

# The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society Newsletter

January/February 2001

Volume 24, Number 1

## THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS—

Those of you who visit the Rawlins Library in Pierre should note that our local Society now has a display rack located near the newspaper rack at the south end of the main floor. On this rack we plan to display genealogy pamphlets and brochures to acquaint the general public with genealogy activities and events.

Our display will include current genealogy newsletters from national, state, and local societies. Current issues of national genealogy magazines will be on display for use in the library. Outdated issues of newsletters will be kept in the genealogy section in the basement of the library.

At a future meeting of our local Society we will discuss and formulate a policy for the use of our Society's publications at the library.

We had been looking for such a display rack for some time. Gary Hartman scouted local businesses and received the display rack as a donation from Dakotamart of Pierre. With a minor modification, the rack was ready for use the first week of February. Our thanks to Gary and Dakotamart.

For some time now, the officers of your Society have been working with the officers of the South Dakota Genealogical Society in preparation for the State meeting to be held in Pierre on April 21, 2001. Our local Society will not schedule a regular monthly meeting in April so that our local members can concentrate efforts on the State meeting. Our officers will be calling on other members for help with this event.

—Charles Sisk

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## "Genealogy Publishing on the Internet" is March Meeting Topic

A program entitled, "Genealogy Publishing on the Internet" will be presented at the March monthly meeting. The meeting will be held at the LDS Church, 506 N. Jefferson Avenue, at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 20, 2001.

Lary Zastrow will demonstrate programs used for publishing family genealogy information on the Internet as well as share numerous tips and ideas on using the Internet to share genealogy information.

Mark your calendars; bring a friend.

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The January/February 2001 newsletter is being **e-mailed** to as many individuals and Societies as possible. Please advise the newsletter editor of additional e-mail addresses.

## 2001 OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Charles Sisk
<b>Vice President</b>	Laurence Zastrow
<b>Secretary</b>	Gary Hartman
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeanie Hartman
<b>Board Member</b>	Laura Glum
<b>Board Member</b>	Richard Phillips
<b>Past President</b>	Beverly Huckins
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	605-945-2842 (B & F)
	605-224-7554 (W)

[Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7 p.m. at the LDS Church, Rawlins Library, or locations announced via newspaper notices and/or flyer postings.]



# Dale's Trails

## DAKOTA EXPLORERS

by

Dale Wurts and Carol Jennings

After our last article about the Lewis and Clark trip into our area was published, we were surprised to find so many people interested in this part of our history. After talking with several people, Dale found out that he didn't know much, and "believe me," says Carol, "Dale sure has a problem with admitting he doesn't know it all." So, we got to discussing other explorers of this area. Lewis and Clark weren't the first explorers to come here or that lived here. We cannot describe these first visitors as "white," as one of Lewis and Clark's staff was a black man. He was a giant of a man and the Indians were fascinated and tried to rub the black off him.

On May 24, three days out of St. Charles, at the start of their journey, the expedition met up with Regis Loisel, a trader whose expedition had been stopped on their trip downriver somewhere here in Dakota Territory by the Indians and forced to sell their goods at a very low price. On September 22, 1804, Lewis and Clark passed "Ceder" [Clark's spelling] Island, so called because it was covered with "ceder" trees. It was in the neighborhood of the Big Bend of today. Here they comment about finding a fort and good house all built of "ceder" by a Mr. Louiselle, [Clark's spelling of the above person] a trader from St. Louis who had wintered there and traded with the Indians. One account says it was on a beautiful cedar covered island midway between Pierre and the present Big Bend Dam. This information comes from a Sioux "winter count" and indicated that Little Beaver, as Loisel was known to the Indians, had built his fort in 1801-02. He died in St. Louis in 1804, and the post passed on to Manuel Lisa, and later became known as the St. Louis Missouri Fur Company. It burned in 1810 while filled with furs valued at \$15,000.

In 1804, the Lewis and Clark party came to the place near Ft. Mandan where they wintered. Here they met [Mr. Chaubonie] Touissant Charbonneau, who signed on as an interpreter, and stayed on for the rest of the journey with one of

his wives, Sacajawea, who became a very important part of the trip.

On July 2, 1679, Daniel G. Duluth wrote in his journal, "planted the king's arms in the great village of the Dakota called Kathio, where no Frenchman had been before, also at the Sisseton and Wahpeton, six score leagues distant from the former." Duluth may have been the first white man to enter South Dakota, for some historians believe Kathio was at Mille Lacs in Minnesota, and that Duluth then went west, reaching the hills of northeastern South Dakota. A map by William DeL'Isle shows a trail from the Mississippi to the Sioux Falls area and seems to indicate that the Frenchmen used this trail to reach South Dakota by 1700. One of these was a fur trader by the name of Charle Pierre LeSueur.

The first real evidence that "white" men reached South Dakota was the lead plate planted by the two Verendrye brothers on March 30, 1743 on the hill right outside of Fort Pierre. This period also saw the entry of the first two permanent settlers in the state on record. Both were Frenchmen and Lewis and Clark met them in 1804. One was Pierre Dorion who had lived with the Yanktons "more than 20 years and was high in their confidence." He is believed to have come up from St. Louis, settled with the Yanktons and married one of them. The other white man was Joseph Garreau, who settled with the Arikaras on the Missouri in 1792. Both of these men have descendants bearing their surnames living in the state.

The 1790's saw a great deal of exploration and trading in South Dakota. Jacques D'Eglise was fur trading on the upper Missouri from 1791 to 1795. Jean Baptiste Truteau led an expedition to the upper Missouri in May 1794. They reached the mouth of the Big Sioux in August and by the end of September they were at the mouth of the Crow Creek, where a party of Teton and Yankton Sioux compelled them to land and trade at a loss. Proceeding north, they landed at the mouth of the Cheyenne on October 9 and learned that the Arikaras had recently abandoned their lodges and moved to the Mobridge vicinity for the winter. Truteau's party then descended the Missouri and erected a cabin in November, probably in Charles Mix County near the present Fort Randall Dam.

*(Continued on page 3)*



(Continued from page 2)

Most of the traders in earlier accounts were French, but there were two English speaking men who added greatly to the knowledge of the Missouri. James Mackey, a Scot was here in 1795, 1796, and 1797. He sent back to St. Louis "a map such as never appeared before of this unknown part of the world." John Evans accompanied Mackey and in 1796 was to continue the ascent of the Missouri. He also produced a map that was used by Lewis and Clark.

The vast supply of furs and hides encouraged more trade up and down the Missouri, as it was the main transportation route for supplies in and out of the area. More and more traders came to trade with the Indians and established forts or trading posts on the river. The one we are associated with was here at Fort Pierre. In 1817 a settlement was begun on the Missouri. Joseph LaFramboise, two half-breed Frenchmen, and a party of Sioux came over from Prairie du Chein on the Mississippi bringing with them goods which were to be traded to the Indians. The trading post, built of dry driftwood, was rebuilt in 1822 and called Fort Tecumseh. It was again rebuilt in 1832 and called Fort Pierre Chouteau, Jr., though the surname was soon dropped. Thus it continued to be the first white settlement within South Dakota.

Just how many buffalo hides and tongues do you suppose were shipped down the river from the banks near here? There is much history here, it cannot be covered in a short article.

NOTE: Most of this article was taken from *Dakota Panorama* and *Journal of Lewis and Clark* by Bernard DeVoto.

[This is the eighth in a quarterly feature.]

## SD GENEALOGY RESOURCES

During the summer of 2000, each Register of Deeds in South Dakota was surveyed about the information available in their county that might be useful to genealogists. Each of the 64 counties responded to the survey and the **County Resources** section at

<http://www.state.sd.us/doh/Genealogy/index.htm> contains their responses. An address, telephone number, and e-mail, if available, is listed for each Register of Deeds. Check it out!

—contributed by Jeanie Hartman

# BROWSING

by  
Bev Huckins

I've been looking at some of the publications that the Society receives each month, and I always find items of interest. I am so interested in history and am often caught up in the history of a place or event. That's one of the things I find in the newsletters of our various state societies.

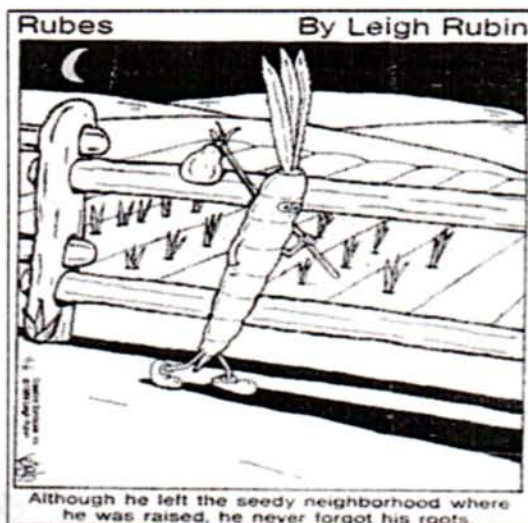
- *The Tree Climber* (Aberdeen Area Genealogical Society), Vol. 26, No. 1,2,3, has an article "A Look Backward." This article informed me of the fact the year 1900 is called a "dropped-day" year (news to me!), and mentions a desipota factory in Aberdeen.
- *Pioneer Pathfinder*, January 2001, newsletter of the Sioux Valley Genealogy Society, has an article on the founding of the School for the Deaf.
- The newsletter for the Lyman-Brule Genealogical Society, Vol. 14, Issue 4, January 2001, lists some genealogy internet sites you may find useful. There's also a very interesting story of Gertie Boyer who worked at the Ft. Thompson Indian School in the 1880's.

Check out the newsletters at Rawlins Library on the Genealogy Rack or in the basement in the genealogy section.

Two of the publications that the Society subscribes to also include some interesting items:

- *Ancestry* for January/February 2001 has a number of helpful articles. One on researching Probate records is very good; also one on creating a life sketch using military pension records even when it's not your ancestor; and a case study of research in Wales.
- *Heritage Quest*, Nov/Dec 2000, devotes much of the discussion to Scandinavian Research. Page 116 has an article, "A Look At The Censuses of Poland," and page 48's article deals with Adoption Research. Page 76, Research Helps "Musings and Gleanings" has many interesting tidbits including a brief history of the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps).

Now if I can just find the time to follow up on all this ... !





## MEMBERSHIP LIST

The persons listed below have paid Society dues for 2001!

Tom and Pat Adam  
215 W. Broadway Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Yvonne Haefner  
PO Box 481  
Murdo, SD 57559-0481

Laurence and Anita Zastrow  
PO Box 1005  
Pierre, SD 57501-1005

Mildred A. Adams  
PO Box 6  
Blunt, SD 57522-0006

Gary and Jeanie Hartman  
418 S. Buchanan Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Karen A. Allan  
320 N. Johnson Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Robert and Beverly Huckins  
1115 N. Grand Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Susan Assmus  
100 Village Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501

Wayne and Nancy Kirkpatrick  
319 S. Polk Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Christine Dierks  
1212 E. Church Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Richard Phillips  
PO Box 32  
Pierre, SD 57501-0032

Cass Gerlach  
1704 E. Erskine Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Roger and Ardis Ruark  
117 Pasque Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501

Edward and Marianne Girten  
2831 W. 80 Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99502-4516

Charles Sisk  
216 S. Jefferson Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Laura and Cindy Glum  
312 S. Pawnee Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Adrienne Stepanek  
PO Box 555  
Williston, ND 58802-0555

Steve A. Gomez  
817 N. Central Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Darlene Winter  
PO Box 1312  
Holland, MI 49422-1312

Please complete the membership application found on page 10 and return it along with your annual dues to:

Jeanie Hartman, Treasurer  
416 S. Buchanan Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

**2001 Dues are  
DUE!  
Pay your dues and  
continue to receive  
the newsletter!**

### TREASURER'S REPORT as of February 28, 2001

Balance Brought Forward		\$322.83
Income:		
Dues	\$160.00	
Total Income		\$160.00
Expenses:		
National Genealogical Society (Dues)	\$ 30.00	
<i>Ancestry</i> magazine (Renewal)	20.99	
Pierre Post Office (Box Rent)	38.00	
Professional Word Systems (2000 Newsletters +3)	171.62	
Professional Word Systems (Tri-Fold Brochures +150)	<u>27.55</u>	
Total Expenses		\$288.16
Balance Carried Forward		<b>\$194.67</b>

*Jeanie Hartman, Treasurer*

# SOUTH DAKOTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## ***2001 Annual Meeting***

8 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 21, 2001

Pierre Area Chamber of Commerce Community Room  
800 W. Dakota Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Eric Bittner, Denver "Research at the Federal Regional Archives"
10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Intermission
10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Eric Bittner
12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch (provided as part of registration fee)
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Business Meeting of the SDGS
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	LaVera Rose, Pierre News from the SD State Historical Society Library— The Indian Archives Project, The SD Newspaper Project, Additions to the State Archives Library
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Intermission
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Marvene Riis, Pierre Slide Presentation on Research at the State Archives

The SD Genealogical Society invites you to the Annual Meeting on April 21, 2001. If you are planning to spend several days in the Pierre area, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Governor's Inn. Reservations must be made prior to April 10, 2001.

The Registration Fee for the 2001 Annual Meeting is **\$20 prior to April 10** and \$25 late registration. Please complete this form and return it with your registration fee to:

South Dakota Genealogical Society Treasurer  
PO Box 1101  
Pierre, SD 57501-1101

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NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
AFFILIATE SOCIETY \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_



## REUNION IDEAS SHARED

When the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society met for the January monthly meeting, the ten members in attendance presented the program. Following the business meeting, President Charles Sisk announced "I guess it's time to talk about reunions."

- **Susan Assmus** uses Christmas time to obtain information; she distributes family sheets to be updated "on the spot."
- **Chris Dierks** said as a child she didn't like family reunions but in recent years she has been in charge. She pointed out that sign-in sheets to collect address information, etc., are vital. She suggested that items that once belonged to ancestors, i.e., autograph books, wedding bulletins, be displayed to spark conversation. Chris also displayed reunions books and newsletters of her family. [Check out these websites: [family-reunion.com](http://family-reunion.com) or [familyreunion.com](http://familyreunion.com) or [reuniontips.com](http://reuniontips.com).]
- **Bev Huckins** stated that they have videotaped some conversations.
- **Lary Zastrow** advised that the use of photos triggers recollections.
- **Anita Zastrow** displayed family tree notebooks and items collected at recent reunions (coffee mugs, plates, T-shirts).
- **Rich Phillips** detailed that reunions have been held every five years in Webster where his family homesteaded in 1881. Rich stated that charts have been displayed and obituaries reviewed.
- **Laura Glum** indicated that when she was in charge of recent reunion they planned for two years. She stated that staying with family cuts down on cost and having numerous activities for all ages is vital (games and treasure hunt for the children and a personalized "bingo game" for adults). She also explained how to display family information on window shades.
- **Charles Sisk** said that on the occasion of his parents' 50th wedding anniversary the family gathered from far and wide, so it was taped. Memorial Day weekend is a typical time for family to continue to get together. Charles emphasized the use of disposable cameras and the importance of a tape recorder.

Society members indicated that they look forward to conducting another idea sharing program this summer.  
—AZ

## *The Elusive Ancestor* by Merrell Kenworthy

I went searching for an ancestor.  
I cannot find him still.  
He moved around from place to place  
and did not leave a will.  
He married where a courthouse burned.  
He mended all his fences.  
He avoided any man who came  
to take the U.S. Census.

He always kept his luggage packed,  
this man who had no fame.  
And every twenty years or so,  
this rascal changed his name.  
His parents came from Europe.  
They should be upon some list  
of passengers to U.S.A.,  
but somehow they got missed.

And no one else in this world is searching  
for this man.  
So, I play genea-solitaire  
to find him if I can.  
I'm told he's buried in a plot,  
with tombstone he was blessed;  
But the weather took engraving,  
and some vandals took the rest.

He died before the county clerks  
decided to keep records.  
No family BIBLE has emerged,  
in spite of all my efforts.  
To top it off, this ancestor,  
who caused me many groans,  
Just to give me one more pain,  
betrothed a girl named JONES.

(from Lori Hoffman's Home Page at  
<http://dialin.ind.net/~lhoffman/documents.html>)

© 1998

Tacoma - Pierce County Genealogical Society,  
*The Researcher* 29:2

[Appeared in the *Bismarck Mandan Historical and Genealogical Society Newsletter* during 2000]



## HISTORICAL RECORDS—

### HUGHES COUNTY

Register of Deeds  
104 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501  
605-773-7495  
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1900 to present
DEATH	1900 to present
MARRIAGE	1900 to present
LAND	1882 to present

### STANLEY COUNTY

Register of Deeds  
PO Box 596, Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0596  
605-223-2610  
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1877 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1892 to present
LAND	1891 to present

### SULLY COUNTY

Register of Deeds  
PO Box 265, Onida, SD 57564-0265  
605-258-2331  
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1905 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1905 to present
LAND	

Certified copies of Birth and Death Records are available for \$10 each and Marriage and Divorce Records are available for \$7 each; certified copies of Land Records are available for \$2 each. Regular copies of land records are \$1 each or less if only partial records. Remember, additional limitations making birth records "harder to see" have recently been imposed. Check with your County offices regarding these restrictions as well as any other fees.

## WEBSITES

- US GenWeb Project..... <http://www.usgenweb.org>  
 South Dakota GenWeb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com/~sdgenweb/>  
 Rootsweb..... <http://www.rootsweb.com>  
 The Genealogy Home Page ..... <http://www.genhomepage.com/>  
 Ancestry ..... <http://www.ancestry.com>  
 Swiss Genealogy Project..... <http://www.mindspring.com/~philipp/che.html>  
 Civil War Historic Places..... <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/links/hist.htm#cemetaries>  
 American Civil War Research..... <http://www.civilwardata.com>  
 (Records of 1.67 million soldiers, regimental rosters and battle chronicles. Fee required for access.)  
 Cyndi's List ..... <http://www.cyndislist.com>  
 (Over 35,000 Links in 70 categories. This is one of the most comprehensive research sites on the Net)  
 National Genealogical Society..... <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>  
 (Useful documents on how to conduct family history interviews and preservation of documents and photos.)  
 Federation of Genealogical Societies ..... <http://www.fgs.org>  
 Switchboard ..... <http://www.switchboard.com>  
 Broderbund ..... <http://www.genealogy.com>  
 AHS of Germans From Russia ..... <http://www.ahsgr.org>  
 The Genealogy Home..... <http://www.homestead.com/ancestors/>  
 (Genealogy information and links for Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, and Finish ancestors.)  
 Gathering of Tartans ..... <http://www.tartans.com>  
 (Genealogy section for those with Scottish ancestry and links to their clan, clan histories, and tartans.)  
 Church of Jesus Christ LDS ..... <http://www.familysearch.org>  
 National Archives and Records Admin..... <http://www.nara.gov>  
 Birth Records (with birthdates ..... <http://www.state.sd.us/doh/vitalrec/birthrecords/index.cfm>  
 over 100 years )  
 Cemetery Junction Directory ..... <http://www.daddezio.com/cemetery/index.html>  
 (Links to 13,000 online cemetery lists.)





# MEETING MINUTES

## Tuesday, January 16, 2001

President Charles Sisk called the meeting to order at the LDS Church at 7:00 p.m. with Jeanie and Gary Hartman, Chris Dierks, Lary and Anita Zastrow, Sue Assmus, Richard Phillips, Laura Glum, and Bev Huckins present.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer, Jeanie Hartman, reported a balance of \$400.83.

### Unfinished Business:

On a trial basis, Anita sent the October/November 2000 newsletter via e-mail to several members as a PDF file and also sent everyone copies through the mail. The e-mail version seems to work very well, so beginning with the January/February, 2001 newsletter it will be sent **either** by e-mail to those members who have an e-mail address **or** by regular mail to those who don't have e-mail. In addition to Anita's time, this will save money on postage and copying. Anita would also appreciate our help with more news for the newsletter.

It is the time of year for dues to be collected. Several members paid their dues at the meeting and we are receiving many of them in the mail.

A brief discussion was again held on the State Genealogical meeting in April.

### New Business:

We discussed some ideas of how we could put up a public display of brochures and publications on genealogy at Rawlins Library.

The nominating committee gave a brief report on the upcoming election in February for board members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

### Program:

Reunion ideas and experiences were shared by all members present for a very informative and fun program.

## Tuesday, February 20, 2001

The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society met at 7 p.m. at the home of Tom and Pat Adam, 215 E. Broadway Avenue. Members present were Charles Sisk, Anita and Lary Zastrow, Chris Dierks, Laura Glum, Richard Phillips, Bev Huckins, Steve Gomez, and Tom and Pat Adam.

The minutes from the January meeting were read and approved.

The bank statement showed a balance of \$217.66.

### Unfinished Business:

A brief discussion was held on the April State Genealogical Meeting.

Charles Sisk reported that the Society now has a rack at Rawlins Library to display our many newsletters and publications.

### New Business:

Election of officers was held. Laura Glum moved, Richard Phillips seconded, to accept the slate of candidates selected by the nominating committee. Lary Zastrow

moved, Pat Adam seconded, that nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast. CARRIED

The 2001 board will be: President Charles Sisk, Vice President Lary Zastrow, Secretary Gary Hartman, Treasurer Jeanie Hartman, Board Members Laura Glum and Richard Phillips, Past President Bev Huckins, and Newsletter Editor Anita Zastrow

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

### Program:

Tom and Pat Adam shared experiences on their trip last summer to Poland, the homeland of Tom's father, August Adamowski.

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Dierks, Secretary

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## HOW CAN THE U.S. CENSUS HELP FIND FAMILY?

by Kim Mullin  
Genealogy.com

Since 2000 is (was) a census year, most of us are familiar with the modern census process: receive a form in the mail, fill it out, send it back, consider yourself counted. The United States government began collecting census data in 1790 and has done so every ten (10) years since that date. Of course, in the early years, it wasn't easy. Census enumerators had to go door-to-door collecting information from each family. That still happens today, but only if you are tardy in returning your form.

**WHY GENEALOGISTS LIKE THE CENSUS.** Why is it that genealogists depend so much on the census? Because it can provide us with such a wide variety of information that's helpful to our family research, depending on the census year. The earliest censuses only give an outline of a household's members, categorizing individuals into groups by age and sex, free or slave. In these censuses, the heads of household are the only names we see. However, this information still can help us monitor the changing composition of a family.

In 1850, the census began to list every individual by name, which gives us a clearer picture of how a family changed over the years. That's also the point when the Census Bureau began to collect more and more information about each individual, such as birthplace, occupation, educational level, marital status, race, and birthplace of parents. All of this adds up to interesting snippets for our family histories, as well as useful clues for discovering more about previous generations.

**READING BETWEEN THE LINES.** In addition to information next to our ancestors' names, the census

(Continued on page 10)



## LOST AND FOUND IN POLAND

For the February meeting, Tom and Pat Adam invited the Society to their home to tell of their "quest" to locate their Adamowski relatives in Poland.

Tom's earliest recollection of the family history was a letter written by Grandmother Adamowski that arrived at their Lead, South Dakota home. He was in grade school at the time and could not decipher the German script on the address. World War II had just ended, and it was the first news that Tom's grandmother and aunts had survived. They were living in Silesia the scene of horrific battles as the Russian army advanced on Berlin.

For several years, they would send "care" packages to relatives in war torn Eastern Europe. As the years passed, word arrived that their grandmother and aunt had died. Then in 1959, shortly after Tom and Pat were married, they received a notice of the probate of the estate of his aunt Maria in Austria. After having the notice translated, Tom learned that he and his brother Bill, along with two cousins, Alojzy and Joachim Tazska of "Tybnik," Poland, were to inherit her estate of several hundred thousand of the Polish currency (Tom's share ultimately was equal to 80 American dollars).

Years later when Tom's stepmother passed away, Tom and Bill found among her personal effects several photographs with German inscriptions as well as letters and documents written in German and Polish. Although these were commented on in family discussions, it was not until their daughter Sarah moved to Chicago (with its large population of Polish descendants) that an attempt was made to translate the inscriptions and letters. One of the photos was the wedding picture of the aforementioned Alojzy and Hilda Tazska.

Their interest piqued, they secured copies of the naturalization papers of his father August. Those papers identified his birthplace as Fischgrund, Silesia, Germany and the port of immigration as Sault Saint Marie, Michigan. Attempts to locate the village of Fischgrund were futile because Silesia had been incorporated into Poland after the war. In addition, all of the city and villages were given Polish names and none carried the name Fischgrund. Letters to the Polish consulate proved ineffective because they lacked sufficient details of August's immigration. Efforts to locate the village of "Tybnik," his cousin's home, proved equally unsuccessful.

From a *Heritage Quest* magazine article, Tom obtained the name of a German genealogy specialist, Horst A. Reschke. From him, they learned that Fischgrund was a "landed estate" that in 1900 consisted of 80 ethnic Poles and 6 ethnic Germans.

Now known as Pstrazna, Reschke advised that the village was located near the town of Rybnik. (The unfortunate misspelling of Rybnik in the aunt's probate papers as "Tybnik" had unduly delayed the search.)

Armed with this information, Tom wrote letters to Joachim and Alojzy Tazska in Rybnik. Alojzy responded in August, 1999, confirming the family connection. Included were photographs of Tom's parents that had been sent to Grandmother Adamowski. With the help of translators, the cousins continued to exchange letters for several months. As word of the connection grew, the communication included Internet e-mail with Joachim's daughter, Jadzia Tyrankiewicz. She is an employee of the Polish airline, LOT, living in Krakow, who provided valuable assistance during their trip.

Their communications resulted in the Adams' trip to Poland in the spring of 2000. They spent some three weeks in Poland visiting with the Adamowski relatives and touring the "old country" where August Adamowski was born and grew to adulthood. They also learned of the civil wars that had wracked Silesia after World War I and that August had participated in them. When the League of Nations plebiscite in 1921 placed Silesia under Polish control, August, an ethnic German, immigrated to the United States. The repatriation of Silesia by Germany, like Danzig and the Sudetenland, ultimately led to World War II.

Tom and Pat displayed their many pictures of the villages of Rybnik and Pstrazna, including the house where August Adamowski was born in 1900. They had photos of the ancient city of Krakow and the many relatives they met in Poland. They shared their many memorabilia of their search for family roots and their trip to the ancestral home in Silesia.

The society members were privileged to share the unique and heartwarming story of the search for and discovery of family with the Adams.

—contributed by Lary Zastrow



You can find an index of the German-Polish names of cities at <http://www.atsnotes.com/other/gerpol.html>



(Continued from page 8)

tells us where a family lived at a particular time, so we have a good idea of where to start looking for additional records. We can also determine who a family's neighbors were. Census takers went from house to house, so the names listed next to your ancestors' names are neighbors, who might have been relatives. Families don't have to have the same name to be related. It's a good idea to copy information for the families that are listed about and below your ancestors, as you may later learn that they are members of your family.

**SOME USEFUL URLs.** To learn exactly what sort of information was collected each year, take a look at "Every Ten Years"

[http://www.genealogy.com/13\\_every.html](http://www.genealogy.com/13_every.html)

From 1790 through 1920, you will find a detailed list of what you can expect to see on a census form. And, to help you keep that information organized when you are research with the census, be sure to print a set of census abstracts from

<http://www.genealogy.com/00000061.html>

Census abstracts are blank forms which mimic each year's census forms. As you carry out your census research, you copy the information onto these forms. This helps ensure that you don't miss any important information.

—contributed by Chris Dierks

## LIBRARY HOURS

### RAWLINS LIBRARY

Monday-Thursday ..... 9 am - 9 pm  
Friday..... 9 am - 6 pm  
Saturday..... 10 am - 6 pm  
Sunday ..... 1 pm - 5 pm

### STATE LIBRARY

Monday-Friday ..... 8 am - 5 pm  
Saturday-Sunday..... Closed

### STATE ARCHIVES

Monday-Friday ..... 9 am - 4:30 pm  
First Sat./Month..... 9 am - 4:30 pm

### FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Tuesday..... 1 pm - 5 pm  
Wednesday..... 1 pm - 9 pm  
Thursday-Friday ..... 7 pm - 9 pm  
Saturday ..... 10 am - 2 pm

[Closed on holidays—please check schedule.]

*Remember that the State Archives is also open on the first Saturday of each month to be of assistance to patrons.*

**PIERRE-FORT PIERRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
PO BOX 925, PIERRE, SD 57501-0925**

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Surnames Being Researched—

Brief Statement of Current Status and/or Focus of Research—

DUES \_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$12)



# CALENDAR

March 17	St. Patrick's Day!
March 17-18	Zonta Club of Pierre-Fort Pierre, <i>Spring Craft Show</i> , Ramkota RiverCentre, Pierre
March 20	<b>Society Meeting</b> "Genealogy Publishing on the Internet," LDS Church, 7 p.m.
March 20	First Day of Spring!
April 1	Daylight Saving Time Begins
April 6-7	State Historical Society Annual Meeting, Rushmore Plaza Holiday Inn, Rapid City
April 7-8	Pierre-Fort Pierre AAUW Branch, <i>Annual BookSale</i> , The Pierre Mall
April 17	<b>NO</b> Monthly Society Meeting
April 20-21	State Genealogical Society Meeting, Chamber of Commerce Community Room, Pierre [Hosted by the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society]
April / May	Second Quarterly 2001 Newsletter to be published!
May 15	<b>Society Meeting</b>
May 30	Memorial Day!
October 5-6	<b>Fall Meeting</b> , Western Dakota Technical Institute, Rapid City [Hosted by the Rapid City Society for Genealogical Research]

***"Genealogy is like love! It's best when shared with another."***

**PIERRE-FORT PIERRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
PO BOX 925  
PIERRE SD 57501-0925**



# The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society

# Newsletter

April/May 2001

Volume 24, Number 2

## THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS—

### *Trees That I Know*

In April the newspapers often show pictures of adults or children planting trees on Arbor Day. In our local paper there was a picture of two former mayors planting trees. All this is done to encourage people to plant trees and to care for them.

I am familiar with planting and nurturing trees since I had to replace all of the stately old elms in my yard. I now have a "society" of trees. They come from some of the best families—the Spruces, the Lindens, the Apples, the Hackberries, the Chokecherries, and the Ash. I enjoy having them around.

I am now trying to determine if we need some special day or activity to nurture the growth of our Genealogical Society. Our Society's membership is not large. Some of our members live miles away so we don't see them at our local meetings. There are a number of local genealogy buffs who are not even members. It would be nice if we could get them to join our group and share their research experiences.

At the LDS Family History Center in Pierre we have noticed that the number of visiting researchers has greatly declined in the past year. Maybe this is due to the availability of the Family History Catalog on the internet. Are most of the researchers staying at home and surfing the 'net? Are they accepting family history information from any source without

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MEMBER INVOLVEMENT VITAL PART  
OF JUNE / JULY SOCIETY PROGRAMS

Members will hear Beverly Lewis, Library Director, share plans for genealogy services at The Rawlins Library at the June 19 monthly meeting. There will also be an opportunity to become reacquainted with the available material in the Society's Genealogy section of the library.

The July 17 program will provide the opportunity for members to share stories, photos, etc., of their ancestors' role in the military history of our country.

Your attendance is important to the Society!

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The April/May 2001 newsletter is being e-mailed to as many local Society members, interested individuals, and area Societies as possible. Please advise the newsletter editor of additional e-mail addresses.

## 2001 OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Charles Sisk
<b>Vice President</b>	Laurence J. Zastrow
<b>Secretary</b>	Gary Hartman
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeanie Hartman
<b>Board Member</b>	Laura Glum
<b>Board Member</b>	Richard A. Phillips
<b>Past President</b>	Beverly Huckins
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Anita M. Odens Zastrow
	PO Box 1005, Pierre, SD 57501-1005
	amzastrow@aol.com or anitaz@sdbar.org
	605-224-2559 (H)
	605-945-2842 (B & F)
	605-224-7554 (W)

[Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month (except December) at 7 p.m. at the LDS Church, Rawlins Library, or locations announced via newspaper notices and/or flyer postings.]



# Dale's Trails

by  
Dale Wurts and Carol Jennings

We have decided to spend more time on our family history. We are putting together all the stories we can remember and the stories we can con from the rest of the family and friends, which usually isn't much. When we ask for a story and at least their side of a story, we get blank looks and "I can't recall a thing." When mother was still alive, we couldn't get anything out of her, but if we left a story for her to read, she would correct it or add some tidbits. Dale would stretch the facts a bit, and she would set us straight, so we got some information from her, and in her handwriting. Priceless, now that she is gone.

So we have decided to discontinue writing articles for the local Society newsletter and use this time to work on our family history. We have been doing some work on it for about ten years and as we aren't getting any younger, we decided we had better get to work. We have really enjoyed working up these articles, but it does take a lot of time.

We are going to contribute some of our history to the *Tumbleweeds* the newsletter of the Highmore Club. Our reason for doing this is because the Wurts story took place in and around Highmore, and they were very interested in adding this personal touch to their newsletter. Our first article in their publication was on East Eagle School, our grade school, which was in the first two issues of 2001. The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society gets a copy of the *Tumbleweeds*, so if you are interested, our stories can be read there, or you can join the Hyde County Genealogical Society at PO Box 392, Highmore, SD 57345-0392. Dues are \$7.00 per year.

So long for a while,  
*Dale & Carol*

## SD GENEALOGY RESOURCES

During the summer of 2000, each Register of Deeds in South Dakota was surveyed about the information available in their county that might be useful to genealogists. Each of the 64 counties responded to the survey and the **County Resources** section at

<http://www.state.sd.us/doh/Genealogy/index.htm> contains their responses. An address, telephone number, and e-mail, if available, is listed for each Register of Deeds. Check it out!

—Jeanie Hartman

## GOMEZ SHARES GLIMPSE OF SPANISH ROOTS

It was a bit of good fortune that took Steve Gomez to the north of Spain to meet his Basque relatives. The Contractors Association charter to the island of Majorca provided Steve and his wife Jean the opportunity. From Majorca, they flew to Madrid and on to Bilbao on the Bay of Biscay. Renting a car at Bilbao, they traveled the scenic mountainous highway to Santander. From there, they traveled inland in search of the village of his ancestors, Hazas de Cesto.

As they traveled through the villages, Steve recounted the many assurances of the locals that the village was "just a little farther" up the road. The closer they came to Hazas de Cesto, the more detailed the directions became. At the village, they found the name of Gomez very common but that they were not all relatives. His cousin, Pat Ares, was able to quickly advise which were related to Steve and those that were not.

Steve told the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society members of the old buildings and homes that they encountered. He had numerous photographs of the town and relatives that he displayed for the group. He described the homes in which most of the villagers lived, where the family lived on the second floor and the animals on the first floor. He described his amazement at the cleanliness of the "barn" area which was attended to constantly.

The villagers were mostly farmers who traveled from the village to their farm lands and pastures each day to work. Most families had dairy cattle that they milked for delivery to the very modern dairy truck transports that came daily. Just as regularly came the wine truck to deliver the wine that the families drank at each meal. From the bulk tank, the wine was pumped into the family's large wine container.

The church at Hazas de Cesto was built of stone and stucco as were most of the houses. The church had a very ornate alter but no pews; most of the parishioners stood and kneeled during the mass as the few benches were reserved for older members. In the cemetery, Steve found that the ancestral remains were removed from the graves after 25-30 years and deposited in family vaults. Although the

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documentary evidence? I hope we are not seeing genealogy becoming an activity where there is no real personal contact.

In business, industry, and government we now have a situation where a person can call for information and get nothing but a menu of recorded messages that lead to more recorded message. This makes the caller almost feel "alone" in the world.

Maybe we need to have a "Reunion Day" to kindle more interest in family history ... and the sharing of that history. It would be nice if we could recruit more members and get more members to attend our meetings. We can hope!

—Charles Sisk

## BROWSING

with *Bev Huckins*

I've been doing a different kind of browsing lately—on the internet. I'm still learning all the "nooks and crannies" one can use, and that everything is not free. You're intrigued by getting a bit—and if you join—another door will open they say! I'm cautious—not being quick to join!

Another bit of browsing I'm doing is through many of my mother's things. She died in January. Among her items is a notebook from 1926. She calls it her journal begun 4 months and 28 days after her marriage in Nov. 1925. It mentions many of the people and relatives in her early days. It also has a list of the gifts she received at a bridal shower given by the Women's Fellowship of the Congregational Church in Dupree. Some of the items listed are things you wouldn't get today: embroidered towels, pillow tubing, pin cushion, quart of peaches, gravy ladle, several table cloths, cream ladle, rubber apron, and "dresser, doz. chickens, one pig, and other articles too numerous to mention from the folks."

She writes: "I shall never forget my wedding day. I was happy and yet blue because I was leaving home. I think most any girl feels that way if they have spent most of their time at home as I did. (She was 19 and had left school after 9th grade to help at home; my Dad was 30) It was a chilly November 26, 1925. We went to Isabel taking Erma (her sister) and Earl DuSelle (a friend) with us. We had our wedding dinner at home. We started keeping house in our own home the following afternoon. I have all new furniture and am very happy." (I've gotten the impression from letters, etc., that some in the community felt my Dad was too old for Mom—she was 16 when she first met him through mutual acquaintances.)

## PIERRE-FORT PIERRE SOCIETY HOSTS SDGS ANNUAL MEETING

The South Dakota State Genealogical Society (SDGS) held its annual spring meeting on Saturday, April 21, 2001, with the Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society as host. The State GS Board met on Friday evening followed by the business meeting on Saturday at the Pierre Chamber of Commerce building. P-FP Society President Charles Sisk welcomed nearly 50 state society members, guests, and visitors to our city. State President Bob Heesch, Brookings, conducted the business meeting and the election of officers. Attendees were addressed by Eric Bittner of the National Archives Rocky Mountain Region depository in Denver, and LaVera Rose and Marvene Riis of the South Dakota State Archives.

### *Eric Bittner*

Bittner presented an extensive slide show as he explained the mission and resources of the Denver office. He acknowledged that genealogists are the biggest clients of the NARA. NARA has possession of the national census records at its Washington site. Bittner displayed slides of the new NARA building and preservation laboratory located at College Park, Maryland.

The regional record centers began in the 1950's but the Denver branch, located in the Lakewood suburb, did not open until 1969. Because the process of moving relevant records is ongoing, many documents relating to South Dakota still remain in the Kansas City center. The oldest records in NARA-Denver are 1840's records from New Mexico. In addition to census records, the NARA maintains federal land, homestead, naturalization, and court records that genealogist will find useful in their research. Only "permanent" public records are stored by the NARA. These permanent records constitute only about 3% of the documents generated by federal government agencies according to Bittner. The balance of the records are maintained for a set period and then recycled.

### *LaVera Rose*

LaVera Rose described the ongoing efforts of the State Archives and the materials available for genealogy researchers. She provided numerous

(Continued on page 8)





Charles Sisk, PFPGS President



Robert Heesch, SDGS President



Eric Bittner, NARA-Denver



LaVera Rose, SD Archives



Marvene Riis, SD Archives



Lois Wigen, Outgoing SDGS Treasurer

*SDGS  
Annual  
Spring  
Meeting*

*Pierre, SD  
April 21, 2001*



South Dakota Genealogical Society 2001-02 Officers  
Robert Heesch, Laura Glum, Kim Riggen, Georgann Wheeler, Richard Popp

*SDGS  
Annual  
Spring  
Meeting*

*Pierre, SD  
April 21, 2001*



## MEMBERSHIP LIST

The persons listed below have paid Society dues for 2001!

Tom and Pat Adam  
215 W. Broadway Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Steve A. Gomez  
817 N. Central Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Charles Sisk  
216 S. Jefferson Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-3533

Mildred A. Adams  
108 N. Canford Avenue  
Blunt, SD 57522

Yvonne Haefner  
PO Box 481  
Murdo, SD 57559-0481

Adrienne Stepanek  
PO Box 555  
Williston, ND 58802-0555

Karen A. Allan  
320 N. Johnson Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Virginia Hanson  
PO Box 112  
Onida, SD 57564-0112

Darlene Winter  
PO Box 1312  
Holland, MI 49422-1312

Susan Assmus  
100 Village Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501

Gary and Jeanie Hartman  
418 S. Buchanan Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Lloyd Wullweber  
29534 Dry Run Road  
Pierre, SD 57501

Cora Bullis  
PO Box 97  
Pierre, SD 57501-0097

Mark and Deb Hiatt  
1209 E. Cabot Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Laurence J. and Anita M. Zastrow  
PO Box 1005  
Pierre, SD 57501-1005

Christine Dierks  
1212 E. Church Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Robert and Beverly Huckins  
1115 N. Grand Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Genevieve P. Ziegler  
510 N. Madison Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Marjorie H. Gallimore  
PO Box 414  
Pierre, SD 57501

Wayne and Nancy Kirkpatrick  
319 S. Polk Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Cass Gerlach  
1704 E. Erskine Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

Richard A. Phillips  
PO Box 32  
Pierre, SD 57501-0032

Edward and Marianne Girten  
2831 W. 80 Avenue  
Anchorage, AK 99502-4516

Roger and Ardis Ruark  
117 Pasque Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501

Laura and Cindy Glum  
322 S. Van Buren Avenue, #1  
Pierre, SD 57501-3913

Phyllis Schamens  
101 Mercury Street  
Pierre, SD 57501

*Your membership is important  
to the future of the Society!  
Please join us.*

### TREASURER'S REPORT as of May 9, 2001

Balance Brought Forward		<b>\$196.67*</b>
*[A \$2 error was discovered by the treasurer in the information provided for the January/February 2001 newsletter; the balance carried forward should have been \$196.67.]		
Income:		
Dues	<u>\$108.00</u>	
Total Income		\$108.00
Expenses:		
<i>Heritage Quest</i> subscription	<u>\$ 28.00</u>	
Total Expenses		\$ 28.00
Balance Carried Forward		<b>\$276.67</b>

*Jeanie Hartman, Treasurer*



## PUBLISHING ON THE INTERNET

### Introduction

Most of us have been gathering our family genealogy information for several years. If you are like Anita and me, the foundation of the information has been done in the past by a number of individuals. Some was on handwritten family tree charts and family group sheets. Some was in the form of typed information. Anita's paternal grandmother was particularly involved in obtaining genealogy information of the Risseuw family. We acquired a copy of Family Tree Maker for PCs and began entering family data.

After several years of sending letters, making telephone calls, and visiting family reunions, we determined that perhaps the new "online services" might provide some advantages in making contact with more distant relatives. We were some of the first persons in Pierre to sign on to America OnLine (AOL). At first, it required a long distance call to Sioux Falls, then an 800 number became available, and finally a local number was installed for AOL dial-up service.

The only information that I had that seemed to be of interest to the "world" was the genealogy information. I was not the first by any means—it was the wealth of genealogy information that we had found on AOL and the infant Internet that led me to believe that it would provide information that someone, somewhere, might find of interest.

One of the first to contact us was a Mary Risseuw from Illinois, a master genealogist who provided us with mountains of information about the Risseuw ancestors in Zeeland, Netherlands. As more of our relatives have acquired Internet access, we get e-mail from all across the United States, and the world, with corrections and additions. The information received has been well worth the cost of maintaining the website.

### CREATING A GENEALOGY WEBSITE

#### Assembling Your Information

##### *Conversion to Electronic Format*

Hard work and perseverance are the personal qualities needed to be a good genealogist. Lacking either of those qualities, my method is based on marrying a person of Dutch descent, with "good genealogists" in the family, and some other instances of good luck.

Once you have assembled your family data, you must get it into an electronic format. Although one could create HTML (HyperText Markup Language) pages by handcoding, it would be much too difficult and time consuming. The commercial genealogy software programs provide very sophisticated interfaces for entering data and simple methods for exporting to the GEDCOM format, and in some programs, directly to HTML pages.

I use **Family Tree Maker** because that is what I started with years ago. FTM has the capacity to create Web pages but only on the FTM "free" website. You can review

FTM's features at <http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/>.

**PAF—Personal Ancestral File** is published by the Family History Department of the LDS Church. You can download a free copy of versions 4 or 5 from <http://www.ldsacatalog.com/>.

**Legacy Family Tree** from Millennia Software particularly impressed me with its web page creation feature. The demo version is available for free downloading at <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/>.

Another commercial product is **Generations** from Sierra Software. You can review the information sheets at <http://www.sierra.com/>.

**Cyndi's List** website on the web has links to the producers of over 50 genealogy programs at <http://www.cyndislist.com/software.htm>.

What all of these programs provide is the ability to export your family data to a GEDCOM file, the "rosetta stone" for putting genealogy information on the Internet.

#### Planning the Website

##### *Personal Web Server*

I recommend that you create your website on your personal confuser – ah – computer – before you undertake the time and expense of establishing a true Internet website. This will allow you to learn some basics about website construction without tying up the home phone line or adding to your cable bill.

Windows 98 and Windows 2000 contain the software that will turn your home computer into its own INTRAnet. You can build and test your website on your INTRAnet without the frustrations of lost connections or the embarrassment caused when web surfers stumble on your fledgling efforts with broken links and nonexistent photos of your sainted grandmother.

By manipulating the HOSTS file with Windows 98 and 2000, you can give the INTRAnet a name such as [www.zastrow.com](http://www.zastrow.com) or [www.ZastrowFamily.com](http://www.ZastrowFamily.com). After you are satisfied with your effort and are ready to publish it for the world, you will simply UPLOAD the files to the ISP or web-host of your choosing. (More in the next newsletter.)

##### *Building a Home Page*

The entrance to your web site is usually referred to as a "home page", as in, "*just log on to my home page and follow the links to my genealogy pages. My earl is dubya, dubya, dubya dot big shot dot com.*" When you have a home page and an "URL" (pronounced 'earl') you can join the coffee klatch conversations and use techno-speak that others can only hope to someday understand. You won't really need to know what you are talking about, but your friends will be impressed!

The "home page" should describe the contents of the website and contain "hypertext links" that lead to the other pages on your website. The home page serves the same purpose as the cover and title page and table of contents do

*(Continued on page 9)*



## HISTORICAL RECORDS—

### HUGHES COUNTY

Register of Deeds  
104 E. Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501  
605-773-7495  
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm (M - F)

### STANLEY COUNTY

Register of Deeds  
PO Box 596, Fort Pierre, SD 57532-0596  
605-223-2610  
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

### SULLY COUNTY

Register of Deeds  
PO Box 265, Onida, SD 57564-0265  
605-258-2331  
Hours: 8 am - 12 noon; 1 pm - 5 pm (M - F)

BIRTH	1900 to present
DEATH	1900 to present
MARRIAGE	1900 to present
LAND	1882 to present

BIRTH	1877 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1892 to present
LAND	1891 to present

BIRTH	1905 to present
DEATH	1905 to present
MARRIAGE	1905 to present
LAND	

Certified copies of Birth and Death Records are available for \$10 each and Marriage and Divorce Records are available for \$7 each; certified copies of Land Records are available for \$2 each. Regular copies of land records are \$1 each or less if only partial records. Remember, additional limitations making birth records "harder to see" have recently been imposed. Check with your County offices regarding these restrictions as well as any other fees.

## Rapid City Society for Genealogical Research presents

# Genealogy Seminar '01

with a grant from DAR  
featuring

**Judith Eccles Wight**  
speaking on  
**Celtic Heritage**

Also  
Computer and Internet Workshops,  
Beginning Genealogy, Vendors, and more!

**Saturday, October 6, 2001**  
7:55 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Western Dakota Technical Institute  
800 Mickelson Drive, Rapid City (off East Highway 44)

[Potluck 5:30-7:00 p.m. and Ceili (entertainment) 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Friday, October 5]

For more information, contact Elaine Campbell  
at 605-721-6855 or [treelinker@rushmore.com](mailto:treelinker@rushmore.com)



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details of the Native American Archives project. She explained that the State Archives received a special appropriation in 1996 to locate and copy records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs related to South Dakota reservations. The project will make available to South Dakota residents records held by the National Archives otherwise inaccessible to people who cannot travel to Washington. Some 700 rolls of previously-microfilmed records were purchased, and microfilming has begun on several sets of records which include over 100,000 pages of documents. The State Archives now has 1042 rolls of microfilm, 13 collections of unpublished records, and 85 government publications dating from 1824 to 1989. Another 263 rolls of microfilm are held by state university libraries in South Dakota. Additional material will be added to the collection as funds become available.

Records include correspondence and reports of the field agencies in Dakota Territory and South Dakota from 1861 to the early 1900s; Indian censuses from 1880 to 1940; and Army records related to Indian affairs in the region from 1861 to 1891.

#### **Marvene Riis**

Marvene Riis, acting State Archivist, presented a slide show on the activities and mission of the State Archives. She displayed a slide of the oldest original document at the archives, an 1823 letter written by legendary mountain man Hugh Glass. Riis chronicled the handling of original documents held by the State Archives and the efforts to index those documents.

Riis indicated that many ask why the documents are not available on the Internet. Time and budget limit the number of documents, photos, and books that can be digitized and made available electronically. Therefore, priority is being given to indexing the archives in computer databases which will expedite locating relevant materials for genealogists and historians.

State census cards from 1905 through 1945, popular among genealogists, have been re-indexed in the 10-year project. Because of their frequent use, funds are being sought to microfilm them and prevent further deterioration caused by poor paper quality and repeated handling.

Currently the project to microfilm the current 130 weekly and 11 daily South Dakota newspapers

continues at the Springfield prison. Most of the newspapers ever published in South Dakota are available on microfilm, although the search for missing individual editions continues. Two staff members are cataloging the newspaper collection under a NEH grant. Additional funding is being sought to re-film some of the missing and poorly filmed titles.

Cemetery records compiled by the WPA in the 1940's have been updated and corrected by volunteers. Naturalization records from most of the counties have been sent to the State Archives in Pierre, but only 4 counties have been fully indexed according to Riis. As counties commit their old records to microfilm, they are sending the originals to the State Archives. Some are in excellent condition, while others are in serious danger caused by water and moisture damage. Restoration of those materials is a time consuming and expensive process.

The archives include over 100,000 photographs which are routinely accessed for books, articles, and video productions. The archives receives hundreds of photographs and scrapbooks from private citizens, unfortunately many give no clue to the identity of the persons or scenes depicted. Railroad, highway, and city maps and atlases and pamphlets and promotional materials from early South Dakota days are also available. County and town histories, magazines, and newsletters contain materials useful for doing family research at the State Archives.

Riis invited all of those in attendance to utilize the facility, and although the staff can not do research, they will assist in finding the materials that will facilitate an individual's research. She reminded everyone that the Archives are open on the first Saturday of each month to accommodate those who can not visit during the week. She also encouraged the use of the Internet website to familiarize oneself of the materials available at the archives and their usage. Riis encouraged all persons interested in the preservation of these historical documents to support their efforts through public funds and private donations.

—submitted by *Lary Zastrow*

Editor's Note: The three door prizes offered by the P-FP Genealogical Society were won by *Gary Hartman*, Pierre (*Killing Cousins* by Gene Stratton); *Velma M. Grant*, Sioux Falls (Family History Catalog CD); and *Yvonne M. Haefner*, Murdo (*Killing Cousins* by Gene Stratton).



(Continued from page 6)

for a book.

My experience indicates the KISS (keep it simple stupid) principle is the best policy. The addition of cute animated graphics and music consume a lot of preparation time and are of little value to the persons visiting a genealogy website. Most persons are interested in finding a family tie—if that tie does not exist, web surfers are not likely to return to your web pages to gaze in amazement at your spinning e-mail graphic or your java script drop-down menus.

If you wish to learn more about HTML or java programming, then by all means use whatever techniques you learn that improve the visitor's experience. Do not use a technique simply because it can be done—no one likes a website that takes forever to load huge graphics or complex program code before it can be viewed.

### **Web Page Content**

Now you must decide what information you want to make available. You may start out simply posting a list of surnames that you are researching. Then you could add an outline of the various families on whom you have compiled information. Once you are comfortable creating and adding files to your website, you will likely include your entire genealogy family file online.

If you have old family photos you wish to publish, you will need to have them scanned, sized, and formatted for Internet delivery. Documents such as naturalization papers, ship logs, land deeds, wills, and similar historical documents can be posted as "graphics."

### **Privacy Issues**

As you decide what to publish on the Internet, remember your family members' sensibilities and their right to privacy before you place it online. There are several articles on the topic of privacy which will give several different points of view and offer advice. There are software utilities which easily remove birth and marriage information about living individuals. I use **Res Privata** and find it easy to use with several options on which—and how much—data to remove from birth and/or marriage information.

### **Creating HTML from Genealogy Software**

Depending on the genealogy software you are using (read the manual), you may be able to generate the HTML files in a variety of formats.

### **GEDCOM to HTML Conversion**

If you are not satisfied with the web publishing of your genealogy program you have several alternatives. Convert your file to GEDCOM, then use one of the following programs to convert the GEDCOM into HTML web pages for your site. The latest standard for GEDCOM is version 5.5; your software may or may not support that standard. Just make sure that the conversion

version you choose is supported by both programs.

Some of the GEDCOM to HTML conversion programs are: GED2HTML; Ged2Web; GED2WWW; Ged4Web; GedHTree; Gedpage; HTML2GED. You should view samples of the output files of each to determine the look you like best. Although each of these listed conversion programs can be downloaded and used, all of the options are not available unless you pay the license fee and receive a password to unlock those features.

### **Uploading the Pages**

After the HTML files are created, you will need to "upload" them to your INTRANet. This will allow you to view them with your internet browser for appearance and testing. This simply involves copying or moving the files from the location where the conversion software (or you) chose to create them. Then settle back and admire your creation (or disaster) with a critical eye. Make sure the links are correct, i.e., the link from Aunt Matilda in the name list transports you to Aunt Matilda's family page.

### **Enhancing the Pages**

If you are inclined to immediately publish your new genealogy files to the INTERNET, go to the GETTING ON THE INTERNET section which will appear in the next issue. You will want to add explanatory text, historical narratives, photos, and documents to the website. To do this will require that you use some form of HTML editor.

There are several commercial software packages on the market now that help you enhance your website. If you are using AOL, it provides "free" tools to work with web pages. Look for AOL Press & AOL Server.

If you use the Netscape browser, it has a built-in editor which is remarkably good. If you use Corel Word Perfect, you will have access to a "lite" version of the Trellix HTML editor. MS Office includes a program called FrontPage Express. Adobe has an editor called PageMill which it includes as a demonstration version on its other software program CDs.

I have used **Microsoft FrontPage** since it was issued as version 1.1. FrontPage is a WYS WYG page editor and a site manager. Other HTML editors are HomeSite, Hot Dog, HoTMetal Pro, and HTML Author which have some versions available as a download.

Use your editor to change typestyles, add graphics, add additional pages, create links and navigation bars. With some editors, e.g., FrontPage, you are able to add "themes" that will change the entire look of the website pages.

*(To be continued in the July/August Newsletter)*

[This article is taken from the script of the March, 2001 program presented by *Lary Zastrow*, Society member.]



(Continued from page 2)

names of Gomez and Fernandez (Steve's grandmother's name) were on many of the vaults, his cousin easily identified those vaults where his relatives remains rested.

Steve described his efforts to determine the age of the stone house where his father had been born. He learned that his Gomez family had been in Hazas de Cesto since the 1100's but no one had any details on when the stone and stucco Gomez house was built. From the town records they could only determine that it had been in existence 200 years before.

Gomez briefed Society members on the Basque peoples that reside in the Pyrennees mountains that separate Spain and France. History records that no nation had ever conquered the proud and independent Basques. Many of the Basque shepherders who emigrated to the western United States were incorrectly identified as "Mexicans" according to Gomez. Other Basques, his father among them, came to the United States as miners. Gomez' father came in 1911 to work in the copper mines in Jerome, Arizona. When those mines were exhausted, the family moved to southwestern Colorado and then to Lead, South Dakota where Steve grew up.

Steve entertained the group with his colorful description of driving through the mountains and serving as a "medical interpreter" when members of the traveling group were hospitalized after an automobile accident. In addition to the many pictures and maps, Steve exhibited the goat skins and wine flasks made from cattle horns that he had obtained in the land of his ancestors.

—submitted by *Lary Zastrow*



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## Family Tree Maker Configuration Utility

Did you know that you can change the appearance of FTM in ways not available through FTM itself. These items are set through a file known as FTM.INI which FTM "reads" each time the program is started. You can use a text editor to change the file (such as the Windows NotePad) but you will find a large number of options, the meaning of which are unclear. In addition, there are many options that can be added but are not documented in the FTM manual. Many of these options, changes, and additions are discussed on the FTM Discussion List to remedy problems users have encountered.

One FTM user has attempted to unlock the secrets of this important file. Mark Stoughton has created The Family Tree Maker Configuration Utility to make changing settings in the FTW.INI file easier. It works with versions of Family Tree Maker 2.0 and above. He has placed the download file on his internet site and made it available at no charge—just recognition of his effort. The download URL is <http://FTWConfig.tripod.com/FTWConfig.exe>; but first read the installation and use instructions at <http://FTWConfig.tripod.com/>.

The Family Tree Maker Configuration Utility is not produced by, nor has been tested or endorsed by Brøderbund, the producers of Family Tree Maker (but should be in this writer's opinion). The **FTMConfig** provides a safe way to change the configuration of your Family Tree Maker program. It does not change your family data in any way, nor does it change the Family Tree Maker program, other than changing settings in the FTW.INI file. The original INI file is saved, so that if changes don't work, the original setting can be easily restored.

**FTMConfig** works only with Windows 95, 98 or Windows NT 3.5 & 4.0 or Windows 2000. It does NOT work with Windows 3.0, 3.1 OR Windows for Workgroups 3.11. It requires a screen resolution of 800 x 600 or greater and Family Tree Maker Software (by Brøderbund) Versions 2.0 or greater. Mark has tested it with Family Tree Maker version 5.0 through 7.5, and I have successfully used it with version 8 although not all of the options seemed to work with FTM 8. Mark advises that this is also true when running it with Windows versions of Family Tree Maker 2 through 5.

Mark has made his program freely available and you may pass on copies to your friends. If you use it, I suggest that you email Mark at [FTWConfig@hotmail.com](mailto:FTWConfig@hotmail.com) and express your gratitude for his efforts.

—submitted by *Lary Zastrow*



## GENEALOGIST'S POX

### WARNING:

Very contagious to adults.

### SYMPTOMS:

Continual complaint as to need for names, dates, and places. Patient has a blank expression, sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses. Has compulsion to write letters. Swears at mailman when he doesn't leave mail. Frequents places such as cemeteries, ruins, and remote, desolate country areas. Makes secret night calls, hides phone bills from spouse, and mumbles to self. Has a strange, faraway look in eyes.

### NO KNOWN CURE.

### TREATMENT:

Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines, and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can be alone.

### REMARKS:

The unusual nature of this disease is—the sicker the patient gets, the more he or she enjoys it!

—Author Unknown [contributed by Chris Dierks]

## LIBRARY HOURS

### RAWLINS LIBRARY

Monday-Thursday ..... 9 am - 9 pm  
Friday ..... 9 am - 6 pm  
Saturday ..... 10 am - 6 pm  
Sunday ..... 1 pm - 5 pm

### STATE LIBRARY

Monday-Friday ..... 8 am - 5 pm  
Saturday-Sunday ..... Closed

### STATE ARCHIVES

Monday-Friday ..... 9 am - 4:30 pm  
First Sat. of Month ..... 9 am - 4:30 pm

### FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Tuesday ..... 1 pm - 5 pm  
Wednesday ..... 1 pm - 9 pm  
Thursday-Friday ..... 7 pm - 9 pm  
Saturday ..... 10 am - 2 pm

[Closed on holidays—please check schedule.]

*Remember that the State Archives is also open  
on the first Saturday of each month to  
be of assistance to patrons.*

## PIERRE-FORT PIERRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY PO BOX 925, PIERRE, SD 57501-0925

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Sumnames Being Researched—

Brief Statement of Current Status and/or Focus of Research—

DUES \_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$12)



# CALENDAR

- Jun 19 Regular **Monthly Meeting**, The Rawlins Library, 7:45 p.m.  
Beverly Lewis, Library Director, as guest speaker  
NOTE CHANGE OF TIME!
- Jul/Aug** Third Quarterly 2001 Newsletter to be published!
- Jul 17 Regular **Monthly Meeting**, 7 p.m., LDS Church  
Member sharing of "Ancestors' Military Service to our Country" with stories, photos, etc.
- Jul 19-22 *Germans from Russia Heritage Society International Convention*, Pierre  
Contact Del Paulson for information at 605-224-5722 or dpaul60910@aol.com  
[Kuchen making, waltz/polka lessons, computer sessions, heirloom displays and more!]
- Aug 21 Annual Picnic
- Oct/Nov** Fourth Quarterly 2001 Newsletter to be published!
- Oct 5-6 **SDGS Fall Meeting**, Western Dakota Technical Institute, Rapid City  
[Hosted by the Rapid City Society for Genealogical Research]

*"Genealogy is like love! It's best when shared with another."*

**PIERRE-FORT PIERRE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**PO BOX 925**  
**PIERRE SD 57501-0925**