

"All photos speak a thousand words. This one contained a Library." Rivera Sun

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Old Photographs – What do we do with them?

Quite a few years ago, (26 to be exact) when I and my siblings broke up my parent's home after their passing, I somehow became the caretaker of all the family photos. I think it probably had something to do with the fact that I was interested in some of the very old photos and since I was the only sibling with children, it just became an unspoken fact that I would take all the family photos, keep them safe and eventually pass them down through my children.

Well, long story short, I did take the family photos home with me and those photos are what actually got me interested in genealogy. I am thankful for that; those photos opened up the knowledge of my family, because in the process of identifying some of these older photos, they reconnected me with aunts and cousins I had not seen in years, and also introduced me to new ones.

So, with that being said, now what do I do with them? Now that I have this responsibility of caring for these family memories, how do I preserve them from deterioration so that they will survive for future generations? And most importantly, how do I do it right the first time and not have to redo it. We are lucky; with the internet, this information and more is now very accessible to us.

My search started with wanting to know just how to care and store them and I found out this and so much more at the National Archives website; www.archives.gov/preservation I discovered the Preservation section which contains a large amount of information. You can find anything from caring and preserving family papers, books, pictures photographs to audio, video, film and more. This information has helped me with my preservation of my

family memories and I hope it will help you.

When you first go into the National Archives Preservation page, www.archives.gov/preservation there are four main titles, with subtitles under these.

Main titles are:

"What Do You Want To Preserve?"

"NARA Preservation Strategies"

"Preservation Programs"

"Events and Special Projects"

Of these four, in this newsletter I will focus on the first main title, *"What Do You Want to Preserve?"* This has a subtitle of: Family Preservation. Click on Family Preservation and it brings you to several questions.

How do I preserve my family papers?

Paper preservation requires proper storage and safe handling practices. Your family documents will last longer if they are stored in a stable environment, similar to that which we find comfortable for ourselves: 60-70 degrees F; 40-50% relative humidity (RH); with clean air and good circulation. High heat and moisture accelerate the chemical processes that result in embrittlement and discoloration to the paper. Damp environments may also result in mold growth and/or be conducive to pests that might use the documents for food or nesting material. Therefore, the central part of your home provides a safer storage environment than a hot attic or damp basement.

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Light is also damaging to paper, especially that which contains high proportions of ultra violet, i.e., fluorescent and natural day light. The effects of light exposure are cumulative and irreversible; they promote chemical degradation in the paper and fade inks. It is not recommended to permanently display valuable documents for this reason. Color photocopies or photographs work well as surrogates.

Family papers should be stored in appropriate sized enclosures, such as a folder, box, portfolio, etc., that will provide physical protection as well as protection from light and dust. The enclosure itself should be made of stable permanent quality materials that will not contribute to the document's deterioration. See Mary Lynn Ritzenthaler's *Preservation of Archival Records: Holdings Maintenance* at the National Archives for details regarding enclosure specifications, and for easy-to-follow directions on preservation handling procedures for long term storage.

Should I remove my photographs from old albums, such as black paper albums or self-stick albums?

Don't rush to remove photographs from albums just because you think the album is not "archival". Many older albums with black, gray or colored paper actually may not be harming your photographs while removal may cause immediate damage that is not easily repaired! In addition, older family heirloom albums frequently have valuable inscriptions and a character all their own that would be lost by replacement with a modern album. People sometimes erroneously assume that damage they see is caused by the paper when in fact the damage occurred years ago. For example, stains and fading (especially on black-and-white photos) can be the result of poor processing by the photographer or the glues originally used to spot adhere the photos to the pages, very little can be done to reverse the damage in these situations. However, some album page papers, even different types of photos or poorly processed photos, or previous tape mends which are in contact with photos on adjacent pages, may be contributing to fading or staining. One simple solution is to interleave those pages with these problems using high quality paper or plastic sheets to isolate each page from its neighbor. Care should be taken so that the album doesn't become overstuffed with the interleaving, possibly breaking the binding. If the photos really are deteriorating and you choose to have the album disassembled to ensure their preservation, photocopies in color or black-and-white can be made of each page to capture the look and feel of the original, preserve all inscriptions, and keep a record of the order in the album.

As mentioned above, removing photos from old self-stick album pages that have dried up, especially when the plastic cover sheet no longer sticks to the page and the page has discolored, may be easy, frequently the photo just falls off! However, removing photos from pages that are in the extremely tacky stage can cause permanent damage. This treatment, especially for those photos that are very important to you, is best left to trained conservators. Photographs which were recently attached to self-stick album pages usually can be removed easily within a year or two by inserting a thin knife under the edge of the photo and gently separating the photo from the page. Never curl or peel back a photo from a self-stick page as the photo may be permanently cracked and curled in the process.

How can I safely mount my documents, memorabilia, and photographs into albums or scrapbooks?

The method you use to assemble scrapbooks, photograph albums or memory books can enhance the preservation of the items or can cause irreversible negative effects. Mounting with the following materials should be avoided: synthetic glue (white glue), rubber cement, pressure-sensitive tapes and films, staples, or hot glue gun adhesives. These materials have poor aging qualities which can physically damage and/or discolor paper and photographs.

Albums with self-stick pages ("magnetic pages") should be avoided as well due to the adhesive used on the mounting page. There are several safe alternatives for mounting. Valuable items such as birth certificates, family letters, and photographs should be mounted without use of glue or other adhesives. Envelopes and sleeves made of stable plastics such as polyester and polypropylene can hold the materials and be used as album pages. An alternative for sleeves and envelopes are corners made from plastic films (such as, polypropylene and polyester) or paper.

Plastic and paper corners which are to be used for photographic memorabilia should be made of a material which passes the Photographic Activity Test (PAT). The PAT standard is ANSI IT9.16, Photographic Activity Test. Many manufacturers test their products with the PAT and advertise storage materials which pass the PAT.

Paper corners which are to be used only with paper memorabilia need only pass the standard for permanent paper ANSI/NISO Z39.48, Permanence of Paper for Publication of Documents in Libraries and Archives. This standard specifies the characteristics of paper that is of a permanent nature and which will not harm other documents with which it is in contact.

What kind of photo album should I use?

There are many types of photo albums available. These albums may or may not be appropriate for certain photos in certain circumstances. What may be safe and appropriate (and inexpensive) for everyday disposable snapshots that will only be of interest to you for a few years may not be appropriate for photos that are family keepsakes or those destined to become your family heirlooms. Keep in mind the long term implications when selecting an album as some may cause damage in the short or long term and should not be used with family keepsakes or those you wish to keep for decades.

Album pages, not the covers, have the most influence on the long term preservation of your photos since they are in direct contact with the photos and can cause the most harm. There are three types of album pages:

- Plastic pocket pages (pages with pockets for inserting the photos)
- Paper pages with or without a clear plastic cover sheet
- So-called magnetic albums or self stick albums having clear cover sheets

Plastic pocket pages have the advantage that no adhesive is needed to secure the photo but photos may slip out of the pocket opening. Paper pages require some method of securing the photo to the paper such as photo corners or adhesives. Self stick pages provide their own means of securing photos to the page, but surround the photo with adhesive which may be deleterious to the photo.

All papers, plastics, and adhesives used in albums should pass the Photographic Activity Test (PAT).

In general, plastic pages and cover sheets made from uncoated pure polyethylene, polypropylene and polyester (also called Mylar D or Mellinex 516) are considered stable and non-damaging to photographs. Polyester is crystal clear and is more rigid than polyethylene and polypropylene. None of these recommended plastics have any odor to them, while polyvinyl chloride (PVC) plastic does have a strong odor (like a new car odor). Avoid the use of PVC plastics they generate acids which can fade the photograph in time. In addition, the plastic can stick to items inside and, in some types of photographs (and printed items such as baseball cards) actually cause the image to transfer to the plastic. For these reasons, PVC cover sheets, pages and albums should not be used for valuable photographs or those you want to preserve for a long time.

Look for paper pages that are made from a high-quality, non-acidic, lignin-free paper (either buffered or unbuffered) made from cotton or highly purified wood pulps. Paper pages with plastic cover sheets offer more protection to the photographs from fingerprints, accidental spills, and by preventing the photos from sticking to each other in damp conditions.

Self stick albums should be avoided for any valuable photos that are meant to be kept for a long time. Self-stick pages are coated with an adhesive that stains photos and possibly fades some types of photographs over time. In addition, in the long term, the adhesive either dries up and fails after several years and discolors to an unsightly dark yellow, or, in the short term, the adhesive becomes very tacky making it difficult to remove photos without damaging them.

Albums are available in many styles from spiral or ring binders to post or clamp bindings or those bound with traditional sewing; with cloth, plastic or leather covers. All are acceptable and your choice of album style may depend more on the "look" you want and cost. One thing to remember is that the album should not be overstuffed once you have added all the pages and attached the photographs. Overstuffing is particularly bad for post and sewn bindings, the added thickness of the pages with attached photographs might break the narrower binding and splay open the album. Overstuffing also makes it difficult to turn pages in a spiral and ring binder and damages the pages.

How should I attach my photos to the album pages?

Plastic pocket style pages do not require adhesive.

Self-stick (pressure sensitive) tapes, especially those with rubber based adhesives (e.g., masking and cellophane tapes), household white or yellow glues, and rubber cement should not be used on valuable or heirloom photographs. Pressure sensitive tapes and many glues either fail with time or become difficult to remove, and usually cause staining and fading. Although some acrylic tape formulations, including some double sided acrylic tapes, have tested well with the Photographic Activity Test (PAT), they still have undesirable long term properties. Many eventually ooze around their edges in time. This can cause adjacent items to stick together if the adhesive oozes beyond the edge of the photograph (although this problem is tempered somewhat if the album page has a protective plastic cover sheet). Also, most pressure sensitive adhesives cause papers to become transparent as their chemical components migrate out of the adhesive layer and are absorbed into the materials with which they are in contact.

The safest and simplest way to attach photos to paper pages is by using plastic or paper photo corners which pass the PAT. Photo corners are available in two general designs: 1) as strips of plastic or paper that must be folded into a triangular pocket at the time of use or 2) corners that come pre-folded or sealed into the triangular pocket. The corners of the photograph are slipped into the triangular pockets which are then secured to the album page. Photo corners are especially appropriate for snapshot photographs because many preservation quality adhesives do not stick well to the backs of modern photographs. Unlike glues and adhesives which must be applied directly to the back of the photo, photo corners allow easy removal of the photos as the need arises and rarely damage photos (and if they do, the damage will be confined to the margins of the photo).

Paper photo corners typically have small amounts of adhesive on the backside which is moistened much like a postage stamp before it is adhered to the album page. Not only is this adhesive usually safe, but it can be removed in the future by remoistening. These corners are available in white and black, and some even have decorative edges. Plastic photo corners have a pressure sensitive (self stick) adhesive on the back. They are clear and do not obscure any part of the image along the margins. Most plastic corners are made from polyester or in some cases polyethylene or polypropylene. The small paper or plastic corners available for snapshot size photographs are too small for photographs larger than 8 x 10 inches or for photos thicker than the average snapshot, such as many 19th Century photographs which are mounted on thin cards or boards. Larger sized corners should be used for these photographs. Snapshots can be secured either at all four corners or with two photo corners placed at opposite diagonal corners of the photo. Large photographs and paper items, thick mounted photographs, or heavy items should be secured at all four corners.

Only adhesives which pass the PAT should be used directly on photographs. Unfortunately, preservation quality wet adhesives can swell and distort photographs if not dried carefully under light pressure and they may not stick well to modern snapshot photographs. Any adhesive used directly on the back of a photograph should be applied in small dots, about the size of a cotton swab tip, at the corners. Avoid smearing adhesive along the edges or the entire back of the photo as this will make it likely that you will transfer adhesive to the front in the process, prolong drying time, increase the chance of swelling and distortions, and complicate removal, if required.

Preservation quality adhesives include purified starch pastes, and adhesives made from chemically modified cellulose, such as methyl cellulose (Dow A4M MC). Modified celluloses are inert and are used as thickeners in many food products, as are purified wheat starches. These adhesives have been used for years by conservators and have proven stability. These adhesives are available through mail order catalogs from preservation suppliers. In a pinch, arrow root starch (available in grocery stores) can be used as it is another highly purified plant starch (it was used in various 19th century photographic processes).

Starches and methylcellulose adhesives can be made with pure water. Starch adhesives tend to adhere better than cellulose adhesives, but spoil within a few days, even when kept refrigerated in a closed jar. Cellulose adhesives do not require cooking, do not require dilution if prepared to the needed thickness (given below), and rarely spoil even when kept for months at room temperature in a closed jar. Starches should be prepared with 1 part starch to 4 parts water. This slurry can be cooked in a microwave set on high, stirring every 30 seconds for a total of 2 to 5 minutes until it forms a translucent gel. Then it is cooled, strained and diluted with water to a thin creamy consistency for use. Methyl cellulose (MC) should be prepared with 1 part MC to 8 parts cold water, mixed and refrigerated overnight till it gels.

How should I caption my photographic prints; is there a safe way to write on the back of photographs?

A safe way to caption a photograph is to write on the back with a soft lead pencil. Pencil is harmless to photographs, unlike some inks, and won't stain or run if the photo gets damp. However, modern snapshots and most photographs since 1960 are printed on resin coated (RC) paper, a type of paper that is coated with plastic--which does not readily take pencil or ink. Usually a soft lead pencil will write on these photos, but it smudges easily (as does ink). Felt tip film marking pens, unlike ballpoint pens, do write well on RC papers as they are formulated for marking plastics. If film marking pens are used, allow the ink to dry before stacking prints together and take care not to smudge the ink before it dries. Inks are not easily removed from the front of photographs and many times leave a permanent stain. When writing captions on the backs of photos, place the photograph on a hard surface and write with light pressure to avoid embossing through to the front of the photograph. Label the back of photos along an edge; that way, if the ink causes damage to the photo or if the photo is accidentally embossed, the damage will be restricted to the edge not the middle of the image.

How should I store my photographic prints?

The preservation of photographs, and all documents and artworks, depends on the storage environment and the storage enclosures. Many institutions have climate controlled storage rooms with purified air, kept at constant moderate or cool temperatures (e.g., 65-70F) and moderate relative humidity's (e.g., 35-50%). Some institutions even have cold vaults for certain types of photographs that are very prone to deterioration, such as color photographs and older films. Unfortunately, these conditions are not easily found or maintained in homes! However, there are things you can do to improve the storage climate for your valuable photographs in your home: store your photographs in the coolest and driest spot in your home that stays that way year round. Finished basements frequently are cool, but they are usually too damp for photo storage unless they are dehumidified. Dampness should be avoided as it causes photos to stick together, and promotes mold growth. Above ground interior closets maintain fairly constant temperatures throughout the year, and should be considered for storage.

Look for paper enclosures that are made from a high quality, non-acidic, lignin-free paper (buffered or unbuffered are OK) made from cotton or highly purified wood pulps. Paper envelopes with center seams should be avoided, if the seam adhesive causes fading or staining it will happen in the middle of your photograph. If you do use an envelope with a center seam, place the back side of the photo against the seam, any deterioration would have to work its way through the back before attacking the image on the front.

Look for plastic enclosures made from uncoated pure polyethylene, polypropylene or polyester (also called Mylar D or Mellinex 516). These are considered stable and non-damaging to photographs. Polyester is crystal clear and is more rigid than polyethylene and polypropylene.

Albums are an ideal storage method for photographic prints, especially snapshots and heirloom photographs, the photographs can be safely stored and organized, and safely viewed, without inflicting damage from frequent handling. Albums should be used to store selected groups of photographs, as they are expensive and somewhat bulky storage options. Not all photographs are really worth keeping; snapshot collections should be weeded of poor prints (blurred images, bad exposures) or less desirable photos (multiples, poorly cropped images) before housing the best ones in an album or other storage method (described below). Besides albums, there are many different types of storage enclosures designed for the different photographic formats and sizes. These include folders, sleeves, and envelopes. The choice of enclosure depends not only on resources but also the frequency that the photos will be handled for viewing and their current fragility. In general, if a photograph is handled frequently or is fragile, it should be stored in its own enclosure such as a folder, envelope or plastic sleeve, and then grouped in a box. Photos which are handled very frequently should be stored in their own plastic folders or sleeves so that they can be viewed without removing from the enclosure. Plastic enclosures also protect the photo surface from fingerprinting while it is being viewed. Remember, it is best to always hold a photograph by its edges, supporting it from underneath with your hand. Individual enclosures also protect from wear and tear and provide physical support to fragile or damaged photos. Very fragile photos such as those with large tears and breaks, brittle photos, photos with broken mounts or those with a damaged surface can be put in one of the enclosures listed above with a rigid piece of paperboard behind the photo for extra support. A less expensive option for storage is to group photos in folders. This approach is fine for photos that are in good condition and are rarely handled. Remember that damaged photos can be copied or photocopied, and the copy used instead to protect valuable originals.

Photographs can also be stored in plastic pocket pages and standard size plastic sleeves, grouped in folders for organization,

then stacked in a box. Photographs 8 x10 inches or smaller can be stored vertically on their long edges in standard size boxes which are available for many photographic formats, including modern and nineteenth-century photographs. Photos larger than 8 x 10 inches, or those with damaged edges (brittle, torn) should be stored flat in small stacks inside standard size boxes. Groups of similar sized photos which are all the same type, such as modern 4 x 6 inch color snapshots, or older 2-1/4 inch black-and white snapshots, can be stored vertically or horizontally together without extra housings, photos which are the same type are usually safe to store in contact with each other. Boxes should be not be over stuffed or under filled. Over stuffing causes damage when photos are pulled out or filed away; under filling causes the photos to slump and curl.

Lastly, the safest, and most expensive, way to store photographs is to mat them in high quality ragboard or matboard. This method is excellent for photos that are to be framed and displayed.

How should I frame and display my photographs?

Decorative frames, available at many stores, are appropriate for everyday snapshots. However, these frames either do not come with a mat or spacers to keep the photo from contact with the glass, or they use a poor quality acidic paper mat. Unfortunately, many unmatted photos have been damaged or permanently stuck to glass when fluid seeped between the glass and photo after the glass had been sprayed with liquid cleaner or beverages were spilled near the frame. Never use spray cleaners around photographs and artwork. Many cleaners are corrosive and cause immediate fading and staining if they, or their vapors, come in contact with the photograph.

Important family photos or photographic artworks should be matted to museum standards using high quality matboard for the window mat and the back board. The matboard should pass the ANSI IT9.16 Photographic Activity Test (PAT). The safest way to attach the photograph to the back board is with paper or plastic photo corners or paper or plastic edge strips. Edge strips are folded pieces of paper or plastic which secure the edge of the photograph to the back board. The edge of the photo is inserted into the fold and then the edge strip is adhered to the back board. Photo corners and edge strips are ideal in situations where the window mat will cover over the edges of the photo and hide the photo corner or edge strip. Photo corners should not be used on unmounted prints larger than 20 x 24 inches, or very fragile photos. These items should be attached to the back board with paper hinges adhered to the back top edge of the photo (then secured to the back board) or with edge strips along all four edges. Hinging should be left to a qualified framer or someone with training and the proper tools for hinging papers and adhesives.

Once a treasured photograph is properly matted and framed, it should not be displayed in direct sunlight, or under bright lamps, near heat sources or in damp locations such as basements, kitchens or bathrooms. Based on studies by Kodak, typical ambient (diffuse) home lighting is probably not harmful over the course of several years, but light slowly will cause fading and other irreversible damage that may not become objectionable for many years. Therefore, treasured photos which you intend to pass on to future generations should not be displayed excessively in your lifetime. Instead, a duplicate copy can be made and displayed while the original is kept safe with other family keepsakes.

Should I digitize my photo collection? Is it safe to throw away my original film and prints after I digitize them?

You may want to digitize your photographs because it offers safe and easy access to the images in your collection. Once your photographs have been scanned, you can view them in electronic form and even make hard copies without risking damage to the originals. Do not throw away your original film and prints after you digitize them. Digitized images are not considered a replacement for originals. Data (i.e. your images) can be lost when the storage media deteriorates; and software and hardware technology become rapidly obsolete, in some cases making retrieval of the images difficult if not impossible.

How should I store negatives and transparencies?

Negatives and transparencies can be stored the same way as photographic prints, using the same high quality papers and plastic which pass the ANSI IT9.16 Photographic Activity Test (PAT). There are paper and plastic enclosures and storage boxes designed for film formats available from most manufacturers. Like prints, negatives and transparencies should be stored in a cool, dry location.

Fortunately, many negatives now return from the photo lab stored in plastic pocket pages that appear to be safe for the films (they frequently are polyethylene). Likewise, the plastic boxes that store slides are usually safe (they frequently are polypropylene). Slides can also be stored in plastic slide pages (a type of pocket page which holds 20 slides) or stored in metal or cardboard slide boxes.

Older plastic or paper enclosures which come from the photo lab may not be safe for long term storage of photographs. If the paper has become brittle, has stained or marred the photo, or has caused fading, it should be replaced with a high quality envelope which passes the PAT. Old film negatives may develop a vinegar odor with time, or warp and wrinkle. This is a sign that the plastic is deteriorating. Only storage at cold temperatures can slow this irreversible decay process. Cold storage is not practical for most people and can even cause more immediate damage if used improperly. However, frost-free freezers can be used as long as special enclosures and handling procedures are followed. If the negative is very important and needs to be kept, it should be duplicated.

I hope this information has been helpful in answering a few of your questions on preserving your family's photographs and memories. I have really just touched the tip of the iceberg on the amount of information that is available through the National Archives website www.loc.gov/preservation. It is well worth the time to explore it.

Source: National Archives, www.loc.gov/preservation, 23 August 2014

If you are like me and everyone else who has old photographs in their possession, you have probably come across a few that have no dates. I for one consider myself lucky if they have names or clues to names! In my research on photographs, I have found that there are many good ways to get "about" the time period the photograph was taken.

The first thing to look for is what type of photograph is it? Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes, tintypes, card photographs, etc. It will give you a clue as to the date. Was it printed on cardstock? Another clue.

The next important step is to look at the fashion of clothing that the people are wearing.

- Women - check the bodices, sleeve style, skirts – (length of the skirt is important), collars, hairstyles and accessories.
- Men - check frock coats, lapel widths, waistcoat, vests, collars, cravats, buttons, hats and hair styles.
- Children –Girls, check length of dress, shorter they were younger, as they aged the dresses got longer, pantalets, bows, ruffles and hair length.
- Children – Boys, check knickers, stockings, suits, jackets and hair styles.

There is so much information on this subject; I have listed below a number of websites that I found to be very informative.

www.fashion-era.com/Dating_Costume_History_Pictures/how_to_date_photographs_top.htm

www.olivetreegenealogy.com/photos/fashions-photos.shtml

<http://blog.findmypast.co.uk/2011/family-photos-what-are-they-wearing/>

www.familychronicle.com/dating.htm

www.porterphotorepair.com/dating-photographs-by-childrens-clothing/

<http://blog.familytreemagazine.com/photodetectiveblog/CategoryView,category,hairstyles.aspx>

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/dress-and-textiles/dating-photos-from-costume.htm>

Family Recipe



This recipe comes from Kathie Vlahos, it is an English recipe from her husband's family for Carrot Pudding. It is from his maternal grandmother, Caroline (Johncock) Saddler. My mother-in-law, Edith (Saddler) Vlahos, had very fond memories of her mother Caroline (Johncock) Saddler making this pudding for her school lunchbox. She said she liked the pudding, but loved the frosting and it was always a special treat when it was in her lunchbox. Caroline (Johncock) Saddler came to the United States (via Canada) from England when she was 5 years old, about 1887.

Caroline (Johncock) Saddler
Circa 1945

Carrot Pudding

Makes 1 pudding

1 cup sugar	1 cup raisins and or currents
1 cup flour	1 teaspoon allspice
1 cup grated carrots	1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 cup grated potatoes	1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
1 tablespoon butter	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon baking soda in 1 tablespoon hot water	

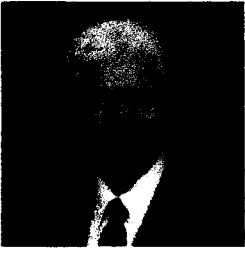
Cream butter and sugar together. Mix together all ingredients, adding potatoes last and pour into greased 1 lb. coffee cans lined with wax paper (using the wax paper plus greasing makes the pudding come out easier) fill to about 1 inch from the top of can. Steam pudding for 3 hours. Remove from cans while still hot. Refrigerate. Serve hot with hard sauce (frosting).

To steam: steam in large deep pan on top of the stove, pour water so that it comes up to 1 inch from the top of the can. Set can on a flat rack so that it does not come in contact with the bottom of the pan. Cover can while steaming, to cover use aluminum foil and tie with string as tight as possible, or use a large twisty around the outside of the can. Water should be simmering while steaming, check periodically to make sure water level is ok and add more water if necessary. Steam pudding for 3 hours.

To make frosting: Use powdered sugar, butter, vanilla and milk or water to make a frosting like you would use on cinnamon rolls, etc. Some people use rum instead of the vanilla for the flavoring.

If you have a favorite family recipe please submit and share with us! Send to Kathie Vlahos at [REDACTED]

In Memoriam



Donald M. Fifield

August 23, 1929 - May 30, 2014

Donald MacKinnon Fifield, of Grand Junction, died at St. Mary's Hospital on Friday, May 30th.

He was born in Wellesley, MA, the son of Donald Morrill and Allegra Mary Fifield. He graduated from Lexington High School, MA, and attended college in Maryland and Colorado. He married JoAn S. Porter on October 16, 1955. They had 59 wonderful years together.

Don was retired from the field of hospital administration in Fruita, Rangely, Fairplay, and Colorado Springs, and as the Chief Executive Officer. He also managed health care institutions in Corpus Christi, Texas and was the Chief Registrar at Fort Logan Mental Health Center in Denver.

Don served as an officer of the Utah Blue Cross, Colorado Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, and the Texas Association of Voluntary Non-profit Homes for the Aged. He was a member of the American College of Hospital Administrators. He was former president of the Kiwanis Club of Grand Junction - Golden K and the Mesa County Genealogical Society and president of the Redlands Community Center Board. Don was a member of the First Congregational Church.

He served in both the United States Air Force Training Command and the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps during the Korean conflict.

Don was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, and was always a perfect gentleman. He enjoyed his family, traveling, woodworking, gardening, exploring Western Colorado, golf, Kiwanis, friends, and was a gourmet cook.

He is survived by his wife, JoAn; daughter, Michelle Swiniarski of Margate, Florida; two sons, Scott (Eileen) of Strasburg, Colorado and Jamey of Cheyenne, Wyoming; two grandsons, Trevice and Cody of Wyoming, and sister, Barbara Cushman of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

At Don's request, there will be no services.

Donations, in Don's honor, may be made to the Museum of Western Colorado/Loyd Files Research Library or charity of choice.

Published in The Daily Sentinel, Grand Junction, CO. on June 8, 2014

M. Margaret Lambert

April 7, 1930 - July 9, 2014

M. Margaret Lambert, a resident of Grand Junction since 1963, passed away at Larchwood Inns on July 9, 2014, at the age of 84.

Margaret was born on April 7, 1930, in Whittier, CA, to William and Verna (Church) Emery. She graduated from Whittier Union High School in 1948, and was previously married to Clyde Gordon Darlington, followed by Marion Miller until his death in 1961, in 1968 she married Frank J. Lambert. She retired as a U.S. Postal Clerk around 1980.

Margaret was a lifetime member of Eastern Star Lyra Chapter 144 in Whittier, CA, a member of National Association of Retired Federal Employees, the Mesa County Genealogical Society and had been active in the Colorado and Mesa County Jane Jefferson's and Democratic Women's Club. Genealogy research was a favorite past time for her and Frank with travels to Europe and many trips to Salt Lake City. She also loved flower arranging and needle crafts. She also enjoyed bird watching, fishing, skiing and swimming. Margaret was a kind and loving mother, grandmother and sister.

Margaret is survived by her two children, Candace Darlington DeRose and Michael E. (Kathy) Miller, both of Grand Junction; her four granddaughters, Jennifer DeRose of Lakewood, CO; Christina DeRose of Grand Junction, CO; Sarah Miller of Wuxi, China; Laura Miller of Rochester, MN, and great-granddaughter, Madison Spor of Grand Junction. Margaret is also survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Barbara (Emery) and Stan Shields of Yorba Linda, CA, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements have been made through Martin Mortuary with visitation on Sunday, July 13, 2014, from 2 - 4:00 p.m. Services will be held on Monday, July 14, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. at Martin Mortuary and interment will be at Memorial Gardens following the service.

Published in The Daily Sentinel, Grand Junction, CO. on July 12, 2014

MESA DWELLERS

From the Editor

Summer is coming to a close and fall is fast approaching. With the cooler weather, we start thinking of those comfort foods we enjoy this time of year. Mine is pot roast with potatoes and carrots, plus butterscotch pie for dessert. As soon as the weather cooled down in the fall, that was what my mother served almost every weekend, believe it or not, we never tired of it. What is your favorite comfort food?

Dennis Jenkins has come up with a nice idea for the December Issue of Mesa Dwellers. We could have the December Issue be compiled of members favorite comfort foods or Christmas recipes. I think this is a great idea. Please think about what your favorite recipe is and send it to Kathie Vlahos at [REDACTED]. Please include a small paragraph on the history of the recipe and what the recipe means to you.

This December I will be stepping down from my position as editor, the December Issue of Mesa Dweller's will be my last one. It has been a great 7 year run, and now I feel it is time to turn the reins over to another. If anyone is interested, please contact our president, Dennis Jenkins. I will be more than happy to give my assistance to whoever decides to become the next editor. Karen is also stepping down after the December issue. As stated above, please contact our President and she will also be willing to help whoever takes over as Assistant Editor.

Enjoy the nice fall weather!

Kathie Vlahos - Editor
Karen Grew-Ellison – Assistant Editor

Have anything for the newsletter? Please contact Kathie Vlahos or Karen Grew-Ellison or go to: [REDACTED] submit via-email directly to the editors.

The Mesa County Genealogical Society, established in 1980, is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

Objectives:

1. To promote an interest in genealogy, to encourage and instruct members in the art and practice of genealogical research.
2. To maintain and elevate genealogical standards, to stress the importance of accuracy in research through careful documentation.
3. To locate, preserve and index public and private genealogical records and make such records available to members and the general public.
4. To assist and support any genealogical library in Colorado, which is open to the public.

Society meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Commons of Hilltop Garden Room, located at 625 27 ½ Road at 7:00 pm. The monthly Sack Lunch meeting is held in the 2nd floor Museum conference room of the C. D Smith Building at 5th & Ute Streets at 12 noon on the 4th Wednesday of each month. A Board of Directors meeting will often follow the Sack Lunch meeting from 1pm - 2pm.

Society Officers

President	Dennis Jenkins
Vice President	Stella Ledbetter
Secretary	Donna Jackson
Treasurer	Anita Caldwell

Board Members

Carole Moritz	3 year Term
Jill Berthod	2014-2015-2016
Karen Grew-Ellison	2012-2013-2014
	2013-2014-2015

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Historian/Archivist	Jan Wilson
Co-Genealogist/Librarian	Kay Oxer
Co-Genealogist/Librarian	Linda Garey
Newsletter Editor	Kathie Vlahos
Assistant Editor	Karen Grew-Ellison
Society Webmaster	Caley Gredig
Parliamentarian	Vacant
Program Director	Dennis Jenkins
Research Director	Bob Cress
Membership/Education/Outreach	Caley Gredig & Jill Berthod

Membership year: March 1 - February 28/29

Annual Dues: \$10 Single - \$12 Family (2 voting family members).

Those with unpaid dues after April 30th of the membership year will not receive the newsletter.

To contribute to the newsletter send info to [REDACTED]. Contributions are encouraged and appreciated and should be neatly typed or written stories, queries, articles and/or other information applicable to genealogy research. Contribution (deadlines): March issue (Feb 15), June issue (May 15), September issue (August 15), December issue (November 15).

September 2014 ~ December 2014 ~ Upcoming Programs and Events

- 5 Sept. 2014 Friday Help Session: 1-3 p.m. at Palisade Library.
- 11 Sept. 2014 Thursday Evening Meeting 7 p.m. at the Commons: View an Archived Webinar or Share?
- 13 Sept. 2014 Saturday: CCGS/DPL Denver Seminar: *The Many Ways to Explore and Preserve your Family History*, by Dr. John P. Colletta.
- 24 Sept. 2014 Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch at the Museum: Live Legacy Webinar: *A Library at Your Fingertips – The Internet Archive*, by Maureen Taylor.
- 3 Oct. 2014 Friday Help Session: 1-3 p.m. at Fruita Library.
- 9 Oct. 2014 Thursday Evening Meeting 7 p.m. at the Commons: General Share of Successes and Research Questions.
- 22 Oct. 2014 Wednesday Noon Sack Lunch at the Museum: Kaye Carlson of Carlson Memorials, Inc. will give a presentation on *Cemetery Monuments – How They Design and Create Them*.
- 7 Nov. 2014 Friday Help Session: 1-3 p.m. at Main Central Library.
- 13 Nov. 2014 Thursday Evening Meeting 7 p.m. at the Commons: View an Archived Webinar.
- 5 Dec. 2014 Friday Help Session: 1-3 p.m. at Palisade Library.
- 11 Dec. 2014 Annual Christmas Pot Luck.

President's Message

The Fall Season is upon us this month and the Holidays will soon be here as well. I always find it difficult to spend time on my family history research during this time of the year. As a way to keep up your research consider attending one of our Help Sessions at the Mesa County Public Library branches. They occur on the first Friday of each month. The last 4 Friday sessions in 2014 are: September 5, 2014 at Palisade branch, October 3, 2014 at Fruita branch, November 7, 2014 at Main Central library, and December 5, 2014 at Palisade branch. By attending a help session you will get one-on-one help that may just allow you to accomplish some of your research during this busy time of the year.

Another thing to consider is taking a little of what you already have in photos, stories and information about your ancestors and including them in your Christmas letter or prepare a 2015 calendar with photos of common ancestors to send to siblings, cousins and other relatives as a Christmas gift. There are places on the internet that will produce a calendar for you or check out local photo shops such as Snap Photo in Downtown Grand Junction.

If you are still doing all your research on paper and having difficulty keeping it all straight, there are a number of good genealogy programs available to help organize your data. These all have great reports that can be generated to be able to send to your relatives. Programs that come to mind are RootsMagic, Legacy Family Tree, Ancestral Quest and FamilyTree Maker. They cost \$30 to \$40 for current versions. They are usually able to be connected online to FamilySearch Family Tree at FamilySearch.org to see if there are other researchers adding information about your ancestors. Also once you have your genealogical information on such a program, you can easily print out narratives or reports that can be used as Christmas gifts. Note that there are free cloud based family trees on the internet including the Public Member Trees and Private Member Trees

on Ancestry.com.

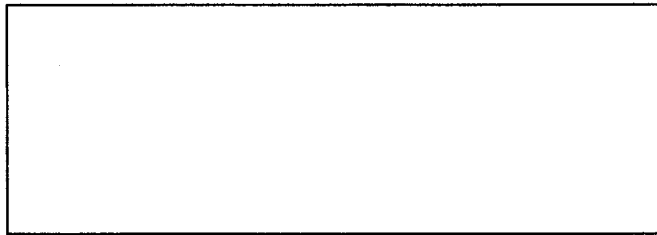
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Mesa County Genealogical Society

[REDACTED]
P.O. Box 1506

Grand Junction, CO

81502-1506



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Consider spending more time researching your ancestor's siblings and their descendants. This allows you to find cousins (2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.) who are still living and whom you previously did not know. They often have information such as letters, diaries, family bibles, photos, and stories that will benefit your research.

Please note that I will soon be selecting the nominating committee to provide a slate of officers to our February 25, 2015 Wednesday Noon meeting election. I want to remind you of the need to consider taking on the duties of being an officer in the Society for next year. Also consider getting involved with one of our committees or projects.

If you have any questions about the information above please contact me at: [REDACTED] or call me at [REDACTED]

Dennis Jenkins