



# FAMILY TIES



## SANDY GRANITE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER NEWSLETTER

### Director's Message

Glen Steenblik



How I enjoyed the talk in General Conference by President Henry B. Eyring, "Gathering the Family of God". Reminding us of the prophesy of Malachi and of the visit of the Prophet Elijah to the Prophet Joseph Smith, he expressed that the "interest in exploring one's family history has grown exponentially. At ever-increasing rates people seem drawn to their ancestry with more than just casual curiosity." President Eyring spoke of his experience (not unlike experiences many of us have had) with a Temple and Family History Consultant by his side and another helper on the phone, as he was able to discover the names of individuals who might be waiting for temple ordinances and resolution of possible duplication issues.



He went on to share, "We do not know what marvels God will inspire people to create to help in His work of gathering His family. But whatever marvelous inventions may come, their use will require the Spirit working in people like you and me. This should not surprise us. After all, these are beloved sons and daughters of God. He will send whatever inspiration is needed to give them the opportunity to return to Him."

President Eyring also spoke of the admirable service the youth of the church are performing in connection with family history work. "They have learned that this work saves not just the dead; it saves all of us." He encouraged us in stating, "The work of gathering Heavenly Father's family is not just for young people, and it is not just for grandparents. It is for everyone. We are all gatherers."

May we each continue to go forth being watched over, guided and directed by the Spirit and receive the promised inspiration and help we too "seek and need". It will come as we go forth with faith and patience and do our part.

### Watch Out for Those Youth!

What started out as a good month for adults indexing turned in to a competition with the youth. When the youth discovered that the adults had indexed more names than they had, they decided to even the score. Over 1000 names were indexed in May by the youth at the Family History Center.

The youth are also experiencing a renewal of enthusiasm for finding and taking ancestors to the temple. Sister Lisa Ensign of the Granite View Stake has created a



family tree, "Youth Welcome Home Tree" at the Center. As the youth discover new

family members eligible for temple ordinances, they can add a green leaf to the tree. When those family members are baptized, the leaf is then turned over to the white side. Once all of the available ordinances are completed for that person, a lady bug is added to the leaf. This tree has become a great visual reminder of the individuals whose lives are being changed by the youth at the Center.



## FHE Activity

### Liz Kennington



My husband Dean serves as the patriarch in the Granite Stake. One of the business things that must be taken care of each time a candidate comes to our house for a blessing is to verify the information on each recommend. This includes names of individual, parents' names (maiden name of mother), place of birth, birthdate, etc. What we find interesting is the number of teens who don't know where they were born. Some say "here" meaning Sandy; others have no idea where, let alone the name of the hospital where they were born. Just because kids were born in the Salt Lake Valley doesn't mean they were born in Salt Lake City.

Why not set aside a family home evening to share the stories of their births, including the name of the hospital where they were born, along with the name of the city. If parents lived in other cities early in their marriage before most of the kids were born, it would be interesting to share the places and stories about where the family has lived over the years.

## Honoring Our Fathers

June has always been a special month in my family. Both my father and grandfather celebrated their birthdays in June, 19 and 20 respectively. Frequently, one of their birthdays would land on



Father's Day. The challenge in our family was coming up with presents for both birthdays and Father's Day! The weekend closest to their birthdays was always a time for celebration.

President Calvin Coolidge declared Father's Day a national holiday in 1924, but it wasn't until 1966 when President Lyndon B. Johnson issued a presidential proclamation designating the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. The idea for Father's Day began in 1908 in Grafton, West Virginia, by Grace Golden Clayton following the loss of her own father in the Monongah Mining Disaster in 1907. Since 1908 different celebrations of fathers have occurred in various locations.

Americans were initially resistant to the idea of the day to honor fathers since it seemed like a holiday supported by retailers who would benefit from the day. Regardless of how the day has been viewed over the years, it is a great time to honor those men in our lives who have made an impact on us. Many of these great men in our lives were our fathers and grandfathers. Here are a few remembrances of the men in the lives of the patrons at our family history center.

**Robert N. Westover writes about his father, Richard Nelson Westover:**

“Uncle Sam” was an ever-present factor in the life of my father, Richard Nelson Westover, immediately following his return home to San Diego, California in November 1941 from an LDS mission in Hawaii. He was classified 1-A, and Uncle Sam wanted him right now. On 1 January 1942 Dick married the beautiful young sister missionary he had met in the Mission Home in Salt Lake City; on 5 January 1942, he reported for active duty.

After graduating from Office Training School, the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant was sent back to California for special “coastal duties.” It wasn’t until much later that the family learned that Dick was in Alaska, participating in a part of WW II that most Americans today have never heard of, the “Aleutian Conflict.” Japanese forces had taken over two of the Aleutian Islands, Attu and Kiska, possibly as a diversionary tactic while the main Japanese forces were attacking Midway Atoll. American forces were eventually sent to reclaim the islands. After a two-week battle, Attu was reclaimed. Under the cover of foggy weather the Japanese abandoned Kiska. This “coastal duty” was very different from the beaches of San Diego and Hawaii that Lt. Westover was accustomed to.

After his return to the lower 48, Dick was transferred into the Engineering Corps in 1944. After completing a construction course, he was assigned to the Engineering Replacement Pool. His next stop would be Europe. He later recounted his travel to his

assignment with the Engineering Corps somewhere in the Rhineland of Germany:

**March 1945** – traveled by ship (The Queen Elizabeth) to Scotland, by train thru England, by boat from South Hampton to LeHavre, France, hiked 8 miles from the port to the Replacement Camp and from there in box cars to Vervier, Belgium.

**April 1945** – travel by train from Belgium into Germany, then by truck to “the front.” There he was asked to lead a company of Infantry whose officers had all been killed before moving on to his real assignment of building bridges with the Engineer Battalion.

1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Richard Westover was honorably discharged from the Corps of Engineers and returned to his wife and two little boys in October 1945. Although he learned much from it, the war was a period of his life that he never really liked to talk about.

**Here is the account that President Clint Ensign shared in the Granite Stake Conference, 23 April 2017:**

In the summer of 1939, the threat of war hung over Europe. If war came, European missionaries of the Church were to be evacuated through Switzerland, Holland, and the Netherlands.

On September 1, Germany invaded Poland causing massive panic. The military took over trains and buses. Borders became hard to cross, some closed. Food was scarce. Missionaries made their way the best they could, arriving day and night, hungry and weary, at mission homes in the evacuation countries.

The Netherlands Mission President was Franklin J. Murdock, a young man just 36 years old. Upon hearing of Hitler's invasion of Poland, President Murdock rushed to the Holland America office to secure ship passage for missionaries to America. He knew the Holland America people. But as he neared their office an enormous crowd had gathered at the front door. He wondered, "How am I possibly going to get through?" Then, he records, "...a voice came to me as clear as if you and I were talking. It said, **'Telephone.'**" He turned and beside him was a pay phone. He called Holland America and got right through to the General Manager. President Murdock was asked to come to the back door where he was let in.

He told the manager the Church was evacuating its missionaries, that he needed 90 spaces on the next boat to America and more spaces later. The manager said: "...you don't realize what you're asking. You can see for yourself what was happening outside. All our ships are booked for the next 5 months. And in the crowd outside there are Jews from Germany offering \$1000 apiece for standing room on the ship." The Manager then excused himself to take a call. Realizing the impossibility of the situation, President Murdock prayed like he had never prayed before. Ten minutes later the manager returned and said, "Mr. Murdock, how did you know we were going to charter a new ship? You can have the first 90 places on it." Overjoyed, President Murdock then replied, "I don't have any money to pay you." The manager told him to sign for the Church and that the \$25,000 payment was due when the ship arrived in New York. The S.S. Pennland sailed in mid-September with 90 missionaries.

In October, President Murdock secured passage on Holland America for 100 missionaries including him and his family. This last group sailed on the ship the "Zaandam". During the first few days of the voyage the ship moved slowly. Men stood on the bow men using binoculars by day and torches by night scanning the ocean for mines. The Zaandam was one of the last ships to make it safely from Europe to America without getting sunk by mines or submarines. President Murdock knew they were safely home when looking through a porthole in New York harbor he saw great neon sign that read, *Wrigleys Spearmint Gum*.

My mother, age 7, was on the Zaandam, and President Murdock is my grandfather. His story is about a man who listened to the Spirit and acted on it.

**And Jill Johansen Hixson (Meadowlark Ward, Granite Stake) shares this memory of her father, Willard Johansen:**

My dad, Willard Johansen, U.S. Army Major, retired, served over twenty years in the military. He was stationed with the 7th Infantry and fought in the Battle of the Bulge in WW2. His tours of duty took our family to France, New York, Germany, Georgia, Hawaii, New Mexico, and Massachusetts. He also became a Provost Marshall and later worked as an intelligence officer. After he retired from the Army, he earned bachelor and master of education degrees from BYU. He has influenced my life for good in so many ways, and taught me through example how to serve others.

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What are the stories of your father, grandfather or other men in your family tree? Have you written them down or are they “floating” around in your head, waiting to be recorded? This Father’s Day may be the opportune time to put in writing those memories or stories you have uncovered in your family history research.

## #52 Stories

### Fathers & Fatherhood



It only makes sense that this month’s questions are about fathers and fatherhood since last month’s questions dealt with mothers. Remember that these questions are designed to give you a jumping off point in writing about your life.

- 1 In what ways are you and your father inherently alike—physical traits, temperament, personality, talents, interests?
- 2 How are you and your father different in those same areas?
- 3 How do you strive to emulate your father’s example? Are there areas where you try to do things differently than he did?
- 4 What did you enjoy doing with your father as a child? How did/do you spend time together as adults?
- 5 What life lessons have you learned from your father? Did he teach and instruct you directly/verbally, or did he teach more by example?
- 6 What is something you never understood or appreciate about your dad until much later in life?

- 7 What are some of the signature phrases, quotes, or sayings that remind you of your dad? Your grandfathers?
- 8 What are some of the stories you loved hearing from your father’s youth? Or from your grandfathers’ younger days?
- 9 What are some of the things your father is/was especially good at? His special talents and abilities?
- 10 Who are some other important father figures who have been influential in your life?
- 11 How has society’s view of fathers and fatherhood shifted throughout your life? What do you think of those changes?
- 12 If you are a father, what has surprised you most about the experience? How has it been different than you expected?

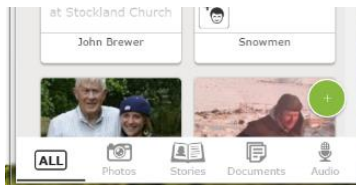


What makes this man unique? Is it because he’s a famous father? Actually this is the earliest known mug shot taken in 1843 or 1844 in Brussels, Belgium.

## What's New in FamilySearch

A recent new feature on FamilySearch may be just the way to get your non-family history friends involved in sharing their photos that they post on Facebook or Instagram. Now all those photos being posted on these social networks can easily be transferred to people on Family Tree. The process is easy and painless.

- ① Sign in to FamilySearch.org.
- ② Select **Memories** in the top navigation.
- ③ Choose **Gallery**.
- ④ Click the green plus icon.
- ⑤ Select **Instagram** or **Facebook**.
- ⑥ Enter your username and password for the site



you chose.

- ⑦ Authorize that site to access your information in FamilySearch.org.
- ⑧ In the window that appears, select the pictures you would like to import, and click **Import**. It is not yet possible to import photos from these social sites using the FamilySearch mobile apps. You may also encounter problems with this feature in Edge and Internet Explorer 11 browsers due to the trusted site settings. Try adding FamilySearch.org to your trusted sites list or use another browser.



[Source: Nicole Barber, FamilySearch blog, 3 April 2017]

## Image-Only Collections in FamilySearch

Were you aware that there are millions of pages of digitized records online at FamilySearch.org that don't show up when you do a general search? We are all aware of the massive Indexing program where volunteers spend time transcribing records. Once the records are indexed, they are then available in the website's search engine.

Some collections are larger than others and more difficult to transcribe. The easiest records to index are those on pre-printed forms such as census records, draft cards, death certificates, etc. But what if the record is a will, estate file, court minutes, probate records, etc.? These kinds of records take much more time to read, understand, and extract information. But they also contain the very specific information that researchers are needing to establish relationships or break through brick walls.

There are still many records on FamilySearch.org that have been digitized but not indexed. You just have to know how to find them. In the past, these kinds of complex records were only available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City or onsite at courthouses or local archives. While some still are in local archives and courthouses, many states, particularly in the South, have digitized them and put them online.

Here's how to find these records online:

- ① Go to FamilySearch.org and click **Search** in the top toolbar.

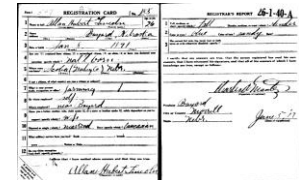
- 2 Select **Records** from the dropdown menu that appears.
- 3 Hover over the map of the United States on the right. You will now be taken to a page titled, “Georgia Indexed Historical Records.”
- 4 Scroll to the section titled “Georgia Image Only Historical Records.” These are all the collection that are not indexed but can still be searched manually.
- 5 Select the records of your choice. They are organized by type: censuses, immigration and naturalization, military, probate/court, and others.
- 6 Click Browse and you’ll be taken to one of two places—first, you may be taken directly to the record set, especially if it is a smaller record set. But you may be taken to a second screen that provides some divisions for the record set, called “waypoints.” We” choose the database “Georgia, Andersonville Prison Records, 1862-1865.” This collection is further divided into “Claims and Reports,” “Deaths and Burials,” “Departures,” and “Hospital.”

Once you choose your desired sub-set, you may be taken directly to the record set, or you may be given the option to narrow your search even further.

Using the image-only collections can be time consuming, since it requires you to go page by page through large books. Be on the lookout for time saving clues such as an alphabetical or chronological index. The effort will be worth the time spent if it helps you uncover the information you are seeking.

## Additions to FindMyPast

A recent announcement made by FindMyPast may be just what you are looking for to fill out the portrait of your ancestor. This past week it was disclosed that over 5.1 million new records have been added to the collection of United States WWI draft registration cards currently found on FindMyPast.



According to Dick Eastman in his newsletter (2 June 2017), “the draft was authorized for the purpose of raising a national army in light of the United States’ entry into World War I.” More than 24 million Americans registered for the draft. This amounts to 98% of the male population under 46, nearly half of the male population at the time!

You will be able to see a transcript of the card, as well as an original image. Included in the information is birth date, place of birth, residence, registration year, and citizenship country.

In addition to this information, you may also find your ancestor’s home address, citizenship status, marital status, occupation, employer and place of employment, prior military service, race, and details relating to their next of kin.

As if this information isn’t enough, you will find that each card was signed by the individual! Whether your ancestor actually served in WWI or not, there is a high probability of finding a draft registration card for him.

## Summer 2017 Class Schedule-Family History Center Hours

### Sandy Granite Family History Center

801.943.3005 2720 Newcastle Drive, Sandy granitefhc.com

#### Beginning Family Tree Navigation - Lani Abercrombie

Wednesday, June 14, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 15, 7:00 p.m.

This class will help you get comfortable with navigating your family tree in FamilySearch, including viewing details for your ancestors and finding ancestors quickly in your tree.

#### Standardizing Records - Debbie Weaver

Wednesday, June 21, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 23, 7:00 p.m.

This is a beginning class learning how to standardize dates and places, helping to clarify information you enter, and helping the FamilySearch system locate people with the Find feature.

#### Become a Virtual Grave Digger - Shelly Adam

Wednesday, June 28, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, June 29, 7:00 p.m.

Come and learn how to use all the grave digger tools that the website Find A Grave has to offer. Hidden treasure may be yours to find!

#### Genetic Genealogy - What is it? - Cathy Anderegg

Wednesday, July 12, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, July 13, 7:00 p.m.

Trapped within your DNA, are the stories of your ancestors. Modern genetic testing has allowed us to extract those stories and begin to add them to the rich genealogical tapestry of our pedigrees. Come and learn how long-forgotten stories are waiting to be unlocked from within a series of A's, T's, C's, and G's.

#### Memories – How to Make Your Ancestors Become Real - Lani Abercrombie

Wednesday, July 19, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, July 20, 7:00 p.m.

Come and learn how to upload, title and tag photos, documents, stories and audio. Breathe new life into your family tree and “turn your hearts” to your ancestors. If possible, bring a photo on a USB thumb drive.

#### Leaving Breadcrumbs: Find Your Way Back - Debbie Burnett

Wednesday, July 26, 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, July 27, 7:00 p.m.

Do you have memory loss? I do when it comes to keeping track of what I am doing with hundreds of ancestors. Come and learn how to create a digital research tracking method that will be valuable to you and others.

**The Sandy Family History Center is open for research and individual help on:**

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

**and on Sundays from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.**



To subscribe to *Family Ties*, send email requests to:

**sandygranitefhc@gmail.com**

Visit our website for updates, class schedule, and information:

<http://www.granitefhc.com>

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