

# Family History Newsletter

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The Family History Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.

Find us on the web:  
[www.mapleridgemuseum.org](http://www.mapleridgemuseum.org)

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Subscriptions are a benefit of membership in the Maple Ridge Historical Society. Please send membership applications, with \$20 to the Maple Ridge Historical Society.

### Family History Group Meetings

The May meeting, May 5, 2010 will be about Births, Marriages and Deaths.

## The Continuing Hammond Family Saga

By Annette Fulford

John Hammond was one two brothers who founded the community of Hammond in the District of Maple Ridge. John married late in life to a mail order bride named Amanda Row who was originally from Wilmington, Delaware. They wed in Agassiz in 1903, when John was 65; his new bride Amanda was just 46. They lived together until John's death in 1909.

The last we heard from Amanda, she had crossed the border into the United States in 1913 and was living with her brother Harry at her home town of Wilmington, Delaware in 1920. After that we lost track of both Amanda and her brother.

It turns out that Amanda died on May 7, 1933 at Wilmington. Her death certificate says she was 74 years old. Sadly she died of cancer. Her family predeceased her: father Bernard in 1906, mother Sophia in 1912, brothers Joseph in 1916 and Harry in 1925. I was unable to locate further info on brother Isaac or sister Henrietta. Amanda has also not been found in the 1930 US Census yet either.

## Who Do You Think You Are?

By Andrea Lister

<http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are/>

"Who Do You Think You Are?" premiered Friday, March 5 (8-9 p.m. ET) on NBC. It is the American version of the BBC show that has been on since 2004.

The first show featured the family history of Sarah Jessica Parker. The show has also featured Emmitt Smith, Lisa Kudrow Matthew Broderick and Brooke Shields.

I enjoy how the show researches the participants' family tree as more than just names and dates but tries to tell the story of their ancestors as real people. The celebrities do a little research on their own, on Ancestry.com NBC's official partner on the series, and are lucky enough to meet a variety of professional researchers and genealogists to help them along the way.

A few elements are a little bothersome – neither the researchers or the celebrities seem to use gloves when touching the original documents. In my head, I am assuming that they washed their hands thoroughly to prevent damaging things with the oils in their fingers. And, since it is a TV show the research is a lot faster and easier than in my own life.

However, on the whole the show is great. It shows the excitement of researching your family. I loved that Sarah Jessica Parker was excited to be related to people that were involved in historic events and was not expecting to be related to anyone famous. The show really demonstrates the power of genealogy and understanding ourselves as people.

<http://www.bbcwhodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/>

## New Online Resources

### Canada's Multicultural Newspapers Online

A collection of historical newspapers that document the early years of immigrant experience in Canada from Athabasca University.

[www.connectingcanadians.org](http://www.connectingcanadians.org)

## Family History Events

### Abbotsford Genealogical Society

Meetings at Clearbrook Library  
32320 George Ferguson Way  
Abbotsford, BC

Doors open 6:00 pm. Meeting starts at 6:30 pm

- **Chilliwack British Library** with Fred Hails, May 19
- **Sharing Genealogy Research** AGS Members, June 15

### BCHF Conference Workshops

- **Family History in British Columbia** with Dave Obee.

Thursday, May 6, 2010, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

- **Community History Outreach: Becoming a Vital Part of Everyday Life** with Val Patenaude, Thursday, May 6, 2010, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Fee: \$50.00 for BCHF members and \$80 for non-members.

Register using the main conference registration form and payment method.

<http://bchistory.ca/conferences/2010/index.html> or call 604 466-2636.

### Cloverdale Library

5642-176A Street, Surrey offers free orientations the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of every month 9:30 – 10:30am.

- **Fast and Easy Digital Collages Using Picasa** with Laurie J. Cooke. Saturday, May 8, 2010, 10:30 – 11:30am. Fee: \$10.00.

Pre-registration is required – please check the Genealogy section of the Surrey Public Library website  
[www.spl.surrey.bc.ca](http://www.spl.surrey.bc.ca) or call us at 604-598-7328.

### Mountain View Cemetery

- **The Final Disposition: Demystifying Death, Funerals, Cemeteries & Ceremonies**, Saturday, April 24, 2010, 10:30 am – 4:30 pm. Fee: Free.

But registration is mandatory as seating is limited. Please phone or email the office to confirm your space.

For more details check:  
<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/N>

[ONMARKETOPERATIONS/MO UNTAINVIEW/final.html](http://ONMARKETOPERATIONS/MO UNTAINVIEW/final.html).

### Nanaimo Family History

Family History Fair, April 17, 2010 from 9:00 am – 6:00 pm with Else Churchill. The Beban Park Social Centre, 2300 Bowen Road, Nanaimo, BC. Fee: \$20.00 per talk or \$50.00 for 3 talks. NFHS website:

[www.members.shaw.ca/nfhs/](http://www.members.shaw.ca/nfhs/)

### Terry Fox Library

- **From Genealogy to Family History**, with Chris Longley, Monday, April 26, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm. Fee: Free. Registration required.

Terry Fox Library 2470 Mary Hill Road, Port Coquitlam, BC Phone: 604-927-7999

### Vancouver Public Library

- **Getting the Most Out of Ancestry Library Edition**, Sunday, May 2, 2010 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm in Computer Training Room, Level 7 Central Library. Fee: Free. Registration required.
- **Using FamilySearch**, Sunday, May 30, 2010 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Computer Training Lab, Level 7 Central Library. Fee: Free. Registration required.
- **Genealogy in England**, Wednesday, June 9, 2010, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm in Alma VanDusen Room, Central Library. Fee: Free. Registration required.

If you would like to attend please call 603-331-3716 or register in person with the information staff.