



# Mesa Dwellers

Mesa County Genealogical Society

Volume 25, Issue 1 - December 2006

## DIGITIZED FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS ONLINE

The LDS Family History Library has announced that it is digitizing and making available online all of the family

history books in its collection. There are more than 5,000 already available, and about 100 will be added each week.

These images may be accessed through the FHL catalog at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) or through links on Brigham Young University's website, [www.lib.byu.edu](http://www.lib.byu.edu). Using the FHL catalog, if a book is available online, a link will appear in that book's listing, taking you directly to BYU's PDF file, which is fully searchable in several different ways.

If you want to access the collection through BYU, go to their website and use the following links: Find Other Materials, Electronic, Online Collections at BYU. The click the tab labeled "Text Collections" and select "Family History Archive". The advantage of using this site is that you can search all the books at once for the name or location you are researching, and then look at each.

There are also helpful tips on that site to

help you in the search process.

(Information provided by Jo Culberson and excerpted from the Ohio Genealogical Society OGS Genealogy News, April-June 2006)

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"You can search all books  
at once for the name or  
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at each."





# Merry Christmas & a Happy, Healthy New Year

## January 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	SLC Jan 8-12	9	10	MCQS 7:00 pm	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	Lunch 12:00 pm	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## February 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	MCQS 7:00 pm	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	Lunch 12:00 pm	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

## March 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	MCQS 7:00 pm	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	CGS Mar 16-17	17
18	19	20	Lunch 12:00 pm	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### January 11, 2007 - MCQS Meeting Reminder

The January meeting will be held at the Mesa County Central Library, 530 Grand Avenue, at 7:00 pm. The Library has just completed a major renovation and has kindly agreed to give us a tour. Meet in the common area just inside the main door.

The Mesa County Genealogical Society, established in 1980, is a non-profit organization to promote an interest in genealogy, and to encourage and instruct members in the art and practice of genealogical research.

Society meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Whitman Education Center, 248 South Fourth Street, at 7:00 pm. The monthly Brown Bag Lunch is held in the 2nd floor Conference Room of the Museum of Western Colorado, 4th & Ute Streets at 12:00 pm, on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Visitors are always welcome.

### Society Officers

President	Karen Sturgill
Vice-President	Ron Knapp
Secretary	Donna Wernet
Treasurer	Jill Berthod

### Board Members

Kathy Vlahos  
Marteal Johnson  
Rick Sheldon

### Committee Chairpersons

Program Director	Dennis Jenkins
Society Webmaster	Karen Sturgill
MCQS Librarian	Karen Sturgill
Newsletter Editor	Donna Wernet

Annual Dues: \$10 Single; \$12 Family  
Membership period if March - April.

Contributions to our Mesa Dwellers publication are sincerely appreciated, should be neatly typed or written stories, requests for information, queries, and/or other advice applicable to genealogy research. Contribution deadlines: March (Apr 15); June (May 15); September (Aug 15); December (November 15)

[www.gjmesa.com/mcgs/](http://www.gjmesa.com/mcgs/)



# Upcoming Area Events

January 8 - 12, 2007

Radisson Hotel, Salt Lake City

"2007 Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy"

\*\*Nine courses of study with 20 classes per course.

\*\*"Problem Solving" course offering individualized consultation on your own research problem.

\*\*Evening classes on relevant genealogical issues.

\*\*Family History Library is just one block from the Radisson Hotel where the Institute will be held.

Special room rates of \$74 single or double, \$84 triple, \$94 quad per night are available to

attendees at the Radisson Salt Lake City Hotel, Downtown, from January 2 through January 19.

To make reservations, call toll free at

800-333-3333 or the hotel directly at

801-531-7500 (identify yourself as a student of the UGA Salt Lake City Institute of Genealogy).

Special rooms rates will be honored through December 15th - on a space available basis.

More information is available at [www.infouga.org](http://www.infouga.org), by calling 1-888-INFO-UGA, or sending an email to [institute@infouga.org](mailto:institute@infouga.org).

\* \* \* \* \*

March 16 - 17, 2007

Colorado Genealogical Society

Annual Seminar

Denver, Colorado

Friday, 3/16, 6:30 pm - CGS Program Meeting, Christ the King Lutheran Church, 2300 S. Patton Ct., featuring John Philip Colletta.

Saturday, 3/17, 10 am - 4 pm - CGS Annual Seminar, Lower Level Conference Center, Downtown Public Library. Speaker: John Philip Colletta. \$30 materials fee for attending the all-day seminar. (Related article on Page 4)

May 2 - 6, 2007

Salt Lake City Genealogy Trip

with Ronna Lee Sharpe

\$375 / \$400 - register by 4/13

Cost includes transportation, lodging, and classes.

This education trip centers around learning and working at the Family History Library, one of the most complete genealogy facilities in the world.

Regardless of your knowledge level, you will receive personal assistance that will enable you to dig deeper into your family's history.

\* \* \* \* \*

August 15 - 18, 2007

Grand Wayne Center, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Federation of Genealogical Societies

Allen County Public Library

"Where you go to find out where you're from"

\$135 Super Early-Bird Registration (by 12/30)

\$155 Early Registration (by 06/01)

\$185 Registration

\*\*25 conference lecture themes, including 20th Century Research, British Isles, Computer Topics, Indiana, Land Records, Library/Archive Research - to mention just a few.

\*\*Newly renovated conference facilities at the Grand Wayne Center, adjacent to the Allen Public Library.

\*\*FREE computer labs at the Allen County Public Library.

\*\*Youth Fair and a variety of luncheons/ meetings.

Additional information is available by contacting:

-Federation of Genealogical Societies,

888-FGS-1500 or [fgs-office@fgs.org](mailto:fgs-office@fgs.org)

-Allen County Public Library, 260-421-1225 or [Genealogy@ACPL.Info](mailto:Genealogy@ACPL.Info)

-Ft. Wayne/Allen County Convention & Visitors Bureau, 800-767-7752 or

[visitorinfo@visitfortwayne.com](mailto:visitorinfo@visitfortwayne.com).



## MCGS Meeting Planner

- January 11 MCGS Monthly Meeting  
7 pm Tour of Mesa County  
Public Library by Kay Oser. No  
refreshments - meet in open  
area near entrance.
- January 24 Noon Sack Lunch Meeting  
2nd Part, Swedish Records  
(civil). The topics covered may  
also apply to research in other  
Scandinavian countries.
- February 8 MCGS Monthly Meeting  
"Bringing the Family Tree to  
Life Through Stories" by  
Carole London of Lifetime  
Chronicle Press in Montrose.  
She will talk about writing down  
the stories behind the names  
and dates, interview techniques,  
methods of jogging one's  
memory so the stories will  
surface.
- February 21 Noon Sack Lunch Meeting.  
No topic - more information  
at February 8th meeting.
- March 8 MCGS Monthly Meeting  
Share / brickwall session.
- March 21 Noon Sack Lunch Meeting.  
No topic - more information  
at March 8th meeting.
- April 12 MCGS Monthly Meeting  
"Interviewing Relatives for Your  
Genealogy" by  
Emma McCreanor. Emma is  
responsible for the Oral History  
project at the Museum of  
Western Colorado.
- April 25 Noon Sack Lunch Meeting.  
No topic - more information  
at the April 12th meeting.

## CGS Annual Seminar will feature speaker

### John Philip Colletta

The Colorado Genealogical Society is pleased to welcome Dr. John Philip Colletta as the speaker at its 2007 CGS Annual Seminar, scheduled for March 16-17.

Dr. Colletta, a Washington, DC-based genealogist and noted national speaker, will speak on Friday, March 16, at the regular CGS program meeting. Then on Saturday, March 17, Dr. Colletta 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 materials fee for attending the all-day seminar on March 17.

John Colletta taught workshops at the National Archives and courses for the Smithsonian Institution for twenty years. Today he lectures at area universities and around the country. He is a faculty member of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama, and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, Salt Lake City, Utah.

He has authored many articles, both popular and scholarly, and his two manuals - They Came in Ships: A Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record and Finding Italian Roots: The Complete Guide for Americans - have recently appeared in updated and expanded editions.

Registration materials for the 2007 Seminar will be available on January 2, 2007. Check the CGS website at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cocgs/> starting in January for more details.



## From the President's Desk

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year to all MCGS members ....

It seems impossible but we are almost through another year and it is time to elect officers for the 2007-2008 term - the election will be held at the Annual Meeting in February. In January, I will be appointing a committee, consisting of one Board Member and two individuals from the general membership, to provide a list of at least one nominee for each office. Additionally, there will be one vacancy on the Board of Directors. Nominations may also be made by the general membership from the floor at the Annual Meeting provided each nominee is present or has given written consent to serve if elected.

Karen Sturgill has indicated that she will not be available to run for office in the upcoming election because of class commitments at Western Colorado Community College. However, she will continue as Webmaster for the Society and will continue her work in the Genealogy section of the Loyd Files Research Library. We thank her for her dedication and appreciate that she'll continue helping in a more limited capacity.



The Family History Fair will once again take place in March 2007. Karen has reserved our table and we will be looking for volunteers to work an hour or two, introducing people to our Society. Also we'd like you to contribute ideas for what we want to display. Karen has suggested that we put together a poster or two with information about our own families so that those in attendance will realize we're not specific to Mesa County, that our roots travel the world. Please be prepared to discuss and finalize our plans at our February meeting - it's going to be a busy one!

It's good to have Mesa Dwellers in publication once again and I hope you'll get involved and send your ideas, thoughts, and submissions to our Editor for inclusion.

Ron Knapp  
Vice-President - MCGS

## Genetic Genealogy On MSNBC

MSNBC has created a webpage about Genetic Genealogy. Several of the NBC journalists have participated in DNA testing and have written about their experiences. Their stories and other articles are available now at the new webpage, [www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3038411/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/3038411/).



## Character codes for use in WORD

Do you sometimes wish you had a manual typewriter instead of being force-fit into the typing system Microsoft created? I think my most common stumbling blocks are when I want to type a 'cents' (¢) sign, or a British 'pounds' (£) sign and I have to go to INSERT >SYMBOL then find the symbol, select it, insert it in my text, and close the dialogue box.

Here are some common characters we genealogists might want to use, with their codes. These came from [www.lookuptables.com](http://www.lookuptables.com), where many more are available.

Code	Character
Alt+130	é
Alt+144	É
Alt+138	è
Alt+131	â
Alt+140	î
Alt+147	ô
Alt+135	ç
Alt+164	ñ
Alt+129	ü
Alt+156	£
Alt+159	f
Alt+171	½

For that pesky 'cents' sign, I stumbled on a fix while writing this – go to 'Insert' and select 'Symbol'. Find the ¢ symbol and select it. Press the button labeled "Auto Correct" in the lower left corner of the dialogue box. and you will be given the opportunity to automatically insert the 'cents' sign each time you type a certain character, which you can select using the keyboard. (I selected the uppercase 6 so that I now get a '¢' instead of a '^' when I type Shift+6.)

-Article courtesy of Jo Culberson

## Persistence Pays as told by Ron Knapp

This past year I was able to solve a mystery surrounding the burial location of my stepsister, Adeline. Her estranged husband, in a murder/suicide, killed her on February 18, 1962, in Elsmere, Kenton County, Kentucky, while I was stationed with the military in Japan.

For many years I had limited details about her death, except that I knew her 2-1/2 year old daughter was at the death scene, and her burial location was unknown.

In November I was able to travel to Kentucky to do some local research and obtained a death certificate, obituary, and police report.

Her death certificate, signed by another daughter, then 18 years old, showed her burial place as Burlington, Boone County, Kentucky. That explained why I had trouble finding her in Kenton County but presented a new mystery – why was she taken from her home in Elsmere, Kenton County to be buried in Burlington, Boone County?

I found the cemetery in Burlington but there was no record of her burial. The funeral home director from 1962 had died but his son, the current director, was able to do some research for me and found she was buried in Plot 151 with no marker or stone.

As it turned out, there were eight plots that belonged to the George and Laura Blythe family and descendants, all relatives of her husband Arthur, the one that killed her. Arthur was also buried there. It appeared that although there were problems between Arthur and Adeline, his family stepped up and provided a place for her remains.

After her location was confirmed, I arranged for a headstone to be placed and provided the cemetery with updated information on Adeline from my research.



## Genealogical Writing: Latin Abbreviations

Michael J. Leclerc

Many legal documents contain Latin terminology. In addition to full words, Latin abbreviations are used freely. Some Latin terms are more common than others, and some are so similar to each other that they cause confusion in the minds of some researchers. Three commonly-used Latin terms are *et cetera*, *et alii*, and *et uxor*. All start with the Latin word "et," which means "and."

*Et cetera* is very commonly used in everyday conversation as well as legal documents. It translates into "and so forth." Nowadays it is abbreviated as *etc.* but it may also be abbreviated as *&c.* *Et cetera* is used to indicate that a list can continue on. For example, one might see a list of months as January, February, March, etc.

*Et alii*, *et alios*, and *et aliis* translate to "and others." All are abbreviated as *et al.* or *& al.* This term is used to indicate that individuals other than the person being discussed are involved. It is frequently used in grantor/grantee indexes when more than one party is a grantor (or grantee).

For example, one might see Matthew Gibbs, *et al.* listed as a grantor in the index. Upon examination of the document, one sees that Matthew Gibbs, Joseph Goodenough, and Thankful Gibbs were co-owners of the property and they were selling their combined shares of the land. Checking the grantor index again, one would see Thankful Gibbs, *et al.* and Joseph Goodenough, *et al.* listed as well.

*Et uxor* is abbreviated as *et ux.* or *& ux.* This term translates into "and wife." Also commonly used in indexes, it indicates that the person's

wife was also mentioned in the document.

Please note that "et" is a full word, and never has a period after it in an abbreviation (because it is not being shortened).

In the transcriptions of some wills a signature is printed which is shown as (for example) "Samuel Stow, L.S." L.S. is the abbreviation in Latin of "Locus Sigilli." L.S. marks the location where the seal was placed in the original.

The abbreviation does not mean "Legal Signature," as it is commonly misinterpreted.

-Courtesy of Jo Culberson

from the

New England Historic Genealogical Society's  
eNews,

Vol. 8, No. 45; November 22, 2006

\* \* \* \* \*

## Members Helping Members

Dorothy Roper recently received an email from Jo Culberson telling her about the High School Annuals in the Loyd Files Research Library. The collection dates from the mid-1930s and while not all schools or years are represented, one can sometimes find a relative. In Dorothy's case, Jo had found Lila Tuflly - she scanned her picture and sent it along to Dorothy.

*(I recently found a photo of a cousin, Helen Stocker, in the GJHS 1949 Tiger Annual while looking for her sister, Evelyn, who recently passed away. It is the only picture I have of her so I was excited about finding it. Editor)*

Check them out!

MCGS Members,

You may have noticed a change in your newsletter this issue; I hope you like it.

First, a special note of thanks to Rick Sheldon who did such an incredible job with the Mesa Dwellers newsletter for so many years. Rick decided he'd like a break from the responsibility because he didn't feel he had time to do it as well as he had in the past. Thanks, Rick, for all your time, dedication, and effort.

## EDITOR'S CORNER



It has been a long time since I last published a newsletter so the first few editions will be experimental. I do hope to make it interesting, get it out in a timely manner, and make it personal to the members of the Mesa County Genealogical

Society. That's where you come in. I need your stories, brickwalls, queries, questions, suggestions and even pictures (no originals)! I am indebted to Dorothy Roper and Ron Knapp for their contributions to this issue. Please feel free to send me your submissions via email, regular mail, give it to me at meetings, or call and I'll try to take dictation (not too good at that, however, so would prefer you write the article yourself).

I have set some deadlines for your submissions:

- |            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| *March     | Submissions due by February 15 |
| *June      | Submissions due by May 15      |
| *September | Submissions due by August 15   |
| *December  | Submissions due by November 15 |

(You'll also find this information with the MCGS notes at the beginning of the newsletter each month)

Again, your input, good or bad; is important! You will not hurt my feelings by telling me what you think and it may make the newsletter better. HOWEVER, if you have thoughts on bettering the newsletter, please also be prepared to be a contributor.

Thanks again to those who have supported this effort so far and to those who will support it in the future.

Donna Wernet  
Editor  
donnawho@bresnan.net  
(970) 255-0831



## Rediscover Virginia: 400 Years of Family History

In 2007, NGS returns to Richmond, Virginia, to help celebrate the four-hundredth anniversary of the first permanent English settlement at Jamestown. Come join us as we celebrate and learn more about the history of our nation and its families.

One of the primary focuses of the program will be research in Virginia and adjacent states. Topics include Virginia migration patterns, indentured servants, records of the Virginia Land Office, and Virginia's tax records. Other speakers will focus upon the movement in the Jamestown and other early Tidewater areas, the North Carolina-Virginia connection, as well as some of the lesser-known - but helpful - records, including the legislative petitions. Other interesting titles include "Treasures of the Blue Ridge and Beyond" and "The French and Italians in Virginia: Hidden Migrants, Refugees and Merchants." "The Great Wagon Road," Maryland, Kentucky, and Virginia's online resource, and North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee land records will provide additional information on Virginians and their migration to other states.

For this conference, the Board for Certification of Genealogists' methodology track will focus upon family traditions, disappearing ancestors, colonial research, using research guides, kinship determination, working with manuscript collections, analyzing documents, and the genealogical proof standard. In addition to the methodology track, the Board will offer a special workshop on Tuesday on proof summaries and abstracting.

A one-day track sponsored by ICAPGen will include presentations on surname searching, Irish immigration, and lost records.

English, German, Irish, Scottish-Irish migrations to America and the specific research techniques and records we need to find them will be the focus of a

number of lectures. Other lectures will help us follow their movement westward from the Virginia coast, and southward from Pennsylvania into the valley of Virginia and beyond. Presentations such as "Traffic and Trade on the Colonial Coast" and "Southern Migration Paths" will help us expand our search when traditional resources fail.

With the National Archives (NARA) and the Library of Congress (LC) only seventy-five miles away, it seemed appropriate to focus on records found there. The two-day NARA track will cover public land claims, records recording the weather, denial of citizenship records, seaman's protection certificates, Civil War tax assessments, Senate nominations files, Custom House records, and Civil Conservation Corps accident records.

Although part of the collections are in Washington, many of these materials are accessible through NARA branches and interlibrary loan. The LC track will focus on the map, manuscript, and newspaper collections and the numerous records found in the LC's online resources.

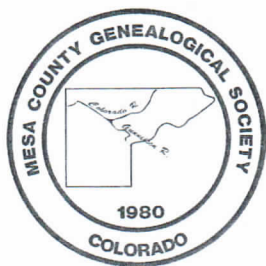
Of course there will be the usual list of computer lab workshops on DeedMapper, GenSmarts, Clooz, LegacyFamily Tree, and The Master Genealogist. Less traditional, but extremely useful, workshops will focus on such topics as "Making Your Computer Safe", "Microsoft Word for Genealogists," "Excel for Genealogists," "Optimizing Your Computer at No Cost," "Backup Strategies and Tools," and "Photo Image Digital manipulations."

In Addition to the highly popular "Court Records" workshop taught by Chuck Sherrill, workshops will also be offered on handwriting, using maps, using chancery records, and land platting.

A day-long track on DNA and genealogy will include DNA testing topics, along with examples of DNA projects.

Join us in Richmond, 16-10 May 2007.





Mesa County Genealogical Society  
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Watch for information on  
the upcoming Family  
History Fair, March  
2007

KAREN STURGEZ

[REDACTED]

GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81502-1502

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