

Family History Newsletter

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The Family History Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.

Find us on the web:

www.mapleridgemuseum.org

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Subscriptions are a benefit of membership in the Maple Ridge Historical Society. Please send membership applications, with \$20 to the Maple Ridge Historical Society.

Family History Group Meetings

The December meeting will be December 5, 2012.

Canada's Voters Lists 1935–1980

By Annette Fulford

http://www.ancestry.ca/cavoterslists?o_xid=52466&o_lid=52466&osch=Email

Ancestry unveiled its latest database at the beginning of October. Eager to see what I could find, I began looking for family members. This new database is searchable by first and middle name, last name, location, year, keyword or by gender. It includes the following general election years: 1935, 1940, 1945, 1949, 1953, 1957, 1962, 1963, 1965, 1968, 1972, 1974, 1979 and 1980. The records for 1979 and 1980 are browsable only at this time.

They used optical character recognition software to index the information. It tends to misspell names depending on the clarity of the letters on a page. If you family has a common name then you will most likely find them by scanning the results for the location they live first. The years I wasn't able to locate the family was usually because their name was misspelled on the voters list or in the index at Ancestry.

The results are organized by the polling district for each province. However, there is no index of places or towns within each district. If I had to browse the records to locate someone, I just

picked a location that was closest to the place I wanted to find. Or if I was lucky, I found the town by locating another person I knew would be living in the same town or by advancing the pages in the district of choice like you would on microfilm.

I located my maternal grandparents in the 1940 Voters list at Langley Prairie, BC. They arrived in BC in 1936. Their son came in 1932 so he shows up in a Vancouver Voters list for 1935. I had a hard time trying to locate my grandparents in the 1935 lists in Saskatchewan so I tried alternative spellings for their surname and finally found them at Pangman, Saskatchewan with their eldest son John.

I located my paternal grandparents in the 1945 Voters list in Milner (Langley, BC). The family came to BC in 1942 so they show up in the next available voters list. I wasn't able to locate them in Saskatchewan until I scrolled through the pages and found Chelan, SK. Their surname was spelled wrong.

I found my parents and maternal grandmother in the 1963 Voters list in Burnaby at 7026 Waverley Avenue. This was the year I was born so I put the address in Google maps and was able to look at the house. It's still the same house we lived in. It looks like it hasn't changed at all. I have photos of the house and

Be sure to read the Maple Ridge Historical Society Newsletters:

http://www.mapleridgemuseum.org/05_society/05_06_mrhs_newsletters.html

several of me sitting on the front steps with a big stuffed panda bear nearby. I hadn't really thought about one of my first homes. It was interesting to see that the house is near Metrotown.

I located a family friend (who was like a grandfather to me). I had no idea where he lived prior to his life with us. He was easily found by his full name Karl Sten Pederson in the 1957 Salmon Arm voter list and in the Fraser Canyon in 1962. He was subsequently found in additional directories but his name was misspelled.

At our last meeting Brenda told us that she checked the Vancouver directories for her great grannie Louisa Nock and that she was found missing in 1935 for a few years. We are happy to report she has been located in North Vancouver at Westview in the 1935 Voters list. Now Brenda has a place to search for her in the directories. I'm sure if she goes missing again we will be able to locate her in subsequent lists.

Online Resources

New At Family Search

Most of these are indexed with digital images included.

- California, County Marriages, 1850-1952
- Iowa, Births and Christenings, 1830-1950
- Louisiana, New Orleans Passenger Lists, 1820-1945
- Louisiana, First Registration Draft Cards, 1940-1945
- New Hampshire, Death Records, 1654-1947

- New York, County Marriages, 1908-1935
- Tennessee, County Marriages, 1790-1950
- Virginia, Surry County Marriage Records, 1735-1950
- Wisconsin, Birth Index, 1820-1907
- Chile, Civil Registration, 1885-1903
- Costa Rica, Church Records, 1595-1992
- England, Cheshire, School Records, 1796-1950
- England, Cheshire, Marriage Bonds and Allegations, 1606-1900
- England, Cheshire, Land Tax Assessments, 1778-1832
- Austria, Vienna Population Cards, 1850-1896
- Hungary, Civil Registration, 1895-1980
- Italy, Waldensian Evangelical Church Records, 1679-1969
- Poland, Roman Catholic Church Books, 1600-1950
- Slovakia, Church and Synagogue Books, 1592-1910

New at Ancestry

www.ancestry.ca

- Canada, Nominal Rolls and Paylists for the Volunteer Militia, 1857-1922
- Canada, Military Honours and Awards Citation Cards, 1900-1961

Family History Events

Abbotsford Genealogical Society

Scottish Roots, with Lorraine Irving. Tuesday, November 20, 2012, 6:30 pm. Location: Clearbrook Library. Fee: Free.

BCGS

BCGS General Meeting: War of 1812, with Judith Ueland and M. Diane Rogers. Wednesday, November 14, 2012, 7:30 pm – 10:00pm. Edmonds Community Centre, Burnaby, BC. Fee: Free.

Surrey Libraries

5642-176A Street, Surrey offers free orientations the 1st Saturday of every month 10:00 – 10:50am.

- **Fourth Annual Family History Show & Tell!**, Saturday Nov 24, 2012, 10:30am-12:30pm.

Fee: free. Donations welcome.

Pre-registration is required – please check the Family History section of the Surrey Libraries website www.spl.surrey.bc.ca or call us at 604-598-7328.

Vancouver Public Library

Central Library, 350 West Georgia Street.

- **How to Research Your Vancouver Home Using Online Resources**, Tuesday, November 20, 2012, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm. Registration is required. Fee: Free.
- **Wired for Learning. Personal Digital Archiving: Safeguarding your digital assets**, Thursday, Nov 29, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Registration required Training Zone, Level 5. Fee: Free.
- **British Columbia – A New Historical Atlas** with Derek Hayes, Monday, December 3, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm, Central Library. Fee: Free.