

COLORADO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2008

Serving Genealogists Since 1924

Volume 32, No. 3

CGS Elects Carol Darrow President for 2008-2010

The Colorado Genealogical Society elected Carol Darrow to serve as CGS president for the two-year term beginning July 2008. The election was held at the organization's annual meeting and potluck supper on June 20. Also elected was the 2009 Nominating Committee which includes Roger Dudley, Sandy Carter-Duff, and Gwen Mayer



The Annual Meeting was also the opportunity to honor Nancy Ratay as CGS Volunteer of the Year.

Bobbi King spoke at the Annual Meeting on Nebraska research facilities. Outgoing President Pam Smith was presented with an engraved gavel.

Carol Darrow has been a member of CGS since 2003 and has served as Education Chair since September, 2003 and as editor of the *CGS Newsletter* since 2006. She earned her Certified Genealogist designation from the Board for Certification of Genealogists in May 2005.

Nancy Ratay Honored as CGS Volunteer of the Year

Nancy Ratay was selected as CGS Volunteer of the Year for her commitment as Editor of the *Colorado Genealogist*, the quarterly publication of CGS. Nancy served as Education Coordinator in 2002-2004 and worked with Jan Meeker on the quarterly before becoming Editor of the Quarterly in 2004. Since that time, Nancy has worked diligently to produce a quality publication that reflects strong scholarship and significant research about Colorado ancestors.



In addition to editing the Quarterly, Nancy is

In addition to editing the Quarterly, Nancy is preparing a digital surname index to all back issues of the Quarterly that will be searchable. She also serves as CGS Liaison to the Computer Interest Group and is the workshop leader for Reunion for Mac.

CGS is happy to express its gratitude for all of the volunteer efforts of Nancy Ratay.

CGS Program Meetings Will Offer Extra GEM

Starting with the September 19 program meeting, CGS will be offering twice the program. In addition to a featured speaker, we will have a 20-minute Genealogical Education Module – or GEM for short. The meeting will start at 7 pm with the GEM presentation that could range from a mini case study to a discussion of genealogical software or new websites. Then there will be a short business meeting followed by the featured speaker. All program meetings will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Court, Denver.

On **Friday, Sept. 19**, the featured speaker will be Wendel Cox from DPL who will speak about exciting additions to the Western History Collection. The GEM program will be a mini case study presented by Jan Prater. The meeting will start with an old-fashioned ice cream social at 6:30 pm.

The program speaker on **Friday, Oct. 17** will be Historian Mona Lambrecht who will speak on "Putting History into Your Family History." Mona is a member of the Boulder Genealogical Society.

Then on **Friday, Nov. 21**, Daniel Parker will give a presentation on "New England House History," exploring four Massachusetts houses built prior to 1725 and his personal connection to those houses.

There will be no program meeting in December.

Sign up for E-mail Alerts

Sandy Ronayne has volunteered to serve as E-Mail Captain for CGS. She will automatically add CGS members' e-mail addresses to the Alert list for notification of meetings, classes and tours. If you don't see a message by September 1, please send Sandy an email at sandyronayne@comcast.net and she will add you to the notification list.

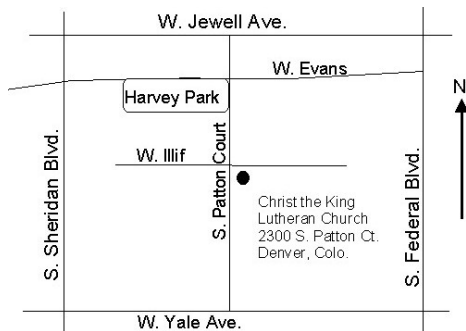
Celebrate CGS New Year with an Ice Cream Social

The CGS program year starts with the September 19 meeting. The evening will kick off with an old-fashioned ice cream social starting at 6:30 pm.

The program will include a mini case study presented by Jan Prater and a featured presentation on the expanding Western History Collection at Denver Public Library by Wendel Cox, librarian.

CGS Meeting Location

Christ the King Lutheran Church
2300 S. Patton Court, Denver



The Colorado Genealogical Society holds its monthly meetings on the third Friday evening of each month (except December, July, and August) at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Court, in Denver. Meetings start at 7 pm. Visitors are always welcome. Come join us!

COLORADO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Editor Carol Darrow, CG
CGS welcomes your input. Address items of interest, news, and tips and tricks for the Colorado genealogical community to the editor at Cdarrow944@aol.com or call (303) 287-6063.

Upcoming CGS Programs & Classes

- Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2008, 10-12 noon: CGS Aches & Pains Tour.** Walking tour of Capitol Hill neighborhood. Meet in front of 1118-1120 Josephine St. at 10 am. Call Karen Shuman 303-759-0331 or Donna Krowen 303-770-4438 for details.
- Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am–3:00 pm.** Lou-Jean Rehn. Learn how to get started in genealogy.
- Friday, Sept. 19, 2008. CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct.** Wendel Cox will present on additions to the Western History Department at DPL. Ice Cream Social starts at 6:30 pm.
- Saturday, Sept. 20, 2008: NO CGS Special Interest Class. Attend Forensic Genealogy lectures at Bemis Library, 6014 S. Datura St. Littleton. Free.** Come early for good seats.
- Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2008, 10-12 noon: CGS Aches & Pains Tour.** Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1111 Washington St., Golden. \$3/admission. Call Karen Shuman 303-759-0331 or Donna Krowen 303-770-4438 for details.
- Saturday, Oct. 11, 2008: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Learn how to get started in genealogy.
- Friday, Oct. 17, 2008: CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct.** Historian Mona Lambrecht will speak on “Putting History into Your Family History.”
- Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008: CGS Special Interest Class, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am–1:00 pm.** “Census Records—Squeezing Them For All They’re Worth.” Lou-Jean Rehn. (Library closes at 2 pm today.)
- Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2008, time TBD. CGS Aches & Pains Tour.** Ghost Tour of Brown Palace Hotel. \$2/person. Limit 25. Call Karen Shuman 303-759-0331 or Donna Krowen 303-770-4438 for details.
- Saturday, Nov. 8, 2008: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Learn how to get started in genealogy.
- Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008: CGS Special Interest Class, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – noon.** Bobbi King will discuss the history of the rectangular land survey and land platting in public land states. Hands-on activity from 1 pm – 3 pm.
- Friday, Nov. 21, 2008: CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct.** Daniel O. Parker will discuss the house history of four historic Massachusetts homes.
- Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2008, 10-12 noon: CGS Aches & Pains Tour.** Tour Governor’s Mansion Christmas decorations. Free. Call Karen Shuman 303-759-0331 or Donna Krowen 303-770-4438 for details.
- Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Learn how to get started in genealogy.
- No CGS Program Meeting and No Special Interest Class in**

Forensic Genealogy Seminar scheduled at Bemis Library Sept. 20

Colleen Fitzpatrick, best-selling author and genealogist, will present two free lectures at Bemis Public Library, 6014 S. Datura St. in Littleton on Saturday, Sept. 20.

Fitzpatrick will present from 10:30 am – noon on “The Genealogy Detective” including new approaches to identifying old photographs and how-to’s on pulling the best information from Internet databases.

The afternoon session, from 1:30 – 3 pm, will cover the latest information on the use of DNA for tracing your family history and how DNA research can be combined with paper genealogy to solve genealogical mysteries.

Colleen Fitzpatrick is the author of *Forensic Genealogy* and co-author of its sequel, *DNA & Genealogy*. She has been featured on National Public Radio and in the *Wall Street Journal*.

The lectures are being presented jointly by the Columbine Genealogical & Historical Society and the Bemis Public Library and are free. For more information, contact the library at 303-795-3961. Seating is limited, so please arrive early.

Special Interest Classes start on Oct. 18 at DPL

CGS will start its fall schedule of Special Interest classes, held on the third Saturday of most months, with the Oct. 18 class at the downtown Denver Public Library. In September we urge you to take advantage of the free Forensic Genealogy seminar at the Bemis Library.

On **Saturday, Oct. 18**, 10 am – 1 pm, Lou-Jean Rehn will present “Census Records – Squeezing Them For All They’re Worth.” Learn how to gather the wealth of information in the census record and practice effective ways to use the information to further your research. Due to the Booklovers’ Ball, this class will end at 1:00 pm with no lunch break. The library closes at 2 pm on this date.

On **Saturday, Nov. 15**, 10 am – noon, the topic will be “History of the Rectangular Land Survey” and land platting in public land states presented by Bobbi King. After lunch there will be hands-on practice in land platting in public land states.

No Special Interest Class in December. Happy Holidays!

Beginning Genealogy is a great place to start

No matter whether you are new to genealogy or have been researching your family for years, you are sure to learn some new approaches to your research from the free Beginning Genealogy class, offered on the second Saturday of each month (except July and August), 10 am – 3 pm with a one-hour lunch break. Lou-Jean Rehn, CG, is the instructor.

New websites are becoming available and Lou-Jean includes these new resources and reviews the tried and tested techniques for getting started in research and for correcting missteps that may have lead you astray.

Aches & Pains Tours offer a walk through history

Aches & Pains Tours are walking tours of local Denver-area historical or genealogical sites. The tours are generally scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month from 10 am – noon. At times, some schedule changes are necessary. Check the schedule on page 2 for actual dates and times. The tours usually end with an optional lunch as a group after the tour.

The first Aches & Pains tour of the year on **Wednesday, Sept. 3** will be a visit to a Capitol Hill neighborhood. The group will meet at 1118-1120 Josephine St. at 10 am. Be sure to wear comfortable shoes for the three-block stroll in this historic neighborhood. Parking is available around Congress Park and the Botanic Gardens.

On **Wednesday, Oct. 1**, the group will tour the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, 1111 Washington St., Golden. There is a \$3 admission charge for a group of 10.

Then on **Wednesday, Oct. 29**, Aches & Pains will have a Ghost Tour of the Brown Palace Hotel in downtown Denver. There will be a \$2 charge for this tour. Please bring exact change. The group is limited to 25 people so registration is a must.

The final tour for 2008 will be a visit to the Governor’s Mansion to view the Christmas decorations. The tour is set for **Wednesday, Dec. 10** and is free.

Call Karen Shuman at 303-759-0331 or Donna Krown at 303-770-4438 for more details and exact starting times and meeting locations. Advance registration is necessary so that we can let you know about any changes due to weather.

Beginners' Corner

Beginners are always urged to get the birth and death certificates for the members of their immediate family. Although the federal government required birth and death registration in 1913, both official certificates were not regularly kept by all county governments until about 1920.

Today, because of concerns about identity theft, many states are limiting access, especially to birth certificates that could be used to establish an illegal identity. Death certificates are more readily available but often the requestor is required to send a photocopy of a driver's license to establish their own identity. There are also states that require the requestor to be a direct descendant of the deceased. Colorado is such a state.

Here are the steps that will lead you to that vital record necessary for your research:

1. Figure out the county *as it was* at the time of the birth or death. Remember Broomfield was in Boulder County until 2001. A quick way to do this is to go to www.epodunk.com and enter the town and the state. The county will be supplied.
2. Narrow down the year of death. Some counties charge more if they have to do an extended search over several years.
3. Go to the Internet and Google "Pennsylvania Death Certificates," for example.
4. DO NOT use the ChekVitalRecords link that will come up. They charge an extra fee of \$25 plus the fee charged by the county.
5. DO look for the State Department of Health in the state of interest.
6. Read the directions for requesting a birth or death certificate. If necessary, call the phone number listed on the website for more information.
7. Print out the online form or write a letter requesting the certificate.
8. Most websites will tell you what the fee is – usually \$5 to \$15 for each certificate.
9. Many will require some identification, usually a photocopy of your driver's license.
10. Most require that you identify your relationship to the deceased person.
11. Some may require that you include a business size self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) with your request.
12. Be sure to include your complete name, mailing address, telephone number and email, if you have one, on both the letter and the SASE.

Got a topic for Beginners' Corner? Drop an email to: cdarrow944@aol.com

Genealogy Happenings Around Colorado

Fairmount Cemetery Open House, Sept. 20 & 21, 2008, 10 am – 5 pm. Free. Guided history tours, tree and architecture walking tours, living history portrayals, and tombstone preservation tips.

Forensic Genealogy Seminar, Sept. 20, 2008. 10:30 am – 3:00 pm. Free. Bemis Public Library, 6014 S. Datura St., Littleton. Featuring Colleen Fitzpatrick.

Black Genealogical Study Group Family Festival, Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008. Free. Michael T. O'Neill Sr. Community Room, District 2 Police Station, 3921 Holly St., Denver. Rob Richards, NARA archivist, will speak on slave manifests in the morning. Dr. Polly McLean, professor at CU-Boulder in journalism and mass communications, will present an afternoon workshop.

Riverside Cemetery History & Mystery Night, Saturday, Oct. 11, 2008, 7 pm. \$12/person. Guided walking tour. Bring your own flashlight.

Golden Cemetery Ghost Tour, Oct. 25 & 26, one-hour tours starting at 1 pm – 4 pm. \$15/person.

Palatines to America Annual Fall Seminar and German Dinner. Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008. Dr. Roland Paul, German archivist, speaker.

W.I.S.E. Seminar on Irish Research, Saturday Nov. 8, 2008, 9:30 am – 4 pm, at DPL featuring Dr. James G. Ryan of Dublin on basic Irish genealogy, Irish Catholic records, and online resources for Irish research. \$25/in advance, \$30/after Nov. 1.

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, Jan. 12-16, 2009.

One course for a week of in-depth instruction by some of the finest presenters in the country. Radisson Hotel in Salt Lake City, near the Family History Library.

CGS Annual Seminar, Feb. 20 & 21, 2009. DPL

Foothills Research Trip to Salt Lake City, April 13-19, 2009.

Columbine Research Trip to Salt Lake City, April 28-May 3, 2009.

NGS Conference in the States, May 13-16, 2009, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Computer Interest Group (C.I.G.)

(a Special Interest Group of CGS)

Meets on 2nd Monday Night of Each Month

at Christ the King Lutheran Church

2300 S. Patton Court, Denver

Visitors Welcome