

Hear Ye Hear Ye

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Web Extras

Fall 2010

Welcome to the Hear Ye Hear Ye Web Extras. Web Extras are designed for the Hear Ye Hear Ye (HYHY) reader with Internet access. Web Extras enable the HYHY staff to bring additional information and tools to you our reader. This format relieves us from space limitations and allows us to provide additional useful information to you.

The HYHY staff is keenly aware of the fact that not all RGS members live in the Rochester area. One of our goals is to increase value to out of town members by: providing specific information about Rochester and the region; providing tools and links to assist in research; and making information available that members miss because they are not able to attend meetings. Web Extras is one step toward reaching that goal.

This edition of Web Extras contains additional information for readers who are interested in researching more about Irondequoit, NY and ancestors who lived there. You will find information about upcoming events that may be of interest to you. This edition also contains a small sample of work done by members of the RGS Writers Group.

We hope you find the Web Extras useful and that you will take the time to further explore the RGS web page. We welcome your comments and suggestions. You can contact the HYHY staff at hyhyeditor@gmail.com with comments, suggestions, questions or article submissions.

-Nancy and Jean

On the Town of Irondequoit

More Irondequoit History Resources

Online Information on Irondequoit History

<http://www.irondequoit.org/content/view/114/371/>

Irondequoit Historical Society – Includes:

- Historic Complex
- Publications for Sale
- Photos of Older Homes

<http://www.ggw.org/~ihsociety/index.htm>

Irondequoit Cemeteries

Hooker Cemetery Inscriptions

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nymonroe/cem/hooker.htm>

Irondequoit Cemetery Home Page with Grave Locator

<http://www.irondequoit.org/content/view/91/435/>

Irondequoit Cemetery at findagrave.com

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=cr&CRid=168774>

Irondequoit, NY on Wikipedia

For more information about geography, current notable people and local communities within Irondequoit check Wikipedia at:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irondequoit,_New_York

Other Sources:

GenWeb of Monroe County

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nymonroe/>

Look for books on Irondequoit history at HeritageQuest.com if you have a Monroe County Library card. (Enter our card number at barcode prompt.)

<http://persi.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library/do/login/barcode?aid=3947>

Conference Notice

Jewish Genealogical Society of Buffalo
Invites You to Attend an Ancestry.com Seminar
Speaker: Crista Cowan from Ancestry.com

Topics:

1. Getting the Most Out of Your Ancestry.com Subscription
2. Ancestry.com and You: Saving the Records of the World
3. Best Strategies for Searching
4. Immigration and Emigration Records on Ancestry.com

Date: October 17, 2010

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Place: Sean Patrick's, 3480 Millersport Hwy, Getzville, NY 14068

Phone Number: 716-636-1709

Cost: \$25 per person, limited seating – includes buffet lunch

Mail registration from and check payable to:

Jewish Genealogical Society of Buffalo

Before September 10, 2010 to

Bernard Zysman, 100 Fruehauf Ave., Amherst NY 14226

Questions: Email JGSB@verizon.net

-----Registration Form -----

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Conference Notice – Pittsfield, Massachusetts

The Friends of the National Archives – Pittsfield, MA, will present its annual Full-Day Genealogy Conference, Life in the Past Lane VII, on Saturday, September 18, 2010, at the Williams Inn in Williamstown, MA. The day will include lectures by Jean Nudd, Leslie Albrecht-Huber, and Gregory Pomicter. The registration fee includes morning and afternoon refreshments, lunch, and a roundtable question and answer period hosted by a panel of experts. Vendors will be on hand to provide products of interest to genealogists. We will also have our popular free prize raffle. Complete program details and a printable registration form can be found at www.narafriends-pittsfield.org Call 413-236-3600 or email pittsfield.archives@nara.gov for further information or to receive a registration form by mail.

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Sincerely,
Janet M. Rogge, President
Friends of NARA
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Stake Education Day

Saturday, September 18
Stake Center 1400 Westfall (LDS Facility)
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM - lunch provided

Some members of RGS will be featured speakers at this event. For more information see the following link. (Press control key and hold while clicking on the link.)

[Stake_Ed_Day_poster.pdf](#)

Work from the RGS Writers Group

Members of the RGS Writers Group were asked to bring a photograph or some object that had something to do with their family history to one of our recent meetings. Each of us shared what we brought with the group and then we spent twenty minutes writing about the memories evoked by what we brought. This is a sampling of what we were able to produce in those twenty minutes. Please remember that the instructions were to just write and not worry about spelling, grammar or punctuation.

Example – 1

Anna Schaezke brought in a piece of pottery with a symbol that looked to be very old and possible Celtic. It was a souvenir from a trip she took and reminded her of the Castle of Tintagel on the west coast of Cornwall, England. This is what she wrote.

King Arthur...Merlin....As I looked out on the vast Atlantic Ocean and the surf pounding against the rocks 500 feet below this is what came to my mind. From the ruins of this magnificent castle one's imagination could easily travel back to earlier days when ladies in courtly dresses waited for the sound of hoof beats that signaled the return of the knights from their field of battle.

Likewise, I could picture pitch-black evenings with the rain and howling winds of the sea battering the walls. Tintagel has a magic and mystery all its own.

Written by Anna Schaezke

Example - 2

I brought in a photo of my father taken later in his life. I chose to convert the original color photo to black and white because of an Ansel Adams quote I remembered. He said that “black and white defines the soul of the object while color merely illustrates it.” I feel this photo clearly defines my memory of my father at that point in his life.

My Dad



This is the perfect picture of my father, Floyd Carl Merzke Sr. His smile, warm and friendly, showcases who the man was. Always quick witted, with a smile and something funny to say that would make you smile, most people found him unforgettable. When I look at this picture floods of memories sweep over me. I remember those coke-bottle glasses. I would always marvel at them whenever he would ask me to clean them. How could he see out of such thick pieces of glass?

Then there is his mustache. He never had a mustache until he was in his sixties. One day my son Andrew, dad's only grandchild, asked him to grow a mustache. Dad said he'd give it a try. That was at thanksgiving dinner

and by Christmas he had a thick full mustache that made him rather proud. My brother was dumbfounded. He'd been trying to grow a mustache for years, but it was thin and wimpy compared to the thick growth Dad had produced in a month.

Dad's cane was purchased at the Kutztown Folk Festival and was made from a sarsaparilla root. At first he didn't want to use it. I believe it was a matter of pride with him. However, we convinced him to think of the cane as a sympathy stick; something that would cause folks to hold open doors for him or give him a place to sit. This made him much more receptive to the idea. Mostly he used the cane as an attention getter for Andrew. For that purpose it worked very well. It gave him that extra reach whenever Andrew was slow to respond to a request.

Then there is his Civil War hat. Andrew found the hat in a shop in Gettysburg when he was about eight years old. He wanted it the minute he saw it. He bought it and loved wearing it all day long. Later that evening it occurred to him that his grandfather should also have a hat like his. We drove back to the store only to find it had just closed. While we were waiting in the car, Andrew

banged on the door until the proprietor answered. Explaining that he just had to have the same hat for his grandfather and that we were only in Gettysburg for the day, the store keeper let him in. The problem was that Dad needed the same size hat as Andrew and there wasn't another hat of the same size anywhere to be found. The proprietor told Andrew to go get his grandfather and they would make something work. Andrew got Dad and the proprietor took the next size larger hat and made leather shims to fit under the band to make it fit. He explained that Andrew's head was still growing and that when he outgrew his hat, he could switch hats with Dad, pull out the shims and they would both have a hat that fit. The hat in the picture is Andrew's original hat. The plan worked.

Example - 3

Deb Strang shared a photo of her grandfather, Austin Lewis Judd and told us the following story. Deb got a call from a relative who asked her if she had a particular photo of their grandfather. Deb did not have the photo, but thought she knew who did. She promised to see if she could locate the photo and make a copy for her relative. Deb was able to locate the photo and after studying it, she began to have questions about the grandfather she never met. Those questions started her on a quest to learn more about her genealogy and her family's history.

Deb chose to complete her writing assignment by writing a letter to her grandfather Austin. This is what she wrote.



Austin Lewis Judd-

You started this whole mess! And I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I've learned so much about my family, the good, the bad and the ugly. I still have hundreds of questions about you. Sadly there's no one left to tell me. I'll have to do some more digging. But I don't mind, I enjoy it.

Since finding your picture I've been on many journeys. I've been to the library, I've searched the internet for hours on end and have lost track of how many cemetery's I've visited. I've met wonderful new friends along the way reconnected with relatives only thought about in the past.

You've opened doors and led me on wild goose chases. And each adventure always added something to the mix. I think about your life, what it must've been like growing up and then raising your own family on Garson Ave. (I did find out you bought the house from your parents, Fred and Susie)

I wonder what sort of man you were... Obviously good looking, I can only assume charming, and was told by your daughter "one of the nicest men on earth"

I'm sorry I missed you. I didn't show up until 8 years after you went to a better place. I'm sure I would've enjoyed talking to you about all sorts of things.

I do want you to know I have the picture of the beet that you drew (Actually it looks more like a water color) It hangs on the wall and adds a touch of nostalgia to my house. And of course every time I look at it I think of you, Myrt, Uncle Bobby, Aunt Joanne and your youngest son, Don, my dad.

I'm not done yet. I'll keep digging. I'll keep finding more tidbits of information that will help me understand the man in the fedora...

Your granddaughter,
Deb