

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Ogden FamilySearch Library
539 24th Street
Ogden UT 84401

Family History Newsletter

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Director's Corner

- Elder and Sister Erickson



On Saturday, September 9, Elder Steven M. Petersen announced that a new FamilySearch Library will be built in Ogden. He and his wife Polly gave wonderful talks as the keynote speakers at the Ogden Family History Conference at Weber State University. A picture of the proposed new library can be found at: [Steven-Petersen-announces-new-Ogden-FamilySearch-library](#)

The announcement followed a welcome from Dr. Sara Dant, chair of the Weber State University History Department. She spoke on the importance of objectivity and accuracy in our research, and recommended we listen carefully, focus on the facts, and use sources for our histories.

Elder Petersen then spoke to the Roots and Branches theme of the Family History Conference. He is an Area Seventy with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and is the chief executive officer of Petersen, Inc., a global design, manufacturing, and machining company. He spoke of the importance of showing how to do family history, especially when teaching the youth, rather than just telling them about its importance or how to do it. As an example,

he recalled how his father taught him to weld by putting his arms around him and putting his hands on his hands. He kept working with him until he could see what he was supposed to see in the molten metal.

Sister Petersen shared an experience about the importance of telling family stories as their family restored a historic cabin. Because an ancestor was a blacksmith, they rebuilt a blacksmith shop, complete with bellows, anvil and tools. It gave them an opportunity to tell their children and grandchildren ancestral stories that tied into the blacksmithing. The grandchildren then told others, and she was surprised at the details they remembered.

Elder Petersen showed a drawing of a sequoia grove that his aunt had drawn. Sequoias can live 2000 to 3000 years. Unlike trees with a deep tap root, sequoias have a shallow root system. But they are able to stay upright in the storms because they interlock their roots with the roots of other sequoias. Thus they all support each other. He said that is a lot like family history work. The stories about our families' failures, successes, and trials are helpful and can support us.

Elder Quentin L. Cook, in a talk entitled *Roots and Branches*, referred to by Elder Petersen, said that "Family commitments and expectations should be at the top of our priorities to protect our divine destiny. For those who are looking for more fruitful use of the Sabbath day for the family as a whole, the hastening of this work is fertile ground. One mother glowingly tells how her 17-year-old son gets on the computer after church on Sunday to do family history work and her 10-year-old son loves to hear the stories and see pictures of his ancestors. This has blessed their entire family to experience the spirit of Elijah. Our precious roots and branches must be nourished."

Also speaking was Elder Marlin K. Jensen, who said this was an exceptional, watershed moment. He said family history and finding names of ancestors who need ordinance work is like shipping, and the temple is receiving. He spoke of the importance of having the new FamilySearch Library near the temple, side by side in one community.

On Giving

— *Emil Hanson*

Someone has said that eventually; "Everyone succumbs to finitude; we all reach that state where most ambitions are either achieved or abandoned; either way, they belong to the past. The future, instead of the ladder leaning toward the goals of life, flattens out into a perpetual present or now. Money, status, all the vanities the preacher of Ecclesiastes described, hold less and less interest: if not abandoned, they become a "chasing after the wind." For those of us who fall into that category, who have abandoned the "eight to five" work world for a more relaxed but still a giving and goal oriented life. We should carefully consider what a prophet of God has said, Dallin H. Oaks has stated; "There is an eternal principle that we are happier and more fulfilled when we act and serve for what we give, not for what we get." The Church-wide hope is, that all who share testimonies of this work for our Ancestors will become involved in one way or another (giving) to move the work forward, however, the 'retired' will most likely be investing the primary effort.

The investment of time and effort in this great work reminds me of the following banking story; "An old Native American wanted a loan for \$500. The banker pulled out the loan application. "What are you going to do with the money?" he asked the Indian. "Buy Silver, make jewelry, and sell it," was the response. "What have you got for collateral?" "Don't know collateral," replied the Old Indian. "Well that's something of value that would cover the cost of the loan if you default or can't repay it..."Have you got any vehicles?" "Yes. 1949 Chevy pickup," replied the Indian. The banker shook his head, "How about livestock?" "Yes, I have a horse," replied the Indian "How old is it?" the banker asks. "Don't know, has no teeth," replied the Indian. Finally the banker decided to make the \$500 loan without collateral. Several weeks later the Old Indian was back in the bank. He pulled out a roll of bills, "Here to pay." He said. He peeled off a few bills and handed the banker the money to pay his loan off. "What are you going to do with the rest of that money?" the banker asks. "Put in Hogan", replied the Indian. "Why don't you deposit it in my bank," the banker asked. "Don't know deposit," replied the Indian "You put the money in our bank and we take care of it for you. Whenever you want to use it, you can withdraw it." The old Indian leaned across the desk and asks the banker... "What you got for collateral?"

We are not making jewelry with silver, but it is true, we are searching for gems and we do not need to make a loan nor do we have to have collateral in order to dig in and search. As Brother Oaks has stated; ... we are happier and more fulfilled when we act and serve for what we give, not for what we get." Not only are we happier as we give and serve but we are providing an eternal service for those who came before. The FamilySearch software is becoming more and more sophisticated almost daily and with the partner sites we have great tools to work with. A truism I picked up from a recent TV commercial describes it perfectly; "Every Great Why Deserves a Great How. "For those of us who have been praying for a 'Great How', I believe our prayers have been answered.

The Family History Guide Blog

— Bob Taylor

Greetings to all our newsletter subscribers with The Family History Guide, and welcome to our Blog site. We have decided to transition from newsletter to blog, which means that going forward we will be producing blog articles instead of newsletter articles.

The newsletter has been dear to our hearts, for over 2 years and 28 issues. The past newsletter issues are *not* going away—rest assured they will remain on the Newsletter page of the website.

However, we feel that moving to a free blog is the best thing to do, and here are some of the reasons we think you'll enjoy it:

- It's updated more often than the newsletter. You'll get new blog articles almost every day.
- We have a talented blogging team working to provide you great content on a variety of topics related to The Family History Guide.
- You can post comments, ask questions, and easily search for articles in the blog site.
- You can sort blog articles by category or search for tags.
- So welcome to the Blog! You can also find it in the [more menu](#) of The Family History Guide website. We look forward to your comments and participation.

WORLD WIDE “FUEL THE FIND”

-- Stephen Felt

Attention world! Heads up population of earth. Indeed, if you are an earthling, and I am pretty certain that you are, then you, we, all of us are being challenged to index at least one batch Friday, 20 October through Sunday, October 22, 2017.

Just think. We could add millions of ancestral records to the FamilySearch database so earthlings all over the world can search for their family members. So mark your calendar, organize your family and encourage your congregations to INDEX. There are blessings to be received and families to unite. **Accept the challenge!**

But you do not have to wait for the world wide event, you and I could index a batch every week of the earth year.

Accept the challenge!

Expand Your Searches with the Olive Tree Genealogy

-- James Tanner



Canadian Lorine McGinnis Schulze has been online since 1996 with the [Olive Tree Genealogy website](#) publishing a huge portal to free Ships' Passenger lists, Naturalization Records, Palatine Genealogy, Canadian Genealogy, American Genealogy, Native American Genealogy, Huguenots, Mennonites, Almshouse Records, Orphan Records, church records, military muster rolls, census records, land records and more. The Olive Tree Genealogy has a 3-step Genealogy Finder. Quoting from Lorine's website:

- First the free transcribed genealogy records - there are over 1,900 now. Look for your family ancestors in [free genealogy records](#) marked with the Olive Tree Genealogy logo.
- Second the Genealogy tutorials and help files - [Genealogy Help](#) on finding your ancestors in census records, land records, ships passenger lists, birth, marriage and death records, and more.

- Third the Genealogy Resource Guides. Genealogy How-to-Guides help you easily find your ancestors as you search [ships passenger lists](#), [Huguenots](#), [Native Americans](#), [Canadian Immigration](#), [Palatines](#) and more.

Lorine is also one of the major genealogical bloggers in the world with her [Olive Tree Genealogy Blog](#):

As people become more involved in genealogical research and begin to realize the huge resources online, it is almost inevitable that they come across the bright spots on the internet such as the [Olive Tree Genealogy website](#). She also has an [Olive Tree Genealogy YouTube Channel](#) and has written a number of books.

How One Woman Brought the ‘Mother’s Curse’ to Thousands of Her French-Canadian Descendants

— Dick Eastman

The first King’s Daughters—or filles du roi—arrived in New France in 1663, and 800 more would follow over the next decade. Given their numbers, they were not literally the king’s daughters of course.

They were poor and usually of common birth, but their passage and dowry were indeed paid by King Louis XIV for the purpose of empire building: These women were to marry male colonists and have many children, thus strengthening France’s hold on North America. French Canadians can usually trace their ancestry back to one or more of these women. For more information about the filles du roi, see my earlier article at [Filles du Roi](#).

Whenever a small group of people leave a large population (France) to found a new one (New France), they bring with them a particular set of mutations. Some of these mutations will by chance be more common in the new population and others less so. As a result, some rare genetic disorders disproportionately impact French-Canadians.

One of these is Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy, which causes vision loss, usually in young men. Recently, geneticists using French Canadian genealogy have reexamined the effects of Leber’s and found a striking pattern of inheritance: It seems to show a long-theorized but never-seen-in-humans pattern called the “mother’s curse.” Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy is passed down from mothers to sons and daughters alike but the daughters rarely suffer from the problem themselves. It seems to affect men eight times more often than women. Also, men never pass it to their children. If you suffer from Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy, you inherited it from your mother’s mother’s mother’s female ancestors and back through the all-female line to France. Although this condition usually begins in a person’s teens or twenties, rare cases may appear in early childhood or later in adulthood.

If you have French-Canadian ancestry on your mother’s side of your family tree, you will want to read about Leber’s hereditary optic neuropathy in an article by Sarah Zhang in *The Atlantic* web site at: <http://theatlntc.com/2014/05/22/leber-hereditary-optic-neuropathy/>. However, the article focuses primarily on the method by which the neuropathy is passed down from one generation to the next.

For more specific information about the effects of the disease, see *Wikipedia* at [hereditary optic neuropathy](#) and dozens of other online articles by starting at <http://bit.ly/2hg4816>.

Quarterly Speaker Series

-- Wayne Decker



The Ogden FamilySearch Library is honored to welcome Robert Ives as our speaker on

October 21st, 2017.

Bob Ives, Vice President and Executive Director, COO for the Family History Guide Association, received a Master's Degree in computerized curriculum design and went to work as the Director of Instructional Technology for the Utah State Office of Education. Bob was instrumental in the spread of technology in the state and the development of cutting edge programs such as satellite distance learning with IBM. Bob has a B.S. from Brigham Young University, a M.Ed. and Administrative Certification from the University of Utah. He has also served as an adjunct professor for Utah State University.

He later formed his own technology consulting and training company, Educational Renaissance, Inc. and worked as an IBM business partner for 15 years. He has traveled across the U.S. and the Pacific as a trainer for IBM Educational Systems, as well as McGraw-Hill and Allyn & Bacon. Bob has served on state and national committees such as the NCTM Technology Committee and the Governors' Computer Literacy Task Force. He has given presentations across the United States, Canada, Singapore, Australia and Malaysia.

Bob is currently the Technology Coordinator for the Sandy Utah Granite Family History Center, the third largest family history center in the Salt Lake Valley. He was born and raised in Virginia where he attended Virginia Tech. After joining the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints he moved to Provo, Utah to attend BYU. He and his wife Dawn currently live in Sandy, Utah they have two sons and four grandchildren and recently celebrated their fiftieth anniversary.

His presentation will be at 10:00 am in room 12 of The FamilySearch Library on 21 October 2017 Located at 539 24th Street Ogden, Utah. For additional information or questions please call 801-626-1132.

Ogden FamilySearch Library | 539 24th Street, Ogden, UT 84401

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