

Family History Happenings

March 2016

Connie Price, Editor

Mark Your Calendars

- Mar 23, 2016 Wed High Priest Group Leader Training
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 7:00 p.m.
- Mar 24, 2016 Thurs Family History Consultant Training
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 6:30 p.m.
- Mar 25, 2016 Fri Family History Consultant Training
Las Vegas FamilySearch Library 10:00 a.m.
- Jul 26-29, 2016 Family History Conference Provo, UT
<http://familyhistory.ce.byu.edu/>
- Oct 28-29, 2016 familyroots Expo 2016 St. George, UT
Dixie College Convention Center Hosted by FamilySearch

Director's Message *by Floyd Stevens*

Change- Constancy

One day at Church years ago, when I was living in Phoenix, I spoke with a young Elders' Quorum president about how the Church boundaries seem to change. Phoenix had grown similar to Las Vegas. Anyone who grew up here can tell you about how they lived in the same home, and were a part of several wards and stakes. I did the same back in Arizona.

When I was a teenager, rumors surfaced that the ward I had grown up in might be combined with the 9th ward. I was sick about this—for many reasons, not the least of which was that it was 9th ward—but fortunately that change did not happen until after I came home from my mission. I had survived that change.

A few days before my high school graduation, I sat with my mother and talked about how my life was going to change. My friends would go to various colleges, and our association would never be the same. Worse, I would leave home, and home would never be the same. (I had already seen how quickly a departing sister's room was painted and handed down to me, and there was no question that when I came home for Christmas, I would be a visitor, sleeping in very temporary quarters.) I knew change was imminent- but I didn't like to have to go through that change. I remember crying as I talked to Mom. Why can't we just live in a world that doesn't change? I asked.

I remember Mom seemed to inwardly smile on me. She knew that many changes were going to happen to me in the next several years- school, mission, marriage, children. Those have brought me inexpressible joy. Mom knew I was crying in anticipation of the very things I most wanted-- and that she most wanted for me. We did not come to earth to be the same as we used to be. Years later I sat with my oldest daughter and had a very similar



conversation, but this time I played the role of the parent. It was one of several times in my life I spoke to someone and heard my mother's words come from my mouth. In a way, a parent does not mind that their child has mixed feelings about leaving home. It means that they love their parents and feel comfortable and safe in the home they were raised in. Nice. It's how I felt, and it's how my daughter felt. And her daughter and son.

Yes, change is very much a part of this life. We come to this world as babies. Although there are exceptions, the plan is that we grow, we learn, we experience trials, we become stronger. Most of us marry, and have children. Most of us grow old. All of us die. Eternal progression is a principle of the gospel. Progression means growth--- which means change. In order to progress, we must repent—which means change. God tells us we need a change of heart. God designed this world to be a world of change—change is not only a reality, but a requirement in order to be in the place we want to spend eternity.

BUT SOME DAY—we hope to return to our Heavenly Father. And we hope to be like Him. He does not change. What I was experiencing as a teenager was a longing to be with God in a place where things don't change. I want to be where I can live with my family forever—where our bodies do not decay- where there is no pain—where love is constant. Where truth triumphs. Where there is nobody wanting to take advantage of others. Where error is not accepted. Where there is no envy, or hate, or crime. HEAVEN.

Let me quote some lines from some favorite hymns:

Hymn 129 Be Still My Soul

*3. He answers privately, Reaches my reaching
In my Gethsemane, Savior and Friend.
Gentle the peace he finds for my beseeching.
Constant he is and kind,
Love without end.*

Hymn 166 Abide with Me

*2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day.
Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me!*

LVFSL Training Classes

The March class schedule will accompany emailed newsletters, can be obtained at the LVFS Library or be downloaded from our website:

Indexing Info *from Tam Jackson*

Wow! Another month has passed. It snuck up on me this month. I have a lot of news and will try to get it all in here.

First of all: We have received the books from Mesa and have already started the process of getting them scanned. It is going very well. All we need is the internet system to handle the submissions from the new scanning center. We have or will have in the next couple of weeks the computers, scanners and workers necessary to get the job done. In other words we have the cart. We are just waiting for the horses.

On another note: In the past couple of weeks we have had occasion to help patrons with finding books in the library and have discovered there appears to be a discrepancy. When using the FamilySearch catalog to find a book, if you want to know if the LVFSL has it, you need to scroll to the bottom of the results page where it says *Notes* and see whether the library is listed as one of the libraries that has the book. Hint: *If the call number does not have a locator in front of the number (example: US/CAN or FAM/HIST we do not have it on hand.) This should help save a lot of time.*

Finally: I have been given the opportunity to teach a class on indexing the Freedmen records. It is true they are complex. A careful reading of the instructions for each kind of record has shown me some commonalities. However; the basic indexing guideline of reading the directions has never been more critical than it is with these records. They are not that hard if one follows the directions carefully. I am available to help, of course.

Not too much from the spiritual side, but then everything we do has to do with the spiritual side. That is what genealogy is all about, isn't it? Love you all. Be safe, Be happy. It is so much better than just being.

Helpful Websites *from Sandy Jackson*

Each Canadian province has its own archives, separate from the Library and Archives Canada (which has its own website



at www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng. Generally, you'll find vital, tax, and certain land records among their holdings. Many provincial archives have regional locations. Quebec, for example, has nine, so check to see which one holds the materials you need."

Genealogy Insights *by Gail Gibbs*

This past week I attended a "siblings' reunion" in Apollo Beach, Florida, (probably prompted by watching Rootstech and hearing that our director had gone to his annual sibling reunion.) I had been chatting with my older brother, Glen and he mentioned that my "snowbird" sister, Sharon was in Florida again for the winter and that my younger brother Al and his wife were coming down next week for a conference in Orlando. I started thinking about the last time I had seen any of them. Thinking back I realized that I had not seen 2 of them since 2007 at our mother's funeral. Nine years! I woke up Saturday morning and texted him and invited myself down to surprise the other two. Glen, thought it a great idea, especially since I had never, ever been to his house and he has been there 20 years. I got tickets and arrived the next night about 10:30 p.m. and he picked me up, bringing along my younger brother Al. As they waited in the parking lot for my plane to arrive, Al figured out that the package Glen was picking up was me when he saw Las Vegas on the list of planes landing. So, no surprise! We spent Monday reminiscing and using a recording app on my phone to record stories. Tuesday, Al and Victoria left for their conference with plans to return Thursday evening. Tuesday and Thursday I worked on family history and extended our Cornish line one generation. Wednesday we invited a cousin over who I had not seen in 50+ years and he gave me much information on his family and with help from his wife, I typed it into www.familysearch.org. We also recorded some of my cousin's memories. Oops, forgot to get a photo of them, but have an email now. Friday arrived and my sister came over with her husband. We were not able to surprise her either, Glen had to tell her to get her to come on a specific day, since I was flying back on Saturday. We all went to the Racquet Club for lunch and then came back to be video taped by my youngest brother. We talked about growing up in the house that grandpa built (photo), and the little red school-house we attended near Lansing.



By combining our shared knowledge we learned that Grandpa Riley smoked a pipe, Aunt Carol and Uncle Ray were just college friends of my mother, and that Glen and I lived for a short time in New Mexico when Mom went there for an extended visit to her sisters' place, probably to get away from what ended up with Dad being put in Pontiac State Hospital for 5 years. I was able to get all the siblings signed up on www.familysearch.org and also cousin, Francis and his wife Pat. I took copies of some of Glen's photos and of Grandpa Craigie's graduation certificate from ICS, International Correspondence School. All in all, my spontaneous sibling reunion was a success! When is the last time you saw your siblings?