines**

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

- 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 Communications and the Journal Editor of the Society shall decide.
- Advertisements in MGS publications shall be directly relevant to members of the Society.
- 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 Communications & Vice-President of Administration shall have the right to deny its publication.
- 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 January 2012.



## **LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTRE**

Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 to 3:00  
Wednesday Evenings 7:00 to 9:00 (September through June)  
Sunday Noon to 4:00 (mid-October to mid-May)

(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.**

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