



Family Footprints

Family · History · It's All Relative

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Second Quarter – July, August, September

Summer 2025

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Columbine Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc

PO Box 2074
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Established 1973

Cultural & Educational Organization 501(c) (3)

Newsletter Published Quarterly

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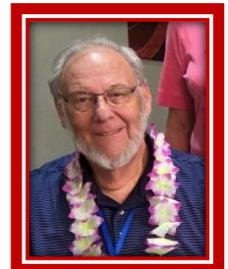
Member of



TICK TOCK MY ANCESTOR’S CLOCK

Wedding Gift to Adoniram Judson Johnson and Elsie Lydia Marks

By Neil Johnson



Grandma Elsie (Marks) Johnson’s father William Marks ensured that his children had access to the homestead provision in their farming community of Leroy, Logan County, Colorado. Grandma Elsie applied for and received 160 acres in southern Logan County and paid her fees for processing the legal paperwork for the Homestead Act. Starting in 1912 she got her property established and built her home, barn and water well needed for that process. Then Grandpa Johnson came into the picture. They got married April 8, 1914 in the Marks parents’ home at Leroy, Colorado. The morning after the marriage they moved into the new sod home and property that my grandmother Elsie built on her homestead.



One of the gifts that they received was a clock that is now at least 110 years old. It came into my possession after Grandma and Grandpa were both gone and my parents were moving into their nursing

facility in 2014. They never really talked about this gift that I remember but I was only 10 at the time Grandpa died. I do remember it sitting on a dining room hutch as a child. I remember going to the homestead as a kid when my dad was running a tractor but there was no longer

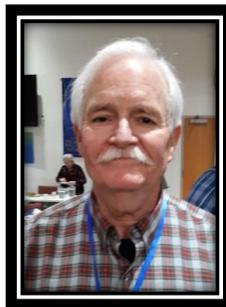
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President's Message

By Sean McGuire

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT –

MAGGIE SCHMIDT



Maggie Schmidt was born Margaret Lile in Garden City, Kansas, in the southwest part of the state. When she was five, Margaret's family moved to a farm, where she spent the rest of her school-age years. She was the third of four children. Her sisters, Florence and Helen, were both older, and her brother Donnie was younger. Margaret did not go by "Maggie" until her professional life began.

Margaret's dad grew wheat, sugar beets, milo, and alfalfa, and a herd of sheep. Margaret was in 4-H, and she cared for lambs until they matured. She was able to save the money they brought at sale time and eventually used it to buy her first car. Margaret's mother was a typical farm housewife, and did everything from wringing the necks of chickens to taking care of the house.

Maggie went to Kansas University and got a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Afterwards, she went to work at Western Electric, where she met her husband Bill. This was before the break-up of all the AT&T subsidiaries. She spent a few years at Western Electric, then worked at a company in Minneapolis which eventually merged into Seagate Technology, a disc drive manufacturer. Maggie worked mostly in procurement, or technical purchasing. She retired in Minneapolis.



Maggie has two children. Her daughter Michele is an accountant in Minneapolis. Her son Roger and his wife Linda live in Louisville, Colorado. Roger and Linda were victims of the Marshall Fire in 2021, losing their home. They have rebuilt in the same location since then.

When Maggie and Bill retired and moved to Centennial in 2016, one of the first things she did was join Columbine Genealogy. She first volunteered with hospitality, working for Susan Hollis, whom she described as "the epitome of hospitable." Later, Marilyn Elrod was begging someone to take the Treasurer's job. Maggie figured that if she could handle a checkbook, she could be Treasurer. And she was right! Maggie was our Treasurer for four full years. Maggie does not

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS – OFFICERS – 2025

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COLUMBINE GENEALOGY MEETINGS

Meeting Times: (except June, July, August, & December)

Program Meetings 1:00 p.m. MT – 2nd Tuesday of the month - **In-Person & via Zoom**
 Meeting Place: Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 8545 E. Dry Creek Rd., Centennial, CO 80112

December Holiday Event . . . 2nd Tuesday in December – **In-Person**

Education – Skills Sessions . . . 1:00 p.m. MT – 3rd Tuesday of the month - **via Zoom**

Special Interest Groups - open to CGHS Members Only

Deeds & Property Records, Wills, Early Church Records 1st Monday of the Month at 10:00 a.m. MT via Zoom only

Family Tree Maker Software 4th Thursday of the Month at 10:00 a.m. MT via Zoom only

Beginning Research, Websites & Software scheduled according to Southglenn Library availability,
 6972 S. Vine St., Centennial, CO 80122

DO Over (or GO Over) 4th Monday of each Month at 10:00 a.m. MT via Zoom only

If you wish to attend a SIG contact Barbara Elliott at columbinegenealogy@gmail.com

Board of Directors Meetings 9:00 a.m. MT – 2nd Tuesday of each month (except June, July & Dec.) **via Zoom**
 Columbine members are welcome to attend our board meetings.

Columbine Writers’ Group 10:00 a.m. MT – 3rd Wednesday of the month **via Zoom**

Annual Dues: Individual – \$35.00 Household – \$45.00

For information about Columbine meetings, changes, additions or cancellations visit our website: www.columbinegenealogy.com

Find news updates at: www.facebook.com/columbinegenealogy/

BAD WEATHER PROCEDURE – If the President postpones a meeting due to an emergency or bad weather, the Publicity chair will send emails to members. *Please do not call the Church office.*

PROGRAM PREVIEWS

Marylee Hagen, Vice President, Programs

Tuesday September 9 1:00 – 3:00 PM



DIARY OF A WWII B17 RADIO GUNNER



Presenter: Connie Masson is a retired educator who also worked in business and industry as a presenter and trainer on the use of technology in schools, businesses, and daily life. Connie is a member of the Louisville, Indian Peaks Chapter, National Society Daughters of America Revolution, Colorado State Society, NSDAR, Cameo Club, Evergreen, Rocky Mountain Crest Chapter, United States Daughter of the War of 1812 and Longmont Genealogy Society.



Description: Hear about Connie’s father’s diaries kept from ages 19 to 21 in the Army Air Forces. Learn about “hitting the silk,” German troop trains, the Brig, and his rescue by Russian friendlies. He was MIA twice and a POW once.

In-Person and via Zoom

Location – Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 8545 E. Dry Creek Road, Centennial, CO 80112

*Skills Session***EDUCATION PREVIEWS**

Darla Hofmeir & Barbara Elliott
Co-Coordinators

Tuesday September 16 1:00 – 3:00 PM



**STREAMING GENEALOGY RESEARCH PLANS WITH AI:
A STEP BY STEP GUIDE**



Presenter: Diane Elder AG, AGL is a professional genealogist accredited in the Gulf South region of the U.S. She is a sought-after speaker presenting regularly at major conferences including Roots Tech and the National Genealogical Society Conference and enjoys conducting webinars and seminars for genealogical societies throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Description: This session offers a detailed look at integrating AI into your genealogical research planning workflow. AI-powered tools that can assist with each step of the planning process will be explored. Use AI to save time, reduce oversight and create more robust research plans while maintaining control over your genealogical process.

Presented via Zoom only

**SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

Darla Hofmeir & Barbara Elliott
Co-Chairpersons

**BASIC BEGINNING RESEARCH**

Connect with fellow genealogists whether you are just starting your research or wish to enhance your skills. During the summer they will meet via **Zoom** only at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 22, 2025

Tuesday, August 26, 2025

In September they will meet via **ZOOM** and at the **Arapahoe Southglenn Library**, 6972 S. Vine Street, Centennial, CO 80122, the 4th Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. You may bring your laptop.

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

DEEDS • PROPERTY RECORDS • WILLS • EARLY CHURCH RECORDS

This SIG will not meet during the summer. Start back in September to gain valuable insights on using deeds, property records, wills and church records to trace your family history. Bring your research challenges for group discussion and support. Group meets on the 1st Monday of each month at 10 a.m. **via Zoom**.

Monday, September 8, 2025

FAMILY TREE MAKER SOFTWARE

Get practical tips and tricks for navigating FTM and building your family tree. Group meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. **via Zoom.**

Thursday, July 24, 2025

Thursday, August 28, 2025

Thursday, September 25, 2025

If you are a member and wish to attend contact Barbara Elliott at ColumbineGealogy@gmail.com so you can be sent a Zoom link.



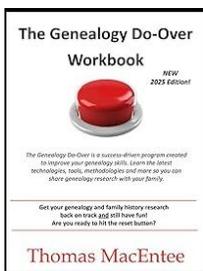
“DO OVER (or GO OVER)”

By Jean Adams

Kick off will be September 29 via Zoom with future sessions on the 4th Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Jean Adams will lead these sessions with the assistance of volunteer attendees.



Resources: The Genealogy Do-Over Workbook by Thomas MacEntee, 2025 Edition. Available on Amazon, \$8.99 plus shipping in soft cover, also available on Kindle. Free downloads from <https://genealogybargains.com>.



Description: Thomas MacEntee, on the cover of the workbook, says, “Get your genealogy and family history research back on track and still have fun! Are you ready to hit the reset button?” In March of 2025, Thomas MacEntee dazzled us with an hour of things we could do to refresh our research. This new Special Interest Group (SIG) will start in September to look at the multitude of items in detail. We will meet monthly to discuss our efforts to **Do-Over (or Go-Over)** our research. Using the chapters of the book, we will attack this challenging task cheerfully and thoughtfully while encouraging each other.

Sign up: If you are a member and are interested, send Jean Adams an email: jadams31216@gmail.com by September 16, 2025.



ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED!

The Tuesday, August 12 Board Meeting will be held in person at the Bemis Library, 6014 South Datura Street, Littleton, CO in the lower level conference room at 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Bagels and snacks will be available. Join us and see what is involved in making Columbine Genealogy function.

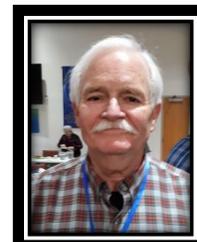
THANK YOU TO OUR SPRING 2025 SPEAKERS



Sylvia Tracy Doolos
English Ancestry Is All Around Us
April 18



Becky Clark
Writers Group Talk
May 18



Sean McGuire
Tips On Using Ancestry.com
April 15

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

By Jean Adams, Membership Co Chair

We are pleased to welcome our newest members and look forward to getting to know them better.

Roberta Bourn, Westminster, CO

Linda Hartlaub, Parker, CO

Ken Love, Englewood, CO

Rita Placek, Durango, IL

Colleen Schupp, Colorado

Kathy Thompson, Kanata, MT



From their membership forms we learned that Linda Hartlaub is researching many surnames including Jaster, Tokar, Hartlaub, Bruhn, Stover, Janke and more. Ken Love is researching an ancestor named Albert Love in Colorado, Wisconsin and Illinois.

All Columbine Genealogy members can list their research surnames and places on our membership software after logging in as a member.

Here is the link: <https://columbinegenealogy.membershiptoolkit.com/story/383610>.

Let's see if we can help others researching the same surnames as ours or in the same location!

COLUMBINE GENEALOGY HAS A NEW PASSWORD

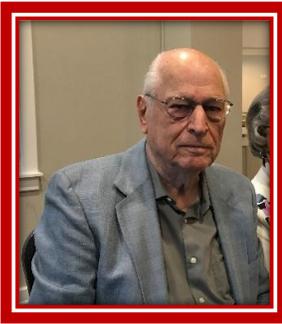


After many years Columbine has updated their password for Members to access the "Members-Only" section of our website. You should have received an email on April 9 indicating what the new password is. If you are a member and did not receive this email contact columbinegenealogy@gmail.com to notify us so we can give you the new password.



RECOGNIZING COLUMBINE'S LONG TIME MEMBERS

20 YEAR MEMBER

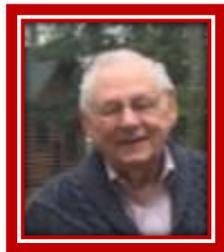


Richard Evans was raised in northern Missouri in a part of the state known as “ Little Dixie.” After being given a free trip to Korea funded by the taxpayers, Richard attended the University of Missouri graduating with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Spending 30 years in the oil and gas industry he and his wife Judy settled in Littleton. They are getting ready to celebrate their 63rd Anniversary. Having always been interested in history there grew an interest in genealogy. Richard has helped with Columbine’s equipment through three presidents’ tenure. He now assists with the Zoom Committee.

30 YEAR MEMBER

Chris J. Hansen is a fourth generation family historian. She inherited items and information from her mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and has actively pursued family stories most of her life. Chris recently completed the proof argument for the last set of 3rd great-grandparents, greatly helped by DNA research. This work is an ongoing memorial to the strong women who preceded her. They would be amazed at the many wonderful stories she has added to their own. Chris was unable to be with us for the presentation as she was in Scotland. Chris is a lifetime member.

30 YEAR MEMBER



Lyle John Haugen was a 30 year and lifetime Columbine member. Lyle became interested in genealogy when he and his wife Ardy moved to Littleton, researching his genealogical lines back 400 years. During this time he and Ardy were active in Columbine Genealogy.

30 YEAR MEMBER



Marie Jean Leahy Knudtson, aka Jeanie. Columbine Genealogy has been an important part of her life and thanks to the internet she has been able to follow us after she retired to Nebraska.

She and her husband were interested in genealogy when they married in 1964. She got serious with genealogy in 1985 when her mother, Florence W. Hagel, decided to have a “Hagel” family reunion in Rushville, Nebraska. She pulled together a decent history for each family that attended. Next came the Leahy’s which was spurred by the death of her father Eugene Michael Leahy in 1984.

In 1993 they moved to Littleton and she joined Columbine Genealogy around 1995 taking a lifetime membership. Jeanie served as Treasurer for several years. Then they moved to Scottsbluff, Nebraska where they retired. In 2010 they became “snowbirds” and bought a home in Arizona where they live from November

to April. Due to health issues they are selling their Arizona home and will settle in Scottsbluff. Over the years they have traced and visited the sites of the Leahy, Kane, Torpey Hagel, Knudtson, Gardiner, Taylor, and Burr family lines through Nebraska, Iowa, California, Illinois, Canada and overseas in Ireland, England, Germany and Norway.

50 YEAR MEMBER



Marilyn Schalge was born Marilyn Jean Gonser on October 9, 1932 in Manistee, Michigan. She was the second of four children of Reo William Gonser and Vera Mae (Banister) Gonser. Marilyn grew up in that small Michigan town and attended Michigan State Normal College (now Eastern Michigan University) in Ypsilanti, Michigan, where she received a teaching degree in Chemistry and Biology and met her future husband, Alvin Laverne Schalge. Alvin and Marilyn married in their senior year of college, and went off to Urbana-Champaign, Illinois to earn graduate degrees at the University of Illinois. They moved to Littleton, Colorado in 1959, where Alvin started his career as a research chemist for Marathon Oil Company. Marilyn became mother to two daughters, Gretchen Elizabeth (now Ricehill) and Heidi Jean (now Glance).

She also had civic involvement on various boards and commissions, including Littleton Planning Commission, Littleton Election Commission, and Hudson Gardens Board of Directors. At age 55, Marilyn enrolled in the Law School at Denver University, earning a law degree and certification as a lawyer, after which she worked for the Colorado Judicial Department for 25 years.

REMEMBERING COLUMBINE MEMBERS



Lyle John Haugen, a 30 year and lifetime Columbine member, passed away on November 14, 2024, at The Gardens at Columbine Assisted Living. He was 97 years old. His wife, Ardy, 95 passed away just 36 hours later in the same facility.

Lyle was born October 6, 1927, in Thief River Falls, MN. He was an Eagle Scout, who upon early graduation from high school enlisted in the U. S. Navy at age 17. He served in the Navy processing discharge papers for GIs following their active duty in the Pacific Theater. He was a lifelong educator in the field of science, always displaying reverence for his country, family, students, church, and friends.

Lyle became interested in genealogy when the couple moved to Littleton, researching his genealogical lines back 400 years. During this time he and Ardy were active in Columbine Genealogy. Lyle and Ardy were married 75 years in all. Brandy Manhattan Time was observed daily at 5 p.m. by the couple.

They are survived by children, Pam Teorey, Tere Isaack, John Haugen, Sarah Krolak along with many grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

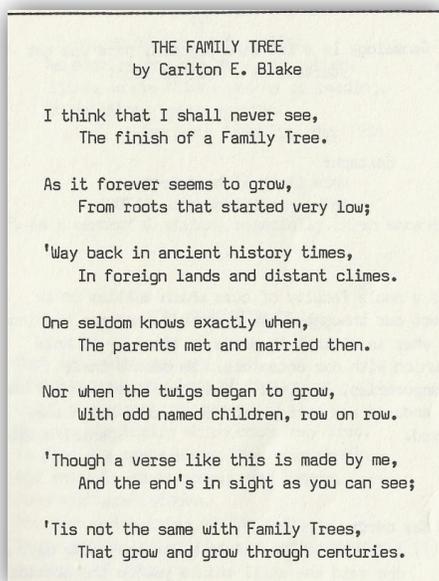
MAGGIE SCHMIDT By Sean McGuire*continued from page 2*

hold a formal position with Columbine right now, but her participation is vital. She has been instrumental in implementing Columbine Friends Corner (our software which maintains our membership records and dues payment information), and teaching people how to use it.

Maggie's hobbies, besides genealogy, include quilt-making and making wall hangings. One hanging of pictures of her son's dogs was consumed in the Marshall fire, so Maggie replaced it several years later, adding three more recent dogs. She is also a prolific writer. Maggie is a member of the Columbine's Writers Group and has written eight books. She enjoys older Country music, and songs from the 50's and 60's. One interesting thing about Writers Group was that a story Maggie wrote led to the discovery that Dotty Burdick and Maggie were ninth cousins. Maggie's maternal grandparents are

from England, and all of her maternal ancestors are English. Maggie has visited the birthplace of her mother's parents several times, in the town of Methley, Yorkshire. Maggie's paternal line can be traced back to her 7th great-grandfather, Nils Larsson, who emigrated from Sweden to Pennsylvania in 1648. In a different line, her 4th great-grandfather, Henry Lile, lived in Johnston County, North Carolina and was friends with General James Robertson, the founder of Nashville, Tennessee.

When I asked Maggie what was the most interesting aspect of her life, she replied that she still enjoyed learning. That's something I like about Maggie Schmidt, and I'm glad she's involved with Columbine.



DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES NEWS

A resolution was passed at the April meeting of the Denver Public Library Commission to name the open stacks area on the 5th floor of Central Library as the James K. Jeffrey Genealogy Collection.

During James' 35 years as the Genealogy Specialist in the Special Collections and Archives Department, he shared his inspiring genealogy knowledge with the growing genealogy community. He helped establish new genealogy groups, and assisted many people and organizations with their research. James was honored with many awards for his dedication to the genealogy world.



James retired on August 31, 2020 from Denver Public Library. He passed away on May 19, 2024 surrounded by his family. James will remain in our minds and hearts for many years to come as we pursue our ancestral research.



AURORA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



AGS has a new (old) home! Before moving to the Central Library AGS resided for many years at the Hoffman Heights branch of the Aurora Public Library. They are returning to Hoffman Heights. When they closed they were able to save a few basic and essential genealogy books but need to rebuild their collection. They are asking that if anyone has genealogy books they no longer need please donate them to AGS.

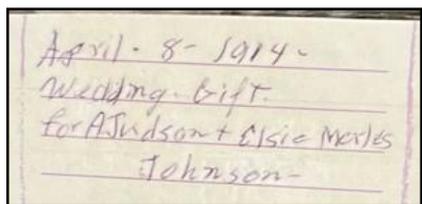
Their new location has tables to work at with someone and a table where you can spread out on your own. Books will be reference only. There will always be someone there to help you with your questions. On May 14th they opened with regular times on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Hoffman Heights 1298 Peoria Street, Aurora.

Visit and welcome them to their new site and maybe bring a book you no longer need.

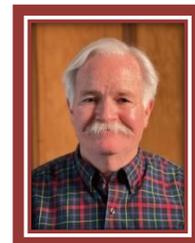
WEDDING GIFT By Neil Johnson*continued from page 1*

any soddy or wood frame house on the property. The water well was operational, but we had to make sure water was in the jar or can hidden in the shade by the well to wet the leathers and enable us to get water the next time we were out at the farm. There was a barn/granary close to the water windmill and the row of cherry trees along the lane on the property.

The pictures below are the sign on the rear side of the clock and the the interior clock works. It now sits in my lower level on a shelf as part of the fireplace in my home.

**CLOCKS FROM MY PAST**

By Sean McGuire



I possess two clocks that have been in my family for a very long time. They may have come out in a covered wagon in the 1880's from Three Rivers, Michigan to the most desolate land one might imagine in Sioux County, Nebraska - 300 feet east of Wyoming. Think sagebrush and rattlesnakes.

My great-great grandfather, Thomas Bowman Snyder (1845-1937), was a jeweler in Three Rivers, Michigan, according to the 1880 U.S. Census. Then he and his wife, Sarah Grace Spalding (1842-1921) came out west to homestead.

My great-grandmother, Grace Evarts Snyder, must have been sixteen at the time. The clocks may have come with them then. Grace lived until I was ten years old, and I knew her. So I have that connection with my past.

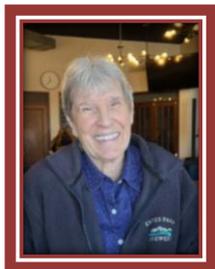
Or perhaps the clocks were acquired when Thomas and Sarah opened a jewelry store in Fowler, Colorado around 1920. I'll never know for sure. I just know that these two clocks were hidden away somewhere in my grandmother's basement. My father wanted to know if any of his six children wanted them. I was the only one who was willing to pay for their maintenance. I acquired them over twenty years ago.

They are both made by the Seth Thomas Clock Company. I had them both dated by Old Time Clock Repair on Colfax near Monaco. But now I can't even find the document where I had written notes. Sound familiar? But I love these old clocks. They both keep time, and they're noisy. So I'm willing to pay to have them cleaned every half-dozen years - if they need it.

**MANTLE CLOCK****BEEHIVE CLOCK**

REGULATOR CLOCK

By Barb Elliott



This Regulator Clock was given to my Dad when he was a boy from an unrelated older gentleman in town. The gentleman's name has been lost to time but he may have worked for the railroad as the train tracks were next to his property. We believe this clock was made in the 1850's, but there is no date on the clock. It hung in my Dad's parent's home in Jamestown, Kansas until 1965 when dad brought it home.



MY SETH THOMAS MANTEL CLOCK

By Julie McKemy

When you hear the words "Seth Thomas" you immediately think "clocks." In 1813 Thomas started making clocks in Plymouth Hollow, Connecticut and his company would grow to dominate the American market, specializing in mass-produced clocks of various styles, sizes and prices. I possess a piece of "S.T." history - this mantel clock that is a family heirloom dating from about 1900. The original owner was my maternal great-grandmother, Clara Schaffer Wetzel (1865-1934). There is no documentation that tells us if she purchased the clock herself or if it was a gift. She married in 1887 and the simple style of the clock would have been well-suited to the modest ranch house/bungalow in Orange County, California where she raised her family.

The studio photograph of the family enjoying a day at the beach was taken about 1902 (based on the ages of the children). Clara is accompanied by (L to R) Rudolph (b. 1895), Helen (b. 1900), Emil (b. 1897) and Caroline (b. 1892). [Note: Rudolph is my grandfather.] When Caroline married in 1932, the clock was presented to her as a wedding gift. Caroline was my godmother. She didn't have any children and when she died in 1965 the clock came to me. My earliest memory of it is that one of the hands was missing and the wooden case was dark and dull. The clock was placed in a cupboard, safe but out of sight for years.



Mechanical clocks do best when they are kept running and are maintained with regular oiling. This clock was sadly neglected until 1982 when my mother, Patricia Wetzel, enrolled in a night school class in clock repair. She documented her work replacing the bushings in the clock works and the missing hand. Also, the case was cleaned. She discovered that the clock case had an "Adamantine" finish. This is a celluloid veneer that the company started using in 1881. The veneer could emulate exotic woods, onyx or marble. My clock appears to have a rosewood finish. There are Seth Thomas mantle clocks that have heavily embellished cases and ornate dials with Roman numerals. My clock has a plain face with Arabic numbers. Overall it has a solid, well-proportioned look. It has an eight-day time and strike movement with a pendulum. I brought the clock with me when I moved to Colorado in 1983 and it still works perfectly. The biggest challenge is adjusting it twice a year for daylight savings time!

THE EKDAHL / STRANDBERG BIBLE'S JOURNEY

By Connie Strandberg



The Ekdahl family, Louise and her daughter Anna Louise and son, Charles, came from Sweden to Chicago in 1867. They joined Louise’s brother who was a tailor. The women were seamstresses and worked in the tailor’s business.

The father of Anna Louise and Charles was Johan Grell. When the parents separated, the children took their mother Louise’s maiden name of Ekdahl.

In 1883 Louise gave the Bible to her daughter Anna. Anna Louise married Charles Strandberg, another Swedish immigrant at St. Ansgarius Church Rectory in Chicago on April 24, 1886. That same year the newly married couple plus her mother and brother moved to homesteads near Julesburg, Colorado. Their living spaces were a combination of dugouts and sod. The following years were very hard. They described it as being “starved out.” One child, Carl Louis Strandberg, was born during the homestead years.

The whole family group moved to the Denver area. By 1892 their address was 1857 Larimer Street. A son, Roy, was born in 1892 and died in 1893. Charles Strandberg found work for a time in the area around Swansea, where they lived at 4529 Clayton. Anna took in laundry. The children went to school.

In 1893 the Bible was passed to Carl Louis, the child born on the homestead.

A son, Victor Raymond, was born in 1895 when the family lived at 38 Winne Street, near the Platte River and the north end of Kalamath Street. A daughter, Olga, joined the family in 1898.

By 1900 the family, along with the Bible, moved to 10 acres in an area known as Semper. Currently that property is part of Westminster on the west side of highway 36. Where their house was, the property is currently designated as open space. They grew many varieties of apples and small fruits. On the fly leaf of the Bible it is possible to read a few notes on the berries they sold.

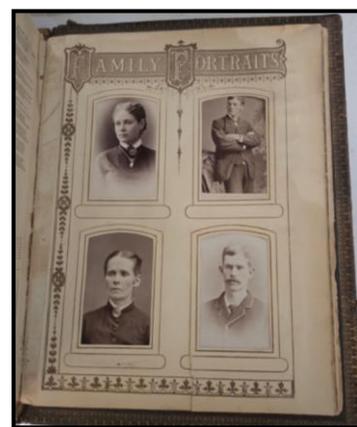
In 1925 a home was built at 3177 Ames Street in Edgewater. When both parents had died the Bible went to Ray Strandberg in Conrad, Montana. The mailing address was Gallup City, a now defunct oil field. In the 1980’s Ray Strandberg passed it to his son, Russell who brought it back to Colorado. It now resides in Littleton, Colorado

Anna Louise (Grell) Ekdahl
Daughter

Charles Strandberg
Spouse

Louise (Ekdahl) Grell
Mother

Charles (Grell) Ekdahl
Son



COLUMBINE GENEALOGY'S MAY 18 PROGRAM

Another fun and enlightening program was presented.

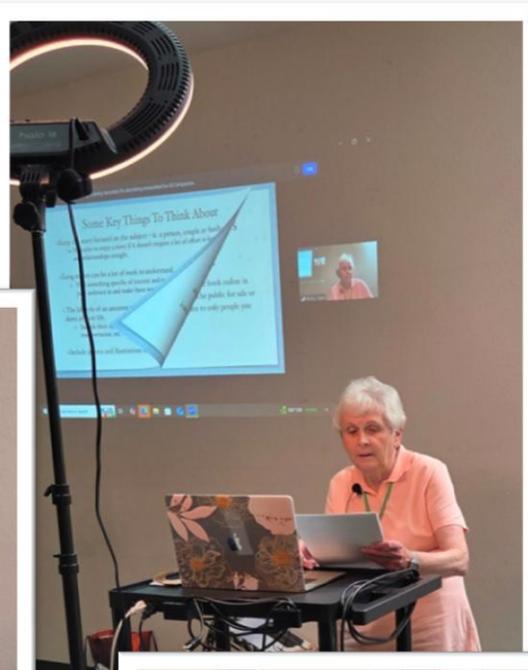
Becky Clark, our Writers Group facilitator, spoke about the function and benefits of the group. Participating allows your works to be critiqued in a friendly and encouraging environment to enhance your stories. This is another benefit of Columbine membership. Various members spoke about their writings and others brought their publications for our viewing.

SPEAKERS

RON FLOBERG



BECKY CLARK



JEAN ADAMS

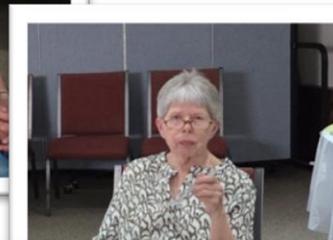


SUSAN HOLLIS

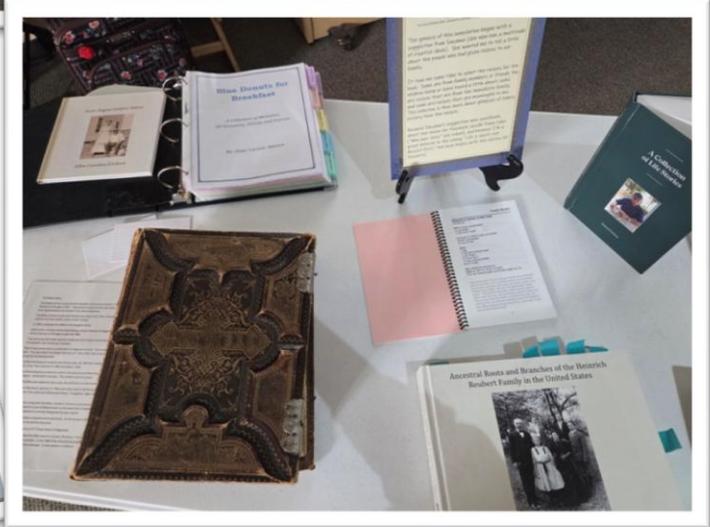
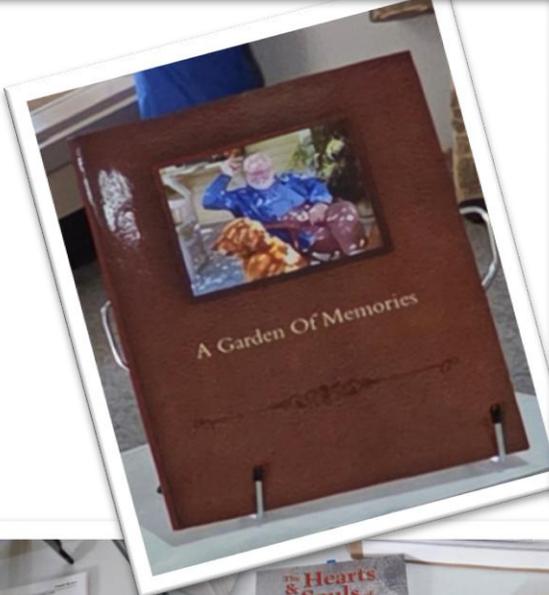
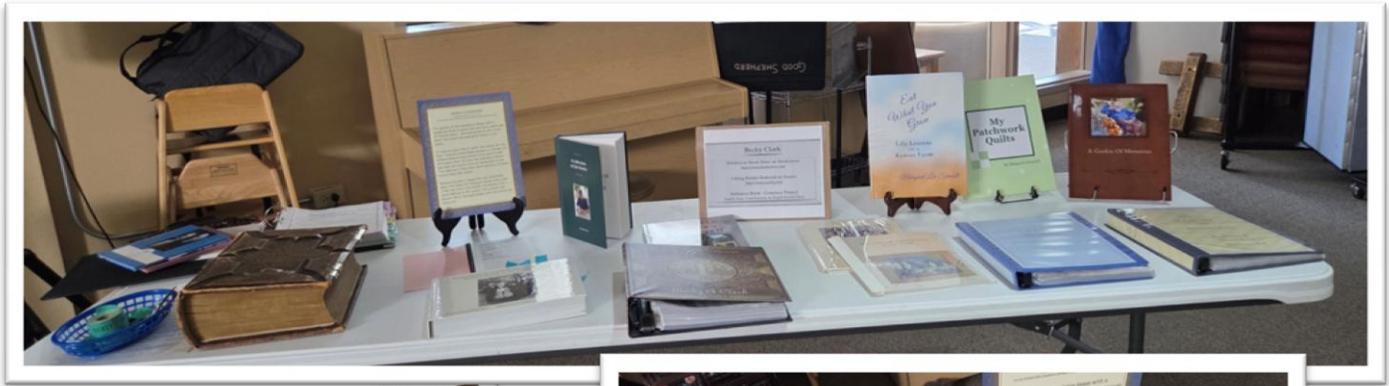




A delicious array of food was enjoyed by all!



Members shared their printed works



OUR ZOOM GROUP WHO MAKE ALL THIS POSSIBLE



Neil Johnson, Maggie Schmidt, Sean McGuire, Becky Clark, Richard Evans

Should The Fourth of July Be On July 2 – Or August 2



The Second Continental Congress approved a resolution for American Independence. On July 2, 1776 the “Lee Resolution” marked the moment the 13 colonies were effectively independent from Great Britain. John Hancock and his colleagues signed the Declaration of Independence on August 2, 1776 after Timothy Matlack, a Pennsylvania clerk renowned for his good handwriting, wrote it on parchment.

So why do we celebrate on July 4th? The Continental Congress actually agreed on and approved the famous language in the declaration on July 4 making this the day for celebration of unity.

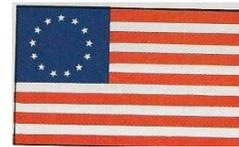
Reader’s Digest – September 2020 – page 105

THE AMERICAN FLAG – OUR NATIONAL SYMBOL



- **1777–1795:** 13 stars for the original Colonies (Revolutionary War and early U.S. republic)
- **1795–1818:** 15 stars when Vermont and Kentucky became states (War of 1812)
- **1818–1860s:** Flags grew from 20 to 33 stars, depending on the year
- **1861–1865:** Flags retained 34 stars including the Confederate states despite the Civil War
- A 35th star for West Virginia and a 36th star for Nevada were added
- **1912:** Proportions and star arrangement was standardized by President Taft
- **1959:** The 49th star was added when Alaska became a state. It was used for only one year
- **1960–present:** 50 stars when Hawaii became a state

Our flag evolves with the growth of the United States. June 14, 1777 the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act declaring the flag of the United States is of 13 alternating red and white stripes with 13 white stars on a blue field with no official star arrangement. The stars on Betsy Ross' early version flag were placed in a circle. Other placement was in rows, staggered or in star like patterns. The most popular design had alternating rows of 3, 2, 3, 3, and 3 stars. The circular design was rarely used.



1777 Flags

The flag was updated periodically when new states joined the Union but did not follow strict specifications. When Vermont and Kentucky joined the Union in 1795 the stripes were increased to 15. In honor of the original 13 colonies Congress in 1818 passed legislation securing the number of stripes at 13. Since then a star would be added on the July 4th following each state's admission to the Union. One design had four rows of five stars each. The "Great Star Flag" arranged the 20 stars in the shape of a large star.



1795



four rows of five stars



"Great Star Flag"

The 1861 flag used in the Civil War had stars for 34 states which included the South.



The national flag has been revised 27 different times since the United States' independence. Each time a state was added to the union, another star had to be added to the top left corner of the Flag.



The 48 star flag is the longest serving of any United States flag, serving from 1912 to 1959. The most recent version of the Flag was recognized in 1960 when Hawaii became the 50th state.

MOLASSES PIE

3 eggs
 1 cup brown sugar
 1 cup molasses
 ½ teaspoon salt
 ¼ cup melted butter
 1 cup chopped pecans
 1 teaspoon vanilla

Line 9 inch pan with pie crust.
 Beat eggs, sugar, molasses, salt, and butter together and cook gently until sugar is dissolved and mixture has syrupy consistency. Add pecans and vanilla. Pour into pie crust.
 Bake at 350° F. for 40-50 minutes.

Molasses Comes To America



Sunrise one morning during the late 1600s revealed a weathered sloop riding at anchor in Boston Harbor. Shorefront observers saw that it rode low in the water, evidently carrying a heavy cargo. They had no way of knowing that this cargo was the first of its kind ever to reach New England and was to initiate changes in New England's eating and drinking habits, as well as to play its part in bringing a country yet undreamed of to civil war.

Down in the sloop's creaking hold, hogsheads of molasses crowded each other, lumbered aboard weeks before in the West Indies. Soon the sweet syrup would be on every table, poured over breakfast dishes and desserts, mixed into hasty pudding, and used as the sweetening ingredient in countless recipes. Shortly, men would be distilling it into rum, most of which would go to Africa to be traded for slaves, these to be traded in the South for sugar, molasses, and money — to the completion of the triangle and the enrichment of the Yankee trader.

Not too long after the landing of that first cargo of molasses, housewives and their cooks were experimenting with the new ingredient in cookies, cakes, and candies, and even adding it to baked beans.

The Old Farmer's Almanac Colonial Cookbook – pages 56, 59

YOUR NEWSLETTER

Jeanie Blanchard, Editor



We hope you enjoyed this issue. Think about writing something for our next issue.

Please send your article for the October newsletter by September 1. If you have any questions send them to columbinegenealogy@gmail.com and I will respond.

Thank you to everyone who helped with this July issue of your newsletter.