

COLORADO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

February 2010

Meeting Locally, Researching Globally

Volume 34, No. 1

D. Joshua Taylor to Headline CGS Seminar

D. Joshua “Josh” Taylor will be the featured speaker at the Colorado Genealogical Society Annual Spring Seminar scheduled for March 19 and 20, 2010. Mr. Taylor will speak on Friday, March 19, at the regular CGS program meeting on “Family History: What the Future Holds,” discussing the changes and technological developments that will change the way we research and share materials.



On Saturday, March 20, Mr. Taylor will present four lectures at the all-day seminar to be held at the Lower Level Conference Center of the Downtown Denver Public Library. The Friday night meeting is a free event. There will be a \$30 per person registration fee for attending the all-day seminar on March 20.

Presentations at the seminar will include:

- **Mapping Your Success: Employing Maps for Genealogical Research.** Maps are an essential tool for any genealogist as they trace boundary changes, migrations, demographics, political districts, military battles, and other key events in the lives of our ancestors.
- **Bridging the Gap: Finding Ancestors in the United States Between 1780 and 1830.** Connecting with ancestors who lived between 1780 and 1830 can be a difficult task. Learn how to use electronic resources, primary sources and other compiled materials to bridge the gap.
- **Family Ties vs. Fairy Tales: Finding the Truth in Your Family Legends.** Just because Great Aunt Mabel said your ancestor was from

CGS To Donate Microfilm Camera to DPL

One of the key CGS objectives listed in the CGS Policy Manual is to locate, preserve and index public and private genealogical records and to make such records, or the information in them, available to members and the general public.

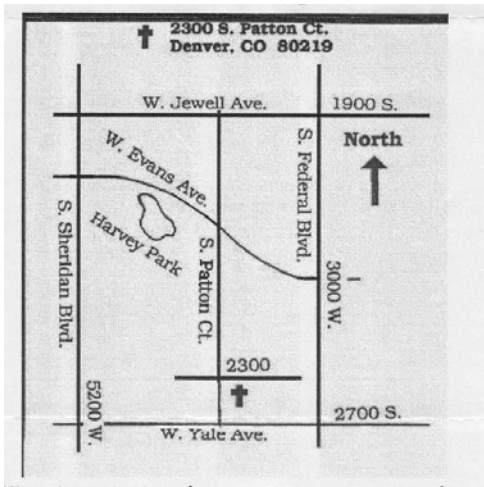
In support of that objective, CGS will donate a microfilm camera to the Western History/Genealogy Department of the Central Denver Public Library. With the help of volunteers, CGS will be able to photograph and preserve paper records now deposited at DPL via microfilm. Microfilm will be available at the library and indexes will be posted online at the library’s Web site.

Scotland and served in the Civil War doesn’t mean it’s true. Discover tools to uncover the truth behind your family stories and learn how to integrate them into your personal family history.

- **Putting It All Together: A Case Study.** Using online sources, maps, family legends, and primary and secondary records to trace a family from the Eastern U.S. through the Midwest and Western U.S. from the 1800s to the 1900s.

D. Joshua “Josh” Taylor is a nationally known genealogical author, lecturer, and researcher. He lives in Boston, Massachusetts where he is currently the Director of Education and Programs at the New England Historic Genealogical Society. He has authored columns and articles in UGA Crossroads, FGS Forum, Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly, New England Ancestors, and Digital Genealogist. Josh a member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and serves as program director for the Massachusetts Genealogical Council.

**Seminar Registration Form is on page 8!
Sign up today.**



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 Ct., in Denver. Patton Court is between W. Jewell, W. Yale, South Sheridan and South Federal near Harvey Park.

COLORADO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Carol Darrow, CG, Editor

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

CGS Website



www.cogensoc.us

Upcoming CGS Programs and Classes

Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Lou-Jean Rehn, CG. Learn how to get started in genealogy.

Friday, Feb. 19, 2010: CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct. Speaker Mona Lambrecht, “You Can’t Always Believe What You Read: Behind the Lens of Rocky Mountain Joe.” This case study will explore the truth behind the reported events of his life.

Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010: CGS Special Interest Class, 10 am – noon. “Researching Your Roots on the Internet.”

Saturday, March 13, 2010: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Lou-Jean Rehn, CG. Learn how to get started in genealogy.

Friday, March 19, 2010: : CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct. Speaker: D. Joshua Taylor, Seminar Speaker, “What the Future Holds for Family History.”

Saturday, March 20, 2010: Annual Spring Seminar with D. Joshua Taylor. Central Denver Public Library, Lower Conference Center. 10 am – 4 pm

Saturday, April 10, 2010: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Lou-Jean Rehn, CG. Learn how to get started in genealogy.

Wednesday, April 14, 2010: Aches & Pains Tour, 10 am – noon. Denver Public Library tour. Contact Lou-Jean Rehn at 303-333-2492 for information. Lunch afterwards for those interested

Friday, April 16, 2010: CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct. GEM: Sherri Broderick will discuss Charlie Tidd, part of John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry. Program Speaker J. Wendel Cox, Ph.D., Senior Special Collection Librarian, DPL. “The Lay of the Land: USGS Topographic Maps for Genealogists.”

Saturday, April 17, 2010: CGS Special Interest Class, 10 am – noon. presented by Carol Darrow, CG. Ship Passenger Lists/Canadian Crossings/Hamburg Emigration Lists. Hands-on activity from 1-2:30 pm.

Saturday, May 8, 2010: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5th Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm Lou-Jean Rehn, CG. Learn how to get started in genealogy.

Wednesday, May 12, 2010: Aches & Pains Tour, 10 am – noon. Walking tour of LoDo. Contact Karen Shuman at 720-270-4387 for information. Lunch afterwards for those interested.

Saturday, May 15, 2010: CGS Special Interest Class, 10 am – noon. presented by Carol Darrow, CG. Hands-on activity from 1-2:30 pm.

Friday, May 21, 2010: CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct. GEM: Carol Darrow will demonstrate AniMap software for tracking land locations and county boundary changes. Program Speaker: Roger Dudley, on “Preserving Your Family Photos.”

Welcome New Members!

New CGS members welcomed in January 2010:

Shirley Abegg
 Vivian Allen
 Beth Benko
 Barbara Bickerton
 Nancy Black
 Joan Brecheisen
 Kathleen Brown
 Helen Browne
 Paul Browne
 Karen Campbell
 Carla Churchill
 Susan Clasen
 Gary Grimm
 Lenore Gulyas
 Natalie Gulyas
 Marion Hilterbrand
 Cynthia Koenisfeld
 Kay Laughlin
 Anna Maestas
 Dawn McCarthy
 Richard Melick
 Dot Olson
 Kathy Pearler
 Cathy Petry
 Barbara Ramos
 Carolyn Romero
 Patricia Sladek
 Lillian Veonia Stone
 Betty Washington
 Rosemarie Weisse
 Vanessa Westmoreland
 Carol Williamson
 Betty Lee Wilson
 Robert Wordell

CGS Board in Action

The Board of Directors of the Colorado Genealogical Society has taken the following actions since November 2009:

- Purchased a microfilm camera that is being donated to the Western History/Genealogy Department of the Denver Public Library. The camera will be used to preserve records currently stored at DPL.
- Decided to have the CGS Web site redesigned. The board is seeking a volunteer to work on the redesign.
- Nancy Ratay has prepared a Surname Index for Volumes 1-10 of the CGS Quarterly dating from the first issue in 1939. The index will soon be available on the CGS website.

If you have any issue or concern to bring before the board, please notify President Carol Darrow at cdarrow944@yahoo.com.

Local Seminar Events

WISE Seminar, Saturday, Feb. 20. 9 am – 4 pm. Central Denver Public Library, Lower Level Conference Center. Speaker Paul Milner, on Finding your English, Welsh and Ulster-Irish ancestors.

CGS Spring Seminar, Saturday, March 20, 10 am-4 pm. Central Denver Public Library, Lower Level Conference Center, featuring D. Joshua Taylor.

Palatines to America 300th Anniversary Seminar & Celebration, Saturday, April 11. Speaker: Dr. Joseph Lieby, NY Palam Chapter

National Genealogical Society Conference, April 28 – May 1, Salt Lake City, Utah.

CIG Spring Seminar, Saturday, May 15, Central Denver Public Library, Lower Level Conference Center, 10 am – 4 pm, featuring Daniel M. Lynch, author of *Google Your Family Tree*.

Columbine 2010 Symposium, Saturday, June 5, Buck Community Recreation Center, 2004 W. Powers Ave., Littleton, CO. 9 am – 3:15 pm.

Speaker Laura G. Prescott, on locating digitized images online, publishing your genealogy online, and academic archives and manuscript research.

Family History Expo, Friday-Saturday, June 25-26, Embassy Suites Hotel, Loveland, CO. 80+ speakers and genealogy expo floor.

Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies Seminar, Saturday, Sept. 25, Central Denver Public Library, Lower Level Conference Center. Speaker Dr. Thomas Jones, co-editor of NGS Quarterly.



Denver Public Library Furlough Days

All Denver Public Libraries will be closed on the following days as furlough days due to budget constraints.

- Friday, April 2, 2010 (Good Friday); and
- Friday, May 28, 2010 (Friday before Memorial Day)
- Friday, Sept. 3, 2010 (Friday before Labor Day)
- Friday, Oct. 15, 2010
- Friday, November 26, 2010 (Friday after Thanksgiving)

Colorado Public Records Access Task Force Organizes

The Colorado Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists is sponsoring the newly-created Colorado Public Records Access Task Force. This task force has the goal of being the voice of Colorado genealogists and historians to the Colorado Legislature (and other parties) to preserve open access to public records of historical value to genealogists and historians.

Listed are some of the actions in other states that are of major concern to this task force:

- The Michigan governor abolished the Department of History, Arts and Libraries, despite the objection of thousands of genealogists and historians.
- The Massachusetts State Library is under closure consideration by the governor.
- The State Historical Library of Missouri will be closed Fridays and Saturdays.

Could this happen in Colorado? Can you imagine the Colorado State Archives closed? Can you imagine county courthouses not allowing genealogists and historians to obtain copies of marriage or other vital records?

It certainly could happen in Colorado. The governor and legislature, with their current budget shortfalls will consider every possibility for saving money in 2010 and future years.

As genealogists and historians in Colorado, we need to organize our voices and be prepared to act to preserve open records access, not just react when the situation arises and the window of opportunity may have passed.

The Task Force is developing a plan to introduce the genealogical community to Colorado legislators in a variety of ways. They will also be seeking to create partnerships between public records archives and private groups to help meet the budgetary needs of the public entities while preserving records access for genealogists and local historians. The Task Force needs the support of all genealogists and local historians in Colorado.

How can you help? Plan on participating to support **Genealogy Lobby Day**, happening at the Capitol in February. We plan on meeting staff, distributing handouts, and introducing ourselves to

the legislators. We will plan an organizing meeting before the Lobby Day. Contact the task force coordinators for more information at:

Bobbi King at "Rking24600@aol.com"
or Corinne Knasinski at
corinnesfamily@gmail.com.

Beginners' Corner

By Carol Cooke Darrow, CG

Since 1850, the U.S. census has reported the occupation of each individual – something that will change in 2010, when no questions will be asked about it. And since 1850, the most common answer was "farmer" or "farm laborer." It's generally understood that "farmer" indicates land ownership while "farm laborer" is a worker on the farm, often the family farm.

Other occupations are reported, of course, and can often give us a picture of the community. According to the 1870 census of Polk County, Tennessee, there are many "miners" reported, most of them immigrants from England. I assumed they were coal miners until I read a brief history of Polk County and found that it is the only copper mining area east of the Mississippi.

When you look up and down a census page, you may see the physician, merchant, lawyer, court clerk, and postmaster all living in the same hotel in a small town. You may find some occupations listed that are unfamiliar to you such as farrier, cordwainer, artificer, and cooper. If you search for occupations of the past (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~fltgs/occupations.htm>), you'll learn that they are a blacksmith; a leather worker or shoemaker; a skilled soldier who worked as a mechanic; and the man who made or repaired vessels made of staves and hoops such as barrels, tubs, and casks.

I've seen "prostitute" and "flozzy" listed as occupations but one of the most surprising occupations I've found is "carpetbag maker," in the 1870 New York City census record. I knew, of course, that carpetbaggers were rascals who traveled south after the Civil War to take advantage of the social disruption and make a quick buck – but I hadn't really pictured a girl of 14 toiling away making actual carpetbags. I've also found "wool carders" who work to clean raw wool with two hand paddle "cards"; a "glazier" who makes and installs window glass; a "huckster" who peddles small household goods for sale door to door; and a

"muleskinner" who became a "teamster" because he drove a team of horses or mules, and later was known as a "truck driver" as the technology changed.

In the 1900 census and after, there are many men who worked on the railroad in various jobs. In fact, railroading was such a widespread occupation that a separate pension system was created for railroad employees at the same time as the Social Security system. (Pension records and work history from 1937 to the present can be requested from the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board at <http://www.rrb.gov/>. Sometimes, occupational safety hazards become a factor in your family history. My grandmother's twin brother died in 1915 at the age of 22. His death certificate states that he died of "scalds," burns caused by moist heat or steam. He lived just one day with his injuries. His death certificate lists his occupation as locomotive fireman on the Rock Island Railroad.

Computer Interest Group (CIG)

Meets 2nd Monday Night of Each Month
Christ the King Lutheran Church
2300 S. Patton Court, Denver
Visitors Welcome

Colorado Opens Original Birth Records for Adoptions Finalized Between 1951-1967

Changes have been made in the availability of original birth records to adoptees. Those adults who were adopted in Colorado now have access to their original birth records, as long as their adoption was finalized between July 1, 1951 and June 30, 1967.

For adoptions finalized prior to July 1, 1951, records remain sealed except via court order.

For adoptions finalized between July 1, 1967 to August 31, 1999, records remain sealed except via court order.

Records for adult adoptees (18 years or older) whose adoptions were finalized between September 1, 1999 to the present, original birth records are available.

Forms are available from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment online at <http://www.cdph.state.co.us/certs/bicert.pdf>. The cost is \$17.75.

Colorado State Archives Adds New Databases

New indexes made available at the Colorado State Archives since August, 2009 include the following.

- Business Trademarks (1877-1897)
- Chaffee County School Board Register (1882-1890)
- San Miguel Teacher Exams (1885-1906)
- El Paso School Census Dist. 11 Girls (1920)
- Park County School Board Oaths (1918-1959)
- Routt County School Census (1920)
- Incorporation Index (1861-1914). 66,000 new entries!
- Costilla County Teacher Exams (1917-1923)
- Dearfield School Census (1909-1946)
- Routt County School Census (1910)
- Logan County School Census (1915-1920)
- Mineral County Probates (1894-1970)
- Pitkin County School Census Dist. 16 (1896, 1898)
- Rio Grande County School Census Dist. 22 (1917,1918)
- El Paso School Census Dist. 11 (1920)

Other databases of continuing interest include:

- Incorporation Index (1861-1914)
- Business Trademarks (1877-1897)
- Statewide Divorce Index (1880-1939) (Search under "Court" record type)
- Dearfield School Census (1909-1946)
- Prohibition Arrests 1918-1926
- Colorado Land Commissioners Patents 1878-1970
- Court of Appeals Case Files from 1891-1911
- Pre-1909 Birth Records from Various Counties
- Denver Death Index 1870-1905
- Washington County Pauper Record 1896-1897
- Amache Japanese Internment Camp Teachers List 1942-1945
- Indian Industrial Schools Census 1900
- State Penitentiary Index 1871-1973
- Arapahoe County Voter Registrations 1893-1905
- Civilian Conservation Corps Enrollments (Statewide) 1936-1942

- Colorado Civil War Casualties
- Routt County Ditch Claim Statements 1902-1903
- Gilpin County Chancery Cases 1862-1878
- Arapahoe County Poor Hospital 1895-1899

TIPS, TRICKS, AND TECHNIQUES

NSDAR Database

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) has opened its database containing more than 27 million names abstracted from DAR membership applications. The applicant's national membership number is included in the index providing easy reference to published lineage books. Copies of applications may also be ordered from NSDAR for \$10 each. The site is at http://216.36.105.133/DAR_Research/search

Link to Nicknames

Ever lose an ancestor named Mary only to learn that she now goes by the name Polly? There's a handy website that will help you match up Patsy with Martha and Nancy with Ann and Ted with Edward. http://genealogy.about.com/library/bl_nicknames.htm

Michigan Research

Digitized versions of death records covering the years 1897 through 1920 and digitized records of the WPA Michigan Property Inventories 1936-1942 are available at <http://www.seekingmichigan.org>.

Louisiana Death Certificates

Online search is now available for Louisiana death records for deaths that occurred between 1911 and 1956. Check the index – and remember to use known name variations and locations – and then print out the order form for each record that you want to request. The cost for a certified copy of the death certificate is \$5 each. <http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/tabid/640/Default.aspx>

Texas Death Certificates

You can view and print original death certificates for all counties in Texas for the years 1890-1976 online at Footnote.com. This is a pay-for-view site but is available for free at Family History Centers and at the National Archives. Records are 61% completed so check back for additional records.

Nebraska State Censuses, 1860-1885 available at Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com has recently uploaded the Nebraska State Censuses for the years 1860-1885. This is a pay-for-view site but is available for free at the National Archives, Denver and Westminster Public Library branches.

1 April 2010 is Census Day – Urge Everyone to be Counted

As genealogists, we know the importance of census records. They are proof that our ancestors were alive and living in a specific location at a specific time – census day. Taking a census dates from Roman times and started in the U.S. in 1790.

For 2010, the questions are pretty basic. In fact, they do not ask two questions that genealogists hold dear – occupation and birth place. Without knowing the birth place of an individual, we wouldn't be able to locate records that are specific to that locale. Also, because there is no door-to-door canvas, we will be alphabetized rather than grouped together with our neighbors.

But there is a great deal of misinformation out there about the census taking process, and there are very sensible people vowing not to take part in this important event. They are concerned that they will be asked for their Social Security number or their income. (The IRS already does that!). They are afraid that their personal information will be revealed to the Immigration Service or Child Welfare or some other agency. Not true. As genealogists know, specific census information is sealed for 72 years for privacy, and census takers take an oath to protect all information gathered for their lifetime.

Here are the questions that will be asked.

1. How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2010?
2. Were there any additional people staying here on April 1, 2010 that you did not include in Question 1?
 - a. Children such as newborn babies or foster children
 - b. Relatives, such as adult children, cousins, or in-laws
 - c. Nonrelatives, such as roommates or live-in baby sitters
 - d. People staying here temporarily
 - e. No additional people

3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home
 - a. Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan?
 - b. Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)?
 - c. Rented?
 - d. Occupied without payment of rent?
4. What is your telephone number? (we may call if we don't understand an answer)
5. Please provide information for each person living here. Start with the person living here who owns or rents this house, apartment, or mobile home.
 - a. Last name
 - b. First name
6. What is Person #1's sex?
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
7. What is Person #1's age and date of birth?
 - a. Age on April 1, 2010
 - b. Month, Day, Year of birth
8. Is Person #1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?
 - a. No
 - b. Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano
 - c. Yes, Puerto Rican
 - d. Yes, Cuban
 - e. Yes, another Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
9. What is Person #1's race?
 - a. White
 - b. Black, African American, or Negro
 - c. American Indian or Alaska Native
 - d. Asian Indian; Japanese; Native Hawaiian; Chinese; Korean; Guamanian; Filipino; Vietnamese; Samoan; other Asian; other Pacific Islander; other
10. Does Person #1 sometimes live or stay somewhere else?

- a. Yes
- b. No

Continue with same questions for Person #2

One final note: No one connected to the census will ask you for information via email. **Do not supply any information to anyone purporting to represent the U.S. Census Bureau who attempts to reach you via the Internet.**

Colorado Marriages CD available by mail

Denver Public Library volunteers compiled a complete cross-referenced index to Colorado Marriages 1858-1939, based on the Works Progress Administration (WPA) index cards. Every Colorado county is represented and there are more than 912,000 separate entries. The CD was published by the Colorado Genealogical Society and is available by mail for \$10 plus \$2 shipping and handling charge. Address orders to CGS-Colorado Marriages CD, P.O. Box 9218, Denver, CO 80209-0218.

Colorado Marriages, 1858-1939

Number of CD's in order @ \$10 each _____
 Shipping @ \$2.00 each _____
 Total _____

Make Check to "CGS-Colorado Marriage CD" and mail to CGS, P.O. Box 9218, Denver, CO 80209-0218

Ship to:

 (Name)

 (Address)

 (City, State, ZIP)



2010 CGS Genealogical Seminar

sponsored by the
**Colorado Genealogical Society
 & Denver Public Library**

Featuring

D. Joshua Taylor

Director of Education and Programs
 New England Historic Genealogical Society

Saturday, March 20, 2010

10:00 – 4:00 PM

DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Conference Center, 13th & Broadway, Denver

**Mapping Your Success: Employing Maps for
 Genealogical Research**

**Bridging the Gap: Finding Ancestors in the U.S.
 Between 1780 and 1830**

**Family Ties vs. Fairy Tales:
 Finding the Truth in Your Family Legends**

**Putting It All Together: A Case Study
 Using Online Sources, Maps, Family Legends,
 Primary and Secondary Records**

Registration Fee \$30 per person; Pre-Purchased Box Lunch \$8.75. Doors open at 9 am. Program starts at 10 am
 For more information, go on-line to www.cogensoc.us or call Lou-Jean Rehn (303) 333-2492 or Carol Darrow (303) 287-6063.

FREE Friday Night presentation by D. Joshua Taylor at CGS Meeting, Christ the King Lutheran Church,
 2300 S. Patton Court, Denver, March 19, 2010, 7-9 pm. Topic: "Family History: What the Future Holds."

REGISTRATION FORM

Make checks payable to Colorado Genealogical Society (CGS). Mail to Mary Thayer, 11156 E. Ada Place, Aurora, CO 80012-3120

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Optional Udi's Deli Lunch (Sandwich, Salad, Cookie) Materials Fee (\$30.00) x _____ = _____

Mark sandwich selection:

- Roast beef Ham
 Grilled Chicken Veggie

Lunch, Optional (\$8.75) x _____ = _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____