



Columbine Genealogical & Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 43 No. 2

2nd Quarter— April, May, June

April 2016

Family Tree Maker Back from the Dead!

Well could we really have a RootsTech week without a bombshell announcement from at least one genealogy vendor?

We just received the following good news from Ancestry.com about its popular Family Tree Maker software.



New Family Tree Maker Options

By: Kendall Hulet, Ancestry.com

Since our Family Tree Maker [announcement](#) last December, we have continued to actively explore ways to develop and support Family Tree Maker and ensure you have choices to preserve your work in ways that matter to you.

Today, I am pleased to announce two options for desktop software that will work with Ancestry.

Software MacKiev

Software MacKiev, with whom we have a long-standing relationship, is acquiring the Family Tree Maker software line as publisher for both Mac and Windows versions. Software MacKiev has been the developer of Family Tree Maker for Mac for more than six years and is thrilled at the

opportunity to publish future versions of Family Tree Maker for Mac and Windows.

This new agreement means you will receive software updates and new versions from Software MacKiev, and have the ability to purchase new versions of Family Tree Maker from Software MacKiev as they are released. You will have continued access to Ancestry Hints, Ancestry searches, and be able to save your tree on Ancestry with Family Tree Maker moving forward.

RootsMagic

We have made an agreement with RootsMagic, a leading genealogy desktop software program publisher, to connect Ancestry with the RootsMagic software by the end of 2016. With this new relationship, RootsMagic can serve as your desktop family tree software, while having access to Ancestry hints, Ancestry searches, and the ability to save your tree on Ancestry.

(Continued on page 9.)

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Programs & Workshops

April 12, 1:00 PM
“Women in the Civil War” by CGHS member Sandy Ronayne

April 19, 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM “Early Bird” Workshop
“DNA Part Three” by Professional Genealogist Deena Coutant

This is the third in a series of workshops that Deena has been holding to explore using DNA for genealogical research. She will continue to present an overview of DNA as a genealogy research tool, followed by ample time for Q & A. Audience participation is encouraged. If you missed the first two workshops, not to worry... We encourage you to join in on this workshop and find out just what DNA is all about! Deena will have some of the most popular testing kits on hand for you to purchase and submit so that you can find out about your ancestors. www.digideena.com

April 19, 1:00 PM
“Japanese Internment in Colorado and Camp Amache” by Hank Tobo

May 10, 1:00 PM
“The Development of the Santa Fe Railroad and its Art Collection” by Brian Trembath from DPL, and Kristin Fong from the American Museum of Western Art

May 17, 11:00 AM	Used Book Sale!! Genealogy-Related and Misc. Books
12:00 NOON	Potluck Luncheon Please bring a main dish, salad, or dessert to share. All are welcome. <i>Please bring the food early so that the tables can be set up. Thank you!</i>
1:00 PM	Program – Family Reunions Please bring a memento or photo of one of the family reunions that you have attended to share with the group. Please let Anita Burbank-Jenkins know if you plan to share that day. aebjenk@gmail.com

NANCY REUBERT IS OUR NEW BOOK SALE CHAIRMAN, AND SHE IS ASKING THAT YOU DONATE ANY UNWANTED GENEALOGY BOOKS FOR THE BOOK SALE ASAP!!!
Please contact her at 303-741-4491, or email nannygoat@texandnan.com Thank You!!!!

June, July, August **CGHS Summer Break – Enjoy! See you in September...**

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

*Colorado Corporation (1976)
Cultural & Educational
Organization
(I.R.S. 501 C-3)*

OFFICERS

President

Joyce Lohse 303-773-8349

First Vice President

Anita Burbank-Jenkins 720-456-2246

Second Vice President

Julie McKemy 303-328-8665

Third Vice President

Nancy Reubert 303-741-4491

Recording Secretary

Dawn Bunyak 303-973-5185

Corresponding Secretary

Sharon Feeley 720-482-2306

Treasurer

Stan Harms 303-795-0425

Membership Coordinator

Marilyn Elrod 303-979-8435

Education Coordinator

Jean Adams 317-413-8314

Newsletter Editor

Karen Bialkowski 303-503-8141

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**CGHS President's Letter
Joyce Lohse
Spring 2016**

With the approach of Spring, thoughts for many of us turn to gardening, baseball, and spring cleaning. Lately, I've heard some Columbine members talk about downsizing, and strategies for clearing out papers and belongings. How are we supposed to go about this arduous task, and do a good job of it? I've been in my house for many years, and I'm sure most people know better than I how to go about this.

Frankly, I would rather think about gardening, playing with little grandkids, and walking through a cemetery on a sunny day. A trip to Salt Lake City also sounds gratifying. This year, Columbine members will join up with members of the Foothills Genealogical Society for a spring sojourn to Salt Lake City. In my experience, the more often you go to the Family History Library, the more fascinating genealogical facts you are bound to find. Who can resist the hunt, socializing with research pals, and strolling through the blossoming gardens in Temple Square. More information about the family means more paper and electronic files to process and store. It is a vicious circle, but, oh, so tantalizing.

A Columbine member shared with me that she is attempting to sort through and dispose of one bag or box of disposable goods per day. That would relieve her household of 365 bags and boxes by year's end. I wonder how that is going. She says that if an item brings you no joy, you should pitch it. Wow. That seems brutal to me. But what do I know!

This spring, Columbine offers additional diversions as well. A 3-part DNA class series with Deena Coutant is bringing many of us up to speed with this new frontier. Programs continue to teach us new information and improve our skills. The bookstore is back with new offerings. Plans have begun for our spring luncheon and used book sale in May. With so many offerings, I hope you all will join us to enjoy the wonderful diversions presented by Columbine.

Joyce B. Lohse, 2015-16 CGHS President



We Continue to Honor our 20 and 40-year Members!!!

Anne Kenney Evans Jeffries 20 Years

I was born on April 2, 1946, in Lexington, KY to Henry Clay (Buena Vista, KY) and Henrietta Owings Prewitt (Mt. Sterling, KY) Evans. I was their middle child, and I have an older brother (Henry Prewitt Evans) and a younger sister (Nancy Katherine Evans Meng). As a Southerner, you can see on our family tree that we keep passing the names around. I am named for my maternal great-grandmother, Anna Kenney, of Paris, KY, and my sister for our maternal grandmother, Nancy Katherine Owings Prewitt Miller. My brother's name is self-explanatory.

After graduating from the University of Kentucky, I got a job as a librarian at Northglenn High School, retiring in 1993. Northglenn H.S. just celebrated its 50th anniversary so I was one of the early hires. Some of us have laughed about this, and say we could have had a second fulltime career by now.

In 1971, I married Stephen Forrest Jeffries (William Alfred and Ruth Marie Fulton Jeffries) of Denver. We have two daughters, Kenney Prewitt Jeffries (Boise, Idaho) and Nancy Colleen Jeffries Kuschinsky (Plymouth, MI).

I became a member of CGHS when a longtime friend, Sharon Lee, asked me to come and give a talk on the Joshua Montgomery Brown family of Hustonville, KY. My father, a buyer of just about anything left at the end of an auction, purchased a trunk in the late 1940's. This trunk contained over 400 letters, in their original envelopes, written between 1846

and 1867. It was the correspondence of Joshua Brown between his relatives, business associates, and, later, his children. Son, Leslie, attended Centre College in Danville, KY, got mad at his dad over questioning his class attendance, drinking, and his dad's refusal to buy him a class ring. Leslie then dropped out of Centre, joined up with John Hunt Morgan, was captured in Ohio, and imprisoned at Camp Douglas in Chicago, IL. Leslie died in prison. The trunk included Leslie's request for food and clothing, the doctor's report of his death, and the shipping papers for his transport back to Kentucky.

Daughter, Laura, attended Rose Hill Academy in Versailles, KY. Not a good student, she decided that she might as well get married. She moved outside of Lexington, MO, with a "cousin" (weren't all friends called cousin?) and ended up marrying an older brother of this friend.

Since retiring in 1993, I subbed in the Adams County and Cherry Creek School Districts. I still do so in the latter on a limited basis, and volunteer at their district headquarters, processing new materials for the Cherry Creek schools.

My husband and I love to travel. We've been to all seven continents, and just recently returned from our third safari in Botswana. We plan another trip to Antarctica this year.

George VanTrump Jr. 20 Years

George VanTrump, Jr., who is presently serving as a Member-at-Large for the Colorado Chapter of the Palatines to America, was born in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri and lived in that area through two years of college. He is the second oldest in a family of 5 who descends

from George VanTrump and Helen Nadine Draper. He has a brother and two sisters all living in the Kansas City area. His oldest sister is deceased. He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1958, with a Bachelor in Science. After graduation, he moved to Wichita, Kansas, and went to work for Boeing Aircraft as a Liaison Engineer for 4 years. During his stay in Wichita, he attended graduate school at Wichita State University. Next he moved to Denver, Colorado, and worked for Martin Marietta for 2 years as a Stress Analyst on the Titan III missile program. He followed that with a 4 year stay at Dow Chemical Company, Rocky Flats, as a Computer Scientist. He finished his working career as a mathematician and computer scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey, retiring in January, 1995. In 1965, he accepted a part time teaching position at Metropolitan College where he taught mathematics in the evenings. This continued until 1975. He taught computer applications to senior citizens at the Wheat Ridge Senior Center from 1995 to 2010. Also, he and his wife volunteer a lot of their time to civic groups.

He is the father of four children from a former marriage, and is currently married to JoAnn (Degler) VanTrump.

His interests are many, and he has been described as a collector of everything. His interests include genealogy, tokens, casino chips, barbed wire, license plates, insulators, date nails, and postcards, just to name a few. His interest in computers started in 1960 while at Boeing Aircraft, and has since grown. In 1980, he bought a Commodore 64 computer on which to do his genealogy. As state-of-the-art grew in computers, so did his interest. In 1990 he bought an IBM compatible computer, and, in time, had it upgraded. In late 1997, he bought a second

compatible computer and networked it to his first one.

His interest in genealogy started in the late seventies. At that time, he was living in a townhouse and made a statement to a neighbor that he was of German descent. She told him to prove it by tracing his ancestors. For the next several years, this neighbor gave him weekly genealogical tasks to do, and reviewed his results. Presently George is a member of the Colorado, Columbine, and Foothills Genealogical Societies as well as the National Genealogical Society and Palatines to America.

Doris Livingston 40 Years

My eight great-grandparents each arrived in Christian County, Illinois between 1850 and 1870 from Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Indiana. My sister and I were born in Christian County, and were the third generation to attend Mound school, a one-room schoolhouse about 1 ½ miles from our farm in Christian County. I graduated from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana with a bachelor's degree in hospital dietetics and institutional management. I met my husband, Robert Livingston, while working at the University of Missouri. After we were married, we returned to the farm where I had grown up and raised our three daughters and two sons there. Around 1985, we started researching our ancestors. My ancestors were mostly British, German, and French. In 1995, I moved to Denver. Soon after moving to Colorado, I found and joined Columbine. I have traveled to Ireland and Germany to search for my ancestors. In addition to Columbine, I belong to the genealogy societies of NSDAR, and Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century. I find that there are always more interesting ancestors to research.

Janet Elizabeth Kokjer Sothan 40 Years

Janet is a native of Wahoo, Nebraska, where she lived until earning a Bachelors degree at the University of Nebraska. She met Norm Sothan at the University, and joined him in Pensacola, Florida, where he was in naval flight training.

After a Friday solo flight, they were married on Saturday June 13, 1953. On Sunday, they moved from his bachelor quarters, and Norm returned to flight training early Monday morning. This all started their active and exciting lives together. They had three children.

Frequent moves around the country gave Janet the opportunity to study genealogy and use the rich resources in Washington D.C. Columbine Genealogical and Historical Society became a valuable asset to keep the interest alive following their move to Colorado.

After forty years, the emphasis has shifted from ancestral research to recording new statistics of a growing family. The Sothans, their three married children, eleven grandchildren plus six spouses and seven great-grandchildren, total thirty-two members. Phone calls, e-mails, and Skype connect the family tree.



Highlights from February and March CGHS Programs

*(Photos courtesy of Livie Grogan, CGHS
photographer)*

Feb 16, 9:30 AM

Deena Coutant presented the “Early Bird”
Class on DNA – Part 1 – “Genetic
Genealogy Overview”



Deena Coutant, left, with Past CGHS
President, CJ Backus

Feb 16, 1:00 PM

Dr. Dora Lodwick, university professor,
author, and family historian, gave the
presentation on “Yellowstone or Bust!!”,
based upon a covered wagon trip that her
great-grandparents took from Canon City to
the newly-opened Yellowstone National
Park, c. 1872.



Dr. Dora Lodwick

Highlights – Continued...

*Photos courtesy of Livie Grogan, CGHS
Photographer*

March 8, 1:00 PM

Honoring our 20 and 40-year members with certificates...



CGHS President Joyce Lohse, left, with
40-year member Doris Livingston



CGHS President Joyce Lohse, left, with
40-year member Sharon Lee



CGHS President Joyce Lohse, left, with
40-year member Janet Elizabeth
Kokjer Sothan



CGHS First Vice-President Anita-
Burbank Jenkins, left, with 20-year
member Sandee Brookes

A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!

Bridges, William & Val -

Bridges, Browder,
Greenaway, White, Miller,
Verwyst, DeButts



Shara Castle - Castle

Marge Healy - Noble, Feeley,
Kennedy, Diver, Devine

Kathy Kirchoff - Ghormley/Gormley,
Kirk, Foreman, Hammons

March Leonard – Leonard

Bruce MacCormack – MacCormack

“The Evolution of the German Language” (Original title: “Deutsch sein, aber nicht von Deutschland”)

By Elmar Fend, 2/4/16, CGHS Member

“Who are those European people that speak German?” Americans occasionally ask me, “Do people in Austria speak Austrian?” The simple answer is, no. All Austrians speak German, their official language. Currently the majority of people, or a recognized minority in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Italy [South Tyrol], Belgium [Eupen], France [Alsace-Lorraine], Luxembourg, and Denmark [southern Jutland] speak German or a German sub-dialect. Small islands of the German language are also still present in Russia, Poland, Rumania, Czech Republic, and Slovakia. The German language is spoken today by some one hundred million people.

The German-speaking Europeans have a common cultural, ethnic, and linguistic heritage going back at least 3000 years. The Germanic language family includes English, German, Dutch/Flemish, Afrikaans, Friesian, Luxembourgish, Danish, Faroese, Riksmål (Norwegian), Icelandic, and Swedish. The Germanic language family in turn belongs to the Indo-European language family which, according to the latest research, originated

between 8,000-9,500 BC in eastern Anatolia [Turkey]. Around 1200 B.C., Proto-Germanic may have evolved from a blend of the “Battle Axe” culture [Indo-European people] and the “Megalith Grave” culture [non-Indo-European]. At least one-third of basic Germanic words are not of Indo-European origin, e.g., *mast, keel, stream, ebb, folk, king, thief, sword, shield, helm, bow*, etc.

Archeological finds indicate that the Germanic people lived as early as about 1000 BC. in areas along the lower Elbe River in northern Germany, in Denmark, and in southern Norway and Sweden. Roman authors recorded the first examples of Proto-Germanic about 100 BC.

At the beginning of the first millennium AD, the Roman historian Orosius counted 54 different Germanic tribes between the Danube, the North Sea and Baltic Sea. As many as 40 tribes and subtribes took part in mass migrations, reaching parts of Italy, Spain, North Africa and the Crimean Peninsula in the Black Sea. The North Germanic tribes, known as *Angles, Saxons, and Juts*, invaded between 400-500 A.D. the Roman domain Britannia which is England today. With this cultural and linguistic community breakup in northern Europe, there was a corresponding split in the unity of language. Three distinct Germanic language groups evolved: *East Germanic [or Gothic, now extinct], North Germanic [or Scandinavian]* and *West Germanic*, from which developed modern German, English and Dutch/Flemish.

Many Germanic language branches and tribal dialects developed as well. There existed no standard German language during the 5th century AD; only Germanic dialects prevailed at this time of the great migration of people in Europe. Most of today’s known records from that period until about the 13th century were written in Latin, usually by scribes of the Catholic Church and ruling governmental agency. However, it is a great injustice to view the German dialects as slang or “bad” German. After all, they preceded Latin, which is a derivative of the Italic language group.

The German dialects are the parents of today’s German language. Dialects are linked to the historic tribal substructure of the German-speaking people.

The major tribes, from north to south, were *the Frisians, Saxons, Franks, Thuringians, Alemanni* and *the Bavarians*. Each of these tribes developed its own dialect and sub-dialects. In the course of history, dynastic territorial actions [war, marriage, or inheritance] altered the political borders of the original tribes. However, these acquisitions and losses seldom affected the tribes' ethno-linguistic delineations, after the collapse of the Roman Empire in Central Europe. For example, in the southern part of the German-speaking area, *the Alemanni* had settled in what today is Alsace [France], Baden-Wuerttemberg, western Bavaria [Germany], Vorarlberg [western Austria], Liechtenstein, and two-thirds of the Alemannic-speaking [Swiss German] Switzerland. There are small remnants of Alemannic-speaking villages in northwestern Italy [Walser in Piedmont], close to the border with Switzerland. Around the year 900 AD the Alemanni had formed the duchy of Swabia. Even after 1500 years, the overarching Alemannic dialect base still makes it possible for people in these areas to communicate in their respective sub-dialects. Eventually *High German* evolved as the "standard language" - equivalent to "King's English". The Protestant reformer Martin Luther [1483-1546] may be considered the father of High German. He translated the Bible from Latin into a formalized German with standard grammar, based on elements of some regional German dialects. Today High German is the principal vehicle of communication for the media, literature, religion, education, and commerce in Germany, Austria, South Tyrol [Italy] and the Swiss German speaking part of Switzerland.

Most German speakers grow up 'bilingual', speaking the dialect of their region and High German. For example, *Bavarian*, one of the largest German dialect groups, is spoken in most of Bavaria - a region in southern Germany, in addition to High German. In South Tyrol, Italy, people speak many sub-dialects of south Bavarian, High German, and Italian. The Alemanni, Bavarians and Lombards (extinct) constitute the Germanic subcategory called the Elbe Germans (middle section of the Elbe River).

So, more precisely, what language do people

speak in Austria? Except for natives of the state of Vorarlberg in western Austria, who speak an *Alemannic dialect*, also known as *Swiss German*, most Austrians speak south Bavarian sub-dialects and all Austrians speak High German (Hochdeutsch).

Elmar Fend is a native of Vorarlberg, west Austria, near the Swiss and German border. He has an M.B.A from the University of Colorado, is a multilingual tour guide, translator, and cross-cultural trainer. He is also a genealogist, with special interest in linguistics, Alemannic, and pre-medieval European history.

Thank you for your article, Elmar!

Family Tree Maker

(Continued from page 1.)

With this new relationship, RootsMagic can serve as your desktop family tree software, while having access to Ancestry hints, Ancestry searches, and the ability to save your tree on Ancestry. We have heard your concerns and are working to provide the solutions you requested. These new agreements will make it possible to preserve your work on Ancestry and Family Tree Maker and enable future features and benefits to help you discover your family history. Be assured that Ancestry, in cooperation with Software MacKiev and RootsMagic, will continue to support you as you discover your family history.

We ask for your patience as we work diligently through all the details to make these solutions available. Be sure to check back on our blog as we share more information about Family Tree Maker in the next few months.

- SoftwareMacKiev:
- <http://www.mackiev.com/>
- RootsMagic:
- <http://www.rootsmagic.com/>
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“Bits & Pieces”

(Courtesy of Carol and Steve Johnson):

The Emmy nominated series [Who Do You Think You Are?](#) returns this spring to follow more of today's most beloved and iconic celebrities as they embark on personal journeys of self-discovery to trace their family trees. The series continues to deliver stories from crucial moments in history, including a number of firsts for the series, such as a male witch hunt, and traveling to Portugal, Sweden and Ellis Island. The new season premieres Sunday, April 3 at 9/8c. Contributors featured in the upcoming season include:

- Scott Foley finds a relative who risked his life for one of America's founding fathers, and an ancestor who suffered unspeakably during one of this nation's darkest times.
- Lea Michele nails down where her mysterious paternal ancestors came from, and learns of the dire economic circumstances they endured while trying to emigrate to the U.S.
- Chris Noth learns his ancestors suffered during one of the greatest catastrophes in American history, and a relative who fought in one of the bloodiest battles of all time.
- Molly Ringwald explores family lore of Swedish royalty which uncovers her ancestors' harrowing lives and a brave woman who forever changed her family's fate.
- Katey Sagal is shocked to learn of her family's Amish roots, and digs deeper as she realizes the level of dedication to their faith.
- Aisha Tyler tracks down her 2x great-grandfather, whose story had been lost over generations, and uncovers an astonishing tale of a prominent ancestor whose struggle to keep his illegitimate son a secret made headlines.

(Courtesy of Julie McKemy):

First -- the Littleton Museum has a temporary exhibit on view through June 19th. Titled "The Littleton Story in 125 objects: 1890-2015," It uses items chosen from the museum's collection to illustrate various aspects of the community's history. I've been through the exhibit once and plan to return before it closes. It is both educational and entertaining. The link here goes to the museum's web page.

<http://www.littletongov.org/index.aspx?page=129>

Second -- A tie-in with today's presentation by Bev Nelson on "Lineage Societies." The Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies administers the First Families of Colorado program -- basically a Colorado specific lineage society. Last year the Council sent out a news release about the program & it appeared in the April 2015 edition of our newsletter (page 5). Could the info be run again? If it doesn't make the newsletter I will see about getting it posted on the bulletin board next month.

Doppelgangers Take DNA Test to Find Out If They're Related, 'Surprised' by Results

By AVIANNE TAN [Good Morning America](#) ABC NEWS, January 21, 2016

Two *twin strangers* from [Ireland](#) -- who never knew the other existed until two months ago -- recently took a DNA test to find out if they were related. The results "absolutely surprised" the both of them, according to Niamh Geaney, who added that she and her doppelganger Irene Adams "couldn't believe" the results. Geaney -- who's from Dublin, Ireland -- told ABC News today she first connected with Adams -- who's from Sligo, Ireland -- this past November after a friend of Adams' told her she looked like "that doppelganger girl on the news." Coincidentally, a friend of Adams' brother also contacted Geaney around the same time. "We got in touch, met up, and it was absolutely surreal to see yet another one of my doppelgangers in the flesh," said Geaney, 27. She explained that Adams, 28, is actually the third doppelganger she's discovered so far since creating *Twin Strangers*, a website and tool that uses facial recognition software to match you to a potential lookalike. "We clicked instantly, and just like my second doppelganger, she not only looked exactly like, but also acted like, me," Geaney said. "It was like watching myself. Our facial expressions are exactly the same, our eyes and nose crinkle the same way, we smile the same, and she also talks with her hands, just like me." Dozens of users commented on video of Geaney's and Adam's meetup, suggesting the two should get a DNA test, since the both of them were from Ireland and could actually be "10th cousins or related somewhere down the line," Geaney said. This past December, the two went to national DNA testing center [DNA Ireland](#), where they gave samples of their saliva. The samples were used for three tests that determined the probability of the two being sisters, half sisters, or related at all, based on lineage traced up to 20,000 years ago. Below are the

results, which were delivered earlier this month, to Geaney and Adams: **Probability of Being Full Siblingship** There was only a 0.0006 percent chance the two had the same parents
Probability of Being Half Siblingship There was only a 0.1 percent chance the two shared one parent.
Probability of Sharing a Common Ancestor Up to 20,000 Years Ago Rather than a percentage, this test gives users their haplogroup, which is a letter assigned to a genetic population group of people who share a common ancestor on a patrilineal or matrilineal line.

Geaney had Haplogroup H, and Adams had Haplogroup T. "We were shocked," Geaney said. "We thought, 'OK, we definitely have to have relatives from the same place somewhere down the line,' but that wasn't the case." Geaney added that she believes the test has "fascinating implications," and that the test could suggest "doppelgangers really are, in fact, *a mysterious phenomenon.*"



Patty Limerick is Colorado's new state historian, faculty director, and chair of the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado. She was recently named as a member of the National Council on Humanities.

Patty Limerick:
Why I fell in love with Colorado
 By Patty Limerick
 (Denver Post on Sunday, January 17, 2016)

I never wanted to move to Colorado. As the newly appointed Colorado state historian, I aim to earn a high ranking for the celebrated virtues of transparency and full disclosure. In the early 1980s, I was teaching at Harvard on the "revolving door" plan. Assistant professors arrived on campus with the knowledge that we would be departing in five years. Those who did not abide by this understanding could choose, instead, a humiliating ordeal: being reviewed for tenure with a 99.9 percent guarantee of failure.

So my professional ambition acquired sharp definition: I wanted to leave Harvard before I got booted out. And so, hoping to get back in training for the strenuous sport of applying for academic jobs, I applied to CU and was surprised to get a job offer. With 2½ years remaining on my Harvard contract, I asked the history department chair for a consultation. He convened senior historians to see if they had any inclination to encourage me to stay. When I went to his office to hear the results of their deliberations, one very legible note sat at the center of his desk:

"No on Limerick."
 I did not move to Colorado because I was a skier eager to hit the slopes, or because I was enchanted with John Denver, or because I had recognized that staying on the East Coast was going to come close to eliminating my opportunities to reach Western audiences with my perspectives on their region's history.

Evidence that I had been unbelievably lucky was not long in presenting itself.

Awakening to the restorative power of the landscape, I soon rechristened one of the Flatirons as "The Mountain that Makes Life Worth Living Again after a Difficult Meeting."

Another telling indicator of my change in thinking was a rising tide of condescension and pity for people who lived elsewhere. Visiting universities around the country, when faculty members took me out to dinner, I had to work hard not to tell my pleasant hosts, "I'm sorry you are stuck living here."

And then there was the emergence of an improbable and unexpected trend by which Coloradans aplenty invited me to give speeches on every imaginable subject, and some that went a step or two beyond imagination. Given access to podiums in nearly every part of the state, I eased into a role as the Kilroy of public speaking in Colorado. (If the excellent phrase "Kilroy was here" has expired as a recognized and familiar figure of speech, then I will put reviving it on my to-do list as state historian.)

Having been born and raised in a small town where everyone knew everyone else, I was grateful beyond measure as my speaking circuit set me up to acquire hundreds of new friends. And when my first husband, Jeff Limerick, died of a stroke in 2005, I was immersed in the compassion of Coloradans.

Back when I was a more sequestered academic, I wrote about "the Western sense of place." It was a spectacular turn of events to come into possession myself of the sentiment I had been studying.

I cannot imagine living anywhere else.

And I cannot imagine a greater privilege than serving as Colorado state historian and more of a champion for the place where I live.



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

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

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

Meetings
1:00 p.m.
2nd & 3rd Tuesdays
January thru May
and
September thru November
Board Meetings 2nd Tuesday
at 9:30 a.m.

No Meetings in June, July & August
Social only in December on
the 2nd Tuesday
South Wing, South Entrance
Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit
6400 S University Blvd
Centennial, CO

Annual Dues

Individual.....\$25.00
Individual and 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 put on the door of the church. Please **do not** call the Church office.