



GENIE BYTES

Volume 5, Issue 2

Grand Strand Genealogy Club

May 2024

Message from the Editors

Bonnie Kishpaugh & Ann Hamilton

Editor & Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Members of the Board

We're late. Why? Because I, your assistant editor, was putting into practice one of the brick wall-breaking strategies on which Chris Davis will expand in our August issue. I connected with living relatives at the funeral of one of my ancestor-seeking cousins and while visiting the hospice bedside of another. By doing so, I learned two important lessons. First, there were still more stories to be heard and more pictures to be shared to flesh out our shared past. Second, amid the cacophony of conversation, I overheard "I wish...", "If only...", and "Do you know...?" far too often. Carpe diem, readers! ♦

Call for Genie Jar Donations

Members of the GSGC last met solely in person in March of 2020. Expenses such as maintenance of our website and Zoom subscriptions as well as payment of speakers and the *Ancestry* subscription for Chapin Library continue. Please help us. Mail your check or money order to Grand Strand Genealogy Club, 6529 Valene Court, Myrtle Beach, SC, 29572. Thank you, in advance, for continuing to support YOUR GSGC! ♦

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Did You Know?

You can determine time between two events without counting on your fingers and toes or calculating with paper and pencil. Did you ever come across a death certificate that didn't provide the actual birth date but instead gave the person's age at time of death as 75 years, one month, and fifteen days? You scratch your head and think, "So, what's the person's birthdate?" Instead of doing the calculation yourself, all you have to do is go to [One-Step Webpages](#) by Stephen P. Morse, open the "Births, Deaths, and Other Vital Records" folder, click on "Elapsed Time: Determining Time between Two Events in One Step," and enter the required information. You'll get the answer in one step. No fingers and toes required! ♦

**Have a tip/tidbit you'd like to share? Please submit it to genieclub2002@gmail.com – Subject: "Tip/Tidbit." We'd love to hear from you. **

GSGC Needs Your Time and Talents

Ann Hamilton

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Member of the Board

You've read it before and you're reading it now. You'll read it again in August prior to the announcement of a slate of candidates for 2025 in September. **ALL** people who currently serve as GSGC Officers or Members of the Board* are looking for shadows, backups, or replacements. Vice President/Claire Fleming's, Secretary/Dennis Fitzgerald's, Historian/Lois Butler's, and Technical Support Provider/Danny Sullivan's needs take priority. If GSGC has taught you a thing or two about your new-found passion, if it's shared sources—now go-to's—and how to use them, if it's brought you face-to-face with experts in the field, if it's introduced you to like-minded strangers, you now call friends, say, "Thank you, GSGC!" Then, step up!

*See them listed on the last page of each *Genie Bytes* issue. ♦

Introducing Membership Registrar Michelle Kosinetz

Ann Hamilton

Assistant Editor, Genie Bytes, GSGC Member of the Board

Saskatchewan and Ontario, Canada; Durham County, England; and the states of Ohio, Illinois, and Colorado are where my ancestors lived. A book entitled *Footsteps to Follow* authored in 1980 by Saskatchewan residents and filled with information on the founding and current families—including my father's—aided my early research immensely. Members of his generation and earlier ones contributed summaries and stories to the book that also included maps of the initial landholdings and names of the holders. Additionally, a paternal cousin produced a family chart noting names and birthdates. These two sources gave me a jump start on tracing my paternal roots. My formal research began when I took several OLLI genealogy courses taught by GSGC's Gail Reynolds. I joined the GSGC in 2017 to continue my education and to meet like-minded researchers. I've attended SIGs offered by GSGC and conferences in person and via Zoom. This year, like Gail, I chose to serve. ♦

Strategies to Break Down Brick Walls

Christine Davis, Ed. D.

Member, GSGC

Part 2 of 3: Regional Resources

4. **Read about regional cultural and historical events** to understand contextual resources of value. Consider prominent religious/cultural groups, church/town leadership, and changes in borders. Research links between your ancestor, pioneer settlers, as well as community and local officials. Look for biographies and genealogies. TIP: Make a timeline of national/regional events and insert what you know about your ancestor. Identify possible research leads.
5. **Review newspapers, genealogical/society newsletters, and school/college yearbooks.** Obituaries, society columns, ads, legal notices, and want ads are worth the hunt! Note headlines, local/national news, school/church events, popular fashion, and the cost of daily items. TIP: Find cultural and social organization membership lists and meeting minutes. Immigrants made an effort

to maintain cultural traditions, celebrations, and even languages. They often hosted or attended events.

6. **Research local maps** [Plat, Land Grant, Historical, Sanborn (on the Library of Congress website), Ramsay, City, and Google] even those from cities and nearby regions. Find Revolutionary and Civil War military maps. Remember all state and federal highways, canals, national/state parks, rivers/lakes, and tributaries required survey maps. Many included the names of family residences and farms. TIP: Plot known home, employment and business locations on your ancestor timeline and a map to track ancestor locations and movements. Use the *Google Map Timeline Tool* to track area geological changes of a homestead over time.
7. **Conduct Library and Archive research** to locate original records not yet digitized. Request assistance from librarians, archivists, court/county clerks, organizations, church, cemetery, and funeral home personnel. Don't forget to use *PERSI* to review published resources in the US, Canada, and Great Britain. TIP: To better prepare for your in-person visit to a library or archive, visit its website, and familiarize yourself with its online resources. Develop a Research Plan for more efficient work. ♦

Featured Websites

Genealogical Publishing Company and Clearfield Company is the leading—and oldest—publisher of genealogy books in the country featuring a catalog of more than 2,000 publications of print books and eBook editions. Subscriptions to collections of their titles are available making it an affordable alternative allowing customers to access not only data but also the stories of their ancestors. Go to the bottom of the home page to Useful Links and click on FAQ to find information on using their site. They also have a Blog with useful information. ♦

LDS Genealogy is a privately owned free website designed to help anyone quickly discover more record sources for diverse U.S. ancestors in one location. It contains a treasure trove of over 1.3 million U.S. record sources from 1,718 different websites organized by state, county, city, and record type. ♦

Featured Books

Sperry, Kip. *Reading Early American Handwriting*. Genealogical Publishing Company, 2008. Explains techniques for reading early American documents; offers helpful samples of written alphabets and documents; and defines terms and abbreviations commonly used in wills, deeds, and church records. Covers numbers and roman numerals, dates, and the change from the Julian Calendar to the Gregorian Calendar, abbreviations and contractions, and standard terms. A valuable reference guide for interpreting old family documents from this era. ♦

Family Tree Magazine (Author). *Genealogist's Guide to Getting Organized*. 2024. Features the latest in organizing trends, apps, software, and research techniques. With advice from industry experts, you'll discover the best methods for establishing order. ♦

HARVEY GIRLS

Anne Laymon

Treasurer, Officer, GSGC

I knew my mom worked at Harvey's Dime Store in Michigan City, IN, when she was in high school in the 1950s. When my mother-in-law said her grandmother was a Harvey Girl, too, I just assumed that Harvey Dime Stores existed in the late 1800's. Not so! I was curious. Who was this Harvey, anyway?

Well, Fred Harvey was a freight agent who spent much of his time traveling on trains. In the mid-1800s, there were no dining cars or roadside taverns with good service and decent meals. He saw a business opportunity. In 1876, Harvey started a chain of restaurants and hotels along the expanding western railroad lines that catered to such travelers. His first restaurants were located in Wallace, KS, and Hugo, CO, along the Kansas Pacific Railway. Eventually, Harvey Houses were established every 100 miles, or so, along the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway (AT&SF) route. At their peak, there were 84 Harvey Houses setting the standard for fine dining and hospitality in Kansas, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and other states.

To staff his Houses, Harvey placed ads in East Coast and Midwest newspapers for single, white, American ladies between 18 and 30 years of age "of good character, attractive, and intelligent".
[https://www.livescience.com/61097-harvey-girls-](https://www.livescience.com/61097-harvey-girls-photos.html)

[photos.html](https://www.livescience.com/61097-harvey-girls-photos.html) They lived above or near the restaurants and had a strict 10 p.m. curfew. They wore starched black and white uniforms with skirts that hung no more than 8 inches off the floor, "Elsie" collars, opaque black stockings, and black shoes. No make-up and no gum chewing while on duty. Girls signed a one-year contract for employment and forfeited half their base pay if they did not complete their year of service. The most common reason for leaving was marriage. In later years the Harvey Girls became more diverse and reflected the culture of their region.

And this is where my husband's great-grandmother Dora Lulu Byrd arrives on the scene. Born in 1873 in Culver, IN, and the daughter of a farm laborer, Lulu was encouraged to travel west and see the country as a Harvey Girl. Lulu would have to leave her job because of her marriage in 1897 to Martin Dolohery, a railroad switchman based in Chicago. They would have two children before Martin died in January of 1903 in Chicago, IL. Less than three months later, Alfred Byrd Dolohery would be born in his mom's hometown of Culver, IN. Alfred is my husband's grandfather.

Harvey Girls were immortalized in a book by Samuel Hopkins Adams and in a 1946 movie featuring Judy Garland and Angela Lansbury. The movie won an Oscar for Best Original Song, "On the Atchison, Topeka, and the Santa Fe." There is also a Facebook Group, Harvey Girl Descendants. It showcases the remodeling of many of the original train stations and restaurants. I do not know of a comprehensive list of Harvey House employees and where they worked. I can narrow the years that Lulu might have worked out West, but I have no idea in what location. Perhaps one day I can find where and when Dora Lulu Byrd worked as a Harvey Girl before she met her husband.

While I found no connection between Fred Harvey and the dime store for which my mother worked, Harvey's legacy looms large. Not only did he create America's first restaurant chain, he was also a pioneer of cultural tourism. In the early 1900s, the Fred Harvey Company created an Indian Department which commissioned artists and photographers to convey the unique culture and arts of the Indians of the Southwest. The images, printed on everything from menus to brochures, promoted the mystique of Indian Country. Today, many former Harvey Houses in New Mexico and Arizona are being renovated and are showcased on Facebook. ♦

A Postage Stamp Broke My Bohemian Brick Wall

Carrie Mullarky

Member, GSGC Club

This article offers beginning researchers a step-by-step guide to FamilySearch's Research Wiki and more.

As a 4th grader, I began collecting postage stamps. One day, my mom gave me a postcard from Czechoslovakia with a super-looking stamp. The postcard, dated 1911 and written in Czech, was addressed to my grandmother. I removed the stamp millimeter by millimeter with my fingertip without damaging it or the postcard too much and stored both. Years later and interested in genealogy, I filed the postcard in the appropriate family folder.

Last year, I finally had time to work on the Czech branch of my family tree. I knew little about my paternal great-grandparents, Charles, and Frances Passick, except that they were from Bohemia and settled in Omaha, NE. They met in Omaha and married across the Missouri River in Council Bluffs, IA. Charles died in 1935 and Frances, in 1945. When I looked at that long-ago saved postcard, I realized it pictured a Czech Republic village called Kralovice. Kralovice is where my research would start.



I follow several Czech Genealogy Facebook groups and noticed that several posts had snippets of church records from *FamilySearch*. Late one night, I logged in and began with the Research Wiki. I narrowed my search to Czechia, then Beginning Research, and then, Guided Research. This brought me to “towns.” The town pictured on the postcard was Kralovice. I clicked on “K,” and then “Kr.” It’s easy. I’m excited.

“Kr” gave me a chart that included the towns, their alternate names, parishes, judicial districts, and records’ archives. There were seven towns with the name Kralovice, all in different parishes. Which one to pick? I took a closer look at the postcard. The stamp cancelation was from “Kralovice u Plzen.” I clicked on the Plzen Regional Archives where there was only one Kralovice.



That click led me to the Collections of Western Bohemia. Next option? Religion. I chose Catholic. Up popped a list of 40 digitized books that included place and date. According to his death certificate, my great-grandfather was born in November, 1857. Book #23, including births, marriages, and deaths from 1856-1870, was what I needed. Using *Google Translate*, I was able to find the month of November. There I saw the birth and baptismal record for Karel Pašek, born November 16th and baptized, the 17th. Now to translate every single word!

I found a lady in the Czech Republic who charged only \$5. I sent her the link to the record. In about ten days, I received the complete translation and, to my complete surprise, it told me the parents of Karel (Charles) as well as his grandparents and their occupations. I also learned the maiden name of my great-great-grandmother and her mother. Another important tidbit was that Charles’ parents lived in house #84. I added that number to searches for the Pašek family and found all 8 children born to Jan Pašek and Alžběta Ditětova between 1845 and 1865. By the way, that postcard was from Charles’ older brother Jan!

One stamp, saved so long ago, was key to discovering two generations of family. Philately and genealogy. My childhood pastime rewarded me with a breakthrough in my adulthood passion. ♦

State Guides

New York

(Source: State Guide New York by Koch, A. Originally published in the Mar/Apr 2024/Vol.25, Issue 2, P. 33 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1788

First federal census: 1790

Birth and death records begin: 1881 (state)

Marriage records begin: 1881 (state)

Contact for vital records:

NY Dept. of Health (non-NYC)

NYC Dept. of Health (NYC only) ♦

Wyoming

(Source: State Guide Wyoming by Taplin, C. A. Originally published in the Mar/Apr 2024/Vol.25, Issue 2, P.37 of *Family Tree Magazine*)

Statehood: 1890

First federal census: 1870 (as Wyoming Territory)

Birth and death records begin: 1909

Marriage records begin: from formation (county); 1941 (state)

Contact for vital records:

WY Dept of Health, Vital Statistics Service. ♦

Dear Miss Genie

No questions received this quarter. ♦

** Do you have a question for Miss Genie? Why not send it to her at genieclub2002@gmail.com – Subject: "Miss Genie." She would love to hear from you. **

SOUTH CAROLINA GRAND STRAND GENEALOGY CLUB (SCGSGC)

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► Become involved. Shadow a Board member. We welcome you. ◀

Lanyards (\$5 ID Badge Holder; \$2 Ribbons + \$.25 each additional ribbon) – See Marie Peacock or email the Club at genieclub2002@gmail.com to order

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

GSGC MONTHLY MEETINGS

PLACE: CHAPIN MEMORIAL LIBRARY/VIA ZOOM

TIME: 10 AM

PRESENTATIONS:

- May 11: No Meeting — International African American Museum Field Trip to Charleston, SC
- June 8: How Old Did He Have to Be? — Judy Russell
- July 13: No Meeting — SC Genealogical Workshop

GENEALOGY MEETINGS/CONFERENCES

National Archives Genealogy Fairs & Series — May 21- June 25, 2024. Every year, the National Archives hosts a free, educational genealogy event broadcast live on YouTube. The sessions offer family history research tools on federal records for all skill levels. Chat in real time with the presenters during each session's video premiere. Attend free of charge with no reservations requested. Videos and presentation materials remain available after the premiere date. Check website for schedule and content. ♦

New York State Family History Conference 2024: Connect at the Crossroads – September 20-21, 2024. The State's largest family history event. Sessions can cover advanced topics like DNA research, searching migratory records or building your genealogy skills. Participate in-person or online. Check website for details. ♦

**Please visit [ConferenceKeeper](#) for the most complete "Calendar and Collection of Genealogy Events" on the Internet. This is your chance to attend a meeting virtually you may have been unable to attend onsite because of its distance or cost. **

MEETINGS

2nd Saturday of each Month 10:00 AM at:

Chapin Library (*FamilySearch* Affiliate Library)

400 14th Avenue North, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577

Meetings held both at Chapin Library and via ZOOM

Email - genieclub2002@gmail.com

Website - www.scgsgc.org

GENIE BYTES NEWSLETTER

Editor: Bonnie Kishpaugh

Assistant Editor: Ann Hamilton

Published: Quarterly (February, May, August, November)

Note: Please send your questions/suggestions/feedback to genieclub2002@gmail.com - Subject: "Newsletter."

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