



Family Footprints

Family · History · It's All Relative

Vol. 53, No. 3

Third Quarter – July, August, September

Summer 2026

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Columbine Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc

PO Box 2074
Centennial, CO 80161-2074

Our 53rd Year!

Established 1973

Cultural & Educational Organization 501(c) (3)

Newsletter Published Quarterly

Subscription included in membership dues

Member of



PENSION: *DENIED!*

– PART TWO –

AN UNJUST REJECTION

By Stephen Asay

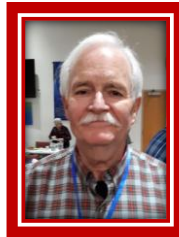
In part one, we learned that pension eligibility for Revolutionary War veterans gradually increased in the decades following the war. In 1832, when these veterans were nearly 80, or older, those who had served at least six months became eligible. Tens of thousands applied, creating a wealth of genealogical information about those who served. We concluded the first installment by looking at one such soldier, Samuel Asay, whose pension application was denied.

In Samuel's first one-year enlistment, even though he saw little battle action, he had helped to rebuild Fort Schuyler and maintain the defences around Fort Ticonderoga. Along the way, he and the rest of the 3rd New Jersey Regiment marched hundreds of miles from their muster at Elizabethtown, now Elizabeth, New Jersey, to upstate New York. In Samuel's brief second enlistment with the Burlington County, New Jersey, militia, he skirmished with British foraging parties from Philadelphia at Timber Creek¹ and Haddonfield,² both in present day Camden County, New Jersey.

In his pension application,³ Samuel's brother Jacob testified that he recalled that Samuel enlisted in the spring of 1776, marched from Mount Holly, New Jersey, with his regiment, and didn't return until the following

Continued on page 10

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF COLUMBINE GENEALOGY?



By Sean McGuire

I write this at the beginning of June, 2026. This is my fourth, and final, year as President of Columbine Genealogy. Our Bylaws limit positions to two full two-year terms. After our summer break, there are just a handful of Program Meetings and Skills Sessions before year-end. Where do we go from here?

My first year as President was personally tumultuous. My wife, Maureen, had become very sick the year before, and she passed away in August, 2023. I was told that people would understand if I stepped away from my responsibilities, but I did not.

We had nine Officer positions on our Board of Directors, and there were times we could not find a quorum for Board of Directors meetings. Without a quorum, decisions can not be made legally. So, we modified our Bylaws and reduced the number of Officer / Directors to seven.

The phenomenon of scarcity of people willing to step up and volunteer is not limited to Columbine. We have seen more than one genealogy group disband due to lack of interest. Kelly Glenn, President of the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies, told me that he has found this to be a common problem in other types of groups as well.

I recently attended the final spring gathering of the Foothills Genealogical Society. Not finding someone who was willing to step up as President, Foothills amended their ByLaws to permit a third two-year term for that position. I find the very idea exhausting, and I will not ask Columbine to do the same.

Having said that, we need people to step up and volunteer!

This November, we will hold elections for the following positions: President, Publicity Coordinator, Secretary, and Membership Coordinator. Two of those positions, Publicity Coordinator and Membership Coordinator, allow for co-chairs. This is a strategy we have successfully used in the past to help shoulder the work.

Continued page 3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS – 2026

President

Sean McGuire

Vice President – Programs

Marylee Hagen

Secretary

Dawn Bunyak as of 8/1/2026

Treasurer

Sharol Bettencourt

Education Coordinators

Open Position & Stephen Asay

Membership Coordinators

Jean Adams & Susan Hollis

Membership Software

Maggie Schmidt & Gary Witt

Publicity Co-Coordinators

Ann Kerr + **Open Position**

Publicity Calendar Manager

Pam Rosendal

Publicity Proofreader

Cheryl Floberg

APPOINTED STANDING COMMITTEES

Acquisitions

Anita Burbank Jenkins

Auditing

Pam Rosendal & Chuck Towne

Bylaws & Standing Rules

Barbara Elliott

Calendar & Email Manager

Pam Rosendal

Colorado Council Representative

Nancy Berendt

National Genealogical Society Representative

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Alicia Smart, Marge Healy

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Jeanie Blanchard

Newsletter Proofreader

CJ Backus

Newsletter Photographer

Open Position

Nominating Co-Chairs

Open Positions

Social Media Editor

Ann Kerr

Website Editor & Assistant

Nancy Reubert, Neil Johnson

Writers Group

Becky Clark

Zoom Committee

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



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Officers need to have been a Columbine member for at least one year. The Board of Directors meetings are held via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of nine months per year (excluding June, July, and December). The August meeting has been held in person.

I am asking all Columbine members to please, please consider volunteering for an Officer / Board of Director position. For a description of duties for the open positions go to our website www.columbinegenealogy.com.

We also have a great need for an assistant to our web editor, Nan Reubert, who needs to devote more time to a family member. This is an excellent opportunity for someone to gain special skills!

In short, Columbine Genealogy needs you! Without our volunteers, Columbine Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc. is nothing. Please prevent the possible dissolution of this great organization, one that has successfully educated our members and guests in a wide variety of topics and issues for over fifty years.

Thank you.



COLUMBINE GENEALOGY MEETINGS

Meetings are held monthly except for June, July and August

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**

Shared Interest Groups - open to CGHS Members Only

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

What We Learned About DNA This new program's date and time will be announced later

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

Board of Directors Meetings 9:00 a.m. MT – 2nd Tuesday of each month (except June, July & Dec.) **via Zoom**
Columbine members and guests are welcome to attend our board meetings. Topics on the agenda include timely concerns in addition to regular status updates from board members. For more information or to receive a Zoom link, contact the president, Sean McGuire (president@columbinegenealogy.com).

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/](https://www.facebook.com/columbinegenealogy/)

Guests are welcome at all in-person meetings. For Zoom meetings, links will be sent to members, and to non-members who are on our non-member mailing list. To be added to the non-member list, send an email request at least 24 hours before a meeting to ZoomMailingList@ColumbineGenealogy.com. Or you may sign up on Friends Corner (click the Join Us button at <https://columbinegenealogy.com/>), subscribe to the non-member mailing list, and you will automatically receive emails regarding our future programs, skills sessions, and Zoom links.

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 8 1:00 – 3:00 PM

YOUR EARLY COLORADO SETTLERS

• OPEN MICROPHONE •

Presenters: **Columbine Genealogy Members** are invited to share a story about one of your Colorado pioneer ancestors. All stories are welcome whether they arrived before 1876 or later. If you participate in person, you may bring books, photos or artifacts to display. Zoom storytellers are also welcome. Start thinking about the story you want to share, and how you can stay within the 3-minute time limit.

Description: Your ancestor may have been directly involved in the original settling of Colorado, the Centennial State, arriving before statehood in 1876 as a trapper, miner, rancher, or pioneer homesteader. Perhaps your ancestor came during the Pike's Peak Gold Rush of 1859, staked a claim, and built a life in the rugged Rocky Mountain frontier. Or maybe your ancestor arrived after statehood as a farmer, merchant, railroad worker, or immigrant seeking new opportunity in the growing West. We're interested in hearing all of these stories!



If you plan to share a tale of your Colorado pioneer ancestor on September 8, please contact Stephen Asay, education@columbinegenealogy.com, to let him know.

In-Person and via Zoom

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

Listening to the Voices of Ancestors

If you listen to the voices of your ancestors

They want their stories to be told

To give a glimpse of bygone years

And their lives in days of old

If you listen to the voices of your ancestors

They always share their story

Please listen and record their lives

In honour and loving glory

When you listen to the voices of your ancestors

Those guiding angels from above

They stand behind and in support of you

Shining brightly with their love

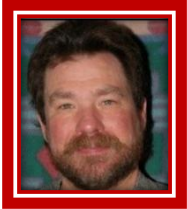
Megan Reilly Koepsell

EDUCATIONAL *Skills Session* **PREVIEWS**

Stephen Asay, Coordinator



Tuesday, September 15 1:00 – 3:00 PM

**DNA TESTING FOR GENEALOGY:
WHAT IS IT AND HOW CAN I USE IT?**

Presenter: Greg Liverman, Ph.D., began tracing his family history in the 1990's with an old Macintosh computer and a copy of Family Tree Maker. At that time, family and career pursuits did not leave much time for genealogy research. He was finally able to return to charting his family history in 2009. Greg quickly realized that he could bring to bear all the analytical and problem solving skills he had developed in over forty years of working as a journalist, scientist and business manager.

Living on a ranch on the western slopes of Pikes Peak means there are few libraries nearby, so Greg has become adept at using online resources for both domestic and foreign research. He has researched his family history “on the ground” in libraries, cemeteries and record offices in seven states, with more on the list to visit. He has experience in using various techniques, based on the careful application of reason and logic, to successfully break down “brick walls.”

Greg and his wife Wendy added genetic genealogy or DNA testing to their brick wall demolition toolkit in 2013 and have immersed themselves in the details of DNA test and evaluation methods. They have answered several questions about their family history using DNA evidence.

Description: A DNA test can be one of the most powerful tools in a genealogist's toolkit but only if you know what to order and what to make of the results. This presentation cuts through the confusion and gives you a clear roadmap.

Whether you are hoping to discover your ethnic roots, connect with unknown cousins, or break through a brick wall that paper records can't crack, DNA evidence can open doors you never knew existed. For adoptees, foundlings, and donor-conceived individuals, it has reunited families. For investigators, it has solved cold cases decades old. No prior experience with DNA testing is required. Newcomers and experienced researchers alike will find something valuable here.

**You will leave knowing how to:**

- Choose the right test – autosomal, Y-DNA, or mtDNA – for your specific research goal
- Interpret ethnicity estimates and DNA matches to find and confirm relatives
- Use your results on platforms like AncestryDNA, 23andMe, FamilyTreeDNA, and GEDmatch
- Break through brick walls that traditional paper records can't solve

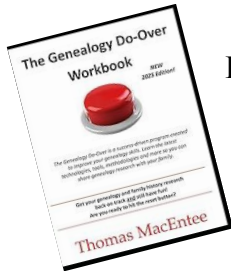
Presented via Zoom only



SHARED INTEREST GROUPS

“DO-OVER (or GO-OVER)”

Facilitator: Jean Adams will lead these sessions with the assistance of volunteer attendees using Thomas MacEntee’s book “**The Genealogy Do-Over Workbook.**” available on Amazon, \$8.99 plus shipping in soft cover, also available on Kindle. Free downloads available at <https://genealogybargains.com>.



Description: Thinking about starting a fresh look at your family research or refining what you’ve already found? Whether you’re diving into a full "Do-Over" or just want to "Go-Over" your existing work, our Shared Interest Group (SIG) is here to help. We’ve been supporting one another for the past nine months, and we’d love to have you join our friendly, collaborative community!

We have two upcoming Zoom sessions this fall where members will share their progress, swap tips, and discuss their research journeys.

What to expect in September: We’ll be focusing on Step 10: **The use of DNA in your research.** We’ll look at how Thomas MacEntee’s *2026 Genealogy Do-Over Workbook* incorporates new, practical ways that AI can assist with this step. It’s a great opportunity to ask questions, share your own experiences, and learn from the group. As Thomas says, “Collaboration counts!”

Interested in joining us? Please contact Jean Adams, jadams31216@gmail.com, to receive the Zoom link. We look forward to seeing you there!

Monday, September 28 10:00 – 11:00 AM MT

Monday, October 26 10:00 – 11:00 AM MT

Presented via Zoom



WHAT WE LEARNED ABOUT DNA

DNA testing has become very popular to determine your ethnicity, facts about health risks and to find cousins. It has been used by adoptees and foundlings to find their biological parents and to solve cold cases.

Columbine Genealogy will be starting a new Shared Interest Group to discuss what we learned from Greg Liverman on September 15. We will also discuss how to take the next steps. This is an interactive group where you can ask your questions and find answers to the mysteries of DNA.

Keep your eyes on our calendar! The date and time will be announced later. It will be a Zoom meeting. Start writing down your questions.



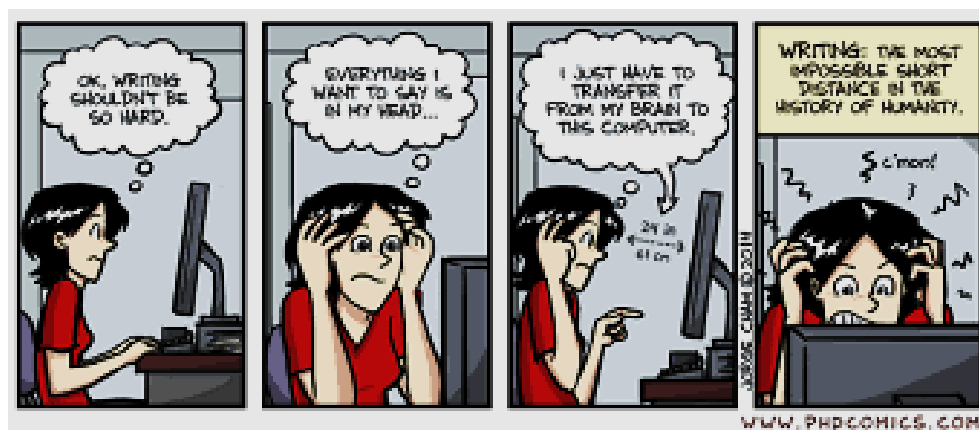
WRITERS GROUP

Becky Clark, Chairperson

Join us to get friendly support, share in the camaraderie and get your family stories down on paper to leave as a legacy for other family members to enjoy. For more information, contact Becky Clark at ColumbineGenealogy@gmail.com.

Writers Group is a benefit available to Columbine Genealogy members only.

Wednesday, September 15 10:00 – 12:00 a.m. MT



THANK YOU TO OUR MAY 2026 SPEAKERS

Our members spoke about their ancestors who had a connection to the Revolutionary War



Gae Jacobs
Major Jonathan Cass



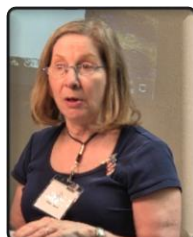
Sue Clasen
Rufus Bennet



Barbara Elliott
Dr. John Henry C. Stissor



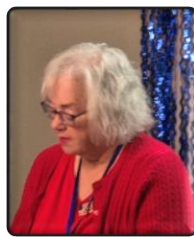
Kathy Thompson
Peter Parlee



Alicia Smart
Ebenzer "Stow" Geer



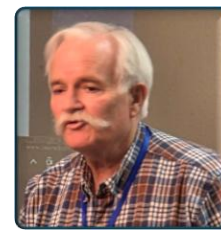
Donna Chrislip
Margaret C. Corbin



Susan C. Hollis
Spencer Currell



Stephen Asay
Walter Chaloner



Sean McGuire
John McClelland



Jean Adams & Susan Hollis Membership Co-Chairs

Melanie Golden, a new Columbine member, is no newcomer to genealogy. She is currently the Regent for the Ellis Meredith Chapter, NSDAR. She reports she has one Revolutionary patriot proven with more to follow in time. She has been researching for at least 35 years, and reports, “Yes, I have brick walls. Doesn’t everyone?” Melanie is a retired International Flight Attendant for American Airlines. She says, however, she is busier in retirement than she ever was working.

She has one ancestor who came over on the Mayflower, and several other who came soon after, all Dutch, who settled in Pennsylvania. Other pioneers came to Ohio and Nebraska.

Melanie lives in Denver just north of the Tech Center. She volunteers at Four Mile Historic Park, so she is well acquainted with Colorado history. She also volunteers at History Colorado. She has held several offices at the Aurora Genealogical Society, and is newly retired from the Board of Directors. She has taught a class called, “Storying Your Life” for many years.

Welcome Melanie to Columbine Genealogy!

RECOGNIZING COLUMBINE GENEALOGY’S LONG TIME MEMBERS

50 YEARS

Marilyn Schalge

40 – 49 YEARS

Sharon Lee – 49
Ann Lisa Pearson – 47
Mary Ann Thorton - 47
Ann Anderson – 45
Connie Strandberg – 43
Joel & Eileen Miles – 42

30 – 39 YEARS

Doris Elliott – 36
Bev Nelson – 35
Margaret Ringhofer - 35
Christie Hensen – 31
Marie Jeanie Knudtson – 31
Mary Lee Hagen – 30

20 – 29 YEARS

George & Joann VanTrump – 29
Char Page – 28
Woody Trosper – 28
Louise Durbala – 27
Joyce Lohse – 27
Susan Hollis – 26
Sandi Klein – 25
Paula Davis – 24
Marilyn Elrod – 24
Diane Hall – 24
Shirley Jenkins – 24
Ginger Van Zyl – 22
Ken & Gail Beets – 21
Richard Evans – 21
C. J. Backus – 21



ARE YOU A COLUMBINE MEMBER?

• ENJOY “MEMBERSHIP PERKS” •

Columbine Friends Corner enables you to use special features. You can utilize the **Membership Directory** under **Members Only** to connect with fellow members and enjoy their support and camaraderie. The **Surname Project Table** enables you to find out what surnames and locations other members are researching. Maybe you will find a relative within the membership. Some members already have identified other members who are researching the same surname and that they may have a connection.

If you are not currently a member, please consider joining Columbine Genealogy to enjoy exclusive benefits, expert guidance and a supportive community. Check it out and see what additional benefits are available to members.



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

Once you are a member don't forget to add your own research information to help make your connections.

REMEMBERING COLUMBINE MEMBERS WHO HAVE LEFT US



Bev Nelson was honored in the April 1, 2010, Columbine Newsletter as a Twenty-Year member having joined in 1990. At that time, she stated one of the best decisions of her life was to sign up for Ann Lisa Pearson's genealogy class. Her Columbine membership inspired her to become active in numerous lineage societies. She became regent of the Mount Rosa Chapter of NSDAR, president of the U.S. Daughters of 1812 and many more. She presented several programs on lineage society membership to Columbine and was always available to help applicants with their research. She founded the Mount Rosa Book Club and was an enthusiastic reader and valued source of answers to questions about American history.

Beverly Ellison Nelson was born June 13, 1935, to Clinton and Hazel Conover Ellison in Beatrice, Nebraska. She died on April 21, 2026. In 1955 she married Bob Nelson of Marcus, Iowa. She was the mother of three children, Martin R. Nelson, Theresa M. Lowe, and Kirstin Nelson along with five grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, two grandchildren, and her brothers.

She was a graduate of the University of Colorado. For twenty-six years she owned The Southwestern Gallery located in Cinderella City and then on Littleton Boulevard. She was a member of the Indian Arts and Crafts Association as well.

A committal service was held on June 30 at Fort Logan National Cemetery. On July 1 a Celebration of Life Service was held from 1-3 at the Littleton Elks Club in Littleton.

PENSION: DENIED! Part 2 - AN UNJUST REJECTION*Continued from Page 1*

spring. No fewer than five associates – James Campbell, a clergyman from Pemberton, NJ, Samuel Jones, Joseph N. Gibbs, Samuel K. Budd and Isaac Budd – testified that they were “well acquainted” with Samuel and that he was the person he claimed to be. All sworn to before Judge Thomas Swain of Burlington County. Even though there is no evidence that he was impoverished or disabled, despite being wounded at Timber Creek, it is clear that Samuel’s service entitled him to a pension under the act of 1832.



The former Pension Building, now the National Building Museum and open to visitors. Designed by General Montgomery C. Meigs and complete in 1887, this fireproof building was probably the one-time home of many of the records we search for today.

When in Washington, it’s worth a visit.

See <https://www.gsa.gov/real-estate/find-a-historic-federal-building/pension-building-national-building-museum-washington-dc>

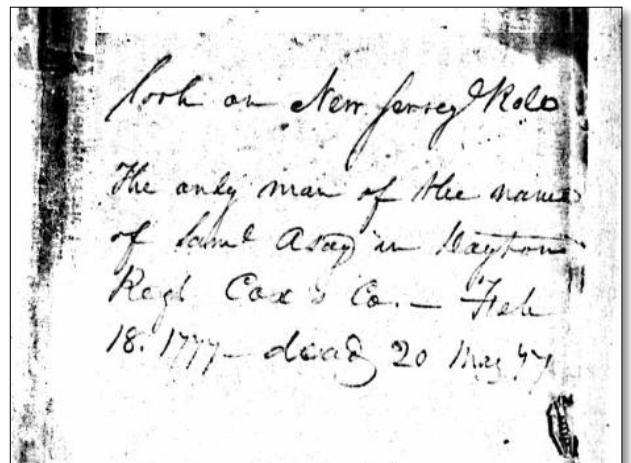
Photo: S. Asay

Samuel Asay was born June 9, 1750, in Burlington County, New Jersey, and married Sarah Atkinson August 3, 1779⁴. Samuel and Sarah had at least one child, and probably three. Susanna, born around 1790, is documented as Susanna Zelley – having married John Zelley (or Zelly) in 1813 – through her letters included in Samuel’s pension file. Just four months after filing his pension application, Samuel died in 1833. His wife Sarah lived another four years, during which there is no indication she pursued a widow’s pension. However, as late as 1855 his daughter Susanna was corresponding with the pension office, trying to claim whatever pension was due based on her deceased father’s service. Two of her letters, possibly written by an agent or attorney, are included in Samuel’s file. While her letters get some dates wrong, they support the conclusion that Samuel Asay never received the pension he was due under the 1832 act. So why was his application denied?

On the back of one of the papers in Asay’s pension file is written:

look on New Jersey Roll
The only man of the name
of Saml Asay in Dayton
Regt Cox’s Co. – Feb
18, 1777 – dead 20 May 77

John N. Slack agt.
Mount Holly
New Jersey



Overruling Judge Swain's conclusion that "Samuel Asay was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states", Agent Slack decided that the sworn testimony of Asay, his brother and five friends must be a fabrication, and, moreover, that Samuel Asay had been dead for over fifty years.

First, I sought to confirm that Samuel Asay's service record agrees with the testimony in his pension application. Looking at the *Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records, 1775-1783*⁵ on Ancestry, I found a muster record for Samuel Acy that closely matches the accounts given in the application. The record shows him serving under Captain John Ross in Colonel Elias Dayton's battalion, at Ticonderoga on December 6, 1776, and Mount Independence from December '76 to February '77. This must be the record of Samuel's service.

(Personally living with the surname Asay, I can say that Acy is among several common misspellings. Despite its spelling, the name is pronounced ā-see. Giving the name verbally, as we might imagine at a muster, could easily result in something like "Acy" being recorded on the roll.)

Searching further in the muster rolls, I found another Samuel Acy, also in Colonel Dayton's regiment, but in a different company, under Captain Richard Cox. This Samuel didn't enlist until February 18, 1777, in the second establishment of the New Jersey Third Regiment, and is noted as deceased on May 20, 1777⁶. Recall that our Samuel Asay was at Fort Ticonderoga and Mount Independence during the winter of 1776/77, and headed home in March '77. This second Samuel must be the soldier whose record Mr. Slack found when he made the notation "dead 20 May 77" on our Samuel's pension application.

An Muster Roll of the New Jersey Third Regiment of Foot, in the Service of the United States, commanded by Colonel Elias Dayton. This muster is taken from the time of the 1st to the 31st of May 1777.

Company	Rank	Name	Remarks	Company	Rank	Name	Remarks
1st	Private	Thomas Gold	Jan 1777	1st	Private	John Smith	Jan 1777
2nd	Private	William Brown	Feb 1777	2nd	Private	James White	Mar 1777
3rd	Private	John Miller	Apr 1777	3rd	Private	Robert Lee	May 1777
4th	Private	David Clark	Jun 1777	4th	Private	George King	Jul 1777
5th	Private	Richard Cox	Aug 1777	5th	Private	Samuel Acy	Sep 1777
6th	Private	John Ross	Oct 1777	6th	Private	William Adams	Nov 1777
7th	Private	James Taylor	Dec 1777	7th	Private	John Davis	Jan 1778
8th	Private	Robert Wilson	Feb 1778	8th	Private	George Moore	Mar 1778
9th	Private	Samuel Acy	Apr 1778	9th	Private	James Hill	May 1778
10th	Private	John Baker	Jun 1778	10th	Private	Robert Green	Jul 1778
11th	Private	David Evans	Aug 1778	11th	Private	George Scott	Sep 1778
12th	Private	Richard King	Oct 1778	12th	Private	John Ward	Nov 1778
13th	Private	James Wright	Dec 1778	13th	Private	William Allen	Jan 1779
14th	Private	John King	Feb 1779	14th	Private	George Young	Mar 1779
15th	Private	Robert Hall	Apr 1779	15th	Private	James Cook	May 1779
16th	Private	Samuel Acy	Jun 1779	16th	Private	John Bell	Jul 1779
17th	Private	David Reed	Aug 1779	17th	Private	George Baker	Sep 1779
18th	Private	Richard Cook	Oct 1779	18th	Private	John Hill	Nov 1779
19th	Private	James Ward	Dec 1779	19th	Private	William Cook	Jan 1780
20th	Private	John Bell	Feb 1780	20th	Private	George Ward	Mar 1780
21st	Private	Samuel Acy	Apr 1780	21st	Private	James Bell	May 1780
22nd	Private	Robert Cook	Jun 1780	22nd	Private	John Hill	Jul 1780
23rd	Private	David Ward	Aug 1780	23rd	Private	George Cook	Sep 1780
24th	Private	Richard Hill	Oct 1780	24th	Private	John Ward	Nov 1780
25th	Private	James Cook	Dec 1780	25th	Private	William Hill	Jan 1781
26th	Private	John Ward	Feb 1781	26th	Private	George Hill	Mar 1781
27th	Private	Samuel Acy	Apr 1781	27th	Private	James Hill	May 1781
28th	Private	Robert Hill	Jun 1781	28th	Private	John Ward	Jul 1781
29th	Private	David Cook	Aug 1781	29th	Private	George Ward	Sep 1781
30th	Private	Richard Ward	Oct 1781	30th	Private	James Hill	Nov 1781
31st	Private	John Hill	Dec 1781	31st	Private	William Cook	Jan 1782

June 3, 1777. Muster then kept at the same place as specified in the above Roll.

John M. Hill

But wait! Looking a little further, we find yet another New Jersey soldier, this time recorded as Samuel Acey. This Samuel served in the 4th New Jersey Regiment around the same time the second Samuel was enlisted in the 3rd. Like the second Samuel, this soldier also died in spring 1777 after serving only a couple months⁷. The New Jersey 4th's muster roll shows him as having deserted, but the entry is overwritten to indicate he died April 20, 1777⁸. (The card shown here is actually filed and indexed under Samuel Auy.)

A Muster Roll of Capt. Abraham Lyons Company of the fourth Regiment of New Jersey in the Service of the United States Government, commanded by both Ephraim Martin & Co.

Rank	Name	Company	Regiment	Service
1	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
2	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
3	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
4	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
5	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
6	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
7	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
8	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
9	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
10	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
11	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
12	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
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29	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777
30	Samuel Asay	1st	4th	1777

4 | **4** | **N. J.**

Samuel Asay
U. S. Lyons Co.,
 4th New Jersey Regiment, Ephraim Martin, Col.
(Revolutionary War.)

Appears in a book*

Copied from Rolls

of the organization named above.

Date of appointment or enlistment *July 15, 1777*

Term enlisted for

Casualties *Dead April 20, 1777*

John Slack, the agent who rejected Samuel's pension application, and probably other researchers, are not alone in their confusion amongst these three men. Even Stryker in his definitive *Official Register of the Officers and Men of New Jersey* appears to have missed two of the three Samuel Asays, or combined them, listing only the one I have described as the second⁹ (emphasis added):

Acy, Samuel. Captain Cox's company, Third Battalion, **Second Establishment**; Third Regiment.

Samuel Asay, whose pension was denied, enlisted in the **first establishment** of the Third New Jersey Regiment.¹⁰

It appears that hasty research by the Burlington County pension agent led to a faulty conclusion that, once documented, persisted for decades. Agent Slack must have thought that Samuel's pension application, complete with sworn statements by his brother and five associates, and an affirmative conclusion by a county judge, were completely false. As a result, Samuel Asay and his family were forever denied the small pension to which they were rightly entitled.

I first came across Samuel Asay's pension packet while researching the roots of his, and my, surname in Burlington County, New Jersey. The three Samuels discussed here may be a piece of that puzzle, but where exactly they fit remains a mystery.

¹ Smith, Samuel Stelle, *Fight for the Delaware, 1777*, Monmouth Beach, N.J.: Philip Freneau Press, 1970, 39. (as cited in David C. Munn, *Battles and Skirmishes of the American Revolution in New Jersey*, New Jersey Geological Survey, 1976.) – "Timber Creek – November 20, 1777 – Militia fires on British at bridge over Timber Creek."

² Smith, *Fight for the Delaware, 1777*, 39-40. – "Haddonfield – November 24, 1777 – American troops bivouac before the Battle of Gloucester. British foraging party harasses them."

³ "U.S., Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900", database with images, Ancestry (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1995/images/MIUSA1775D_134647-00017 : accessed 6 Nov 2025), A > Armstrong, Jabez – Azelip, Richard > Asay, Samuel – Ashcroft, John, image 15, file R273, citing Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files (NARA microfilm publication M804, 2,670 rolls). Records of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Record Group 15. National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁴ “New Jersey, U.S., Marriage Records, 1683-1802”, database with images, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2794/images/32669_236577-00152 : accessed 9 Feb 2026), Volume XXII, Marriage Records 1665-1800, image 147.

⁵ “U.S., Compiled Revolutionary War Military Service Records, 1775-1783”, database with images, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1309/images/MIUSA1775C_116880-01019 : accessed 4 Feb 2026), New Jersey > Dayton’s Battalion > A – K, images 73-75, citing Compiled Military Service Records for individuals who served in the American Revolutionary War.

⁶ “U.S., Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783”, database with images, *Ancestry* (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/4282/records/504728> : accessed 6 Nov 2025), New Jersey > 02d Regiment, 1776-1783 (Folder 34); 3d Regiment, 1777-1780 (Folders 35-38), image 363, citing Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783; Microfilm Publication M246, 138 rolls; NAID: 602384; War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, Record Group 93; The National Archives in Washington, D.C.

⁷ “U.S., Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783”, database with images, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/4282/images/miusa1775a_113611-00037 : accessed 4 Nov 2025), New Jersey > 04th Regiment, 1777-1780 (Folders 51-53) – Bonnel’s Company of Levies, 1782 (Folder 66), image 38, citing Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783; Microfilm Publication M246, 138 rolls; NAID: 602384; War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, Record Group 93; The National Archives in Washington, D.C..

⁸ “U.S., Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783”, database with images, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/4282/images/miusa1775a_113611-00037 : accessed 4 Nov 2025), New Jersey > 04th Regiment, 1777-1780 (Folders 51-53) – Bonnel’s Company of Levies, 1782 (Folder 66), image 38, citing Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783; Microfilm Publication M246, 138 rolls; NAID: 602384; War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, Record Group 93; The National Archives in Washington, D.C..

⁹ Stryker, William S., *Official Register of the Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary War*, 1872, Trenton, New Jersey, 140.

¹⁰ “History”, 3rd New Jersey Regiment – Jersey Greys, (<https://www.jerseygreys.org/history.html> : accessed 23 Feb 2026). The account of Asay’s movements was taken from his pension application. It generally agrees with that given here.

Further Reading

Mark Edward Lender and James Kirby Martin, *Citizen Soldier: The Revolutionary War Journal of Joseph Bloomfield*, 2018. This is an update to a work originally published in 1982. Joseph Bloomfield was an officer in the Third New Jersey Regiment from 1776 to 1779, covering the period and movements of Samuel Asay’s service. Bloomfield settled in Burlington County after the war, and went on to serve as governor of New Jersey. His journal provides a day-by-day description of the life of a soldier during this part of the Revolution. This book is widely available from the usual sources.

Philip D. Weaver, *The 3rd New Jersey in New-York: Stories from the “Jersey Greys” of 1776*, 2020. This excellent book describes through journal entries and letters the regiment’s formation and their travels through New York, citing many original sources. The only place I have found this book for sale online is the Fort Plain (NY) Museum bookstore: <https://fortplainmuseum.square.site/> . The author lists several other works on his website: <http://www.conconsul.com/index.html> .





250 ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA Article 3

By Barbara Elliott

Our ancestors thoughtfully considered what laws our new country should have and abide by. What a monumental task that must have been for those men.

As I have been studying the Constitution, the 14th Amendment has been in the news lately. This is what that amendment states: *“Amendment XIV Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.”*

The phrase “subject to the jurisdiction” means that the person “owes their allegiance to the United States and no other country”. This is what makes our country great and different than most other countries.

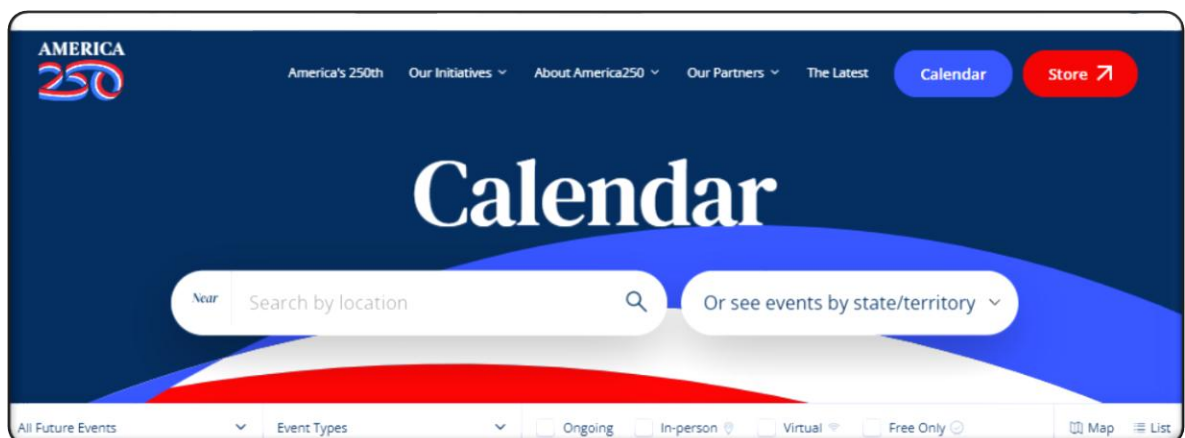
This amendment along with our founding fathers’ foresight into laws of their time, have truly earned their place of honor in our country.



Learn what events are happening in Colorado and throughout the United States

Go to america250.org website of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission and select the Calendar button.

Learn about various events occurring that will inspire you to reflect on our past and renew our commitment to the ideals of democracy.



Reader's Digest – April/May 2026 pg. 28



ARE YOU A COLORADO FIRST FAMILY?

The Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies started the **“First Families of Colorado Recognition Program”** in 1983. The program recognizes families that contributed to the settlement and growth of Colorado. Direct descendants of early Colorado settlers are honored with a certificate of lineage.

There are three program categories for this distinction.

First Family – having an ancestor who was born in or settled in Colorado prior to February 28, 1861.

Territorial Family – having an ancestor who was born in or settled in, a territory that is now Colorado, between February 28, 1861 and August 1, 1876.

Centennial Family – having an ancestor who was born in, or settled in, Colorado at least 100 years prior to the date of your Centennial Family application.



To learn more an Application Packet containing the application, instructions, family tree chart and family group sheet can be downloaded at <http://cocouncil.org/familyrecognition1.html>.

A list of previously recognized families can be seen at <http://cocouncil.org/documents/PioneerList.pdf>.



COLUMBINE COUSINS

By Gaye Buzbee Jacobs and Susan Buzbee Canham

After a couple of years enjoying Columbine Genealogy's meetings and presentations, I decided it was time to become an actual member. I believe it only fair to share in the costs of the organization, despite my very limited time to volunteer. At the Christmas party in December 2025, I was kindly welcomed at the door as a new member. I was also encouraged to add my surname research to the Columbine database, just in case I might find another member who might be researching the same families.

After the holidays I turned to the website and began to browse the list of surnames. One name immediately popped up! BUZBEE...my maiden name, not particularly unique, but certainly eye-catching. I contacted member Susan Buzbee Canham, and we enjoyed a delightful conversation comparing notes about our years of research and how our projects have piled up. We determined that the Buzbees needed our attention.

Deciding to compare notes we thought it easiest to start with our own fathers and grandfathers:
"Albert? No.
Roscoe? No.
Enoch? No." That was discouraging.
"James? No.
Frank? No.
Lloyd? No." No matches here, either.

There didn't seem to be any sort of overlap, generation after generation. Our families lived in entirely different states, and married into entirely different families, although there was a slight connection in Kansas. So, Susan and I began to think this must be just a fun coincidence. We decided to make one last try, checking on our great-great-grandfathers, her Leonard Buzbee (b. 1827 Kentucky – d. 1907 Indiana) and my George Buzbee (b. 1837 Illinois – d. 1913 Colorado.)

Voila! There they were...brothers! Our 3x-great-grandfathers. We knew their parents were Balaam Buzbee and Nancy Allphin, our 4x-great-grandparents who married in Kentucky in 1816.

Excitedly, we began to share stories which we had each pursued, but in all the years we had built our respective family trees this was the first time we could prove a documented relationship between the two of us. We are truly cousins! Now, our plan is to verify records and update our research, since we only live a few miles apart. Susan and I are new friends and cousins, compliments of Columbine Genealogy.

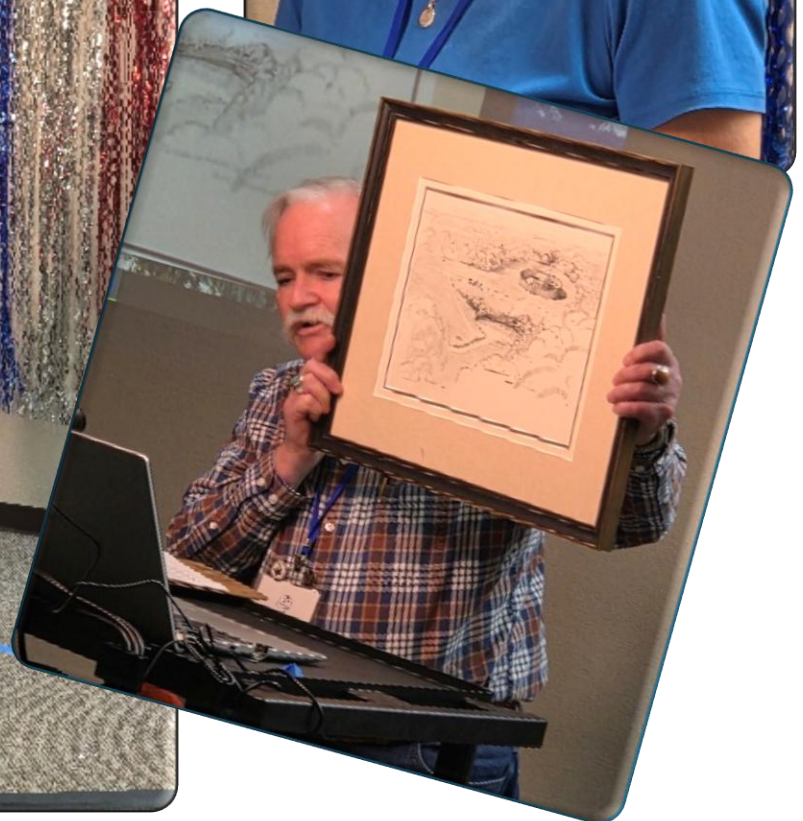
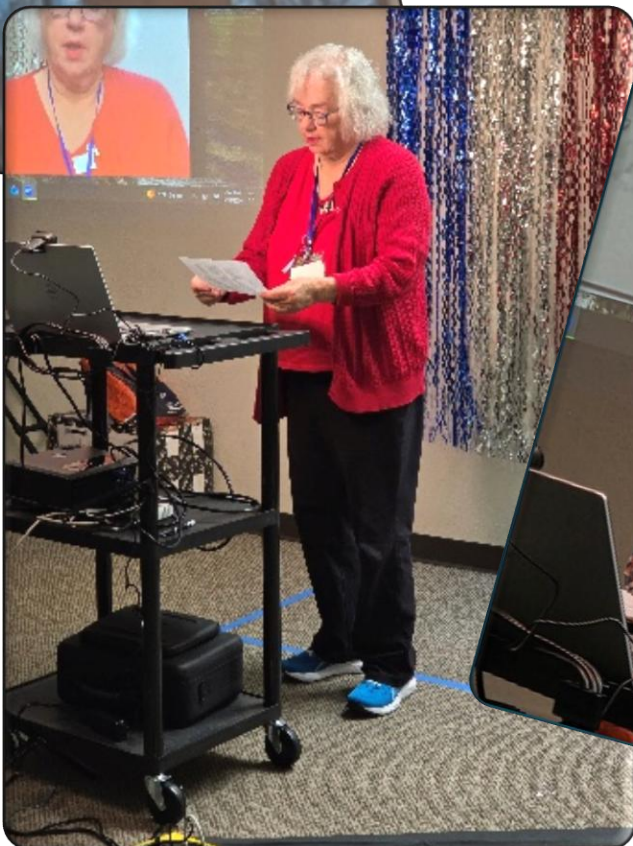
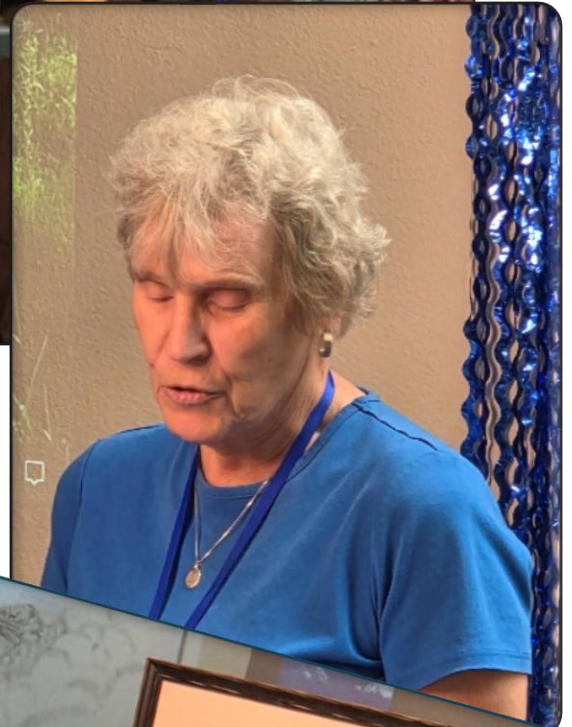
Finding a cousin, even four times removed, doesn't happen every day, but it's special when it does. During my last visit to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, a friend and I discovered we were actually 5th cousins. A kindly docent celebrated with us and said she believes that "our grandmothers like to see their granddaughters find each other, even after many generations.

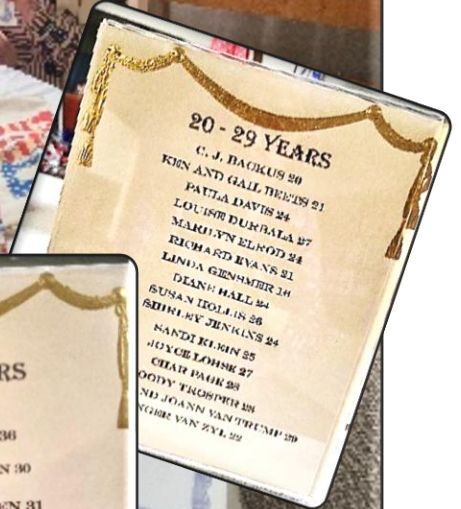
I'm not so sure I believe that, but I like the idea. And if it really does happen sometimes, those old grandmas must be busy! Susan and I had a great visit and a good laugh at that thought.



COLUMBINE GENEALOGY CELEBRATES THE ANNIVERSARIES OF OUR COUNTRY AND STATE









HAPPENINGS AT NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

By Russell Frum

NGS Family History Conference — NGS recently concluded its Annual Family History Conference, titled “America at 250,” in Fort Wayne, IN. I did not attend this year, but all indications point to a successful gathering of family historians, professional genealogists, hobbyists and history buffs. Did you know that up to three people from Columbine Genealogical Society can receive the conference’s discounted member rate, even if they are not NGS members? More information: (<https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/conferences/>)

GRIP Genealogy Institute — Summer camp for genealogists. Attending GRIP (Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh) is on my bucket list. It offers a week-long deep dive into various genealogical topics to improve my skills, make new friends, and spend time on the University of Pittsburgh campus. GRIP offers two program formats – virtual (June 22-26, 2026) and in-person (July 12-17, 2026) – each featuring eighteen class sessions taught by experts.

More information: (<https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/grip/>)



ConferenceKeeper.org — The NGS provides the ConferenceKeeper.org website, which lists thousands of U.S. and international genealogical events, calls for papers and more to anyone on the world-wide web.

Some tricks I have learned to make navigating the thousands of events on the calendar are:

- The best way to see all upcoming events is by changing the view to “Agenda” (list). You can also view as a “Pinboard” format.
- Use the Search box in the top left green area for keywords (e.g., A.I., DNA, or cluster analysis).
- The easiest way to find location-specific listings is by choosing your country/state from under the “Location” tab.
- Not all events appear in the traditional calendar view date box, so click the “Load More Events” at the bottom to retrieve another tranche of events.

You will be pleased to know that Columbine Genealogy Society posts its events on ConferenceKeeper.org, so don’t be surprised to see participants joining the Zoom event from a foreign country. I have seen someone located in Belize attending Columbine Genealogy Society events.

More information: (<https://conferencekeeper.org/calendar/>)

If you have explored any of these NGS resources, we would love to hear about your experience. It is my job to relay Columbine Genealogy Society members’ experiences with NGS back to the Society.

THE U. S. POST OFFICE CELEBRATES THE NATION'S 250 ANNIVERSARY





coloradohistoriccemeteries.org

COLORADO CEMETERY RECORDS PRESERVATION PROJECT

CHCA is looking for volunteers to help with their cemetery preservation project. Volunteers will identify, locate and facilitate the preservation of cemetery records in their communities, using published inventories. Then they will prepare and add their findings to the statewide searchable database. Your participation will help preserve community history for generations to come.

For further details on the project contact Patricia Carmody Info@coloradohistoriccemeteries.org.

YOUR FAMILY FOOTPRINTS NEWSLETTER

Jeanie Blanchard, Editor



We hope you are enjoying our newsletter and the articles written by our members. Have they inspired you to write about your ancestors? If you are unsure on where to start, join our **Writers Group** for guidance and encouragement.

Do you have something you would like to write about regarding the 250th Anniversary of the United States or the 150th Anniversary of Colorado's statehood? Or maybe you would like to write about your elusive ancestor. Your article can be a couple of paragraphs or a couple of pages.

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

Enjoy the 4th of July holiday and remember those who made it possible.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the newsletter. It is a team effort.

SUGGESTION BOX

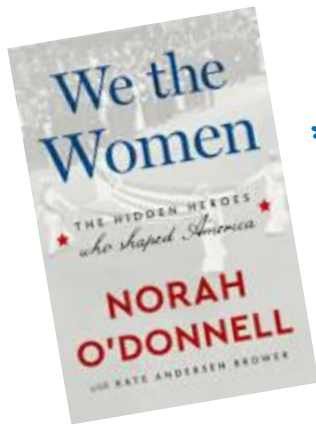
WE'RE ALL EARS!



At Columbine Genealogy, your ideas truly matter to us!

Is there a genealogy topic you'd love to learn about at a future meeting? Got a thought on how a past program went, or just a fresh idea you want to throw into the mix? We are always open to new ideas and ways to make our community even better. Whatever is on your mind, we want to hear it.

Send an email to president@columbinegenealogy.com. We'll pass it along to the right folks and get to work on it!



WE THE WOMEN

THE HIDDEN HEROES WHO SHAPED AMERICA

Authors



Norah O'Donnell



Kate Andersen Brower

A vivid portrait of the unsung American women from 1776 to today who changed the course of history in their fight for freedom and helped shape a more perfect union.

“This terrific book reveals the central, though often hidden role that women have played at every stage of our country’s history.”—Doris Kearns Goodwin

Over a decades-long, distinguished career, award-winning journalist Norah O’Donnell has made it her mission to shed light on untold women’s stories. Now, in honor of America’s 250th birthday, O’Donnell focuses that passion on the American heroines who helped change the course of history.

We the Women presents a fresh look at American history through the eyes of women, introducing us to inspiring patriots who demanded that the country live up to the promises made 250 years ago in the Declaration of Independence: “that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” Since the signing of that document, the pressing question from women has been: Why don’t those unalienable rights apply to us?

Through extensive research and interviews, as well as historical documents and old photos, O’Donnell curates a compelling portrait of these fierce fighters for freedom. From Mary Katherine Goddard, who printed the first signed Declaration of Independence, to the Forten family women, who were active in the abolition and suffrage movements and were considered the “Black Founders” of Philadelphia, to the first women who served in the armed forces even before they had the right to vote, O’Donnell brings these extraordinary women together for the first time, and in doing so writes the American story anew.

Source: Random House Publishing Group



The New Colossus

Emma Lazarus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
“Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!” cries she
With silent lips. “Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”



Emma Lazarus

1849 – 1887

A descendant of Sephardic Jews who immigrated to the United States from Portugal around the time of the American Revolution, Emma Lazarus was a Jewish American poet and translator. Her sonnet, “The New Colossus,” is inscribed on a plaque on the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty monument.

Engraving by T. Johnson, 1872. Courtesy of the New-York Historical Society.





COLORADO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

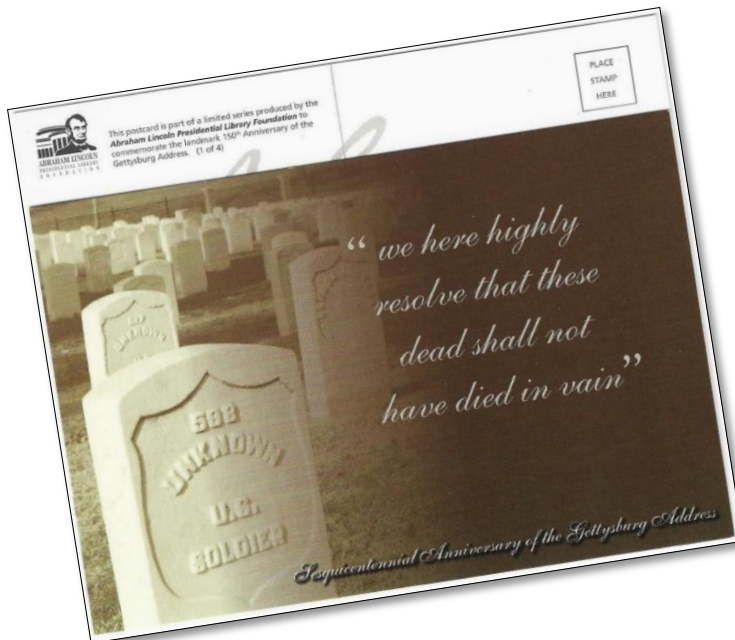
is a major sponsor for the celebration of 150 years of Colorado Statehood and 135 years of the Elitch Theatre showcasing the Legendary Ladies who will bring to life six extraordinary women who helped shape Colorado's history.

Sunday, August 23, 2026 · 1:30pm – 2:30pm (Mountain Time)

Historic Elitch Theater, 4600 W 37th Place, Denver, Colorado (near 38th & Tennyson)
 Presale tickets are on sale on the **CGS website** • Public ticket sales begin June 1



sesquicentennial Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address



This postcard is part of a limited series produced by the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation** to commemorate the landmark 150th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address