

Waterford Genie Notes
The E-Letter of the Waterford Genealogical Society
Irv Rabideau & Amy Slagle, Co-Editors

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Transitioning Again

With the next issue the time is here for Amy to resume her role as sole editor of *Waterford Genie Notes*. This is my last issue as co-editor. It's been a pleasure. I've enjoyed writing the little snippets included in each issue almost as much as I've enjoyed the search for the information I hoped you might find useful and sometimes entertaining. As time permits I've promised to try to contribute a little something for future issues. Amy will be in total charge again beginning with volume 4, issue number 13. I know she will appreciate receiving your contributions. Send them to her at aslagle@pasty.com. Well it's been fun. Thank you for all your help.

Irv

WGS Meeting Wednesday July 2, 2008

The next meeting of the Waterford Genealogical Society will be held on July 2, 2008 from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

Sandy Kinter reprises her April Lock-In talk, Researching British and Scottish Peerages, with a new PowerPoint presentation. Part of her talk will discuss available books for peerage research and which books are trustworthy. She will also discuss using the internet for peerage research and delineate reliable sites. The PowerPoint presentation will provide visual examples of research results. In addition Sandy will have some of her favorite books with her for you to examine. While not too many of us have peerages in our family line, or at least think we don't think we do (you may be surprised, see "How Royal Progeny Came to America" below), this talk provides examples of basic historical research that we all can utilize.

2008 WGS Meeting Schedule		
Date	Topic	Presenter
July 2	Researching British & Scottish Peerages	Sandy Kinter
July 16	Roundtable	
Aug 6	Research at the Waterford Library (date uncertain)	Jean Hansen
Aug 20	Research at the Waterford Library (date uncertain)	Jean Hansen
Sep 3		
Sep 17		
Contact Fern McFarlane, our program chairperson, at fernmcfarlane@aol.com for more information or program ideas.		

Evening Meetings

For those genealogists who cannot attend the afternoon meetings, WGS meets on the second Thursday of each month during the school year from September through June in the evening from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. This year's meeting dates are as follows:

2008 Meetings: September 11th, October 9th, November 13th, December 11th.

No Meetings: July & August

Membership Information

Membership information and forms may be found at the end of this newsletter.

Your Help is Needed

If you take a look at the last page of this e-letter you will see there are four vacancies among the list of WGS Officers & Committee Chairs: 1. Corresponding-Secretary; 2. Computer Training; 3. Hospitality; and 4. Web-Master. Successful, vibrant organizations are the result of committed volunteers. So don't be like a bump on a log and just sit there, instead please consider practicing a little of the great genealogy trait found in all of us and give of yourself by lending a hand. WGS needs your help. Please consider volunteering for one of these offices.

WGS Presents the Waterford Public Library with New Books and CD-ROMs

The following items have been purchased and given to the library for its genealogy collection. They should be available for use about August 1st.

- Robert W. Barnes. *Missing Relatives and Lost Friends*. [Contains advertisements from scores of newspapers published in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Virginia, as well as a few from New York and the District of Columbia, dating from 1719 to the early 1800s.]
- Albert Stillman Batchellor. *Probate Records of the Province of New Hampshire 1635-1771*. CD-ROM
- Peter Wilson Coldham. *British Emigrants in Bondage, 1614-1788*. CD-ROM
- Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis. *Jamestowne Ancestors 1607-1699 Commemoration of the 400th Anniversary of the Landing at James Towne 1607-2007*.
- David Dobson. *Scottish Immigrants to North America, 1600s-1800s, The Collected Works of David Dobson*. CD-ROM
- John Frederick Dorman, editor. *Adventurers of Purse and Person Virginia 1607-1624/25*. Fourth Edition. Volume Three, Families R-Z
- Berthold Fernow. *[New York] Calendar of Wills on File and Recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, of the County Clerk at Albany, and of the Secretary of State, 1626-1836*.
- *Kentucky Land Records, 1774-1924*. CD-ROM
- Denise Larson. *Companions of Champlain: Founding Families of Quebec, 1608-1635*.
- Martha W. McCartney. *Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers, 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary*.
- John W. Pritchett. *Southside Virginia Genealogies*. CD-ROM
- Terrence M. Punch. *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853*.
- Jacquelyn Ladd Ricker. *The Ricker Compilation of Vital Records of Early Connecticut: Based on the Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records and Other Statistical Sources*. CD-ROM
- Christina K. Schaefer. *A Guide to Genealogical Research at the National Archives*.
- Carl Schlegel. *Schlegel's American Families of German Ancestry in the United States*. 4 vols.
- Clifford Neal Smith. *Federal Land Series*. 4 vols.

How Royal Progeny Came to America

The system of primogeniture, the medieval practice of passing down a title and its holdings to one's eldest son (or daughter), accounts for the fact that many Americans have royal or noble ancestors. For example, the millions of descendants of the 688 immigrant ancestors discussed in the 2008 edition of Gary Boyd Roberts' book, *Royal Descents of 600 Immigrants* ("RD 600"), share royal ancestry because of a pattern of social leveling common to most

Western European nations. Second and subsequent sons or daughters of kings became or married nobles. Younger sons or daughters of the nobility became or married "gentry"--knights, manorial lords, gentlemen with coats-of-arms, baronets, lairds, and seigneurs. The younger children of the gentry became or married merchants, clergymen, Puritan or Huguenot leaders, university fellows, bureaucrats, or professional soldiers. Left with few alternatives on the social ladder, members of these last groups, or their younger sons and daughters, immigrated to the American colonies and later to the U.S.

So the younger children of kings became nobles, younger children of nobles became gentry, younger children of gentry became professionals, and the children of professionals often came to America. In fact, Mr. Roberts' 688 immigrants of royal descent link millions of modern Americans to the ancient and medieval world. These immigrants also link a likely majority of middle-class suburbanites to most of European nobility--noble leaders of the French Revolution, early Spanish conquistadors, Italian Renaissance princes, Polish and Hungarian nobles (in each country all landowners were noble), princely Austrian conservatives, Prussian Junker generals, the Vasas of Sweden, the Romanoffs of Russia, and the princely Russian intelligencia were also descended from Plantagenet (English), Capetian (French), and Hohenstaufen (German) rulers of the era 1200 to 1400.

Readers finding immigrant ancestors in "RD 600" can thus connect personally to a large chunk of world history. Readers will encounter examples of recent immigrants from several of the just-mentioned European groups, plus American descendants of such figures as Lucretia Borgia, Hernando Cortez, and Peter Paul Rubens. Distant European cousins who came to America recently include the German rocket scientist Wernher von Braun, actress Audrey Hepburn (whose mother was a Belgian baroness), the Swede Dag Hammarskjold (Secretary-General of the United Nations and long a New Yorker), the Czech Mazaryks, and British writers P. G. Wodehouse, Aldous Huxley, and Noel Coward.

The typical contemporary American has either colonial ancestry that probably includes one or more of these 688 immigrants or has children-in-law or brothers- or sisters-in-law with such ancestry. The distribution of the royally descended colonial immigrants who left notable American progeny, moreover, was almost evenly divided among the colonial regions of New England, the mid-Atlantic, and the Southern colonies. "RD 600" is thus not only useful to many genealogists; it is also relevant to much of the nation, and it connects many of us with Europe, the medieval and ancient worlds, and, perhaps most importantly, with each other. Anthropologists tell us, perhaps mistakenly, that everyone on the planet is a 40th cousin. This volume suggests that the kinships between Americans, Europeans, and European-derived peoples may be much closer (20th, 15th, or even as close as 10th cousins). *Royal Descents of 600 Immigrants* is perhaps the major published work to date to suggest this scope and degree of world kinship. From *Genealogy Pointers* (06-24-08):

http://www.genealogical.com/newsletters/genealogy_pointers_6-24-08.pdf

Americans with royal or noble ancestors also abound in the following works:

- Richardson, Douglas. *Magna Carta Ancestry: A Study in Colonial and Medieval Families*. (Waterford Library Call No: REF GENEALOGY 929.72 R)
- Richardson, Douglas. *Plantagenet Ancestry: A Study in Colonial and Medieval Families*. (Waterford Library Call No: REF GENEALOGY 929.209 R)
- Dorman, John Frederick. *Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia, 1607-1624/5*. (Waterford Library Call No: REF GENEALOGY 929.3755 D)
- Russell, George Ely, ed. *The Ark and the Dove Adventurers*. (Waterford Library Call No: REF GENEALOGY 929.3752 A)

All About Genealogy Blogs

Thomas Kemp recently wrote about genealogy blogs for *Genealib* on June 18, 2008. *Genealib* is a listserv for genealogy librarians. Here's what he had to say:

A genealogy blog? What's that? Read about it at:

<http://blog.genealogybank.com/2008/06/genealogy-blog-whats-that.html>.

A "blog" is one of those made up words coined by the Internet. For *Wikipedia's* definition go to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blog>. Think of a genealogy blog as a telegram service keeping you up to date on all possible aspects of genealogy. These could be brief postcard size updates on what the writer has been researching; breaking news in the field; or a mini-lecture – giving you a quick lesson on some genealogical record source. Blogs are a quick and painless way to stay informed and to upgrade your family history research skills.

I have been posting news stories and tips (blogging) since the 1990s and use my blog to share breaking news and research tips. In many ways I feel like a genealogy news reporter and I really love it when my blog is the first to report on a new resource – which we've done many times.

Useful genealogy blogs may be found at:

- GenealogyBank – the Official Blog at <http://blog.genealogybank.com/>
Usually one posting per day, written by yours truly – the focus is on breaking news in genealogy that you will actually use and rely on; genealogy tips as well as targeted news & insights about new content added to GenealogyBank.
- Ancestry Insider at <http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com/>
This well informed blogger's daily posts are focused on Ancestry.com and familysearch.org Knowledgeable and on target it is a must read blog written by an Ancestry employee – BUT it is not an "official" corporate blog.
- DearMYRTLE's Genealogy Blog at <http://blog.dearmyrtle.com/>
DearMYRTLE has been working in genealogy for decades. Her blog is essential reading and can be counted on for breaking news and insight. Count on her to make new resources easy to use and understand.
- Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter at <http://blog.eogn.com/>
Dick Eastman's blog is essential reading. Dick is up to date and knows the field. His blog comes in two flavors – free and a paid version. You'll want to pay the nominal fee and subscribe to his blog - it's worth it.
- Everton Publisher's Genealogy Blog at <http://genealogyblog.com/>
Leland Meitzler posts 3-4 times a week and puts his decades of experience to work in reporting what is happening in genealogy. Leland has the pulse of the field and hey, he's a heck of a nice guy too.
- The Footnote Blog at <http://blog.footnote.com/>
This blogger usually posts 2-3 times a month. The articles are usually brief and focus on the latest developments at Footnote.com – you'll want to read it to keep up with what's new on that site.
- Genealogy Insider at <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/insider/>
Diane Haddad, Editor of Family Tree Magazine is a great blogger. Well informed and with an upbeat writing style. Haddad is essential reading. Don't miss this blog – its terrific.

Huguenots: French Protestants in the New World

Huguenot research may be the key to busting through a colonial era brick wall.

From *Genealogy Pointers* (06-24-08):

http://www.genealogical.com/newsletters/genealogy_pointers_6-24-08.pdf

According to George Reaman's classic book, *The Trail of the Huguenots*, an estimated two million Huguenots (French Protestants) fled France following King Louis XIV's revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. The Huguenots, as Mr. Reaman remarks, "did not establish large French-speaking culture islands within other peoples. Only here and there did a refugee congregation continue to worship in French. They did not form large and homogeneous groups, like the Dutch in South Africa, the Germans in eastern Pennsylvania, or even like the Roman Catholics in eastern Canada [editor's note: Actually there were a large percentage of Huguenots in New France. By law, however, Protestants were not allowed in the colony so the French Protestants were forced to abjure. Even though they outwardly accepted the Roman Catholic faith, many continued their Protestant ways in private services. As time passed children and grandchildren ceased this private Protestantism.] Rather, the Huguenots chose to let themselves merge with the cultural and economic life of their newly adopted lands, accepting the ways and modes of their new homes with eagerness."

One reason for this unique form of dispersion, according to Mr. Reaman, is that "it was not a mass movement of people. Rather it was a steady flow of individuals and families. During the period of this migration it was illegal to flee France; capture meant the gallows. So the border was crossed in secret, not by large conspicuous groups, but by families and individuals; and sometimes even families were broken up."

The Huguenots ultimately dispersed to the Netherlands, England, Ireland, and North America. In this country, Huguenots founded, or figured in the establishment of, early settlements in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, and South Carolina--in some instances even before the English arrived. If your missing links settled in one of the numerous Huguenot jumping-off points in North America during the late 17th or early 18th century, you might have Huguenot ancestry.

The Waterford Library owns a value CD-ROM for tracing Huguenot ancestry. It is *Huguenot Settlers in America, 1600s-1900s* (Waterford Library Call No.: READY REF CD-ROM 929.2 .H58, ask at the Reference Desk). This CD contains the following books:

- Baird, Charles W. *History of the Huguenot Emigration to America*.
- Brock, Robert. *Huguenot Emigration to Virginia and to the Settlement at Manakin-Town*.
- Clute, Robert F. *The Annals and Parish Register of St. Thomas and St. Denis Parish, in South Carolina, from 1680 to 1884*.
- Fosdick, Lucien. *The French Blood in America*.
- Hirsch, Arthur Henry. *The Huguenots of Colonial South Carolina*.
- Koehler, Albert F. *The Huguenots or Early French in New Jersey*.
- Lart, Charles Edmund. *Huguenot Pedigrees*.
- Lawton, Mrs. James. *Family Names of Huguenot Refugees to America*.
- Lee, Grace Lawless. *The Huguenot Settlements in Ireland*.
- Lee, Hannah F. *The Huguenots in France and America*.
- LeFevre, Ralph. *History of New Paltz, New York, and its Old Families*.
- Potter, Elisha R. *Memoir Concerning the French Settlements and French Settlers in the Colony of Rhode Island*.
- Ravenel, Daniel. *List of French and Swiss Who Settled in Charleston, on the Santee, and at the Orange Quarter in Carolina*.
- Reaman, George Elmore. *The Trail of the Huguenots*.
- Smiles, Samuel. *The Huguenots: Their Settlements, Churches, and Industries in England and Ireland*.
- Stapleton, Ammon. *Memorials of Huguenots in America*.

Upcoming Events, Meetings, Conferences

- **17-19 October 2008 – Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan – “Polish Research Seminar”** Celebrating 30 Years – Featuring Łukasz Bielecki and Thaddeus Radzilowski. Information on specific events and registration fees available at <http://www.pgsm.org>

On the Lighter Side



Genealogists enjoy the quiet, serene atmosphere of their local library as a place for research.

Comments to the Editor

Your news and views are valued. Please send them along to: aslagle@pasty.com.

Waterford Genealogical Society Membership

For those who would like to help support the WGS by becoming a member, please complete the following information and send it to the membership chairperson. The annual dues are \$5.00 payable each January.

Please send checks payable to **Waterford Genealogical Society** to:

Dorothy Tyndell
6831 Tangle Wood Ln
Waterford, MI 48327-3511.

Dues may also be paid at a meeting.

If you as a new or a renewing member would be willing and able to hold an office, work on a committee, or volunteer project WGS would appreciate it very much. You may indicate your area of expertise and/or special interests on this membership form. We'll be happy to call you about your desire to help. Thank you.

Please use the form below.

WATERFORD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP New Renewal

Date: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, and Zip: _____

Optional information about you:

Your level of genealogy experience is: Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Do you use a computer to manage your research? Yes No

List surnames and localities of families being researched:

The Waterford Genealogical Society meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

WGS Officers & Committee Chairs:

George Montgomery, President
Betty Guziak, Vice-President
Harry Hague, Treasurer
Gerri Weatherell, Secretary
Corresponding-Secretary, **VACANT**
Ancestor Charts, Betty Guziak
Annual Luncheon, Darlene Grant
Computer Training, **VACANT**
E-Newsletter: Amy Slagle
Hospitality, **VACANT**

Lock-In, Kim Smith & Amy Slagle
Lookups, Dorothy Tyndell
Membership, Dorothy Tyndell
Newbies, Lois Hague
Night Meetings, Cathy Barry-Orth
& Lois Hague
Obits, Judy Allen
Programs, Fern McFarlane
Web-Master, **VACANT**

WGS Meetings:

Meetings are **free** of charge. **Non-members** are welcome to attend. Membership in the society is available with payment of the annual \$5 membership fee. Membership provides voting rights. Contact Dorothy Tyndell, Dortyn@aol.com for more information.

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