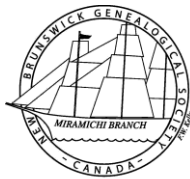


# NBGS MIRAMICHI BRANCH NEWS LETTER



MAY 2019

Volume XIII, Issue No. 2

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

After a long and somewhat difficult winter, we had a few nice days and it appeared that nice weather was finally here and Spring was upon us. Wishful thinking! After this past week, it feels like we are going backwards weather wise. But, hopefully, summer isn't too far away! In spite of the severe winter weather, we did not have to cancel any of our meetings and enough hardy souls braved the cold, wind and sometimes inclement weather so that we had a quorum each time. Many of the attendees travel some distance to attend meetings, so we thank them for their dedication!

We have a couple of important upcoming events. First, Miramichi Branch is pleased to be hosting the Provincial AGM on May 25. Once again in July we will be participating in the Miramichi Irish Festival and plans are on-going for this event. We are hoping to have a workshop on genealogy research to assist beginners and seasoned researchers alike. More detailed information will be sent to members once plans are finalized.

We are fortunate this year to once again have received funding under the Federal Summer Jobs Program which will enable us to have an employee for 12 weeks. We hope to have this person on the job later this month. This will

enable us to continue our on-going research and publication efforts.

We hope to see many of you at the AGM and/or the Irish Festival.

Have a great summer.

*Faye Baisley, Acting President*



## PROVINCIAL AGM MIRAMICHI – MAY 25

Miramichi Branch is pleased to be hosting the 2019 NBGS Provincial Annual General Meeting. The AGM is being held at the Goodie Shop Restaurant (in the basement conference room) on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon followed by the meeting at 1:00. We are pleased to have Dr. Shawn McCarthy, Executive Director of Friends of Beaubears Island, as our guest speaker. His presentation will be at 12:45.

If you plan to attend the luncheon, please advise me by e-mail ([fayebaisley@hotmail.com](mailto:fayebaisley@hotmail.com)) or phone (622-7641) by May 20<sup>th</sup> as we need to know numbers for food preparation purposes.

Finding the path our ancestors walked is not always easy, but the rewards of the journey make the effort worthwhile.

# 28th ANNIVERSARY

At our April meeting, we recognized an important milestone for our Branch – celebration of our 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In recognition of the event, we had a short presentation on our history and our accomplishments. Below is a summary of that presentation:

The first meeting of Miramichi Branch NBGS was held on April 10, 1991. Under the direction of Carman Williston, 18 people attended that meeting. A first executive was formed consisting of:

*President: Carman Williston*  
*Vice President: Don Ross*  
*Secretary/Treasurer: Carl Landry*  
*Committee Chairman: Stephen Quinn*

The Branch's established mandate: The Miramichi Branch of the New Brunswick Genealogy Society has a constitutional mandate to promote the collection, preservation and accessibility of genealogical and heritage records through projects pertaining to genealogy and heritage. We will do this by promoting education of members and the general public in the Miramichi area.

As we celebrated our 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we took stock of what we have accomplished – did we fulfill our mandate?

- **Website** – a branch website was created which attracts approximately 275,000 visitors per year;
- **Cemeteries** – to date we have visited approximately 136 cemeteries, transcribed tombstone data from these, and published 15 cemetery books. As these cemeteries have been updated several times over the years, this has meant hundreds of visits to local cemeteries; *(many members who worked on this project have interesting and humorous*

*stories to tell of their adventures in various rural cemeteries throughout the county!!)*

- **Northumberland County Census Records** – census records for 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, and 1901 were transcribed and published;
- **Obituaries** – over 22,000 obituaries have been typed and uploaded to our website. This project is ongoing with new material being added every day;
- **Obituary Books** – to date 36 obituary books have been published;

### **Other Publications:**

- **Marriage Stats Books:** Brides Name A-Z; and Grooms Name A-L and M-Z books published;
- **Early Marriages of Northumberland County;**
- **Birth Books** – 6 volumes by Child's Name, Mother's Name and Father's Name;
- **First Families of Northumberland County** – 2 volumes published;
- **Newspaper Tidbits:** Union Advocate (1894-1911) and North Shore Leader (June 1906-Dec. 1925) published;
- **People Profiles** – 3 volumes published

### **Reference/Research Library established:**

- Over 250 family histories have been donated to the Branch and are stored in our reference library;
- Research Library - nearly 200 books and pamphlets have been purchased and/or donated and are maintained in our cabinet at the Chatham Public Library;

### **Newsletter**

- Newsletter – has been published 3 times per year since 2000 (approximately 54 issues);

### **Community Involvement**

Our Branch continues to participate in local events promoting education and genealogy heritage including:

- Miramichi Irish Festival

- Miramichi Heritage Weekend – both years the biannual event was held;
- Tabusintac Old Home Week;
- February Heritage month events;
- Local and other area genealogy workshops;
- Responding to numerous mail and e-mail inquiries for assistance from across North America;
- Assisting visitors to the area from throughout Canada and the United States with genealogy research/questions.

### ***Special Projects***

We had a major fund raising project (Ancestor Quilt) with all monies raised donated to the Chatham Public Library to assist with the purchase of an updated Microfilm Reader for the benefit of all those doing research in the local area.

So... how did we do in the past 28 years in fulfilling our original mandate??

- Preserved historical and family records ✓
- Educated our members and the public ✓
- Responded to innumerable genealogy queries by mail/e-mail over the years ✓
- Assisted visitors from all over North America in their search for local connections in their family history ✓

We have accomplished a lot – thanks to those dedicated members who continue to support this Branch and keep it operational. We also owe a debt of gratitude to those past members who have contributed over the years. We should be proud of what we have accomplished and celebrate how far we’ve come. But there is much more to be done and learned, so... let’s continue to keep genealogy alive and well in Miramichi.

*Faye Baisley, Acting President*

The best loved stories are not from books or films, but from our own families.

## **OUR CONDOLENCES TO**

We have received word that one of our members “*from away*” Mr. Harry McEachern passed away on April 14<sup>th</sup> at his home in Ohio. Harry submitted material on the families he had been researching to our branch and some of this was featured in the fall 2017 newsletter. His daughter, Kate, sent us this beautiful obituary. On behalf of the members of Miramichi Branch, we extend our condolences to his family and friends.

### **Harry Arthur McEachern**

Harry Arthur McEACHERN passed away peacefully in his home April 14th, 2019. Born in Chatham, New Brunswick, January 14, 1924 to Josephine May and Charles Arthur McEACHERN, Harry grew up with a keen interest in the sciences and a love for travel. Graduating from the University of New Brunswick in 1945 with a B.Sc. Honors – Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, his academic achievements included the Highland Society Scholarship and Jennie Sherrif Scholarship, the John Storrs Brookfield Scholarship for the most promising science student. Harry was also the recipient of the Leonard Foundation Scholarship, a charitable Trust and Financial Assistance program which awards assistance to candidates who exhibited leadership qualities that would help Canada grow. Harry left his beloved Maritimes for Sarnia, Ontario to start his career in 1946 with the Canadian Synthetic Rubber Company Limited as a Laboratory Supervisor. He went on to the roles of Senior Engineer, Senior Process Control Engineer and Senior Development Engineer as the company transitioned to the Polymer Corporation. In 1953, Harry transitioned to a new position as a general representative with the Ethyl Corporation located in Los Angeles, CA. A year later, Harry returned to Sarnia and Polysar in the sales department. Here Harry would find the career that would take him around the world, and friendships that would last a lifetime. In 1954 Harry met the love of his life Beverley “Puff” WARREN on Valentine’s Day and they were married on

Halloween of the same year. Harry and Puff moved to Hudson, Ohio in 1964 where he opened up the Akron office as General Manager and would eventually become President of Polysar, Inc. Harry and Puff would call Hudson home for the next 54 years, raising five children, several dogs, a guinea pig, a goat, and one rooster given to him as a Father's Day present. In the early 70's, he entered into a partnership and did what any good Canadian would do. He built an indoor ice skating rink for the community calling it the Western Reserve Ice Barn. His family spent many years in support of this dream. While an avid stamp collector and photographer, it was golf that was his real passion. Harry spent his later career years golfing many renowned courses. This love of golf continued well into retirement of which he organized group trips to the Scotland. On one such trip, Harry was interviewed by Charles Kuralt's CBS News Sunday Morning Show on what it was like to play the Old Course at St. Andrews. His reply? "Awesome." As the Western Reserve Ice Barn days came to a close Harry found yet one more passionate pursuit, genealogy. Harry not only uncovered long lost cousins yet made another new set of friends up and down the eastern seaboard as he chronicled his family's migration from Scotland to Canada to the United States. While Harry had modest cooking skills, he had a knack for cooking chili sauce and making his famous fudge. Harry leaves behind his five children: Alison McEACHERN CLEGG and her husband Chris CLEGG, Andrew McEACHERN, Duncan McEACHERN and his wife Catherine REYNOLDS McEACHERN, Mary McEACHERN and Kate McEACHERN and her partner Tom GARDNER; five grandchildren, Alexandra CLEGG and her husband Ben GRANT, Elizabeth CLEGG EGAN and her husband Matt EGAN, Emily CLEGG, Sarah McEACHERN and John McEACHERN; and one great granddaughter, Catherine CLEGG GRANT. Predeceased by his loving wife Beverley "Puff" McEACHERN and his sister Margaret Alice WHYTE. In Lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the First Congregational Church,

Chamber Music, Hudson, Ohio. There will be a private family service with interment at the Hudson Markillie Cemetery, Hudson, Ohio. A Life Celebration will take place on a near future date.

## **STRAYS FROM AWAY**

A stray is defined as a person who was born in Northumberland County, or has a Northumberland County connection, but passes away elsewhere. So, for example, if a person was born in Miramichi, but passes away in Alberta, this person is considered a stray. When you come across an obituary while researching, please transcribe the information, indicate its source (newspaper and date) and send it along to us. We would love to hear from out of town members who I am sure have some family news clippings they could share with us.

### **BENSON, Elizabeth Jane (Diannah) July 18, 1946- November 28, 2017**

We announce her life's completion and passing of Elizabeth Jane BENSON on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, adopted daughter of the predeceased, Ken BENSON of St. George, Margaret (Rusty) LOUGHEED of Brantford, and adopted brother Peter BENSON. Surviving are her sister-in-law Linda BENSON-SPENCER of California, a nephew Todd BENSON of Vernon, BC, and his wife Sally and their two children Sarah (12 years old) and Nicholas Ashley (9 years old), and niece Michelle Elizabeth PARRY and her husband Mervyn (Merf) of Lethbridge, AB, as well as numerous cousins around the country. Born on July 18, 1946 at the Salvation Army Hospital in Toronto as Wanda Marie MULLIN, daughter of Nina Burnett MULLIN PARKS of Miramichi, NB and Bruce HAYES of Toronto. Recently, she reconnected in a joyous reunion with her half-sister Diane HAYES and the Hayes family of Oshawa via ancestry.ca DNA testing. She is also survived on her mother's side by a half-sister and brother Gwyn PARKS MATTHEWS of Mississauga, and Lloyd PARKS of Nova Scotia. In her remaining years, Elizabeth (Libby) was

known as "Diannah" to her friends in Muskoka. She was a wonderful friend to everyone; positive, creative, open, honest, unique, independent, always willing to help, accepting, loving, and compassionate. She is fondly remembered by us all.

*Source: Almaguin News, Bracebridge Examiner, Gravenhurst Banner, Huntsville Forester, Muskoka Weekender, Muskokan, Parry Sound North Star*

### **CROWLEY, Michele Anne (1972 - 2019)**

Michele Anne CROWLEY passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family at the Juravinski Cancer Centre, Hamilton on Saturday, February 23rd, 2019 in her 47th year. Michele was a free spirit who throughout her entire life loved travel, adventure and the smell of the ocean. She loved running 5 and 10k races with her friends, long bike rides with Rob and good hikes with Normandale. Her special passion was exploring and hiking so many coastal shorelines all over the Maritime Provinces with Rob and spending quality time with friends and family wherever her travels took her. Though never a mother herself, Michele loved and had a tremendous impact on the children of her family and friends. Beloved wife of Robert LUKE of Simcoe. Michele will be sadly missed by Robert's children & grandchildren Jordanna FORREST (Jarrod) of Calabogie, their children Caleb & Tucker; and Simon LUKE of Simcoe. Cherished daughter of Clarence and the late Louise (BREAU) CROWLEY of Miramichi, NB; step daughter of Margaret (DOHERTY) CROWLEY of Miramichi, NB; sister of Diane RICHARDSON (Andrew) of Yellowknife, NWT; Edward CROWLEY (Sue DELONG) of Hampton, NB; and John CROWLEY "Brother John" of Halifax, NS. Lovingly remembered by several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles & extended family.

*Source: Smith Funeral Chapel, on-line obituaries.*

You live as long as you are remembered.

-- Russian proverb

### **DONAHUE, Joseph Ward**

With saddened hearts the family of J. Ward DONAHUE, announce his passing on Friday, March 8, 2019 at Bobby's Hospice. Born in Newcastle, NB on October 22, 1939, he was the son of the late Mevin and Frances (CASEY) DONAHUE. Ward was employed as the tractor-trailer driver for Crosby's Molasses for many years until his retirement. Ward is survived by his sisters: Mary Ann MacMILLAN and Sarah (Jack) HIGGINS. He also leaves two nephews: Andrew MacMILLAN and Mark (Rachael) HIGGINS, as well as a great-niece Olivia HIGGINS and great-nephews: Alexander Victoria and Matthew HIGGINS. In addition to his parents, Ward was predeceased by his wife Marcia (DYKEMAN) and daughter Tanya. Respecting Ward's wishes, there will be no visitation or Funeral Service. Cremation has taken place and a private interment will take place in St. Joseph's Cemetery in the Spring.

*Source: full obituary in The Telegraph Journal, on-line obituaries.*

### **FITZHERBERT, Mary Veronica (Curtis)**

It is with heavy hearts that the family of Mary "Veronica" (CURTIS) FITZHERBERT of Saint John announces her passing on Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at Tucker Hall (Shannex) Nursing Home in Saint John. Born in Halcomb, NB, on September 25, 1933, she was the eldest child of the late Mary Elizabeth (DENNIS) CURTIS and William Albert CURTIS. Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her son Jerome (just one month ago), brothers; Patrick and William Jr., several aunts and uncles, daughter-in-law, Carol FITZHERBERT, brothers-in-law, Allison "Bud" DONOVAN and Lyman HAYES. Veronica is survived by her loving daughter, Colleen DONAHUE (Burton) of Saint John, her son Tony FITZHERBERT (Tracy) of Rusagonis, her five granddaughters; Tara (Kyle), Meaghan (Justin), Kelly (Eric), Mallory, and Shawna. She loved all of her grandchildren and is survived by her beautiful great grandchildren; Livia, Laina, Slater, Maverick, and Ryleigh. Veronica is also survived

by her sisters; Blanche DONOVAN, and Bernice HAYES; Aunt Vera HAMILTON (Blake), as well as many nieces and nephews and cousins. Mom grew up on the northwest Miramichi in the little village of Sevogle, NB. She attended school in Sevogle and Sunny Corner and subsequently the NB Teachers' College.

*Source: full obituary in The Telegraph Journal on-line obituaries*

**HOLDER, JARED (FEBRUARY 8, 2019)**

It is with profound sadness that the family of Jared HOLDER, husband of Ashley BONNER, announce his unexpected death on February 8, 2019 at the age of 31. Born in Saint John, NB, he was the son of Paul and Laurene (MAHONEY) HOLDER. Jared was a teacher at St. Malachy's High School where he was recently named Department Head of math. He enjoyed travel, music, basketball, driving his motorcycle, playing his ukulele and most importantly, spending time with his family. Jared was known for his work ethic, love of math and especially his sarcastic sense of humour. Those who were closest to Jared knew that he was a sentimental person with a huge, generous heart. In addition to his wife and his parents, Jared leaves behind his beloved daughter Sophie and his unborn child; brother Alex HOLDER, grandmother Carmel MAHONEY; grandfather Doug (Lorraine) HOLDER; uncles Steve (June) HOLDER and children, Kyle and Kaleigh (Stéphane); Jeff (Sherry) HOLDER and sons Noah and Sam; Larry (Tracy) MAHONEY; Jeff (Andrea) MAHONEY and daughters Jordan, Sienna and Alyssa; Jamie MAHONEY; parents-in-law Michael and Nancy BONNER and brother-in-law Andrew BONNER (Jaimie SPRIGGS). Jared was predeceased by his Poppy, Lawrence MAHONEY and his grandmother Elva HOLDER.

*Source: Full obituary in The Telegraph Journal on-line obituaries*

**ROBICHAUD, Joseph Robert MARC (January 17, 1961-January 11, 2019)**

Surrounded by his family at the Markham Stouffville Hospital in Ontario on Friday, January

11, 2019, at the age of 57, Marc ROBICHAUD of Cooktown, ON, previously of Neguac, NB, passed away. Born January 17, 1961, he was the son of the late Roger ROBICHAUD (2017) and late Antoinette ROBICHAUD (2015). Marc is survived by his life partner Cheryl GRAINGER, his daughters Ashlie ROBICHAUD of Tottenham, ON and Rachele LAWRENCE from Vermillion, AB. He will be sadly missed by his sister Jasmine (Gerry), his brothers Charles (Theresa), Paul (Nathalie), Claude (Guy) and sister-in-law Wanda, all of New Brunswick. Marc will also be missed by his aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews, as well as his Harley and HAM Radio friends and all the friends he made through his many travels. Marc was also the proud grandfather to Maisie, the twins Seth and Caelan, and Reilly, all of Vermillion, AB. His brothers Guy (2016) Clairmont and Claude predeceased him. A celebration of life will be held for Marc at a late date.

*Source: Toronto Star on Jan. 16, 2019*

**SMITH, BERTHA (nee Mullin) (January 5, 1927 - February 10, 2019)**

After 93 years of life, Bertha decided it was time to reunite with her late husband Arthur Ronald (2011). Bertha was a wonderful mother to Heather (late Tom), Joe (Sandy), Bruce (Lana), Fred (Janice), Pam (Mark), Ron (Pam), Carla and predeceased by an infant daughter. Art and Bertha's children provided them with 23 unique grandchildren who have so far extended the family with another 25 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great grandchildren. She is survived by sisters Marg and Charlene; while her parents, Charles and Pearl, as well as siblings Ed, Opal, Joe, Fred, Bud and Ron have predeceased her.

*Note: she is the daughter of the late Pearl (Baisley) and Charles Mullin of Miramichi*

*Source: Full obituary at Dennis Toll Funeral Home, on-line obituaries.*

Remember that when a family member passes away, they take a library of memories with them.

## MEETING BY MEETING

NBGS Miramichi Branch would like to update members on the activities of the group. With this in mind, we will let you know about programs/speakers we have had recently and ones who are booked to speak at the branch meetings. If you are in the area, plan to drop in. Our meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month (with the exception of June, July, August and December) at the Chatham Public Library, King Street, Miramichi East at 6:15 pm.

### February

After a short business meeting, members shared the lines they were researching, status of their research, and circulated copies of some of their work. It was interesting to see the different formats people used from traditional genealogy reports to a photo family history. We learn from each other so we thank those who shared their family history projects.

### March

After our regular business meeting, we continued the discussion on individual member's research started at the February meeting. (As members continue their research, the floor is always open to share with others so please feel free to do so. You may find some links between your research and that of other members.)

### April

At the April meeting we celebrated our 28<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an organization. A short presentation was given on what we have accomplished and how we have done in fulfilling our original mandate.

## GENEALOGY WITHOUT SOURCES IS MYTHOLOGY!

How can you tell if the information posted by individuals on Internet genealogy sites is valid? Some sites have sources, others don't. How do you

know what, and when, to believe what you read online?? A good rule of thumb is .... don't trust anything you find on the 'net' (or elsewhere) if it doesn't have sources. Without sources you can't verify it, and you don't know whether the information came from a reliable source or whether it came from Great Aunt Martha who may have some of it right, but may have mixed up a lot too.

Maybe the info came from a book written by someone 100 years ago who didn't have access to sources we have now, or who just plain got it wrong. Perhaps the information was transcribed for a webpage from a book source. That book source was transcribed from a microfilm record which was itself transcribed from the original. The chance of human error is greatly increased with each succeeding transcription. Even if the information has a source, you should double-check it personally, either from the original source or from an independent source.

VERIFY, VERIFY, VERIFY!!!

You also want to think about the source itself. Is the source a good one? After all, if Great Aunt Martha gives me information on the birth or baptism of my 3rd great-grandpa and I put it on the 'net', and source it as "Remembrances of Great Aunt Martha", that's not necessarily a reliable or accurate source. After all, Great Aunt Martha did have that fall from a horse when she was a child and she IS 97 years old..... However if I source the birth or baptismal dates with full details on the church where I saw the original record, or the published transcript of those church records, that's much more reliable. When in doubt, remember....

***"Genealogy without sources is mythology"***

*Editor's Note: the preceding article was taken from free source internet information and credit given to: © Lorine McGinnis Schulze of The Olive Tree Genealogy at <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml>*

## WHAT'S OLD IS NEW-TO-YOU

Recently I have been looking at old photos of people and places, thinking about the past as well as remarking upon how things change. That's fine for me; I am right here in Miramichi New Brunswick. I began to think that members of NBGS Miramichi Branch might like to see photos from the 'old days'. Since most of our members are living elsewhere in the world, let me offer you a look at Miramichi as it used to be – perhaps when your Miramichi ancestors lived here. Perhaps you'll find a relative or two in the albums.

First, have a look at the collection of Mighty Miramichi. Those who run the website say that this web address will bring you directly into the Historical Photos section. These photos have been donated by the public and Stacy Underhill encourages you to donate some of yours by following the directions on the site. Click on the blue link below or type the web address carefully into your computer's search line. You will arrive at “albums” and clicking on those will show you photos.

[www.mightymiramichi.com/Community/Gallery/](http://www.mightymiramichi.com/Community/Gallery/)

The next website of historical images comes to us from Josh Green who works at the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. Now, as family researchers, I am sure you are all familiar with the Archives...but have you looked at the 2,200 historical photos? This is a collection that is subdivided into towns and villages. So, you can check out Saint John or Tracadie as well as Miramichi (Newcastle and Chatham). What a treat on a rainy day!

<https://archives.gnb.ca/Exhibits/HistoricalImages/?culture=en-CA>

For our next newsletter, I have a collection of another 2,200 photos of historic New Brunswick photos. And I will be looking for a few more sources for you. Just between us, last year I was researching a certain family and actually found a

photo of the lady in the PANB collection. A big surprise! You might find somebody you've been looking for too.

*Submitted by member Judy Vautour*

*(Editor's Note: in doing my own family's research, I knew my mother worked at the Traveller's Inn in Boiestown in the late 1930's. I had seen a picture of the Inn in a publication and I wondered if, by chance, the New Brunswick Archives might have the photo. Searching through the Archives photo collection, I found the photo and the Archives very kindly provided a copy. What a surprise it was for family members to see this for the first time. So, as Judy says in the article – don't ignore this valuable resource! – Faye Baisley)*

## CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS

Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies (and gentlemen) with computers. Below are a few sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) that actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM – prayer and medication to follow.

*Submitted by: Marilyn Creamer-Fowler*

Finding the path our ancestors walked is not always easy, but the rewards of the journey make the effort worthwhile.



## JUDGING OUR ANCESTORS

Standing in judgment of our ancestors may be unavoidable. Genealogists dig up the good, the bad, and the ugly. We cannot pick and choose what we find, but we might be able to pick what and how we share it with others.

As genealogists we are always trying to get a full view of the person we are researching – from the census records, military service paperwork, and wills – and into the real person and their personality. But if you find out something that is negative - should you preserve this in your ancestry notes? And there's the slippery slope. I believe that we, in this modern era, should avoid sitting in judgment of ancestors who are not here to defend themselves. We don't want to presume that we are in a position to decide how wrong "the crime" is. We certainly don't want to be negatively prejudiced against others ourselves, but it is impossible to put oneself in another's shoes in a differing time and circumstance.

In cases where you have secured substantial evidence that a negative story is true, you still have a choice to make. When I come across particularly sensitive or negative information about an ancestor, and before I make it public, I ask myself, "who will this help and who will it hurt?" Does adding it to the family history enrich it? Is there anyone living today who might be hurt? If someone stands to be injured, but you're set on capturing the story, I encourage you to do so privately for your own records and of course, cite all of your sources.

If you do decide to write and publish sensitive stories, I know that you will want to do so in as gentle and fair a way as possible. Here are some things to consider when writing about delicate stories of our ancestors:

Be sure to cite your source – who told you the story and when. The reader can decide how much weight to give the information.

Let your readers know your reason for sharing the story in the first place. If naming everyone in the story will cause hurt or embarrassment, consider documenting the essence of the story without naming names.

Whatever you decide, writing a family history, though difficult at times, can be a rewarding experience!

*Source: LisaLouiseCooke.com*

## FACEBOOK OF YESTERYEAR (aka – Local News column of The North Shore Leader, May 14, 1909)

Here are the newsfeeds you would have seen on that date:

*Real Summer Day* – Monday was the first real warm day. It was seventy in the shade.

*Red Bank Service* – the Dorothy N is making daily trips to Red Bank. There is now a daily mail service between Newcastle and Red Bank. This system was introduced last fall.

*Mayflowers* – mayflowers are said to be plentiful this fall. Large bouquets are being picked daily.

*Away on Auto Trip* - Lieut. Governor Tweedie left for Niagara Falls Thursday evening to meet Mr. Ernest Hutchison for an extended automobile trip in the United States. Mr. Hutchison has purchased a new auto.

*Business Extension* – Mr. A. H. Mackay is having the upper flat of his store remodeled with the intention of devoting it to a Variety Five and Ten Cent Department. This will likely prove quite an attraction as it is something new for Newcastle.

*Bad Money in Circulation* – there is a lot of spurious money in circulation in Campbellton at present. This bad money is mostly in 25 cent pieces and at first glance they are not unlike the

quarters being turned out from the public mint. They have not got as bright a shine, however, and when closely examined they are found to have work not as fine as should be on the good quarters.

*Flour Taking Another Jump* –another jump in the price of flour took place Saturday when the prices of Manitoba's, all grades, were advanced 20 cents per barrel. The retail price of Five Roses, Purity and Royal Household will now be \$7.50 per barrel. This is the highest price since the Leiter wheat deal forced up the cost in 1898. The wheat market is strong and from all indications will continue so. The prices on the flour named above will probably rule for the next two months when a reliable forecast of the crop will be possible.

*Rosebank Lumber Co.* - The Rosebank Lumber Co.'s started operations two weeks ago, and they now have a large staff employed turning out finished lumber. They are prepared to furnish all classes of lumber, clabboards, sheathing floorings and all kinds of finished hard and soft lumber at the lowest prices. Extra fine clabboards a speciality. The mill is under the capable management of John Miller. Three million feet of lumber have been purchased this winter through the company's energetic agent, J. W. Vanderbeck, and the prospects are bright for a good season's work at Rosebank.

*An Enjoyable Time* – an enjoyable time is expected at the S. A. Hall on Saturday at 8 pm as Lieut. Col. T? of St. John will be in charge.

*Two Mails a Week* – Mr. W. S. Loggie, M.P., has succeeded in inducing the Post Office Department to run two mails a week from Newcastle to Protectionville, Trout brook and Wayerton instead of one. Mails for these places will leave on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

*Dalhousie Mail Robbery* – Inspector D. A. Noble of the I. C. R., who conducted the search for the guilty parties in the Dalhousie mail robbery, has

made a report upon his findings to Dr. N. R. Colter, Post Office Inspector. The report is a thorough one, and covers the full details of the case. Whether further action will be taken by Inspector Noble in the case depends upon the disposition of the postal authorities. Mr. Noble is awaiting instructions from Dr. Colter.

*Young Man Has Foot Amputated* – Cedric, youngest son of H. J. McGrath of the I. C. R. staff, Fredericton, has been undergoing treatment at Victoria Hospital for the past year (?) for illness caused by an accident which befell him while practicing athletics. Recently the physicians found it necessary to amputate his foot. While his condition is severe, hope for his recovery has not been abandoned.

*Macbeth at Opera House* – Shakespeare's immortal dramatic success, Macbeth, has been selected from the repertoire of classic plays in which Mr. John Griffith is appearing this season for presentation here when that fine actor comes to the Opera House next Monday night, May 17. The long continued popularity of Macbeth is indeed remarkable. Several other actors have appeared in different and somewhat inferior versions of the play, but none have ever risen to the degree of prominence that rewarded the true greatness of John Griffith. Also, moving pictures and illustrated songs. Prices for both shows 25c, 35c, 50c.

*Source: The North Shore Leader, May 14, 1909*

Remember me in the Family Tree  
My name, my days, my strife;  
Then I'll ride upon the wings of time,  
And live an endless life.



## MEETING/CONTACT INFORMATION

NBGS Miramichi Branch meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Chatham Public Library at 6:15 PM.

Meetings are held 8 times per year – January to May and September to November. The Branch does not hold regular meetings in June, July, August or December.

Visitors are always welcome – we have a chair waiting!



Contact Information:

On the web at: [www.nbgsmiramichi.org](http://www.nbgsmiramichi.org)

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