

The Murdoch Messenger



“Tell John I died with my face towards Zion.”

Message from the President

David Graehl

In our previous edition of the Murdoch Messenger we announced that the family leadership felt impressed that it is time to create a complete record of all of the descendants of James and Mary Murray Murdoch. We are excited to announce that we are now ready to move forward.

After considering several different options, we have decided to create the family record using the tools available to us through Ancestry.com. We chose Ancestry.com to store the data for the following reasons:

1. The information in our family tree will be secure.
2. Information about living descendants will be protected.
3. Regular backups of the data will be performed.
4. Having the data on Ancestry.com allows us to give access to the family records to family members anywhere in the world who have internet access.

Articles in this edition of the Murdoch Messenger will instruct you about getting registered to have access to the family tree, about submitting names and about what will be included in the family tree.

Please understand that the record that the family is creating is not intended to replace any other set of records. Family members should continue to record the results of their research in their personal genealogy programs. It is also vital that each of us continue to record our information in the larger databases that are available to others around the world, including Family Tree at the LDS Church’s FamilySearch.org.

The vision of the family leadership is to create a record of our family that is as complete and as accurate as we are able to make it. This is a monumental undertaking. It will require input from many family members. We ask that each of you take some time to get registered with the family database (see the articles below for instructions) and to

look at the current record on Ancestry.com, paying special attention to how complete the family information is and the accuracy of the entries.

Last Memorial Day weekend my wife and I took the opportunity to visit the Heber City Cemetery to leave flowers at the graves of many family members. While visiting the recently dedicated John Murray Murdoch monument we met other families who stopped to visit the beautiful monument to John and his two wives. As we chatted with them my thoughts turned to how big the family has become and how important it is for each member of the family to be able to see where they fit in.

If you have not previously been involved with genealogy or family history we promise that as you get involved with this project you will feel the importance of this great work.

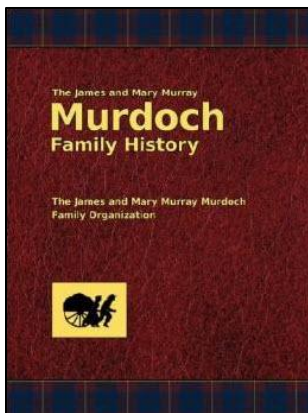
I hope that all of you have had a Christmas season full of joy and happiness and are planning a wonderful year for 2015.

James and Mary Murray Murdoch database on Ancestry.com

Don L. Blanchard

Murdoch Family Genealogist

As mentioned by David Graehl in the above article, over the past year, the Murdoch Family Officers have been busy assembling an on-line database containing many of the descendants of James and Mary Murray Murdoch. This file is now available for access on Ancestry.com by members of the Murdoch family. The goal has been to create an accurate as possible listing of all of their descendants. At one point in time it was estimated that James and Mary had more than 20,000 descendants. It now appears that estimate may have been a bit conservative. The current database that we have on Ancestry is at 3390 individuals and only represents seven of seventy-two 3rd generation grandchildren's lines and most of those lines are not very complete.



Most of the early generational information has been taken from or compared to what is in the “Red Book” covering approximately the first three or more generations. The hope has always been that the various family lines would submit additional information on the later generations in a computer database format that we could review and add to the file that we have started on Ancestry.com.

To obtain a clearer picture of what we currently have, you can refer to the chart on page 58 of the “Red Book” and look at the right hand column.

Note: The “Red Book” is no longer out of print and is available from the following sources:

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/1434102343>

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-james-and-mary-murray-murdoch-family-history-dallas-e-murdoch/1013114740>

We currently have information on the following third generation lines:

1. Mary Murdoch line (Veronica & George Caldow) supplied by Tammi Bain who lives in England.
2. The Joseph A. Murdoch line (John Murray & Ann Steele).
3. The David Steele Murdoch line (John Murray & Ann Steele).
4. The Millicent Sophia Murdoch line (John Murray & Ann Steele).
5. The Catherine Campbell Murdoch line (John Murray & Isabella Crawford).
6. The Brigham Murdoch line (John Murray & Isabella Crawford). *This line is fairly complete.*
7. The David Lennox Murdoch line (William & Janet Lennox).

Accessing the James and Mary Murray Murdoch Family Ancestry File

To gain access and view the Murdoch Ancestry file, you will be required to register with Ancestry to get access, but there will be no fee involved.

- Send an E-Mail request to register for the site to David Murdoch at the following address:
JamesAndMaryMurrayMurdoch@gmail.com.

David is one of the Murdoch Family Organization officers and works for Ancestry. He will have the ultimate control over the database. When David receives your request, he will send you the necessary instructions and code to access the database.

Murdoch Ancestry File Privacy

Because of concerns over “The Right to Privacy” issues, the only information that will be displayed for **living** individuals is the name and no other pertinent information. Only the moderators will have access to the full information.

How to Add to the James and Mary Murdoch Family Tree

David Murdoch

Murdoch Family Vice President

We are excited to begin the journey of building a family tree using Ancestry.com. One of our primary goals is to keep the tree data as accurate as possible. We hope many family members will want to contribute to the success of this project.

Submitting Information to the Family Tree

There are several ways you can submit your information. When submitting new or corrected information, we request that all updates to the family tree be associated with accurate source information. This is always desirable, but is especially important if you are suggesting changes to what has already been submitted.

To submit new or updated information to the James and Mary Murray Murdoch Family Tree on Ancestry.com, send an email with the attached files to: JamesAndMaryMurrayMurdoch@gmail.com

Ways in which you can submit information:

1. Send us individual record changes and additions.
2. Send us a GEDCOM file with the new and/or modified data – we will then merge this data into the family tree. Please keep your GEDCOM file manageable by sending 3 generations or less. This will simplify the merging process.

When submitting information for family members missing from the tree we encourage you to submit at minimum, the following:

1. The family member
2. The spouse
3. The spouse’s parents.

What you should send us in order for us to make sure we update the correct records:

1. The data that needs to be submitted or changed (specific data, GEDCOM file, and/or image)
2. For the person record to be updated, please send:
 - a. Full name
 - b. Birth Date
 - c. Birth Place
 - d. Death Date
 - e. i.e. Data that will allow us to uniquely identify the record to be updated
3. If applicable, the full name, birth date, birth place, death date of the individual to whom the GEDCOM record should be attached, and the needed relationship.

We would like our family tree to become a living tree. One way to do this is with pictures. If you have old pictures send us a scanned image and we will add it to our family tree. All updates and additions are appreciated and encouraged.

Other Helpful Information

1. Make sure that your submissions are in small groups covering one, two or three generations starting with the last person on your line that is in our current database. Including the last person is important to establish the proper link.
2. Identify which line you are submitting information for so that we can more readily attach it to the proper line.

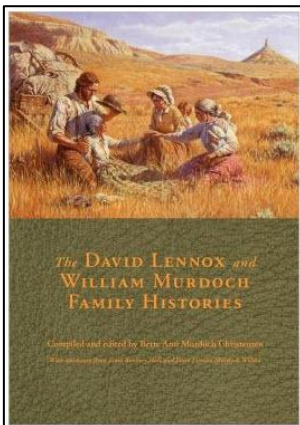
This is a new process for all of us, so we not only enlist your support but also your patience as we work to make our Ancestry family tree a true and accurate record of the descendants of James & Mary Murray Murdoch.

The David Lennox and William Murdoch Family Histories

Bette Ann Murdoch Christensen

With assistance from Janet Hull and Janet Wilson

For over 4 1/2 years, I researched our ancestors, transcribed journals, gathered histories and pictures, and finally with the help of some special cousins, Janet Romney Hull and Janet Lennox Murdoch Wilson, *THE DAVID LENNOX AND WILLIAM MURDOCH FAMILY HISTORIES* book was published in 2011.



Jack Lyon (a descendant of John Murray Murdoch) was the amazing publisher of this book and we will all be forever indebted to him for his patience and service in getting this book published.

This book begins with James and Mary Murray Murdoch, including their children and their stories, then to William Murdoch, to David Lennox Murdoch and his many descendants. Writing a book of this type was never something I thought possible, but is definitely a project I would encourage anyone to try. Our ancestors' stories are amazing so let's get them out there for everyone to read!

The book is available at amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com in hardcover or paperback.

From the Pen of David Lennox Murdoch

Bette Ann Murdoch Christensen

“I have been asked repeatedly to write something about our ancestors, where they hailed from – what were their avocations, where they resided etc. I fully realize unless this is at least attempted soon, the generation of people to which I belong will soon all have passed away and the succeeding generation will be left without much information pertaining to those times, circumstances and events. With these thoughts then, and with a desire to comply with the request so made, I will attempt to put in writing what little I know of the past of our ancestors on the Murdoch side and others also, associated with them, by marriage and otherwise.”

“Murdoch History”, a journal written by David Lennox Murdoch

David Lennox Murdoch was my great grandfather. He was born in 1852 in Cronberry, Ayrshire, Scotland. When I read this message at the beginning of one of his journals, I was inspired to use it in the introduction to *The David Lennox and William Murdoch Family Histories* book. David Lennox Murdoch kept detailed journals including his journey to Utah from Scotland with his new wife, Elizabeth, and his father, William. He wrote a journal of the *Murdoch History*, which was an account of how the Murdoch's joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Scotland and their journeys to Utah.

Researching our genealogy helps us to know **who** our ancestors are,
but reading our ancestors own history helps us to **know** them.

Murdoch Family Reminders

Wee Granny Store

The Wee Granny Store is alive and well. In addition to other materials, copies of artwork created for the family by Clark Kelly Price are still available. A pricelist is available at the Murdoch website, which is found at www.MurdochFamily.net. The website also gives information about placing orders.

Contributions

In order to provide the family website, the printed version of the Murdoch Messenger newsletter and access to Ancestry.com, the family incurs some annual expenses. We are encouraging family members to help cover these costs. For those who would like to help a \$10 contribution per family is appreciated. Checks made payable to **James & Mary Murray Murdoch Family Organization** can be mailed to the following address:

David Murdoch
1376 N 910 E
American Fork, UT 84003

David Murdoch serves on the Executive Committee as the vice-president and the treasurer.

Receiving the Murdoch Messenger

As always we sincerely hope you and your family members enjoy and benefit from receiving and reading the Murdoch Messenger newsletter. We don't want anyone to miss an issue. With this in mind we hope you will share the newsletter with family members who may not be receiving the newsletter directly. At the same time we invite all who want to receive the newsletter directly to send us their email address so we can add it to and/or update our growing directory. Also should your e-mail change in the future, please remember to pass along to us current address information. All information and inquiries regarding the Murdoch Family Organization should be communicated through this address:

JamesAndMaryMurrayMurdoch@gmail.com.

Thank you very much!

David Graehl
2022 Gyrfalcon Dr
Sandy, UT 84092

Return Service Requested