

The Nelsonian



New Biographical Information

In this issue, we include histories of Christian Lorentzen and Ane Christensen Petersen. Who is Ane Christensen Petersen? She is Stan's Aunt (Anna Larsine Lorentzen's little sisten). I am also including another version of the Andrew Nelson, Sr. history prepared by one of our cousins. We are working to get all of the historical information captured. We plan to distribute new information in each issue. Each of these histories will be available to you on diskette. All you have to do is let us know which history and which format you would like to see.

Calling all Nelsons!!

We are pretty sure that each of you has information that the others in the family don't have. Please send it on to us and we will add it to the next newsletter. I would especially like to receive family group sheets on each of you and your parents. I found that I didn't even have ones on my own brothers and sister! For those of you who haven't caught the genealogy or

New Genealogical Newsletter

A new monthly newsletter to connect all of the Nelson Clan

Roots virus, I have attached a group sheet on Stan and Florence (and a blank one) for you to see how to do one of these. Please take a moment and send these to me.

New Genealogy Finds:

Rose and I have spent many days and hours living in the Genealogy library. We have found probably 200 new Nelson names. Most of these names are for Andrew Nelson and his ancestors. Back several generations from where my records were, I found young lady that married into the Nelson clan who was from Holland. She emigrated to Sweden and married one of our ancestors. A Swede in the Nelson line? Strange, but true.

The recently updated Ancestral File (updated 2 January 1996) has a significant number of new ancestors and family groups attached. These are available in most of the Stake Centers in the US and also in the genealogy library in Salt Lake. Although the pedigree charts and group sheets for Stan and Florence's ancestors are too numerous (several hundred pages), I would also be happy to send you diskettes of the files.

We also searched all of the naturalization, ship list indices, and census information trying to locate the

exact date that Henry, Anna (Hannah?) and Henry, Jr. Cary emigrated to the United States. I will be looking at all of the census records this month as well as extending the group sheets for Nelson Lorenzo Dow Cary in an attempt to locate as many living ancestors of Henry Cary and Rebecca Whyman as possible. Henry's military pension file mentions that he couldn't prove his birth because he didn't keep track of the family bible. It may be possible that one of the Cary family members has the bible or an extract of it. I will be writing to as many Cary descendants as possible. If we can locate the date and exact place of Henry's emigration, we can probably trace him further back into history.

Where's Rochester?

Some weeks ago, I was looking at a map and found Moore, Utah. I mentioned to Ted that I found Moore, but couldn't find Rochester. In explaining to me that Moore was the new name for Rochester, he told me an amazing story about the family.

When Virginia was born, yes Aunt Virginia Berry, she was cross-eyed. Stan and Florence were young parents scatching out a living in the desert. A wealthy man named Moore offered to lend them the money to have Virginia's eyes operated on. Stan and Florence took him up on his offer, had Virginia's eyes

corrected and repaid the money to Mr. Moore. Although Virginia and Bob lived in California, we saw them fairly often, but I never had heard about her eyes. I was interested enough to research this in the History of Emery County, recently published by the Utah State Historical Society, and here is what I found.

What is Patronymics??

You probably have noticed that none of the names make any sense for our Danish ancestors. The genealogical name for the Danish naming is “Patronymics”. Quite simply, this means that the name of the father is used as a last name. Sons take the name of the father and “sen”. Daughters take the name of the father and “datter”. For example, Stan and Florence’s children would have been Harold Stansen, Harlan Stansen, Virginia Stansdatter, etc.

Andrew Nelson, Sr. was born “Anders Nielsen”. Once they got to the US, they anglicized their Danish names to help them fit in better.

If patronymics had been used for Andrew Jr., his name would have been Anders Andersen. Andrew Sr.’s father was Niels Andersen. If you didn’t know Niels’ father’s name, you could look for someone named Anders. Knowing this helps to figure out these crazy Danish names!

Where are you??

The last sheet shows all of the addresses that we have for the family. We have sent newsletters to each of them. But you can see that living away from the family for all these years has depleted our listing of addresses. Please help us by sending us missing addresses of family members.

Who am I?

Last month’s who am I was Christen Lorentzen. Although there is some controversy on how long he actually served in the military, he was a long-time veteran. Back in those days in Denmark (and in the US also), it was possible for wealthy families to hire someone to fulfil their mandatory military service. This is how Christian helped to support his family. Read more about this in this month’s history of the Christian Lorentzen family.

Who is the Editor?

Jeff and Rose Nelson are the editors of the newsletter. You can reach them at any of the places on the address sheet. (Page three)

Questions & Answers

Readers Write (repeated from last month)

Q: What family does this represent?

A: The Stanley Christian Nelson and Florence Adelia Cary family.

Q: What's the deal with the holes in the pages?

A: We hope that you will keep all of this information in your three ring genealogy binder (HINT, HINT).

Q: How do I send information to you?

A: See page one for all of the addresses.

Q: Isn't all of the genealogy work done? Didn't Conrad do it all?

A: We hope that the readers will see that genealogy includes family histories and photographs also.

Q: I heard that Jeff and Rose have lots of old pictures. When are we going to see them?

A: We are working to both get them scanned so that you can have them electronically and to get photo quality copies made.

Q: How can I get started with genealogy?

A: Start by collecting everything that you know into one place. Once you have started that process, you are making good progress. Organization is the key to success in genealogy.

Q: Once I have all of my information in one place, what do I do next?

A: Start capturing all of your information either on paper or through a genealogy program. The LDS church publishes one called "Personal Ancestral File" or PAF. This is the format that most Genealogists use, but there are many other programs that will also work just fine. Most of the other programs will read and write PAF files.

Q: There is so much information to type into the computer. Is there a shortcut?

A: Sure, just ask us for our files and you can use them. One caveat, however, our mistakes will be your mistakes. Check each of the sources for correctness.

Q: Can I get some help getting started on the computer or at the genealogy library?

A: Sure. Jeff and Rose plan to spend each Wednesday night at the main genealogy library and as many Saturdays as possible. Give us a call and we would be happy to try to answer your questions or to meet you at the library.

Q: Do I need to have a computer to have this information?

A: Definitely not. Most LDS stake buildings and family history libraries have computers that you can use. The main genealogy library and the Joseph Smith Memorial building also have computers and staff to assist you.

Q: When will the letter be published?

A: The letter will be mailed on or about the first of each month. Anything that we receive by the 25th of the month will be in the next issue.

Q: What was that about diskettes?

A: We will be happy to send you diskettes of everything that we have. Just drop us a note or call to let us know what formats (IBM only) you need and we will forward them on to you. We are also happy to send the actual PAF files (PAF calls them GEDCOM files) for any individual, family, descendants, ancestors, etc. Just let us know.

Q: How in the world do I know what you have to send?

A: Pedigree charts and group sheets will be published in this and all future issues. If in doubt, call.