

BGS Newsletter



In this Issue

A Letter from the President	2
Up and Are You Coming Events	3
Question of the Quarter	3
Florentine Lake, Meet Henry Lee Borden	3
Ellwood "Bud" Frum, Meet William Hobard From	5
Featured Story: My Ancestor's Journey to the Colorado Territory	5
Featured Story: My Grandfather Louis Yudnich Journeys to America	8
Featured Article: 25 Years of Broomfield Genealogy	10
Beyond Our Branches	12
Contact Us	12
August Holidays	13



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

We are who we are because of those who came before us." – Galadriel, Lord of the Rings

A Letter from the President



President's Letter
01 August 2025

I've always wondered why the wetter weather in late summer in Colorado is called the monsoon when that is what the rainy season in India is called. When I was a kid, Bill Custer, (remember the weatherman on channel 9?) called it Gulf moisture. Maybe they want to avoid confusion with the Gulf Stream, which as far as I know doesn't have anything to do with a gulf.

We are looking forward to meeting in person at the August meeting, and we hope to see all of you there. The Brunner House is air conditioned, so don't let the warmer temperatures hold you back. Please check our website for the latest details on our monthly field trips. We only have a few left before we wind up the calendar for the year. These are ways that we endeavor to support each of you in your pursuit of your family history.

Our Society Board is continuing to discuss important issues for 2025. These conversations will continue, so if you have any concerns or ideas, please contact one of us. I want to thank all of our volunteer leadership for their time, ideas and work in supporting our society.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Lake".

Steve Lake, President
Broomfield Genealogy Society
BroomfieldGenSoc.org
President@BroomfieldGenSoc.org



UP AND (ARE YOU COMING?) EVENTS

BGS AUGUST MEETING, HYBRID

THURSDAY, 8/7, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

BRUNNER FARM HOUSE, 640 MAIN STREET, BROOMFIELD (NE CORNER OF MIDWAY AND MAIN)

Social Time 6:30, Business meeting 6:50, Program, 7:00

Program – “*Union Strongholds in a Confederate South*,” presented by Marilyn Edwards Roberts. In this program we will root out those places in the south where the Northern influence was strong and why they chose to honor the Union. For more information and to access the link to register for zoom if you are not able to attend in person, please click [here](#).

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

THURSDAY 8/14, 10 – 11:30 AM

EAST SIMPSON COFFEE HOUSE, 201 E SIMPSON STREET, LAFAYETTE

Please email Steve Lake at president@broomfieldgensoc.org if you would like to join us or have items to add to the agenda. BGS Board meetings are open to all members.

QUESTION OF THE QUARTER

Continuing the wildly popular “Question of the Quarter” series, we asked our readers, “*If two of your ancestors could meet, who would you pick and why?*”

FLORENTINE LAKE (1832-1906), MEET HENRY LEE BORDEN (1832-1902)

By Steve Lake

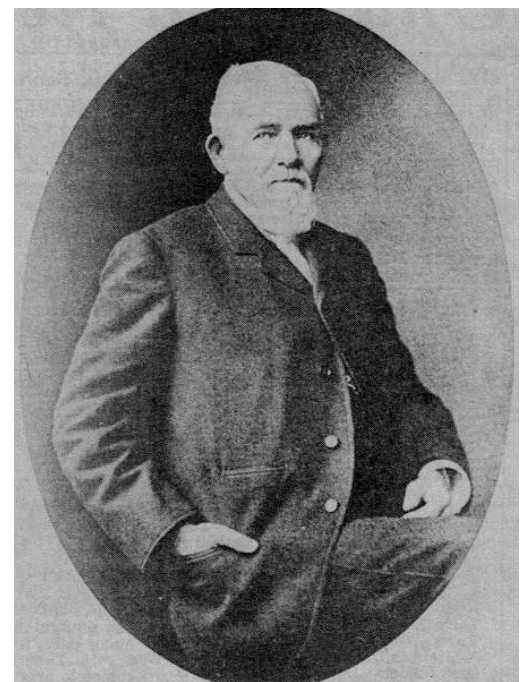
One a well-to-do farmer and the other a millionaire. What would be intriguing about imagining their meeting? Florentine was my 3rd-Great-Grandfather. Henry Lee was my 2nd-Great-Grandmother’s brother-in-law.



Florentine Lake (Wikitree)

details written by Florentine’s granddaughters reveal that he was involved in promoting his local community of Cottage in Ellis township of Hardin County, such as trying to entice the railroad to lay their rails south of Iowa Falls and through Cottage. He also invested in a gold dredge located in Lilluet, British Columbia. These facts show that Florentine was probably mentored by Harrison in

From about 1852 through 1860, Florentine and his Uncle Cornelius Bedell lived in Linn County, Iowa, and worked as farm help in the summers and loggers in the winter for a man named Harrison Stuckslager or Stullschlager. Harrison was listed as an investment banker in the 1860 census and was a prominent citizen in Lisbon. In 1870, Florentine’s mother and stepfather were living with Harrison. His home remains a landmark in that town. The biographical



Henry Lee Borden (Wikitree)

investment banking. This relationship is confirmed by him naming his second son Harrison Stuckslager Lake in 1860, after his employer, friend and mentor.

Henry Lee was born in Texas and grew up in Galveston. His father was, at that time, a newspaper publisher, surveyor and inventor, then later the head of the New York Condensed Milk Company. Henry Lee stayed in Texas when his family moved to New York, running an import business, also serving in the Confederate Army as a gunsmith. After the War Between The States, he joined his father's milk company, eventually serving as president of the food conglomerate later known as Borden Milk Company.

Florentine and Henry Lee knew of each other, but probably never met in person. Florentine's oldest son's wife was Mary McConnelogue who had a half-sister born Bridget, but later renamed Theresa Loretta, or "Retta." This half-sister's second marriage was to Henry Lee. That is a relationship of five degrees of separation, a geographic distance from Iowa to at least Chicago and a much greater socio-economic difference. There was another relationship that is a little more complicated, but interesting. Mary and Retta had a brother named John, whose daughter married her cousin and Retta's younger son, Bert. While the Bordens were affluent and mobile and it is possible that they may have travelled to Iowa Falls at some time, it is not likely unless duck hunting was involved, which was Henry Lee's hobby. The news and stories about the Bordens of Chicago and New York likely reached the Lakes of Iowa through the grapevine and letters between the families but probably sounded more like fairy tales than reality.

I imagine that if Florentine and Henry Lee could have met, they would have had numerous topics in common to discuss. They both would have been familiar with current affairs and the news of the day in business and politics. Although Florentine did not serve in the military, they could have made observations about the effects of the War of the Rebellion and the national recovery in the decades that followed. Henry Lee had a 600-acre farm in Illinois for raising pure-bred cattle and Florentine had acquired about the same number of acres of farmland in Iowa. They both grew up in rural settings and would have had many stories to tell about their families and their adventures in taming the wilderness.

The area of greatest interest that they shared was probably investing. Henry Lee had a substantial income from his stock in the family milk business and may have had his money managed for him, but he would have had a good knowledge of where his investments were and how they were performing. Florentine's assets were small in comparison, but certainly more than an average farmer, and his investments were more local, while Henry Lee's would have been on a national scale. The principals would have been the same and could have led to lengthy discussions on ethics and responsible practices that could benefit the economy and society.

There is my picture of Henry Lee, the wealthy American aristocrat, and Florentine, the home-spun county investor, passing the hours, telling stories and sharing their experiences somewhere in my imagination.

ELLWOOD "BUD" FRUM (1923-2006), MEET WILLIAM HOBART FROM (1755-1842)

By Russell William Frum



Ellwood Lee Frum (Library of Congress Collection)

Without hesitation, I would choose to witness a meeting between my father, Ellwood "Bud" Frum (November 15, 1923 – December 30, 2006), and his fourth great-grandfather, William Hobart (1755 – February 20, 1842). The conversation between these two remarkable men would be absolutely fascinating.

My father and I spent many hours discussing the courage of our ancestors—imagining what it must have been like for them to board those small sailing ships and endure weeks at sea to reach the American wilderness. We often

wondered what conditions at home must have been so difficult that they were willing to take such risks. These conversations naturally led us to speculate about William's decision to enlist and fight for democracy, a new and untested form of government at the time.

What makes this potential meeting so intriguing is that both men lived in Morgantown, West Virginia—separated by only fifteen miles but a full century in time. I can picture them discussing how the land had changed, the growth of their community, shifts in climate, environmental concerns, and the evolution of how families earned their living. The contrast between their experiences would be remarkable.



Memorial #10911986)

My father was incredibly inquisitive and always hungry for knowledge. I know he would pepper William with questions about life in the late 1700s and early 1800s, while eagerly sharing stories about how dramatically things had changed by his own generation. The back-and-forth between them would be a real treat to witness.

I'm also curious about something we never could determine, since William was a first-generation American born to German parents, did he speak with an accent?

These wonderful "guessing games" between my father and me were actually what sparked my passion for genealogy in the first place. What started as curious conversations about our family's past grew into a lifelong pursuit of uncovering our ancestors' stories.

FEATURED STORY: MY ANCESTOR'S JOURNEY TO THE COLORADO TERRITORY

By Russell William Frum

I am from West Virginia, and everyone in my family tree was and still are in the east. I never imagined that any of my ancestors had connections to Colorado. But as I delved deeper into my research, I uncovered something remarkable about my 2nd great grandfather, Eli L. Parker. Born July 12, 1840, in Marion County, (West) Virginia, his journey would take him far from the familiar mountains of home.

Civil War Service

Eli enlisted for three years in the West Virginia 12th Infantry Regiment on August 15, 1862, as a Corporal.¹ Military records show he saw multiple engagements in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland during the Civil War.² On April 2, 1864, he received a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 6th West Virginia Volunteer Cavalry.³ By war's end, he had risen through the ranks to 1st Lieutenant and eventually Captain.⁴

An Unexpected Assignment

However, at the conclusion of the Civil War, Captain Eli L. Parker and the 6th West Virginia Cavalry were not mustered out of service. Instead, between June 12 and 29, 1865,⁵ they moved from Washington, DC, to Fort Leavenworth in the Kansas Territory, where they were attached to the District of the Plains, Department of Missouri.⁶ On July 16th, the regiment relocated to Fort Rankin, Julesburg, where they were assigned to escort the Overland mail routes and defend against hostile Indian attacks along the South Platte trail east and west of Julesburg.⁷ Fort Rankin was renamed Fort Sedgwick on Sep 1, 1865.⁸

The Frontier Context

To fully understand my grandfather's experiences, we must consider the turbulent events of the time. The Colorado gold rush of 1859 had brought thousands of prospectors, merchants, and settlers to the region. The Sand Creek Massacre occurred on November 29, 1864⁹, inflaming tensions with Native tribes. In retaliation, approximately one thousand warriors attacked Camp Rankin and sacked Julesburg on January 7, 1865, killing fourteen soldiers and four civilians¹⁰. The Civil War ended April 9, 1865, but the frontier remained dangerous. It was hardly an ideal time to be deployed to the Kansas and Colorado Territories.

Dealing with a Mutiny

Eli must have faced significant challenges, as evidenced by a military record noting he was "Detained at Ft Leavenworth Kansas Territory in the case of mutineers of the 6th West Virginia Vol Cav by order of Brig Gen C. J. Stolbrand." While the details of the mutiny remain unknown, on August 28, 1865, he penned a letter offering to be mustered out of service because of the incident¹¹.

¹ "Parker, Eli L. p15", Fold3, <https://www.fold3.com/image/264968536/parker-eli-l-page-15-us-civil-war-service-records-cmsr-union-west-virginia-1861-1865>, accessed 20 July 2025

² "12th West Virginia Infantry Regiment," *The Civil War in the East*, <https://civilwarintheeast.com/us-regiments-batteries/west-virginia/12th-west-virginia-cavalry/>, accessed July 20, 2025

³ Parker, Eli L., p.16", *Fold3.com*, <https://www.fold3.com/image/264968537/parker-eli-l-page-16-us-civil-war-service-records-cmsr-union-west-virginia-1861-1865>, accessed July 20 2025

⁴ Ibid

⁵ "6th West Virginia Cavalry Regiment," National Park Service, <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/searc-battle-units-detail.html?battleUnitCode=UWV0006RC>, accessed July 20, 2025

⁶ "6th West Virginia Cavalry Regiment," *The Civil War in the East.com*, <https://civilwarintheeast.com/us-regiments-batteries/west-virginia/6th-west-virginia-cavalry/>, accessed Jul 20 2025.

⁷ Ibid,

⁸ Susan Badger Doyle, *Journeys to the Land of Gold: Emigrant Diaries from the Bozeman Trail, 1863-1866*, Montana Historical Society, p 751.IABN 978-0-917298-48-6, (2000)

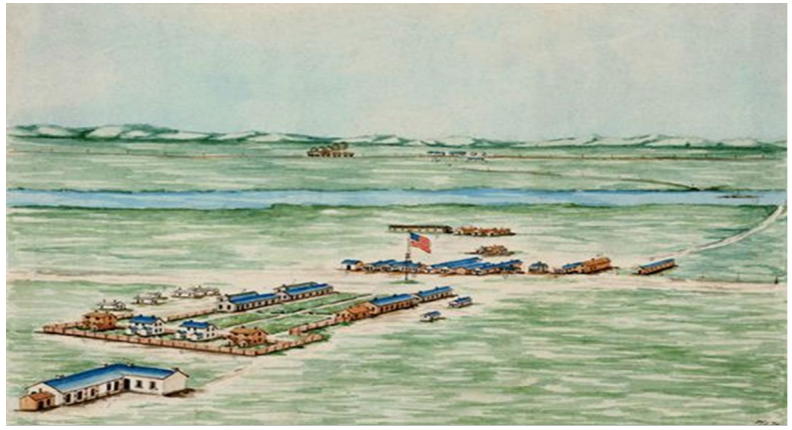
⁹ *Legends of America* - Sand Creek Massacre and Fort Sedgwick, <https://www.legendsofamerica.com/na-sandcreek/>

¹⁰ "Fort Sedgwick," *Legends of America*, <https://www.legendsofamerica.com/fort-sedgwick/>, accessed July 20 2025

¹¹ "Parker, Eli L", p 47, *Fold3.com*, <https://www.fold3.com/image/264968568/parker-eli-l-page-47-us-civil-war-service-records-cmsr-union-westvirginia-1861-1865>, accessed July 20 2025

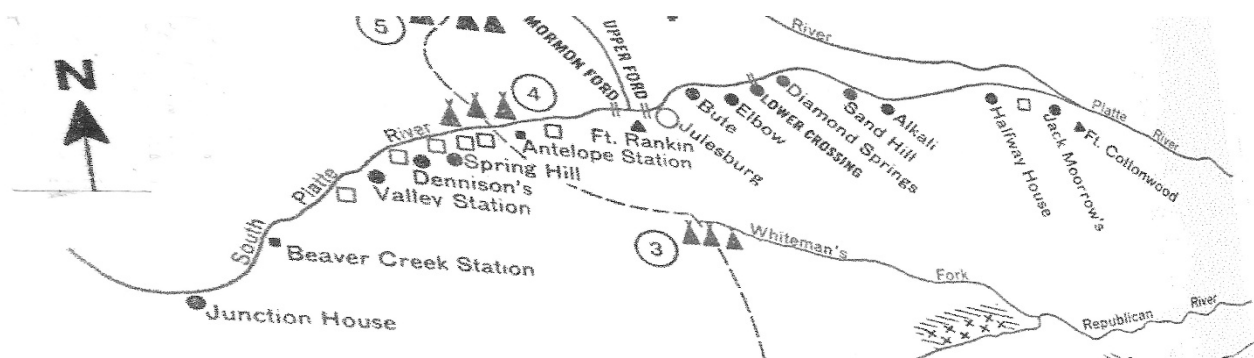
One can imagine his men's frustration—they had signed up to fight the Civil War, helped win that conflict, and then, instead of returning home like many others, were told they would travel over a thousand miles from their West Virginia homes to fight a different enemy than they enlisted to fight. Some were undoubtedly displeased with their situation.

But why was Eli selected to address this discontent? I have two theories. First, prior to his commissioning, he had been detailed back to West Virginia on recruiting duty. He may have recruited some of these very men to fight the Confederacy and now found himself explaining this unexpected "extension" of their service. Second, he must have possessed considerable persuasive abilities—if he had been chosen for recruiting duty, he surely had some talent for winning others over.



Fort Sedgewick, Anton Schonborn, 1870

Frontier Duty



The Fighting Cheyennes, p 177

By October 1865, Eli appears in Fort Sedgewick's monthly Post Returns, though not at the Fort itself but with his company at Lillian Springs, Colorado Territory, escorting mail service. Lillian Springs Ranch was located between Spring Hill and Dennison's stations, about thirty miles west of Julesburg.¹²

By month's end, he was assigned to "special duty on post"¹³. In November, he and his men were stationed at Alkali Station, Nebraska Territory¹⁴. According to the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation, the Station is about 10 miles east of current Ogallala, NE.¹⁵ By December, reports placed him at Elbow Station, Nebraska Territory, "in charge of mail escort service", where he remained until March 1866. According to historical maps, Elbow Station was approximately 20 miles east of Julesburg, CO and reportedly there is no remaining trace of the station.¹⁶

¹² George Bird Grinnell, *The Fighting Cheyennes*, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1915, p.191

¹³ "Post Returns and military records," Ancestry.com, https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1571/images/32169_126828-00038?pid=6020606, accessed July 20 2025

¹⁴ "Post Returns and military records, Ancestry.com; https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1571/images/32169_126828-00041?pid=6020606, accessed 14Jul2025

¹⁵ "Alkali Station," Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation, <https://www.nshsf.org/alkali-station/>, accessed July 20, 2025

¹⁶ Grinnell, *The Fighting Cheyennes*, p.177

Return Home

On April 9, 1866, he and his company received orders to return to Fort Sedgwick, except for one sergeant and six men who remained at Elbow to guard "government hay"¹⁷. The April Post Returns from Sedgwick, dated April 31st, showed the departure of four companies of the 6th West Virginia Volunteer Cavalry—199 men and 9 officers—had been ordered to Fort McPherson, Nebraska Territory¹⁸ (Also called Fort Cottonwood and near current North Platte, NE). Eli was going home. From McPherson, they traveled to Fort Leavenworth where the 6th West Virginia Cavalry Regiment was finally mustered out of service on May 22, 1866.¹⁹

Life After Service

Eli L. Parker would go on to lead a very productive life. In addition to farming, being a postmaster in a small West Virginia village, he was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates and served as a Justice of the Peace. He fathered ten children, including my great grandmother, Harriet Grace "Hattie" (Parker) Frum (1877-1938).

Though he served in the Colorado Territory, he never traveled far enough west to see the Rocky Mountains—a detail that somehow makes his frontier service both more poignant and more authentic.

Historical Footnote

Fort Sedgwick was abandoned and dismantled in May 1871. Ironically, despite its remote location and brief existence, it gained modern fame as the setting for the 1990 film *Dances with Wolves*, though the movie was actually filmed elsewhere.²⁰

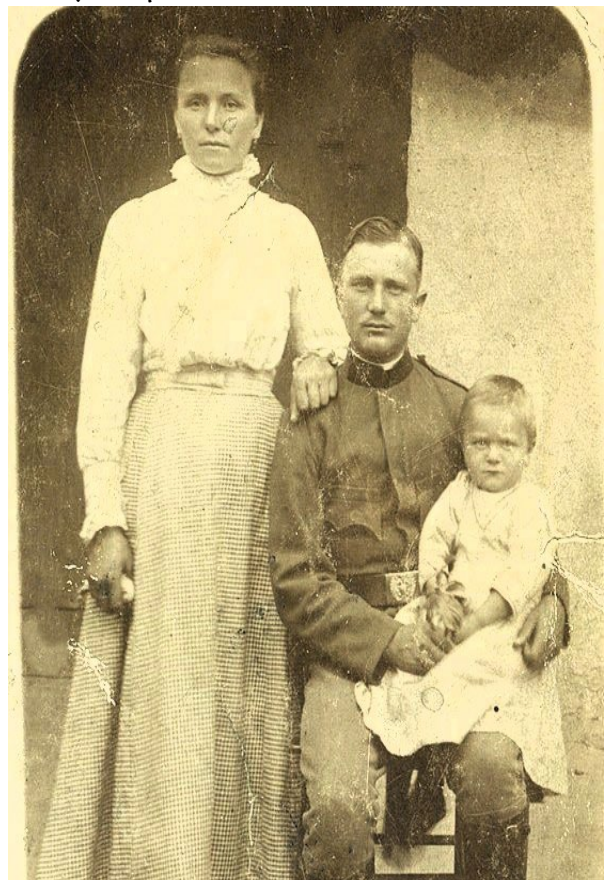
FEATURED STORY: MY GRANDFATHER LOUIS YUDNICH JOURNEYS TO AMERICA

By Robert Yudnich

This article will describe the Yudnich family's journey from 1899 Slovenia to Crested Butte ending in Pueblo Colorado in 1950.

I began with the Yudnich family name, In Slovenia is a spelled as Judnic. This name was Americanized for pronunciation to Yudnich where the J was changed to Y and h was added to the end. Reflecting back, this did a big disservice to the traditional name. Names ending in ic are very common in the countries from the old Yugoslavia. Names ending in "ic" means the surname is derived from the father's name; in English for example son of Peter is Peterson, in Slovenian it is "Petrović" translates to "son of Petar".

This is demonstrated by the surnames of current great NBA basketball players like Nikola Jokic from Serbia and Luka Doncic from Slovenia. On the lighter side, Judnic could be



Mary Kamensek Yudnich (1880-1964), Louis Yudnich (1874-1947), Anna Slobodnik Yudnich (1904-1995), photo c. 1906

¹⁷ "Parker, Eli P.," *Fold3.com*, <https://www.fold3.com/image/264968574/parker-eli-l-page-53-us-civil-war-service-records-cmsr-union-west-virginia-1861-1865>, accessed July 20 2025

¹⁸ Post returns, https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/1571/images/32169_126828-00069?pld=6022652, accessed July 20 2025

¹⁹ "6th West Virginia" Park Service

²⁰ "Fort Sedgwick," *Wikipedia.org*, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Sedgwick, accessed July 20, 2025

associated with likes of NBA greatness but the Americanized Yudnich is just some dude watching the game in the stands. To be clear, my chances of making an NBA roster are less than 1 in a million and at age 71 it looks like I missed the NBA bus. Getting back to reality, my genealogy research reveals that by the Americanizing of names that took place in the early 1900's, the family name loses part of its heritage.

Grandfather Yudnich immigrated from Semic, Slovenia in 1899 to Crested Butte Colorado. Slovenia is a very small country in central Europe that was part of Yugoslavia before it broke apart in the 1990's. In Slovenia (referred to as the "Old Country"), the eldest son got the farm. The rest of the siblings had to leave and make their way in the world. My Grandfather (who did not inherit the farm) had relatives that lived in Crested Butte, Colorado who worked in the coal mines. Grandfather Louis was told by letter that if he could get to Crested Butte, they could get him a job working in the coal mines.

Background Information: In January 1884, the Jokerville coal mine in Crested Butte experienced a thunderous explosion that ripped through the coal mine, and when the dust had settled, 59 miners had lost their lives. This was the worst Colorado coal mine disaster to date. Crested Butte had the distinction of the worst mine accidents in Colorado for 33 years until the Hastings coal mine in Las Animas County, Colorado exploded in 1917 and killed 121 miners.

Coal mining in the 1880's to 1940's was very dangerous work. Coal mining fatality rates were much higher than most occupations during that time period. One documented story that took place in Huerfano County, Colorado in 1906 told of a mine explosion that killed 14 coal miners near Walsenburg. The mine owner raced to the mine, and the first question he asked the shift supervisor was how many mules were killed not miners. Mules, he had to purchase. But the dead miners were replaced by hiring the next immigrant arriving from Europe.

Most of the miners that went to Crested Butte during this time came from southern Europe from countries like Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, and Italy. These immigrants had very little money and very little opportunity in Europe. Therefore, they were willing to take dangerous, dirty, physically hard jobs such as coal mining in the United States for the opportunity to support themselves and their families. These were jobs that native born Americans preferred not to work, (that sounds familiar some 100 years later).

My family also experienced health problems from coal mining. My uncle died from complications of black lung disease, and in addition my grandfather, uncles and father all broke bones and dislocated joints from coal mining. My father Joseph suffered a hernia while working in the mine. During WW2 he failed the Army physical because of the hernia. He went home, saved his money and had the operation to fix the hernia. He went back and this time he passed the physical and joined the army. He served in Europe as infantry riflemen where he received the Bronze Star for actions during the Battle of the Bulge.

I remember visiting the Yudnich family home in the 1960's in Crested Butte. The house had no insulation, a coal stove for heating and cooking, hand pump to get water from the well and an outhouse in the backyard. The family kept the house as a vacation home when they were forced to leave Crested Butte in 1950 because the coals mines shut down. The reason for this was that railroads were converting from coal to diesel fuel, homes were converting from coal to gas and electricity, and the Colorado Fuel and Iron Steel mill in Pueblo which owned the largest mine near Crested Butte, the Big Mine, shut it down. The Yudnich family moved to Pueblo because CF&I, (which was then the largest steel mill west of the Mississippi) and offered transfers to the coal miners from their closed mine to their steel mill plant.

In conclusion this story talks about a future grandfather, like millions of others arriving from all parts of the globe to a country known as the "Melting Pot" of the world!

FEATURED ARTICLE: 25 YEARS OF BROOMFIELD GENEALOGY

Twenty-five years - a quarter of a century - seems like a very long time to anyone except a genealogist. If you're filling in the branches of your family trees, it is the blink of an eye. Without a doubt, genealogy had been alive and well in Broomfield 25 years ago. However, in 1999, Paul Williams placed an ad in the Broomfield Enterprise, inviting anyone interested in genealogy to meet at the Broomfield Senior Center. The rest is history, and the Broomfield Genealogy Society (BGS) was born.²¹ In 2000, genealogy was one of the fastest growing hobbies in the US – and this growth coincided with an explosion of tech resources which have changed how we do genealogy – and who we do it with.

In the last 25 years, BGS has changed a lot. Meeting places, dates and times have changed. We've zoomed and became a hybrid. Membership has ebbed and flowed. What we may not be aware of – unless we stop and think for a moment – is how much genealogy has changed since 2000 when Paul Williams introduced BGS to Family Tree Maker.²²

Your editor is another Family Tree Maker Fan – and a recent article, “15 Tech Tools that Transformed Genealogy” provided a not-so-gentle reminder of just what had changed since I spent family reunions opening large books in the basements of multiple courthouses in Pennsylvania. With kudos to that article which identified these changes, here are some significant changes:

- 1) Online collections of census records (1790 – 1950) – we all use these records and thanks to ancestry in 2006 for giving us a searchable digitized and indexed source of names, a lot of names. Before then, NARA – or maybe your local library – was where you went to look at the census. Not convenient if you're looking for someone beyond Broomfield.
- 2) Crowd-sourced databases – digital records are great to look through, but it's really helpful if they are indexed (and you don't have to look at each page). The next time you use Family Search, thank their group of volunteers who indexed many of the digital records they hold. Also thank Find-A-Grave for creating a free website where anyone can upload tombstone photos, saving you from that trip to the upper peninsula of Michigan in the winter.
- 3) DNA Testing – genetic genealogy was a dream in someone's eye when Family Tree DNA appeared in 2000 – and it's still evolving. Public DNA databases began to emerge in 2006 (23and me) and GED match (2010) making these tools accessible to genealogists.
- 4) Genealogy megasites – before 2000, genealogy information was “scattered” across multiple sites. Enter Ancestry, Family Search and My Heritage with millions of family trees, indexed records and digital books. Remember books?
- 5) Genealogy software – my sympathies to anyone who has ever inherited a parent's genealogy research amassed before 2000. How many file cabinets did you inherit? Enter software that lets us record details for your (various) trees, with digital records and sources duly noted. Is there anyone among us that doesn't use Family Tree Maker, Family Tree Builder, or Family Search?
- 6) Google – do you remember when “google” wasn't a verb? What we may sometimes forget are the various types of google searches available to us, i.e., images, books, maps, earth and (thank you!) translate.
- 7) Mobile tools and apps – just in case you need a reminder, my basement holds a still-functioning computer tower that weighs in at over 20 pounds. My first laptop weighed in at over 15 pounds with a grand capacity of 256k. Needless to say, today's tablet or smart phone is a better option for you to carry around as you do your genealogy research – and there are lovely mobile apps that allow sharing images and documents and linking your information with your home computer and/or your space in the cloud.
- 8) Digitized books and newspapers – before 2000, getting books and newspapers typically involved a call to a local library for an interlibrary loan. And that's assuming you could figure out what the title of the book was

²¹ <https://www.broomfieldgensoc.org/history/>

²² <https://www.broomfieldgensoc.org/history/>

– or what newspaper that obituary was printed in. Today all states have “historical newspaper collections” that are (more or less) searchable. The Library of Congress’ Chronicling America will give you a directory of what newspaper to look for and when and where it was published.

- 9) Online family tree databases – before Ancestry, Family Search and My Heritage, your search for a family tree involved finding the local genealogy or history society or archive and either writing or calling. Although we all know that there can be errors in these online trees (we’re not all descended from Charlemagne), they are a great resource. Just remember to always check twice.
- 10) Online mapping – the problem with maps is that they tend to be static. A 2000 map reflects conditions in 2000, not 1750. Enter digitized historical maps often with GPS locations, which will let you locate an historical place from a 1830 map and superimpose it on today’s map to find that historical place where it is today. There are three great map sites: Historic MapWorks, PlaceMyPast, and HistoryPin. MapWorks has links to property atlases. PlaceMyPast allows you to plot your family migration and HistoryPin lets you “pin” photos and videos to a place. For the adventurous among you, consider playing with an interactive map (the Newberry Library’s Atlas of County Boundaries) which lets you see the boundaries of a colony, territory, state, or county at the time you select. It’s saved me from searching in the wrong location for court and land documents on many occasions.
- 11) Online translators – most of us will at some point encounter a document that’s written in another language. Before 2000, unless you lived in a place where there were multiple nationalities, still speaking and reading their native tongue, your options were limited. You could try to find someone, somewhere who could read the document, get a dictionary, or take language classes. Enter google translate. While these options are not yet perfect, they’re a resource we didn’t have in 2000.
- 12) Optical character recognition (OCR) – all of us have found that magical document, written in something that may/may not be cursive and wondered “just what is that word?” We’re not alone in that problem. Early OCR efforts – think Google Books - are full of (sometimes) laughable errors. Enter AI. Full-Text Search, a Family Search experiment, is very useful and produces credible results. These efforts are improving every day, Stay tuned.
- 13) Social networking – genealogists of yore had mailing lists, forums and surname queries. Today’s genealogists have FaceBook (a variety of open and closed genealogy groups), Twitter and Pinterest. And sites like these make it easy to work on group projects – when your family isn’t living next door.
- 14) Tablets – (and I don’t mean legal pads or prescription medication). Earlier I noted the emergence of mobile tools and apps. Tablets let you take your computer – and all your files with you on that genealogy road trip.
- 15) WorldCat – current estimates of written genealogy materials suggest that less than 10% of all available materials are digitized. I frequently remind fellow DAR researchers that there are times when “going old-school” and calling the court clerk or an archivist is a very good idea. WorldCat is a library network that lists available materials by location. It’s been around (for libraries) since the 1970’s. What changed was their decision in 1998 to open their website to the public. It allows the genealogist to look for an obscure book or periodical and potentially arrange for an interlibrary loan. It now includes locations for e-books. Altogether there are more than 2 billion items in more than 10,000 libraries worldwide. Before 1998, I doubt any of us would have lived long enough to call all of them.

As genealogists, we may sometimes get caught in the trap of seeing the world as somewhat static. Those documents we’re chasing haven’t changed since they were written and recorded in 1810. Clearly, the world has changed – and the tools that we have available to use in our genealogy journey need to change with it.

BEYOND OUR BRANCHES: NEWS FROM OTHER GENEALOGY SOCIETIES

NATIONAL GENEALOGY SOCIETY (NGS)

For more information visit the NGS website [here](#). NGS Annual Meeting – August 20, 2025 @6 pm MDT – Zoom. All NGS members are encouraged to attend.

COLORADO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY (CGS)

For more information visit the CGS website [here](#).

COLORADO COUNCIL OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES (CCGS)

For more information visit the CCGS website [here](#).

CONTACT US

BROOMFIELD GENEALOGY SOCIETY CONTACT INFORMATION

President	Steve Lake	President@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Vice President	Karen Yudnich	Vicepresident@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Treasurer	Kirk Hayer	Treasurer@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Secretary	Jacque Mahan	Secretary@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Director of Education	Bob Yudnich	Education@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Director of Membership	Cindy Elger	Membership@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Director of Activities	Vacant	Activities@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Past President	Conrad Jackson	PastPresident@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Webmaster	Kirk Hayer	Webmaster@Broomfieldgensoc.org
Editor	Gail Elias	Editor@Broomfieldgensoc.org

Broomfield Genealogy Society, P.O. Box 1839, Broomfield, Colorado 80038

Interested in joining? Visit us at <https://www.broomfieldgensoc.org/>

AUGUST HOLIDAYS

August is National:

- ✓ Happiness Happens Month
- ✓ Civility Month
- ✓ National Goat Cheese Month

And on these days, we celebrate –

- 1 Aug – International Beer Day
- 2 Aug – International Blues Music Day
- 3 Aug – Psychic Day
- 4 Aug – National White Wine Day
- 5 Aug – National Underwear Day
- 6 Aug – International Hangover Day
- 7 Aug – National Sea Serpent Day
- 8 Aug – Tarantula Appreciation Day
- 9 Aug – Betty Boop Day
- 10 Aug – National Spoil Your Dog Day
- 11 Aug – Hip Hop Day
- 12 Aug – Milkman Day
- 13 Aug – International Lefthanders Day
- 14 Aug – World Lizard Day
- 15 Aug – Chant at the Moon Day
- 16 Aug – National Tell a Joke Day
- 17 Aug – Baby Boomers Recognition Day
- 18 Aug – National Bad Poetry Day
- 19 Aug – Talk Like Jar Jar Binks Day
- 20 Aug – World Mosquito Day
- 21 Aug – National Hazy IPA Day
- 22 Aug – National Be an Angel Day
- 23 Aug – Find Your Inner Nerd Day
- 24 Aug – International Strange Music Day
- 25 Aug – Kiss and Make Up Day
- 26 Aug – National Toilet Paper Day
- 27 Aug – National Just Because Day
- 28 Aug – Crackers over the Keyboard Day
- 29 Aug – According to Hoyle Day
- 30 Aug – National Slinky Day
- 31 Aug – Pony Express Day

August is rife with daily and monthly holidays. But just to make sure that the weeks don't feel neglected, here are a few we could celebrate:

August 3 – 9 – Give a Dog a Bone and Resurrect Romance week. Yep, we will.

August 9 – 17 – is both Elvis and Afternoon Tea week. I think Elvis has left the building, but I'd be happy to invite him to tea.

August 11 – 15 – is Bullying No Way Week. Note: it doesn't carry over to the weekend.

August 25-31 - is both Be Kind to Humankind and Belgian Beer week. Hm...