


Willow Valley

GENEALOGY CLUB



Summer 2017

Missing, but essential...YOU!

As you look over the list of current board members on the next page, you will notice immediately that there are two glaring vacancies: the offices of president and secretary are both unfilled. Throughout the spring, our nominating committee chairman, Lois Rilling, contacted a great many of our members, asking for a two-year commitment to serve on the board; during the April meeting, she addressed all those in attendance with the same request. Of all those contacted, one current board member accepted a different position and only one additional member agreed to serve.

Unfortunately, with those important board offices unfilled, it is time for the plain unvarnished truth — the board cannot function very well without a president and a secretary, and the club cannot exist indefinitely without filling both of these offices. Neither position would require a great deal of your time, but both are essential.

Additional offices will need to be filled in 2018, as the vice president, treasurer, and director-at-large all complete their terms, leaving only the director of programs



with one year left to serve. If we cannot fill two offices now, what do you think will happen next year if no one is willing to serve on the board?

It would be wonderful if two people reconsider and decide to offer to serve as president or secretary before September. The outgoing officers of those positions would be more than happy to meet with you and help you get started. The time requirements are not at all overwhelming and no special skills are needed.

To discuss either board position, please contact our vice president, Louise Seaman:

Phone: 464-6278; or

Email: raylouiseaman@gmail.com

Thank you

...for the opportunity to serve as the Willow Valley Genealogy Club newsletter editor for the past two years. Your kind comments, support, and suggestions made this job a pleasure!

Carolyn Bausinger



Willow Valley Genealogy Club

www.genealogyclubwv.com

Board Members

**(Vacant)
President**

Louise Seaman . . . Vice President
raylouiseseaman@gmail.com

(Vacant) Secretary

Bob McRobbie. Treasurer
bobmcrobbie@gmail.com

Carol Fricke. . . . Director-at-Large
pixfricke@gmail.com

Al Fulvio . . . Director of Programs
fulvio@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor
Carolyn Bausinger
carolyn.bausinger@gmail.com

US Genealogy Conferences during Summer 2017

June:

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)

23-28 June 2017

Athens, GA; sponsored by the Georgia Genealogical Society

<http://www.gagensociety.org>

July:

The Genealogical Institute on Federal Records (Gen-Fed)

9-14 July 2017, formerly National Institute on Genealogical Research)

National Archives Building, Washington, DC

<http://www.gen-fed.org/gen-fed-2017/>

IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

23-28 July 2017

Orlando, FL

<http://iajgs2017.org>

Brigham Young Univ. Conference on Family History and Genealogy

25-28 July 2017

730 E. University Parkway, Provo, Utah

<https://familyhistory.ce.byu.edu>

Palatines to America National Conference

28-30 July 2017,

Minneapolis, MN

<https://www.palam.org>

August:

Federation of Genealogical Societies National Conference

30 August – 2 September 2017

Pittsburgh, PA

<https://fgs.org/cpage.php?pt=43>

September:

New York State Family History Conference

13-15 September 2017

Tarrytown, NY

<http://www.nysfhc.org>

Additional conferences or events may be available; check:

<http://www.cyndislist.com/events/events-calendars/>

You may be able to identify your mystery family photos (or locate missing ones) on Instagram

Maureen Taylor, known in genealogy circles as “The Photo Detective” has an idea to share with everyone that may help locate or identify your missing (or mystery) family photos. While there are other websites that use social media to promote or identify their photos or collections, Maureen’s idea is a bit different. With Instagram, you can not merely post your mystery photo, but add hashtags to identify information you know already.

If you are not yet familiar with Instagram, here is a brief overview of the way it works: Someone will post a photograph, sometimes with a caption. Then that person will add a set of hashtags to emphasize or identify important information.



Maureen Taylor



The photo at left was uploaded to Instagram. The inset is the full-size photo of a mother and infant, while the baby (more clearly visible than the mother) has been enlarged. A series of hashtags were entered to the right of the photo, providing any available known information

For the photo above, the hashtags might include:

- #photomystery:** This photo is a mystery
- #photoreunion:** Hoping someone will recognize the people in the picture so it can be reunited with its family
- #familyhistory:** Part of your (or someone’s) family history
- #oldphoto:** Self-explanatory as it is an old photo of someone’s ancestor
- #vintage:** Just another way of saying, “old photo”
- #muslincollar:** One clue to help date the baby’s clothing
- #1900maybe:** Approximate date of the photo
- #warrenanderson:** The photographer’s name
- #Sweden:** A Google search revealed that Warren Anderson’s studios were in Sweden

This may look like a lot of hashtags, but each one contains information about the photo. And the beauty of using hashtags is that if you click on any one of them, you will be redirected to other pages where people used the same term in the hashtag. And the more people with whom you can connect, the higher the chance that you will find the person or information you are seeking. Another bonus is that someone else may post a photo of one of your ancestors.

So! If you have a few mystery photos in your collection, whether they are of your family members or just a picture you cannot identify, try posting them on Instagram with a healthy assortment of hashtags and following their trail. You may find people or information you have been seeking for a long time.

For additional information about using Instagram to help identify mystery photographs, visit:

https://maurentaylor.com/find-missing-family-photos-on-instagram/?mc_cid=851afb7da0&mc_eid=c4a916d6d4
or visit her Instagram page at @photodetective.

Summer genealogy fun with your grandchildren

Many of us have spent decades researching, building, and verifying our family trees — only to find that our adult children show little interest in their ancestry. One can hope that they change their minds as they grow a bit older, but in the meantime try engaging your grandchildren in their family history. How? One of the best ways to engage the attention of children is to create a puzzle or mystery to be solved.

There is plenty of help available on the internet to get you started. One site that may help is called Family Tree Kids, hosted by Family Tree magazine.. The site has new projects and activities for children every week. This week, for example, they are featuring a scavenger hunt in grandma's attic and a family photo magnet. A Junior Toolkit is included, with many suggestions to make family history fun for children. Previous suggestions and projects are included as well. A few of those ideas are to create a family word search puzzle, a genealogy word scramble, do a tombstone rubbing, or to create a reverse time capsule.

Another idea might be to help younger grandchildren start recording their own lives so far with photos and their own favorite memories of friends, trips, and so on. Older grandchildren may enjoy interviewing you about your childhood, or taking a trip to a place that you remember — perhaps an amusement park, a favorite fishing spot, or a place where your ancestors lived.

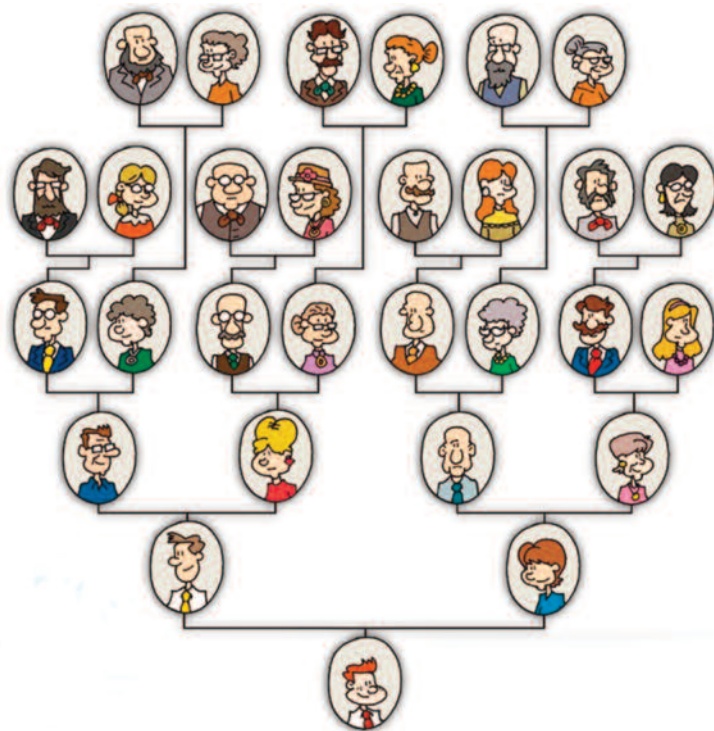
With a little advance planning, you should be able to plan an entire summer of projects that just might create a new generation of family genealogists! Need some help getting started? Here are several sites with many ideas for children:

- <http://www.kids.familytreemagazine.com/kids/default.asp>
- <http://www.cyndislist.com/kids/general/>
- <https://www.lds.org/topics/family-history/host-a-family-history-fair/activities-for-children?lang=eng&old=true>

Need more ideas? Try an internet search for “genealogy projects for children.” You may be surprised to find out how many ideas are available!

Family History Fun

By Arie Van De Graaff



Help the boy at the bottom of this family tree identify his ancestors, Michael Cowdell and Elizabeth Reese. *Michael Cowdell was bald and had facial hair and glasses. His wife wore a pendant around her neck. Elizabeth Reese wore earrings, but not glasses. She was married to a bald man with facial hair. Also answer these questions:*

1. How many of the boy's ancestors wore glasses? _____
2. How many of his ancestors had red hair? _____
3. How many of his ancestors had facial hair? _____
4. How many of his ancestors were bald? _____

This quiz is from the lds.org website (see web url below). But you could create something similar for your own grandchildren using members of your family..

From the President's Laptop



Some curtains are coming down: This is the last newsletter Carolyn Bausinger will be producing. The Genealogy Board is changing, too: the At Large Committee is being replaced with a Director-at-Large and a Director of Programs. Both the President and Secretary finished our terms at the May meeting.

But there are new acts on the horizon, and you could be one of them. We're looking for a newsletter editor(s), a President, and a Secretary. While the hunt for these officers isn't dire yet, the Board will need to make some decisions about what to do if we aren't successful in filling these two Board positions rather soon. If you might be interested in one of these positions (President, Secretary) or just curious as to what they entail, please contact me (george@nettletons.net or 397-0439) or Dave Hazlebeck (hazlebeck@yahoo.com or 464-2643).

And now some kudos:

Our newsletter has been a gem. I hope you've each kept your copies and have read them as they arrive. Carolyn has done a masterful job and is to be congratulated. I hope you will let her know how much you've enjoyed these well-laid-out and informative newsletters. And Carolyn continues to handle our website, which I hope you have checked out: www.genealogyclubwv.com.

Our At-Large committee has done a wonderful job with our programming these past two years, both in putting the schedule in place in a timely manner, as well as having great content. They, too, are to be congratulated.

Our Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President have also done a wonderful job. We have accomplished much in the past few years, thanks to a great Board and their foresight. It's been a joy serving as President and watching the interest and growth in our Club. Thank you to them.

Now it's your turn to respond—if not in a Board position (though I would hope you consider it), but as part of the support network. Helping with refreshments, learning how to set up the sound system for our meetings, organizing and weeding out our library carts, sharing a display of something in your genealogy, giving a short talk on a book you've found valuable, or helping to develop a les-

son for Camp Willow. And you can always share your genealogy expertise/interest with our fellow residents. You might encourage them to attend meetings, join the Genealogy Club, and to participate. One area in which we could use some helpers is in distributing the flyers advertising our club—we hope to place these in each retirement village, genealogy or historical society, and library in Lancaster County as well as on our campus bulletin boards and some of the Team Member bulletin boards. If this is something you're able to do, contact Louise Seaman (raylouiseseaman@gmail.com or 464-6278).

Finally, with all the spare time you'll be having over the summer, review some of the internet sites you've searched in the past, rechecking them for missing information in your family tree; new information and records are being added daily (or at least monthly) to many of the websites. If you have not taken a DNA test, consider doing that and see where you come from (23andme, Ancestry, Family Tree, etc.).

One final note (sounds like one of those infomercials, doesn't it?)-BACK UP your folders, files, and photos at least once this summer (better to do it each week, or at least each month). Back them up, then disconnect that backup (thumb drive, USB drive, etc.), just in case you receive malware, a virus or, worse, ransomware). And while at it, clone your system and programs for the same reason. Why am I encouraging you to do this? I recently added a second drive for backing up. Unfortunately, while formatting it, I formatted the data disk instead and erased all my files, folders, and photos! Fortunately, I had backed up to another drive about three weeks before, but what was added since then was GONE. FOREVER! Be sure to keep your files safe, just in case. It's easy to just assume that if nothing has happened yet, it is no big deal, and you will back up ... someday (before I die). Change that thought—do it this summer.

Thank you for electing me to lead our group these past four years. I look forward to seeing you all as we begin our next year of genealogy, in September.

George Nettleton, President

Visiting LancasterHistory.org

It is a sad but true observation that most of us seldom visit the genealogical and historical treasures that are in our immediate vicinity. Here in Lancaster, we have a rare treasure of our own in LancasterHistory.org, the home of the Lancaster County Historical Society. Have you visited yet? No? This summer would be the ideal time to spend at least one day there.

LancasterHistory.org is part of a ten-acre campus featuring the historic grounds and gardens of President James Buchanan's Wheatland, the Louise Arnold Tanger Arboretum, and the award-winning, and environmentally-sustainable Campus of History headquarters building.

At the Campus of History, you can visit the Exhibit Galleries, conduct research in the Research Library, shop at The Museum Store, and attend their many events (many of which are at low cost or free).

Unlock your family's history:

The Research Library and Archives available to the public at LancasterHistory.org offer researchers, scholars, and life-long learners opportunities to examine historic manuscripts, texts, and much more to learn more about their family's history or local history.

Explore the collections:

Collecting and interpreting history has always been at the center of LancasterHistory.org's mission and its staff's focus. They have worked with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical and Museum Organizations to broaden their outreach horizons. LancasterHistory.org continues to bring history alive to those who seek a deeper understanding of Lancaster County and its place in the world.

You can search the collections online or browse through images from their photos or objects collections. And, if you are unable to find what you are looking for online, you may contact the staff directly at archives@lancaster-history.org.



Above: LancasterHistory.org



Left: Wheatland



Right: A few of the available research materials

Visiting LancasterHistory.org:

LancasterHistory.org is located at 230 N. President Ave, Lancaster, PA, and is open six days a week:

- Monday-Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday: Closed

Guided tours of President James Buchanan's Wheatland are available on the hour, from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. In addition, a living history tour of Wheatland is given on the first Saturday of the month (March–October) at 10:00 am and 11:00 am, in lieu of the standard hourly tour. On those dates, standard tours will resume at noon.

Admission fees:

2017 admission prices are:

General admission: \$15 adults; \$13 seniors; \$8 students
Research library: \$7 adults; \$5 seniors; free for students
Family passes and annual memberships are available.

Spring Program Summaries

March:

Our March program was given by Gerald Wilson, retired police officer and experienced genealogy practitioner. He provided a comprehensive handout packet of Online Research Sites. When Gerald mentioned DNA the room lit up, the audience became very engaged, and his talk was transformed into a discussion on DNA, as well as the various test kits currently available. Everyone enjoyed his presentation. Gerald will return January 16, 2018, to discuss GedMatch a website providing DNA and genealogical tools to collaborate with others, no matter which lab ran your original test..



Above: Our March speaker, Gerald Wilson



Left: Members of the Willow Valley Genealogy Club were ready to learn about online research sites and DNA testing



Above: Cheri Weakley

April:

Our scheduled April program was to have been on Late 18th Century Immigration to America, with Ted Pearson presenting. Unfortunately, Professor Pearson had to postpone his program until October. Luck was with us, however, as program committee member Cheri Weakley was able to assemble an alternate program, which she termed "Plan C.." Cheri covered the importance of planning every genealogy task and setting simple and attainable goals

Fail to Plan = Plan to Fail

What's Your Genealogy Plan?

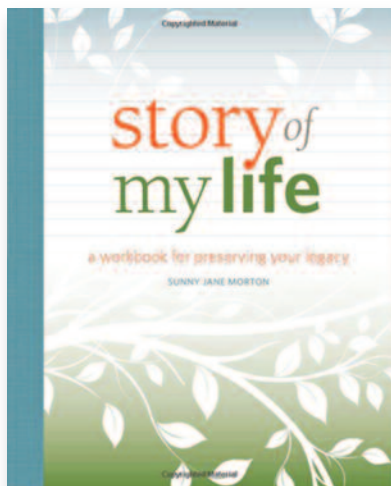
- * Genealogy Do-Over/Go-Over, Thomas MacEntee
- * Research Logs
- * Genealogy Toolbox
- * 5 Ways to tell if your Genealogy is accurate
- * Plan your next Genealogy Trip
- * Future Proofing your Genealogy



Right: Two slides from Cheri's program

Recording your memories to share

Our first program next fall will be a workshop on learning to create a personal and interesting journal. While you are preparing for our September workshop with Alyce Jenkins, you may want to do some preliminary preparation by writing about your own memories and pulling together some shared family experiences. To help with what might at first appear to be a daunting project, two recently published workbooks may help:



Story of My Life: A Workbook for Preserving Your Legacy **By Sunny Jane Morton**

While researching past ancestors, we often forget to share our own stories for future generations — and who knows more about your life than you do? This workbook provides questions that invite you to write about everything from your memories of your parents, your school years, family events, and much more. Before you say that no one will be interested in your life, stop and think about how difficult it can be to find information about family members only a few generations ago. Take the time to create this as a gift for your grandchildren and their grandchildren.

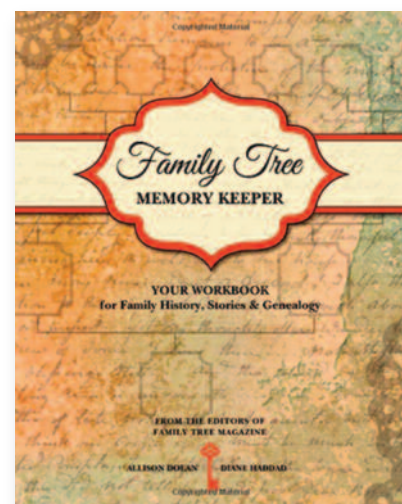
Available in paperback only

Approximately \$13 on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com

The Family Tree Memory Keeper **By Allison Dolan and Diane Haddad**

While the *Story of My Life* workbook will help you record and share your own memories and history, this workbook asks you to record memories of your whole family. Your family's history includes more than simply listing dates of birth and death, and towns where family members lived. Try using this workbook to capture all facets of your family's story, such as anecdotes about and photos of important places, objects and events. *Available in paperback only*

Approximately \$15 on amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com



May:

Jim Landis, of LancasterHistory.org, gave an excellent presentation on 18th and 19th Century Wills & Probate Documents: Understanding Pennsylvania Inheritance Laws and Estates. Jim covered a number of areas, including Classes of Property, Early Intestate Laws, and the Widow's Dower. He provided a handout that will serve as a very helpful tool when we are looking at these documents.



*Right: Jim Landis was our speaker
during the May meeting.*

Willow Valley Genealogy Club

2017 – 2018 Program Calendar



September 19, 2017

Journals and Journaling

Presenter: Alyce Jenkins

Journals can tell us how our family members lived in prior generations. Learn how to begin your own journal, and how to make those journals interesting for future generations.

October 17, 2017

Early 19th C. Immigration to America

Presenter: Ted Pearson (F&M)

Large numbers of immigrants came to the U.S. during 1790-1849. What were the causes and effects of immigration during this period.

November 21, 2017

Late 19th C. Immigration to America

Presenter: Van E. Gosse (F&M)

What factors made the U.S. such an attractive destination from 1850-1930, for those fleeing from famine, war, etc.

December 19, 2017

Organizing Your Research

Video: Drew Smith

Learn how to tame your personal digital and physical clutter so that your research becomes organized and purposeful.

January 16, 2018

Using GEDMatch

Presenter: Gerald Wilson

Use this free site to connect with other DNA relatives whose testing was done through a different lab than yours was.

February 20, 2018

Evaluating and Citing Evidence

Presenter: TBD

Learn how to evaluate evidence, gather documents, employ critical thinking, and cite the evidence you find.

March 20, 2018

What About the Women?

Presenters: Nancy Nelson and Carol Sheaffer

Learn how to use military pension and other records to identify and document the women in your family.

April 17, 2018

Off-Line Records

Presenter: George Nettleton

How can you locate important forms of proof if they have not been digitized?

May 15, 2018

Have You Lost Your Census?

Presenter: Jim Landis

What type of information is available and how can you track family members from one census to the next?