

The

Rear View Mirror

"DRIVEN FORWARD, YET LOOKING TO OUR PAST"

FORD GENEALOGY CLUB VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2

It's nearly summer and as we all know June brings out the graduates as well as the brides & grooms. Do you have graduations to attend this year? Weddings?

As many of you know Chuck & I opened our home to our nephew, Joshua, for the past two years. Joshua is, or I should say, was a medical student completing his last two years of education with on the job training here in our area of the state. Well, Josh graduated from Michigan State University in early May. Two years gone by so quickly. Having Joshua in our home brought changes to our daily routine that we welcomed. Now his leaving brings more changes.

While Josh goes on to the next segment of his life as Dr. Joshua June working at a Grand Rapids hospital, we reflect on what's next for us.

Change! It's what life is all about. While not changing is comfy in so many ways, dealing with change enriches us in ways we never thought possible. So change is good for us. It keeps us on our toes. Doing for family, giving time to family, it all enriches our lives.

We as genealogists embrace the details of our family life, be it a graduation, a wedding or even a different event. It brings with it change, new additions to our family, new details and names to be added to our family trees.

2nd QUARTER JUNE 2010

Happy summer to all. Enjoy the warm temps, the gentle breezes and most of all enjoy the changes that happen in our families.

Your prezz, Diane Oslund



**HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE
SUMMER!**

The Ford Genealogy Club

Serving Ford Motor Company Employees and Family since 1995

President	Diane Oslund
Vice President	Karen Krugman
Secretary	Elena Lovelace
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Member Club of FERA

(Ford Employees Recreation Association)

Ford Genealogy Club
P.O. Box 1652
Dearborn, Michigan 48121-1652
<http://fgc.dianesgenealogy.com>

Newsletter archives
http://www.teamfordfirst.org/JWT/Ford_Genealogy_Club-Rear_View_Mirror-Archive

Meetings: 2nd Thursday each month
5:00pm Regular Meeting

Location:
Ford WHQ Conference Room 5A-East
1 American Rd
Dearborn, MI 48126-2701

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Queries Free For Members

Dues \$12 per year, includes our newsletter.

ITEMS FROM OUR LAST 2 MEETINGS

Elections were held and the following were elected for 2010 – 2011:

President	Diane Oslund
Vice President	Karen Krugman
Treasurer	Andrea Ketten
Secretary	Elena Lovelace

Our March 11 speaker was Linus Drog, who spoke on “Now Where Was I?” Linus’ talk was basically on getting your genealogy information organized. He said that all of us have some original method we use and we should use whatever works for us. Linus showed us a traveling notebook he has containing information on every person he is researching, which he uses when he travels to the various libraries. He also discussed books he has made on different family members. In the books he tries to tell a story so that non-genealogy people will understand what they are seeing. It is like a scrapbook on each individual.

On April 8th, Kris Rzepczynski from the Library of Michigan. spoke on “Michigan on the Web.” Kris distributed a pamphlet to each member showing holdings at the Library of Michigan. Michigan eLibrary (MeL) is free to any Michigan resident by using your driver’s license or library card number. There are a number of free Michigan genealogy research sites on the internet such as Seeking Michigan, MIGenWeb, Michigan Genealogical Council, Michigan Biographical Index, and Michigan County Histories.



ODDS AND ENDS

- Not everything is online
- Location and time period critical
- Same strategies for other states
- Remember the library

Kris shared his knowledge on databases that are free; such as

- www.cyndislist.com/mi.htm
- www.co.genesee.mi.us/clerk
- www.kpl.gov;migenweb.net
- www.michigan.gov/1870census
- www.umich.edu/m/micounty
- www.seekingmichigan.org
- www.data.wmgs.org
- www.rootsweb.com

CLUB LIBRARY HOLDINGS

Diane talked about our library. What should we do with it? She suggested that Sharon Brevoort bring the whole library to a meeting in the fall and have the members go through the items. It was suggested that perhaps some of the members may want to purchase some of the items, although many of them are old. They could also be donated. Diane asked the members to think on it. The library will be at the September meeting so bring your money.



SPEAKER FOR MAY 13TH



"Maps for Genealogy: Old, New, and Digital" By Ceil Wendt Jensen. Whether it's finding the family farm on a plat map or the changing borders of a county or country; maps are indispensable. A range of sources, types and uses of maps was covered.

SOLVING A MYSTERY - WHATEVER HAPPENED TO AUNT BEATRICE?

Submitted by Jackie Peters

That is the question my sister-in-law, Rosemary asked when we were discussing grandfather Nisbet and his family. I being the amateur genealogist in the family decided to find out what had indeed happened to my husband's great aunt Beatrice. I knew that Aunt Beatrice had lived here in the metro Detroit area because she had attended our wedding forty-three years ago. A few years later Grandfather Nisbet died and then his daughter, my mother-in-law died three weeks later.

After the funerals, we lost contact with that side of the family. I was on a mission to find Beatrice and using www.ancestry.com, my first step was to try and locate her in the 1930 census. The problem was, I did not know her married name. I input her maiden name, Beatrice Nisbet and up came information with (Nisbet) in parenthesis and her married name, Dickie, listed right there. I could see her family members listed also. From there I was able to find her coming into the country from Scotland through Nova Scotia. Border Crossings from Canada show many people from Scotland coming into the U.S. She immigrated in 1923 with her husband and infant daughter, Margaret age six months.

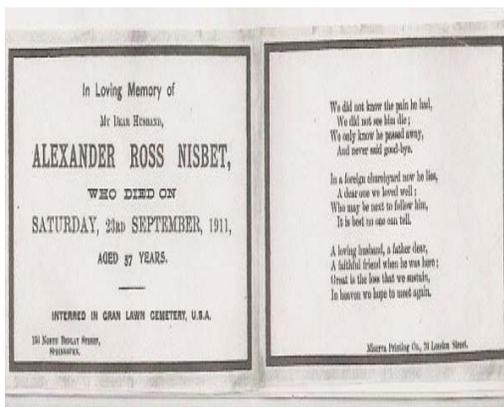
My next goal was to find her death record. Ancestry brought up her death certificate showing she had lived to be one hundred and nine years old. She died in Plymouth, Michigan. I live in Plymouth and I was so upset to learn that we were right here at the same time she was and we never knew it. I decided since she had lived to be one hundred and nine years old it must have made the local news. Off I went to our local library to find her obituary. I hit pay dirt. There was a lengthy article about the life and times of Beatrice Nisbet Dickie. The newspaper had interviewed her daughter Margaret, who was 86 years old and also lived in Plymouth. I looked

Margaret up in the phone book and debated whether or not I should give her a call. I was reluctant to call an elderly lady out of the blue and tell her I knew her family and that my husband was related to her so I did not call.

The next day at my exercise class in Plymouth, I decided to check our class roster, as there are approximately sixty people in the class. Lo and behold but Margaret's name appeared on the list. It turns out I knew Margaret all along. She stood next to me in our classes. Needless to say, we had so much to talk about. We have since shared stories, information and pictures. We learned that my husband's great grandfather (Beatrice's father) came to America alone in 1911 with the intention of bringing his family, but he died suddenly of a heart attack at 57 years old and is buried at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. We now have pictures of my husband's great grandparents and a tape recording of Beatrice speaking of her youth in Scotland with her brothers and sisters.

But most of all, we have a new friend and cousin in Margaret and new names to add to our family tree. It has been a marvelous journey.

Below is a copy of the death notice that was issued from Scotland for Beatrice's dad.



NEWS

The Detroit newspapers have been copied and are now online and available by going to the Burton Collection at the Detroit Public Library, the Library of Michigan or the Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The database is set up with a search box. You type in any surname you like and the search engine will pull up any article in the Detroit paper where that name is mentioned. The name will be in pink so it will be easy to find. The newspapers dated from 1831 to 1922.

Another bit of news is if you cannot find a death record for someone who has died, try checking the Clerk's Office for a Burial Permit/Transit. These documents were issued when a body was moved from one area into another. The paperwork should be in the township/town where the person was buried. If a person died in another country or state a Burial Permit/Transit was issued and it is as good as a death certificate.

IRISH TRUTHS

The 1821, 1831, 1841, and 1851 census records were stored in Dublin. In 1922, rival political factions in Ireland were fighting over whether to accept a treaty with Britain. One group barricaded themselves in the Four Courts Building in Dublin, and the other group attacked it. In an explosion, a fire started and burned all the records.

The Irish government deliberately destroyed the 1861, 1871 1881 and 1891 census records because they "ran out of room to store them." Also, they said there was a paper shortage then.

So, the British are exonerated from these tragedies. The Irish themselves are to blame for losing a priceless part of their heritage!

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