

# COLORADO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

November 2008

Serving Genealogists Since 1924

Volume 32, No. 4

## CGS Annual Seminar to feature Thomas and Patricia Shawker Feb. 20-21, 2009

Thomas H. Shawker, M.D., and Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG, will be the featured speakers at the Colorado Genealogical Society Annual Seminar scheduled for Feb. 20 and 21. Dr. Thomas Shawker will speak on Friday, Feb. 20, at the regular CGS program meeting on "Your Genealogy and Your Health." Then on Saturday, Feb. 21, Dr. Shawker and Patricia Shawker will each present two 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 materials fee for attending the all-day seminar on Feb. 21.

Presentations at the seminar will include:

- **DNA Testing: the Very, Very Basics**, presented by Thomas H. Shawker, M.D.
- **One Family's Footprint in the Federal Records**, presented by Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG

- **Before Statehood: Territorial Records**, presented by Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG
- **Race, Ethnicity, and Ancestry: DNA Testing**, presented by Dr. Thomas H. Shawker, M.D.

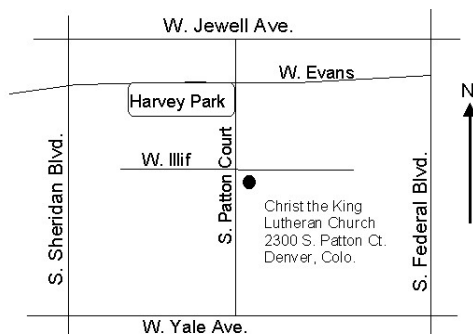
Thomas H. Shawker, M.D., is a physician at the National Institutes of Health and author of more than 200 scientific publications. He is the Chair of the NGS Family Health and Heredity Committee and authored the NGS book, *Unlocking Your Genetic History*.

Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG, is a professional genealogist whose interests are Maryland genealogy and research at the National Archives. She is the director of the National Institute of Genealogical Research (NIGR) held annually at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. She has been a certified genealogist since 1999.

See page 8 for the registration flyer for the 2009 Seminar or download the form from the CGS website at <http://www.cogensoc.us>. For more information, contact Lou-Jean Rehn, Seminar Chair, at (303) 333-2492 or Carol Darrow at (303) 287-6063.

### CGS Meeting Location

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



*The Colorado Genealogical Society  
monthly meetings  
third Friday evening of each month  
(except December, July and August)  
Christ the King Lutheran Church  
2300 S. Patton Court, in Denver*

*Visitors are always welcome. Our members  
are researching in every state and in  
countries around the world. We hope you'll  
join us soon.*

## Upcoming CGS Programs

**Saturday, Nov. 8, 2008: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Learn how to get started in genealogy. Lou-Jean Rehn, instructor.

**Saturday, Nov. 15, 2008: CGS Special Interest Class, Downtown Denver Public Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – noon.** Rectangular Land Survey System and Land Platting in Public Land States. Presented by Bobbi King. **1 pm – 2:30 pm.** Hands-on land platting practice.

**Friday, Nov. 21, 2008: CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct.** Program: House History of Three Massachusetts Houses presented by Dan Parker. GEM: Family Search Labs open up new vistas presented by Lou-Jean Rehn.

**Monday, Dec. 1, 2008: CGS Board Meeting, 6 pm – 8 pm. 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Level, DPL.** All CGS members welcome.

**Wednesday, Dec. 10, 2008, 10-12 noon: CGS Aches & Pains Tour.** Governor's Mansion at Christmas. Call Karen Shuman at 303-759-0331 or Donna Krowan at 303-770-4438 for exact time.

**Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Learn how to get started in genealogy. Lou-Jean Rehn, instructor.

**NO CGS Program Meeting and NO Special Interest Class in December. Happy Holidays!**

**Monday, Jan. 5, 2009: CGS Board Meeting, 6 pm – 8 pm. 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Level, DPL.** All CGS members welcome.

**Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009: Aches & Pains Tour.** To be announced.

**Saturday, Jan. 10, 2009: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Learn how to get started in genealogy. Lou-Jean Rehn, instructor.

**Friday, Jan. 16, 2009: CGS Program Meeting, 7 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct.** Lou-Jean Rehn will present "A Little Traveling Music" on planning a research trip. GEM: Round table discussions of several national genealogical educational programs.

**Saturday, Jan. 17, 2009: CGS Special Interest Class, Downtown Denver Public Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gates Room, 10 am - noon.** Getting Organized: Paper, Documents, Software.

**Monday, Feb. 2, 2009: CGS Board Meeting, 6 pm – 8 pm. 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Level, DPL.** All CGS members welcome.

**Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009: Aches & Pains Tour.** Call Karen Shuman at 303-759-0331 or Donna Krowan at 303-770-4438 for details and exact times of tour.

**Saturday, Feb. 14, 2009: CGS Beginning Genealogy Class Downtown Denver Public Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gates Room, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm.** Learn how to get started in genealogy. Lou-Jean Rehn, instructor.

**Friday, February 20, 2009: CGS Program Meeting, 7:00 pm – 9 pm. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct.** Featuring Dr. Thomas H. Shawker speaking on "Your Genealogy and Your Health."

**Saturday, February 21, 2009: CGS Annual Seminar, 10 am – 4 pm, Lower Level Conference Center, Downtown Denver Public Library.** Speakers: Thomas H. Shawker, M.D. and Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG.

**New website address: [www.cogensoc.us](http://www.cogensoc.us)**

## Beginner's Corner

Everybody talks about Ancestry.com but you may not know that Ancestry Library Edition, which includes both the U.S. Deluxe Version and the World Edition of Ancestry.com (valued at about \$300/year), is available for free at all Denver Public Libraries, Westminster Public Libraries, and at the National Archives (Bldg. 46) at the Federal Center.

If you are new to genealogy or haven't looked at Ancestry, you are missing out on the largest collection of databases available online. Ancestry includes images and an every-name index to all the U.S. federal censuses. Ancestry has also added several state censuses as well. Then there are the military databases including the World War I Draft Registration Cards, World War II Army Volunteers 1939-1946, and Civil War Soldier Index. There are birth, marriage, and death indexes for most states and some divorce indexes, too. New in the past year are ship passenger lists.

Before you pay for at home access, gather up your papers and go off to a public access site and test drive the system. If you have done online research before and are comfortable with the computer, you will probably have a wonderful experience.

But if you are not familiar with online research, you may need to learn a few tricks to make Ancestry deliver on its promise.

1. Ancestry databases were indexed by human beings who often made mistakes in reading the handwriting of the census taker. Although you may know that your grandfather's first name was Zarah, the transcriber may have rendered that name in a variety of ways.
2. Census takers themselves made mistakes that can only be transcribed as the indexer saw them. Elmo Harrow, for example, was listed by the census taker as Harrow Elmo, the head of the Elmo family.
3. Search screens on the Home page will force you to sort through hundreds, perhaps thousands, of John Johnsons

before getting to yours. Go instead to the "Search" screen and select the type of record you want to look at – U.S.

Censuses or Birth, Marriage, Death Records, or Military Records. Then add the name, birthplace and birth date to search for the record you want.

4. There is a new version of Ancestry (friendlier but not helpful) that asks you to enter the complete name as first, middle, last. This search method does not work well when you have only the last name or even if you're searching by first name, birth date and birthplace. Look for the option at the top of the screen to "Switch back to the old search experience."
5. Less is more. When you are entering information for a search of Ancestry databases, the most useful information is first name, last name, year of birth, and birthplace. If you get more than 25 hits, you probably need to add more information to narrow down the search.
6. Search and search again. New databases are added weekly – for example, the ship passenger lists – are new this year. So come back often and look again.

Got a topic for Beginners' Corner? Drop an email to: [cdarrow944@aol.com](mailto:cdarrow944@aol.com)

## Aches & Pains Tour Will Visit Governor's Mansion on Dec. 10

On Wednesday, Dec. 10, the Aches & Pains Walking tour will visit the Colorado Governor's Mansion to enjoy the Christmas decorations. This will be the third annual visit to the mansion, which is decorated by a different designer each year. Those interested will meet at the mansion located at 400 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Denver. After the tour those interested in having lunch will adjourn to a local restaurant.

The Aches & Pains Walking Tours of historical and cultural places in and around

Denver offer an opportunity for genealogists and those interested in local history a chance to learn more about the city they live in. Other recent tours have included the Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, the Cheesman Park neighborhood, and the Brown Palace.

Call Karen Shuman at 303-759-0331 or Donna Krowan at 303-770-4438 to verify time and location for meeting.

## Genealogy Happenings For Your Calendar

**Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy**, Jan. 12-16, 2009. A week of in-depth instruction including small, focused research groups. Radisson Hotel in Salt Lake City, near the Family History Library.

**CGS Annual Seminar**, Feb. 20 & 21, 2009. Thomas H. Shawker, M.D. and Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG, will be featured speakers.

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

**W.I.S.E. Research Trip to Salt Lake City**, April 26-May 3, 2009. Contact Zoe Lappin at zlappi@hotmail.com for more information.

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

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

**Institute of Genealogical & Historical Research**, June xxx-xxx, 2009. A week of in-depth genealogical instruction on the campus of Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama.

**FGS Conference**, Sept. 2009, Little Rock, Ark.

### Computer Interest Group (C.I.G.)

(a Special Interest Group of CGS)

Meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday Night of Each Month  
at Christ the King Lutheran Church  
2300 S. Patton Court, Denver

**Visitors Welcome**

## New Books Added to DPL Genealogy Collection

- **Americans of 1776. Daily Life in Revolutionary America.** James Schouler
- **By a Line of Marked Trees: Abstracts of Currituck County, North Carolina. Volume Two, Deed Books 3-4.** John Anderson Brayton
- **Colonial Families of Maryland: Bound and Determined to Succeed.** Robert Barnes
- **Companions of Champlain: Founding Families of Quebec, 1608-1635.** Denise Larson
- **Dutch Colonists in the Americas, 1615-1815.** David Dobson
- **Eastern Cherokee By Blood, 1906-1910. Vol. 1-5.** Jeff Bowen.
- **Eastern Cherokee Census, Cherokee, North Carolina, 1923-1929,** Taken by Agent James E. Henderson. **Vols. 1-2**
- **Female Index to Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England.** James Savage. Compiled by Patty Barthell Myers
- **History of Buford, Colorado.** Ricki Buckles
- **History of the Upper White River Country, Meeker, Colorado.** Ricki Buckles
- **Indian Wills, 1911-1921. Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Books 3-7.** Jeff Bowen
- **Missing Relatives and Lost Friends.** Robert W. Barnes
- **Nova Scotia Immigrants to 1867. Vol. II from Non-Nova Scotia Periodicals and from Published Diaries and Journals.** Leonard H. Smith, Jr. & Norma H. Smith
- **Revolutionary Soldiers in Kentucky.** Anderson Chenault Quisenberry
- **Scottish Transatlantic Merchants, 1611-1785.** David Dobson
- **St. Louis Family History Research Guide.** Ann Fleming.
- **The Descendants of Andrew Jackson Pittser**
- **Virginia Slave Births Index 1853-1865 Vols. 1-5**

## IN MEMORIAM

The Colorado Genealogical Society voted on Sept. 19, 2008, to make a donation of \$25 to the book fund of the Central Denver Public Library, Western History/Genealogy in memory of deceased CGS members and distinguished contributors to the Colorado genealogical community.

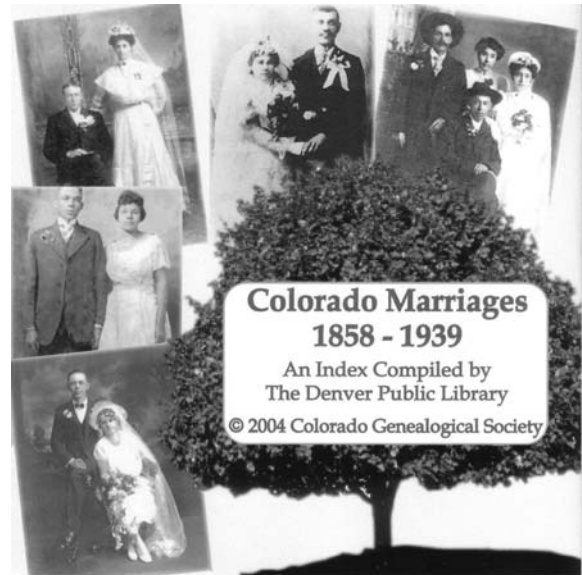
Donations have been made in memory of the following individuals:

- **Barbara Brown**
- **Joanne Clauson**
- **Connie Dawe**
- **Isma Templain**
- **James C. Dutton**

## Volunteers Wanted For FamilySearch.org Indexing Project

Over 29 million new names were posted during the last week of September 2008 on the FamilySearch Record Search pilot. Volunteer indexers from around the world are making these contributions to genealogical records and you can help. Volunteers can help any time by registering or downloading a current project at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) (click on Index Records>Volunteer or Start Indexing) or [www.familysearchindexing.org](http://www.familysearchindexing.org).

Volunteers are indexing U.S. census records, state census records (1945 Florida state index), military records, and much more—and they are doing it from their home computer. Sign on for more information about projects that need help and pick one of interest to you. Even a few hours' of work will make a big contribution to this project.



## 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 \$1 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 @ \$1.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check to "CGS-Colorado Marriage CD"

**Ship to:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State, ZIP)

## Danish Sisterhood Organizes in Denver

Does your last name end with “sen” (Larsen, Hansen, Andersen, etc.)? If so, chances are you’re of Danish descent. The Danish Sisterhood organized in 2007 in Denver and welcomes new members. Contact Chris Jensen Hix at 303-431-6690 or Nancy Hulstrom at 303-452-8077 for more information.

## Put History Into Your Family History

Mona Lambrecht spoke to CGS at the program meeting on Oct. 17 about putting historical context into your family history.

Here’s an historic event that could certainly have impacted your ancestors: The year 1816 was widely known as “The Year Without Summer.” Connecticut was hit by a blizzard on June 6; Savanna, Georgia had a high temperature of 46°F on July 4. Crops failed and dire warnings of impending doom were pronounced by many church groups. Modern scientists believe the cause of the extreme weather was dust and ash from the April 5, 1815 eruption of the Tambora volcano on the island of Sumbawa near Java. But the effects were felt around the world.

How do you think a New England farmer would have been affected? Snow and killing frosts in May and June destroyed much of New England’s crops. The price of corn and other grains rose rapidly for the small available supply. The price of oats, necessary to feed horses, went from 12 cents a bushel to 92 cents a bushel.

Many historians consider the “Year Without Summer” a primary motivation in 1817 for westward migration out of New England and into Western New York, Ohio, Indiana, and the Upper Midwest. Was this the factor that caused your ancestor to relocate?

## TIPS, TRICKS, & TECHNIQUES

### Indiana Genealogical Society Offers Searchable Databases

The Indiana Genealogical Society has added searchable databases that cover military records from the Civil War, Mexican War and Spanish-American War, church and school records and a variety of other records. These databases are only available to members of the society – but it’s a worthwhile investment of \$30 for those who are searching for Indiana ancestors. <http://www.indgensoc.org/membersonly/>.

### Lineage Society for Descendants of Early Settlers of Spanish and Mexican Land Grants Formed

Early Settlers of Spanish and Mexican Land Grants (ESSMLG) lineage society is the first national lineage society to recognize and preserve the contributions of the Spanish/Latino culture in early U.S. settlements. Early settlers of the southwest U.S. included Spaniards, Canary Islanders, French, Irish, English, Scots, Jews, German, Dutch, Portuguese, and Native Americans from both sides of the present day U.S. Mexico border.

The mission of ESSMLG is to research, preserve, and promote the history, heritage and culture of early settlers on Spanish and Mexican land grants.

### Nine Million Philadelphia Records are Now Online

FamilySearch.org has placed two historical Philadelphia city record sets online. These include death certificates for 1803-1915 and marriage indexes for 1885-1951.

These records are part of the Family History Library’s extraordinary effort to place indexes of its microfilm holdings on line. The project adds new indexes almost daily so it’s worth checking back frequently. The website is <http://pilot.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.ht>

ml#p=0 Be patient. It takes a few minutes to load.

## **Western Canadian Provinces Census of 1916 Available**

The 1916 census of the Western Canadian Provinces including Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, is now available on microfilm at the Library and Archives Canada. The microfilm is available for InterLibrary Loan. Website for more information is: <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/genealogy/022-911-e.html>. Census is not available online.

## **Rochester, NY Newspapers 1818-1897 Online Index Now Available on Internet**

The Rochester (NY) Public Library in conjunction with the Monroe County Library System has posted a free index to Rochester, New York newspapers from 1818 – 1897 on the Internet. There are 85 volumes with 500,000 searchable entries. Web address is: <http://www2.libraryweb.org/index.asp?orgid=647&storyTypeID=&sid=&>;

Once you locate an item of interest, you can order a copy of the article for \$10/per article sent to you by email, fax, or standard post.

## **Writing Contest Opens for Family Historians**

The International Society of Family History Writers and Editors (ISFHWE) has announced details of its annual “Excellence in Writing” competition to recognize excellence in genealogical columns and articles. The contest is open to all members of ISFHWE, both published and unpublished, and entrants may join ISFHWE at the time they submit their entries.

The four categories for entries include:

Category I – Newspaper Columns published on a regular basis, published in 2008. Entries must be less than 1,000 words.

Category II – Articles published in 2008 in a journal, magazine, newsletter, or web site. Entries cannot exceed 5,000 words.

Category III – Genealogy Research Story. This category is for original, unpublished articles between 1,000 – 3,000 words. The articles should focus on telling the story of genealogical research using one of these topics: “The Search for <ancestor’s name or nickname>,” “Sorting Out the Entangled Roots of <family or individual name>,” or “Encounters with a Family Skeleton.”

Category IV – Want-to-be Writer/Columnist. Entrants in this category aspire to be writers or columnists in the field of genealogy/family or local history. Submissions in this category must be original and unpublished, between 500-1000 words.

Winners will receive a cash prize and the awards presentation will take place at the ISFHWE banquet at the National Genealogical Society conference in Raleigh, NC, on 13 May 2009. For all rules and information, check the web site at <http://isfhwe.org>.

Entries must be received by the coordinator NO later than 31 December 2008. Entries must be mailed in time to make this deadline. There is a discount on the entry fee for submission before 30 November 2008.

## **Do You Know Footnote?**

Footnote.com is a pay-for-view service that offers indexes plus digital pictures of original documents including American Revolutionary War pension application files; Admiralty Records, Key West, Florida 1829-1911; Massachusetts Vital Records Index 1841-1895; and city directories from New York and Chicago. The cost is \$69.95 per year or \$11.95 for a month’s membership.



# Annual Genealogical Seminar

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

**Thomas H. Shawker, M.D. and  
 Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG**

**Saturday, February 21, 2009  
 10:00 – 4:00 PM  
 DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY  
 Conference Center, 13<sup>th</sup> & Broadway, Denver**

**DNA Testing: the Very, Very Basics**

presented by Thomas H. Shawker, M.D.

**One Family's Footprint in the Federal Records**

presented by Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG

**Before Statehood: Territorial Records**

presented by Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG

**Race, Ethnicity, and Ancestry: DNA Testing**

presented by Dr. Thomas H. Shawker, M.D.

Materials Fee \$30.00; Pre-Purchased Box Lunch \$8.75. Doors open at 9am. Program starts at 10 am  
 For more information, go on-line to [www.cogensoc.us](http://www.cogensoc.us) or call Carol Darrow (303) 287-6063 or Lou-Jean Rehn (303) 333-2492.

FREE Friday Night presentation by Dr. Thomas Shawker at CGS Meeting, at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Court, Denver, Feb. 20, 2009, 7-9 pm. Topic: "Your Genealogy and Your Health."

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Udi's Box Lunch includes deli sandwich, salad & cookie

Mark sandwich selection:

- Roast beef       Ham  
 Grilled chicken       Veggie

Materials Fee (\$30.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch, Optional (\$8.75) \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_