



# Columbine Genealogical & Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 44 No. 3

3rd Quarter – July, August, September

Summer 2017

## Columbine Genealogical and Historical Society Newsletter

P. O. Box 2074  
Centennial, CO 80161-2074  
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Est. 1976  
Cultural & Educational Organization  
501(c)(3)  
Newsletter Published Quarterly  
Subscription included in membership dues.

**CGHS Website**  
<http://www.columbinegenealogy.com/>  
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*Spring Potluck at Columbine*

## *Saving Old Photos in a Digital World*

by Joyce B. Lohse



*Grandpa picking up Mom and friends from school in Illinois ca. 1930s.*

An often-repeated lament among genealogists is fear of losing family photos due to antiquated formats and equipment. The replacement of video and photographic film with digital technology can help avoid danger of obsolescence, fading, and deterioration of precious family photo collections. With some planning, we can rely on local resources to come to our rescue and offer guidance through the process.

A recent Columbine program introduced us to one local resource. Kirsten Canfield, Multimedia Librarian for the Arapahoe Library District (ALD), shared valuable information about the digitization program at Southglenn Library in Centennial. Through the ALD Book-a-Librarian program, library patrons can meet with a media expert to transfer valuable family memories from obsolete or dated material to digital files, ready to share and store for future use.

In order to implement this valuable resource, it is important to make a plan, and prepare for best use of studio equipment and the media specialist's time. I had a couple of problem areas in my personal collection and decided to give the program a try.

*Continued on Page 2*

## *Saving Old Photos in a Digital World* – continued from page 1

The first challenge was a VCR tape containing a family movie. The video had been transferred from 8 mm “Super 8” film to VHS video through a photo transfer service years ago. With VHS in danger of obsolescence and deterioration, I hoped to salvage the film and transfer it to digital format for posterity and storage.

I spent almost two hours on a Friday afternoon at Southglenn Library. Kirsten coached me through the process of setting up the VCR player to duplicate my VHS tape via computer and store its contents on a flash drive I provided. I could tell that my grandfather, who recorded the original film, had a passion for video filming although his chosen career was an accountant. The film contained scenes with my great-grandparents, and even my great-great grandmother. Then there were the children, my Dad and his sister, and time spent on their family farm in Kentucky. Toward the end of the film, my Mom entered the scenes with my Dad, and their children appeared, who were my sister and myself, along with my aunt, uncle and cousins. The film, which began in the late 1920s, was fading due to age, after going through two transfers. It was the oldest film Kirsten had ever seen in the program.



While the family film unfolded and recorded digitally in the background, we tackled another photographic challenge. Two aged and smudged film negatives, about 5x6 inches, contained images of two poster-sized collages, which had been displayed on the office wall at my grandfather’s Illinois farm. As children, my sister and I studied the pictures at length. They contained details of farm scenes, and photos of our mother as a young horsewoman. My goal was to retrieve and share those positive images from the ragged negatives.



Kirsten patiently guided me through the transfer process. I was not disappointed with the results. Since the negative images were large, two scans were made of each one, then knit together by meticulously matching details from each side to create a complete digital image of each large collage. It worked. We saved the two collages onto the flash drive just as the video film transfer finished. When I went home, my flash drive contained the family video along with positive images of two large collages, ready for printing and sharing. Separate images can easily be cropped and printed from the collages, such as the photo of the mule team hitched to the farm wagon full of children shown at the beginning of this article.

To access the Audio/Visual Studio at Southglenn Library, and/or to Book-A-Librarian to consult about a project, call to make an appointment at 303-542-7279. Online, go to [www.arapahoelibraries.org/book-a-librarian](http://www.arapahoelibraries.org/book-a-librarian) to find out more about their capabilities. The service is free to library clients. If the library lacks equipment for a project, they can direct you toward resources that will help.



## Meetings at Columbine

### Meeting Times:

Regular Meetings 1:00 pm - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month (except June, July, Aug. & Dec.)  
 Earlybird Classes 9:30 am - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday (several scheduled during spring & fall)  
 Board of Directors Meetings 9:30 am - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month (except June, July & Dec.)

### Meeting Place:

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, 6400 South University Blvd, Centennial, CO 80121

For more information about Columbine Meetings, visit our web site: [www.ColumbineGenealogy.com](http://www.ColumbineGenealogy.com)

### Board of Directors - Officers 2017

President - Bob Jenkins  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Programs - Anita Burbank-Jenkins  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President Publicity - Julie McKemy  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President Bookstore - Nancy Reubert  
 Education Coordinator - Jean Adams  
 Recording Secretary - Barbara Elliott  
 Recording Secretary alt. - Sylvia Burnside  
 Corresponding Secretary - Ginger Van Zyl  
 Treasurer - Sandy Ronayne  
 Membership Coordinators - Debi Clark, Carol Stall  
 Newsletter Editor, interim - Joyce Lohse  
 Past President - Joyce Lohse

### Appointed Committees - 2017

Acquisitions - Ann Lisa Pearson  
 Auditing - Marilyn Elrod, Bob Jenkins  
 Bylaws - Joyce Lohse, Bob Jenkins, Woody Trospen  
 Bulletin Board/Historian - Pat Campbell  
 Equipment - Ken Beets, Bob Pick  
 CCGS Rep. interim - Julie McKemy  
 Mailing - Diane Hall  
 Nominating - Connie Strandberg, Shirley Stertz  
 Photographer - Livie Grogan  
 Special Projects - VACANT  
 Refreshments - Susan Hollis, Diane White  
 Queries - Woody Trospen  
 Website/Facebook Editor - Joyce Lohse

## Program Preview

### CGHS 2017 Scheduled Fall Programs

September 12 - Dr. Jack Ballard - Fort Logan  
 September 19 - Claire Martin - Obituaries  
 October 10 - Brian Trimbath - Emily Griffith  
 October 17 - Greg Liverman - DNA -  
 (an earlybird class and afternoon program)  
 November 14 - James Jeffrey - Pikes Peak program  
 November 21 - Hispanic Roots in Denver  
 December 12 - Potluck and Sharing Ancestors' Keepsakes



CGHS Program Director Anita Burbank- Jenkins with impromptu White House presenter Shara Castle

**Summer Board of Directors meeting:** Tuesday, Aug. 15, 9:30 a.m. at The Egg & I on University, across from Southglenn

**Are we there yet??** For the latest news on the *Family Tree Maker* software program update, go to:

<https://support.mackiev.com/498640-RELEASE-OF-FTM-2017>



## Ask A Photographer

Article and Interview – by Jean Adams

Summer means road trips, and a road trip for a genealogist includes cemeteries. Do you use Find-a-Grave? Findagrave.com website is great for long distance research but visiting the actual ancestor's gravesite can be a real thrill and provide new clues to other ancestors. I visited a small cemetery located at the corner of a cornfield in Royal Center, Indiana, to photograph my husband's great grandmother's headstone that I had found on the Find-A-Grave website. She was known as Lottie but her full name was Charlotte. Was I ever surprised to find her husband's name Israel and his dates on one side of the headstone. And nearby was a headstone of one of her children. None of that showed up on my Find-A-Grave searches. The problem with my visit was getting a clear photograph of the husband's information on the monument.



With that problem in mind I asked CGHS member Steve Johnson for some photographic tips to use in cemeteries. Steve is a volunteer at Riverside Cemetery in Denver, CO, and a member of the Englewood Camera Club. He has organized full moon photographic shoots at Riverside and Fairmount Cemeteries in Denver, and Valley Brook Cemetery in Breckenridge. After moving from Littleton to Dillon in 2016, Steve has become a frequent contributor of nature photographs to the local newspaper, *The Summit Daily News*. Steve's photographs, cards and calendars are for sale in the High Mountain ARTisans shop located at the Outlet Mall in Silverthorne, CO and at local art fairs. Below are some of my questions and Steve's answers.

### **Q: What is the best time of the day to take photographs?**

**A:** Many older cemeteries orient the graves to face east. Mid to late morning will put the sun on the upright headstones. Before the sun is directly overhead, there should be some shadows on the engraving. For markers which lie flat on the ground, the best time to take pictures is when the sun is fairly low in the sky, either mid-morning or mid-afternoon. Sometimes an overcast day will allow more detail to show on your monument. If possible, Steve suggests planning more than one day for photographs so that you can catch the best light – it could be morning, afternoon or early evening. Also, remember that if you allow only one day for your visit it could be a rainy one! Photographing headstones from a car is not very successful!

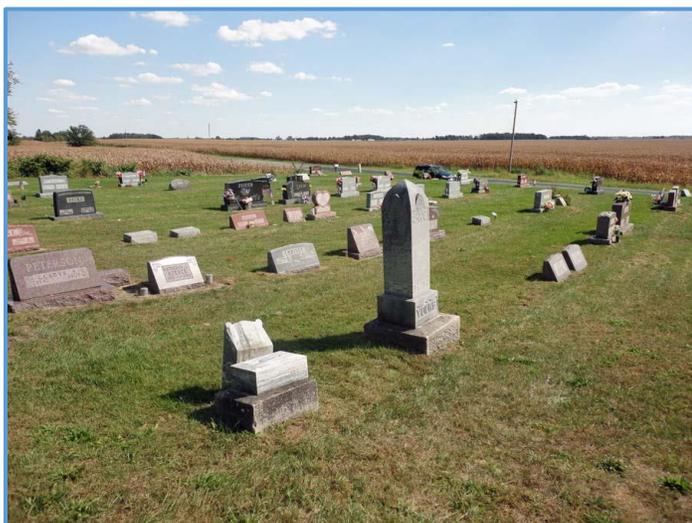


### **Question: How can I get the names and dates to show up on an old headstone (see Israel)?**

**A:** One of the things you can do is spray water on the engraving to bring out the detail. Let the stone dry slightly and the moisture that stays inside the engraving makes it easier to read. Steve says people are discouraged from rubbing the stone with things like soil, flour, chalk, tracing paper or aluminum foil which can cause further deterioration. Steve uses editing software like Photoshop to change the contrast or to lighten/darken the image to read the inscription better.

**Question: What if the headstone is in the shade of a tree or bush?**

**A:** Try using a fill-in flash with your camera or phone. A portable reflector will also help to put light on your subject. Since I'm not a serious photographer, I don't have a portable reflector, so I think my car sunshade with a reflective side will have to suffice. Or how about saving the aluminum foil from a fast food sandwich? On a road trip, you might need to be just a little bit inventive.

**Steve and I discussed other photos to take at our cemetery visit and came up with this list:**

- Photo of general location of grave among other monuments (see example)
- Other monuments with same surnames (just in case they turn out to be relatives)
- Other monuments in close proximity that could be buried in the family owned lots
- Gate or sign with name of cemetery
- Locator map of the layout of cemetery roads and lot numbers
- Name of cemetery caretaker and monument repair business nearby

**Other things to take along for your visit:**

- Bug spray or bug wipes
- Water bottle or spray bottle
- Paper towel/soft rag to polish headstone
- Garden trowel/knife/clippers to tidy grass around the headstone.
- Notebooks for sketches or hand drawn maps
- Computer for findagrave.com or Ancestry.com research



Steve Johnson, Photographer

**For more detailed information and photographic suggestions check out these websites:**

[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sckersha/records/how\\_to\\_photograph\\_headstones.htm](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~sckersha/records/how_to_photograph_headstones.htm)

<http://www.wikihow.com/Photograph-a-Tombstone>

[http://www.genealogy.com/articles/research/64\\_gravestones.html](http://www.genealogy.com/articles/research/64_gravestones.html)

[http://www.stonepics.com/newfoundland\\_cemeteries/method.htm](http://www.stonepics.com/newfoundland_cemeteries/method.htm)

<http://www.gravestonephotos.com/volunteers/photoindextips.php>

<http://www.ncgenweb.us/newhanover/cem1.html>

<http://mycanvasblog.com/tombstone-photography-guidelines/>

<https://www.findagrave.com/>

*Editor's note: CGHS members Steve and Carol Johnson currently live in Dillon, CO. Steve's wildlife photos appear in the Summit Daily News, on Channel 4 TV news, and High Mountain ARTisans shop at Silverthorne's Outlet stores.*

## Columbine's Spring Pot Luck Social

### Used Bookstore and Ancestor Costume Show



Shoppers at the CGHS Used Bookstore (above)  
Marilyn Lyle (left – below) and Marilyn Elrod (right – below)



D.J. Inman honored his uncle's WWII Navy service.



Anita Burbank-Jenkins



Marylee Hagen

## *Education*

Jean Adams, Education Coordinator

### **EARLY BIRD CLASSES at CGHS**

#### **Sept. 19, 2017 - 9:30am-11:30am - Basic Research**

Do you have a friend or relative that would like to start doing genealogy? Beginners are always welcome at our Columbine meetings and can learn techniques from our assortment of afternoon programs. This fall we will offer an Early Bird Session on basic research topics. Several CGHS members will present suggestions for using the Internet, Family Search, Census Records, Family Group Sheets and software programs.

#### **Oct. 17, 2017 - 9:30am-11:30am - Intermediate DNA**

Greg Livermore will be our featured presenter as we continue to learn more about DNA and its uses in our genealogical research. Greg will base his program on the assumption that attendees have a basic knowledge of the types of DNA testing and have done at least one test on themselves or a family member.

#### **Nov. 21, 2017 - 9:30am - 11:30am - U.S. State Research**

Join other CGHS members as they share their experience with research in specific U.S. states. Bring your questions and brick walls and see what others are doing to overcome them. Volunteers are needed! If you can chair a table for a specific state, let Jean Adams know in September or October.

### **ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

We have volunteers who have agreed to serve as mentors and to provide one-on-one assistance in the following areas of genealogical research and skills:

#### **Basic Research:**

Ancestry.com

Family Tree Maker

Family Search

Organization of Stuff

Writing Family Stories

Census Records

Computer Skills

DAR Registration

#### **Specialized:**

Norway, Denmark, Sweden

England, Wales, Ireland

Virginia

Civil War, Military Records

Spanish (Translation, Research)

Alsace

France

Legacy Family Tree Software

If you would like assistance please contact Education Coordinator Jean Adams at [mjadams@iquest.net](mailto:mjadams@iquest.net) or cell phone 317-413-8314. In addition, if you would like to volunteer to help someone, please let Jean know of your availability and area of interest.

## Notes from Columbine's President, Bob Jenkins

### "Nancy's Bookcase: The Time Machine"



Lava Lamp (invented 1963)

Mantle clock from Nancy's grandparents house.

Small photo of Nancy and her mother.

Photo of Nancy in Hawaii for her parent's 50th wedding anniversary.

Photo of Nancy's great grandmother, Anna Louise Newton.

Emmett Kelly clown figurine. One of Nancy's father's favorite people.

Moose figure. Christmas JOY blocks.

Wooden heart, hand painted by Nancy.

(She is a tole painter.)

Books include: the Steven White mysteries,

The Food Lover's Guide to Colorado,

Fannie Farmer Cookbook (not related),

The Gabby Gourmet, and

"The Gentleman Giant: Biography of Robert Pershing Wadlow," published 1944. Robert was the tallest man

in the world. Born in 1918, Robert was 8' 11" tall and weighed nearly 500 pounds when he died at age 22.

Nancy's father went to school with Robert and said the way to get to class fast was to follow Robert.

*Editor's Note: A display with inventory list such as this one is an excellent way to preserve memorabilia in photographs.*

## New Columbine Members

**March:** Neil Jones, Betsey Moore, Shirley Muggli,  
Robert Schroeder

**April:** Judy Kraft, Jean Ouellette, and Maryanne Patterson

## In Memory

Carl Wayne Elliott passed away in Centennial on April 27, 2017 at the age of 66. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Elliott, who joined Columbine in 1995, and their son, Steven Craig Elliott, and three grandsons. Carl and Barbara were married in 1977 in Oklahoma. Currently, Barbara is Columbine's recording secretary.



## *Genealogy Pays Off Big Time*

by Carol Johnson, CGHS Member

An article in the Summit Daily News on 8 November 2016 tells about the good fortune of a Silverthorne resident whose genealogical research resulted in a return of \$1.3 million!

*Robert D. Small consulted federal mining-claim maps showing the north ridge of Hunter Creek Valley in Pitkin county northeast of Aspen, CO. He found that some privately owned property on the southern side for the Rolland T. and Mamie W. lodes was not on the county's tax rolls. Next, Small investigated at Salt Lake City's Granite Mountain Records Vault to discover the owners' heirs. He contacted them and arranged to buy their ancestors' mining claims for paltry sums. In 2012 he filed a quitclaim deed in federal court to become the owner of approximately ten and one-half acres on the southern portion of the claims, while the U.S. Forest Service and Pitkin County were the owners of the northern portion.*

*When officials of the Pitkin County Open Space and Trails learned of Small's actions a couple of years ago, they negotiated with him. Their purpose was to keep the Hunter Creek Valley free of development because it provided wonderful views of the distant Maroon Bells. Small's genealogical and investigative efforts resulted in lucrative compensation for him. Pardon me while I stop writing this article to check if any of my ancestors had mining claims!*



## *Limericks by Robert W. Jenkins*

Written May 6, 1998, in Aghadoe, Killarney, County Kerry, Ireland

There was a young man from Glengarriff,  
Who thought he could bypass the tariff.  
When he landed at Shannon,  
He was met by O'Manon,  
Who for County Clare was the sheriff.

There was a young lady from town Sneem,  
Who had skin like a peach and pure cream.  
She rode a horse to Macroom,  
To find herself a groom.  
And returned with the man of her dream.



There was once a woman from Sligo,  
Whose old well did suddenly dry go.  
When a man from Glenbeigh,  
Told her, "I know the way"  
She said, "Wherever you go I go."

## *The Life of William Wallace Elliott*

Carl Elliott's Great-Grandfather – by Barbara Elliott

William Wallace ELLIOTT was born on Tuesday, 22 August 1848, to John and Margaret Johnson Elliott in Herkimer County, New York, United States.

The 1855 New York census shows the family living in Osceola for the past 3 months. This census showed John being born in England and farming his own land. His wife Margaret was born in Otsego County and living at home are children Mary A., Tryphena and Wallace. In 1860 the family lived in Richfield, Otsego County, New York, and John is still farming. The real estate value was \$1400, and the personal estate was worth \$300. Margaret was still with him along with children Tryphena, Wallace and Palmer.

During the Civil War, the family was living in Osceola and William at age 16 decided to join up. According to his discharge papers from the Civil War he was born in Richfield, New Hampshire. He enlisted October 1, 1864 at Portsmouth, New Hampshire and served in both the Navy and Military services. He was a private in Company "A", commanded by Captain Hooker in the 7th Regiment of the New Hampshire Volunteers. He was wounded in the leg at Chapin's Farm, Virginia on October 23, 1864, and his leg was amputated, a grueling event, since there wasn't any sedative to deaden the pain. He was honorably discharged on June 12, 1865, and went back to farming.

In 1865, William tried to recover from his ordeal while living with his parents. John was 47 years old and a naturalized citizen. They lived in a frame house with a value of \$500. Margaret at 46 had given birth to 5 children. Children living at home were Ann Davis, Tryphena, William and Palmer. Grandchildren Byron and Eugene Davis lived with them. Sometime before 1875 Ann's husband Eugene died. William married Hattie Eisman after the census was recorded. To this union children Elmer, Edith and Hattie were born.

In 1870 William and his wife Hattie lived in Osceola, where he was farming. The real estate value was \$900 and personal estate was \$190. William and 22-year-old Hattie could not read or write. They had 2 children, Elmer age 4 and Edith age 3 months. (Daughter-in-law, Harriet Shufelt Elliott said that William's wife Hattie ran off with another man, sometime after 1873, since baby Hattie was born in October of 1872.)

In 1875, William married Nettie Ellis. They lived in a frame home worth \$150, where William was a farm laborer. Nettie at 16-years-old was keeping house and looking after his children. Elmer was 8, Edith was 5 and Hattie was 2 years 5 months. In December 1875, Nettie gave birth to Willard. Oscar arrived in March of 1878.

In 1880, the family lived in German Flatts Township in Herkimer County. William was still farming, but it is unclear whether he owned the land. Nettie was with William along with all 5 children and his sister-in-law, Emma Strange, who was 16 years old at this time. Nettie divorced William sometime before 1883, since on April 8, 1883, William married his sister-in-law Emma Strange. (From family information, William was a very mean man and hard to live with. So, no surprise that Nettie divorced him.)

According to the 1892 New York census, the family was back in Osceola. William and Emma had 5 children living with them, Willard age 16, Oscar age 13, Cora age 4, Frank age 2 (Carl's grandfather), and Maggie age 1.

By June of 1900, William was a grocer and the family was still in Osceola, but living at 22 East Street. Wife Emma was still with William. Their children were Cora, Frank, Maggie, Ella, Olive, Ruth, Lena and Oscar living with them.

The 1910 Census shows the family living in Osceola. William, 63 years old, owned his farm. He was a survivor of the Civil War having fought for the Union. His wife Emma was 45 years old and had given birth to ten living children. Those living at home were Frank, Margaret, Ella, Olive, Ruth, Lena, Ross, Clayton and Thelma. Their eldest child, Cora, was married to Clarence Hall, and they were living in Utica, New York.

William's wife Emma died February 7, 1918, at the age of 53, and was buried at Osceola, New York.

William Wallace Elliott died February 27, 1925 in McDonough, Chenango County, New York at the age of 76. He had lived a hard life. After his leg was amputated just below the knee, he was probably a very bitter man. That might be why he went through three wives. His last wife, Emma, must have loved him very much to put up with that bitterness.

✓ \_\_\_\_\_ No change in information

✓ \_\_\_\_\_ New Member

✓ \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

### 2018 MEMBERSHIP FORM

COLUMBINE GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. BOX 2074, CENTENNIAL, CO 80161-2074

NAME MEMBER (1): \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it should appear on your nametag)

NAME MEMBER (2): \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it should appear on your nametag)

PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS 1: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS 2: \_\_\_\_\_

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#### MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$25.00 for an individual (email only) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$35.00 for a couple (email only) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\$5.00 mailing of newsletter (no charge if emailed) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

Columbine Book Fund: (book donations to local Libraries) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NARA (National Archives & Records Administration Gift Fund:  
(To support program to preserve and image valuable  
materials at NARA in Washington DC) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to CG&HS or

Columbine Genealogical & Historical Society, Inc.

**Dues are payable  
by December 31, 2017  
for the 2018 Membership Year.**

FOR MEMBERSHIP USE ONLY	
Date received:	_____
Check #	_____
Check Amount \$	_____
Cash Amount \$	_____



**COLUMBINE GENEALOGICAL &  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Inc.**

P. O. Box 2074  
Centennial, CO 80161-2074

**Columbine Genealogical  
&  
Historical Society, Inc.**

Est. 1976

Meetings: 1:00 p.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays each month  
January through May and  
September through November

Board Meetings:

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.

No meetings in June, July & August  
Social gather in December  
on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday

Location: South Wing Entrance  
Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit  
6400 S. University Blvd.  
Centennial, Colorado

**Annual Dues:**

Individual - \$25.00

Individual & Spouse: \$35.00

**BAD WEATHER PROCEDURE**

If the President postpones a meeting due to an emergency or bad weather, the VP of Publicity will send emails to members, and a sign will be posted on the door of the church. *Please do not call the Church office.*

**Look for the CGHS web site online at:**

[www.ColumbineGenealogy.com](http://www.ColumbineGenealogy.com)

**Visit Columbine on FaceBook at:**

[www.facebook.com/ColumbineGenealogy/](http://www.facebook.com/ColumbineGenealogy/)

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