

# The Murdoch Messenger



“Tell John I died with my face towards Zion”

## Message from the President

By Dallas Murdoch

Dear members of the James and Mary Murray Murdoch Family,

We have a number of important events occurring in the James and Mary Murray Murdoch Family Organization. This message is my attempt to bring you all up to date.

First, we invite you to examine our updated website at [murdochfamily.net](http://murdochfamily.net). Our webmaster, Jim Murdoch has done a complete makeover of the website so that it can better serve the needs of our family. Our Website is now designed to serve as the central means of communication between family members. The opening screen view contains a message from the President, a summary of our efforts to honor Wee Grammy and John Murray Murdoch and a link to the Wee Granny Store. The Wee Granny Store screen view contains information about Murdoch books and paintings that are available to family members.

At the top of the opening screen view, you will notice links to additional options. The following is a brief explanation to each option.

**1. Newsletters:** By accessing this link, you can gain access to recent newsletters and all of our future newsletters, as they become available. We are planning to send out future newsletters by e-mail as much as possible and save the expense of mailing them.

**2. Genealogy:** This link will allow family members to share genealogical information about each of the children of James and Mary Murray Murdoch, assuming that material is available. It will also allow family members to have access to names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers of researchers, the lines they are working on, and the names they have researched. It will also let us know about temple work that needs to be done.

**3. Murdoch Blog:** This link allows family members to submit material of general interest to all members of the family. This could information about reunions, mission calls, marriages, graduations, births, deaths, questions, or

other achievements that may be of interest to family members. When submitting information, it would be helpful if you could include with it your lineage from Wee Granny.

**4. Contact us:** This link is for family members to submit comments or requests to our Webmaster or other family officers. We want to hear from you and would love to have your suggestions on how we can improve our family organization.

**5. Other Links:** This option contains a variety of links that are of interest to all family members. It includes biographical material about family members, articles from the church news, a request for family dues and a list of family officers. Other material as it becomes available will be added to this site. We encourage family members to submit material about our ancestors that may be of interest to all family members. This screen view is where this material will be accessed.

If you access the “Other Links” option in the opening screen view, you will see a link to “Family Officers”. As you access this link, you will notice that we are expanding the number of officers in our

family organization. New links include a "Family Research Genealogist" who is Geraldine Merrill. Her responsibility is to become a central repository for all of the research done in the Murdoch Family and coordinate future research.

We are also adding a "Family Representatives" for each of the four branches of the family that came to Utah and had posterity. Our representative for the Allan and Mary Mair family is Susan Christensen, for William Murdoch family it is David Murdoch, and for the John Murray Murdoch and Isabella Crawford family it is Robert Murdoch. A biography of each of these officers is included in this issue of the Messenger. We have not yet filled the position for the John Murray Murdoch and Ann Steele family representative but anticipate doing so shortly. Each of these family representatives will be in charge of their branch of the family.

As was mentioned above, we plan to send newsletters to family members who submit to us their e-mail address. The reason for this change is that it is becoming very expensive to send them out by mail and we are not receiving enough dues to offset this expense. If a family member does not submit us an email address, they will continue to receive the newsletters by mail.

We love you all. It is a great experience to meet other members of the family for the first time and share our love for Wee Granny and our Murdoch heritage. We currently have two new books being prepared for printing, for which we are very thankful. They involve the David Steele Murdock family and the David Lennox Murdoch family. May God bless all of you in your righteous endeavors.

## Financial Position of the Organization

By Gary Lloyd  
VP- Murdoch Family Org.

During the past three years, a number of you have continued to pay your annual dues of \$10.00, but our total income from dues has been decreasing. The primary use of the dues you have been so kind to send has been to offset the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter, including postage. In addition, at a recent meeting of family officers, we approved using a small amount of our funds to help support some of the books that are being currently developed for the various families of James and Mary Murdoch.

However, we are not receiving enough in dues to keep up with the expenses we are generating. To compensate, we hope to decrease the cost of mailing our newsletters through the post office by e-mailing them to family members who would like to receive the newsletter this way. We will still send the Murdoch Messenger to those of you who would still like to receive the newsletter by the regular postage route.

If you would like to receive the Murdoch newsletter by email please send a message to David Graehl at the email address below letting us know this is your preference. Also send the email addresses of other family members who would like to receive the newsletter by email.

[dave@alteksim.com](mailto:dave@alteksim.com)

**We would also appreciate your annual dues of \$10.00. Send the form at the end of the newsletter with your \$10.00 payment to:**

**Gary M. Lloyd  
5862 Victoria Lane  
Highland, Utah 84003**

## The David Lennox & William Murdoch Family History

By Janet Wilson

We are so excited about our book which is going to the publisher at the end of December of this year. For all of you who have not sent in your life histories and pictures this is the last call! Please get them into Bette Ann Christensen. The E-mail address for the book: [murdochbook@gamil.com](mailto:murdochbook@gamil.com)

We are dedicating our book to Marry Murray Murdoch (Wee Granny) so that our children, great grandchildren and further posterity can understand how they are related to this famous pioneer. Without her, this book wouldn't be written. We also dedicate it to our dear Grandfathers, David Lennox & Elizabeth Pinkerton Thyne Murdoch and William and Jeannette Cousins Smith Murdoch. Because of them we are truly blessed.

Our thanks go out to all of you who have gotten your histories in. We know you will have a great deal of fun reading the book and learning what we found in the suitcase! Our thanks go out to Bette Ann Christensen who has transcribed our Great Grandfather's "Coming to America Journal." "Writings of David Lennox Murdoch". She is now transcribing his missionary journal. These were some of the things found in the suitcase and they contain wonderful events of his journey. We have also found in the suitcase many pictures and extra stories not included in any of the other Murdoch books.

The book will be available to buy after the first of the year and we will be letting you know how you do this as we get closer to that time.

Remember, to those of you who have not gotten in your histories, there is still time. Please contact Janet Hull, phone # 801-188-0196: Address Cottage Creek Lane, Murray, Utah 84107: E-mail to [weegranny@msn.com](mailto:weegranny@msn.com) or Janet Lennox

Murdoch Wilson, Phone #1-801-277-1600. Address: 6120 So. Murdoch Woods Place, Holladay, Utah 84121: [jmurdochwilson@msn.com](mailto:jmurdochwilson@msn.com) Remember, PICTURES make the book. If you want to send more in please do so to the [murdochbook@gmail.com](mailto:murdochbook@gmail.com). Love to all of you!

Janet Hull, Janet Wilson & Bette Ann Christensen

## Report on the David Steele Murdock Family History

By Gary M. Lloyd

The David Steele Murdock Family History is now in the final stages of preparation. Family histories are now in and the central committee is finalizing and coordinating what will become the final document. It is anticipated that this book will be published by the early part of September of this year.

## Genealogy Report

BY Don Blanchard  
FAMILY GENEALOGIST

I would just like to remind everyone that there are many individuals who are very sensitive to the rights-to-privacy act and may not want their personal information made available on the Internet. So, as we collect all of this data, we should either get permission to use it or we should not put it out where others can get access to it. In general, the Church's policy is a good place to start. They do not put specific information on a site until after the person has passed away. There obviously are exceptions to this rule, such as requiring a member to log in using their membership number and their confirmation date prior to accessing certain programs or material. I think that the greatest fear people have is identity theft, but there are also other good reasons for not wanting personal information made available to the public.

## Article on the Mair/Lindsay Connection

By Ruth Hardman

In June of 1995 my husband (Woody Hardman) and I went to Scotland. He was going to England and Scotland on a business trip and I (Ruth Jeffs Hardman) went along to visit relatives and see the homeland of my Scottish ancestors.

Before the trip, I talked with Leah Lindsay, who is a 1<sup>st</sup> cousin 1 time removed to me, about the possibility of meeting two sisters whom Leah has been in contact for many years through letters. With Leah's help, again through a letter and a phone call from me, I was able to set up a meeting time, to meet with Jessie Mair Robertson and Christina Love Mair Harkness when we arrived in Scotland.

When we finished our time in England, I once again called Jessie to confirm our date and time of the meeting. We were a little late arriving, but as we parked the car, we saw these sweet relatives looking out the window of Jessie's flat with some concern on their faces for our behalf. Before I met them I recognized the family resemblances and felt their love.

It was a delightful meeting and I felt very much at home with them. It was so comfortable to be with them and to talk about our common connections. We shared stories and information of families on each side of the pond and talked about the broken link with the Allen Fould's Mair line that remained in Scotland. They shared with and gave me their family histories coming down through their father, James Mair (circa 1882), who married Christina Love and their descendants. We talked into the evening hours and on into the night. There was so much love to share.

Five years after our visit, Jessie has passed away. She died in June 2000. For the last few years I haven't heard from Christina Harkness, so I will get in touch with Leah Lindsay and get an update and renew that connection with her family.

Christina has two daughters; Christine who married Martin Hainey & Aileen who married Fergus Henry. Both have families of their own.

It is a memory that I will never forget.



## Descendants of James Mair, 8<sup>th</sup> child of Allen Foulds Mair (circa 1845)

1 James Mair( b. 1882 0 Gaswater,Ayr,Scotland; d. 1968-Cumnock, Ayr, Scotland) BEPS

Sp: Christina Love (b. 1885-Muirkirk,Ayr,Scotland; m1911; d. 1948-Cumnock, Ayr. Scotland BE

2. Elizabeth Gibb Mair (b. 1911-Gaswater, Ayr, Scotland; d. 1992-Cumnock, Ayr, Scotland BEP

2. Jean Ronald Mair (b. 1913-Gaswater, Ayr, Scotland; d. 1996-Scotland BEP

Sp: Alexander Bannatyne (b. 1910-, Scotland; m. 1938; d. Scotland BEPS

2.Allan Foulds Mair (b. 1918-Gaswater, Ayr,Scotland; d.1935-Auchinleck, Ayr, Scotland BEP

2.Jessie Mair (b. 1920-Gaswater,Ayr,Scotland;d.2000-New Cumnock, Ayr, Scotland BEP

Sp: John Robertson (b. 1917-Cumnock, Ayr, Scotland; m, 1970; d, 1976-Cumnock, Ayr, Scotland) BE

2.Christina Love Mair (b. 1924-

Gaswater, Ayr, Scotland) living

Sp: Alexander McDowall

Harkness (b. 1923-Cumnock, Ayr, Scotland; m. 1952) living.

3. Christina Love Harkness (b. 1954-Irvine, Ayr, Scotland) living

Sp: Martin Hainey (b. 1952-Irvine, Ayr, Scotland; M, 1975) living.

4. Allan Martin Hainey (b. 1980-Stirling, Scotland) living.

4. Laura Kristeen Hainey (b. 1983-Stirling, Scotland) living.

3. Aileen McDowall Harkness (b. 1957-Cumnock, Ayr, Scotland) living.

Sp: Fergus Henry (m. 1982) living.

4. Jill Kristen Henry (b. 1983-Irvine, Ayr, Scotland) living.

4. Campbell James Henry (b. 1895-Irvine, Ayr, Scotland) living.

I received this information from Jessie Robertson and have done the temple work for the deceased. I am working with the new family search in correcting and combining records on the Mair line and of course, I am always in the research and documenting mode when I find a minute in my day.

## Biographical Sketch of David Lennox Murdoch III

From my earliest childhood memories I can recall Grandma (Ora Murdoch) reminding me that I was David Lennox Murdoch the Third, and that I should be very proud of my name. Legally my name doesn't include "III" but grandma's consistent reminders deepened my appreciation for the heritage of which I was blessed to be a part.

The following is my ancestral line back to James and Mary Murray Murdoch.  
David L. Murdoch III -> Michael C. Murdoch and Connie Lou Riley -> David

L. Murdoch II and Ora Maureen Clark -> William Murdoch and Jeannette Cousins Smith -> David L. Murdoch I and Elizabeth Prinkerton Thyne -> William Murdoch and Janet Lennox -> James and Mary Murray Murdoch.

My childhood is filled with wonderful memories of climbing trees and building forts throughout the property surrounding our home in the Cottonwood area of Salt Lake City. The giant poplar trees that lined the long dirt driveway will forever be printed in my memory. I can still hear the wind rustling through the countless leaves that created the gigantic canopy down the middle of the property. I loved living on what we called "Murdoch Acres". It was my dream to one day buy Grandma's home and raise my family in the same place that I was raised. Sadly, it wasn't meant to be.

At the age of 19 I was given the opportunity to be a missionary for 2 years for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. What added more to this wonderful opportunity was that I was called to serve in the Scotland Edinburgh mission (SEM). Serving in Scotland as a full-time missionary was a priceless experience that I will always cherish.

Upon returning from Scotland, I continued my education at Brigham Young University. In 1992 I married Barbara Brooks, the sister of a fellow SEM missionary. Barbara brought a completeness to my life for which I am very grateful. Shortly after our marriage I finished my degree in Computer Science at Brigham Young University and continued my work in the IT industry.

As I look back over my life I'm amazed at all that has taken place. Since our marriage we have been blessed with 6 beautiful children, moved 14 times, started a computer consultancy company, lived in 3 states, as well as overseas in Scotland for a year, witnessed our oldest obtain her driver's license and our youngest graduate from pre-school.

Wow, how time does fly when you're having fun!

## Biographical Sketch of Robert G. Murdoch May 2009

Robert G. Murdoch, born in Salt Lake City, Utah, is the third of six children born to Guy and Faye Murdoch. Guy Murdoch is the son of Robert Rue and Merle Murdoch and grandson of Brigham Murdoch, who was a child of John and Isabella Murdoch. Most of my childhood was spent in Layton, Utah where my father, Guy, worked for Hill Field Air Force Base. While growing up in Layton my knowledge and interest in my heritage was based on hearing occasional stories of James Murdoch, Wee Granny, John Murray Murdoch as well as my grandfather Robert Rue Murdoch plus annual family outings to the Heber Cemetery each Memorial Day. When I was sixteen years of age, I had the opportunity to spend a summer working on the Owen Jensen Farm located on Fall River on the outskirts of Ashton, Idaho. Among the many reasons those summer months in Ashton were good for me, it served as a time period and location for me to better understand and appreciate my father's love and never ending attraction to the Ashton area where he lived prior to his father's death. It also provided me the chance to become acquainted with some of the great Murdoch relatives living in that region of Idaho.

Following graduation from High School, I attended one year of college and was then called to serve an LDS Mission in Scotland. This was a great blessing to me. Missions, wherever one serves are a wonderful privilege and life changing experience however to be called to serve in the homeland of your ancestors is a unique and special opportunity. Interestingly, my first area in Scotland to serve was Ayr, Ayrshire. Ayrshire is the county in which the communities of Comondyke and Gasswater where located and is where James Murdoch and

John Murdoch were born and lived. When my mission concluded, I left Scotland with a continuing love of the country's beauty and diversity and especially for the great people who have and continue to live there. After completing my mission I returned to Utah and attended school at Utah State University, where I graduated and then later went on to receive an advanced degree from Brigham Young University.

In 1970, I married Linda Alexander of Layton, Utah and we have been blessed with four wonderful children: Jennifer, Heather, Robyn, and Robert "Paul." Having chosen academic librarianship as a career path and following university graduation, I began working for Utah State University in the University Libraries, with a focus on library

administration. Cache Valley proved to be a wonderful place to live, raise our family, and establish many friendships. I was fortunate to experience and enjoy many rewarding years of employment at the University in Logan. In 2001, after working 28 years at Utah State University I left the University as Deputy Director of Libraries, to join the faculty at Brigham Young University. Since that time I have worked in the Harold B. Library as the Assistant University Librarian for Collection Development and Technical Services. In addition to continuing to enjoy working in the research academic library profession, I enjoy spending time with my growing family, hiking and most outdoor activities, travel with my wife (we have been to Scotland twice), and gardening.

Currently, my wife and I are serving in the Utah Regional Hospital LDS Branch and are ordinance workers in the Mount Timpanogos Temple. While I have little first-hand experience in genealogy work and family histories I am extremely proud of my heritage. I am impressed and appreciative of the many individuals within and/or associated in some way with our Murdoch family lines who have and continue to involve themselves in expanding awareness and knowledge of family members, remembrances, values, and traditions in the ever growing John Murray Murdoch, Anne Steele, and Isabella Crawford family.

**LIST OF ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM WEE GRANNY STORE:** To order, please contact:

Dick and Judy Heinz  
622 North 2nd  
Ashton, Idaho 83420  
P.O. Box 717  
1-208-652-3776

**I. Clark Kelly Price's painting of Wee Granny.** We have the following prints available.  
(Note: \$5.00 per order for S/H is sufficient, regardless of how many prints are ordered.)

1. 18" X 24" copies Limited Edition. Each print is numbered and autographed by artist. \$100.00 per copy plus \$5.00 S/H..
2. 18" X 24" copies. \$20.00 per copy plus \$5.00 S/H.
3. 10" X 14" copies. \$15.00 per copy plus \$5.00 S/H.
4. 7 1/2" X 10" copies. \$10.00 per copy plus \$5.00 S/H.
5. 5" X 7" copies. \$5.00 per copy plus \$3.00 S/H.

**II. Clark Kelley Price's painting of John Murray Murdoch and his two wives.**

1. Original 12" X 16" painting: \$1900.00
2. 12" X 16" copies. \$25.00 per copy plus \$5.00 S/H.
3. 5" X 7" copies. \$5.00 per copy plus \$3.00 S/H.

**III. James and Mary Murray Murdoch Family History Book.**

1. This is the original "red" book, published in 1981. We still have a limited number of copies still available.  
The price per copy is \$25.00 plus \$5.00 for S/H.
2. CD-ROM that contains information in the "red" book and was compiled by Jack Lyon.  
Price per copy is \$5.00 plus \$2.00 for S/H
3. Jack Lyon has made available to Family members a brand new softbound copy of the Red Book. Those who are interested in ordering a copy should do so by clicking or entering the following link: <http://www.murdochbooks.org>

- IV.      The Long Road to Zion.** This is a 16 page booklet by Ken Merrell, who was a professor at the University of Iowa when he wrote the article. Well documented, it is an excellent source for material on the challenges she faced. Price per copy is \$5.00 including S/H
- V.      A Scottish Shepherd, The Life and Times of John Murray Murdoch by Ken Merrell.** Price is \$25.00 per copy plus a one time charge of \$5.00 for S/H. This is an excellent book about the early history of Scotland and the Murdoch's. It tells the story of John Murray Murdoch, his two wives, his conversion to the gospel in Scotland, his journey to America and Zion, and the role he played in settling the Heber Valley. It is an excellent book that tells the story of a true pioneer family.

**JAMES & MARY MURRAY MURDOCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:      (June.– 2009)**

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WILLIAM MURDOCH REPRESENTATIVE: David Murdoch,	801-310-3248	david.murdoch@murdochconsulting.net
MURDOCH/STEELE FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE:	To be assigned.	
MURDOCH/CRAWFORD REP. Robert Murdoch	801-226-0619,	robert_murdoch@byu.edu
WEE GRANNY STORE: Dick and Judy Heinz	208-652-3776;	
WEBSITE CHAIRMAN: James Murdoch	208-425-3948;	jim@murdochfamily.net



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JAMES & MARY MURRAY MURDOCH FAMILY ORGANIZATION ANNUAL REGISTRATION FORM:

Family Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouses Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark branch of family you belong to:**      ☐ Alan and Mary Mair:  
☐ John Murray and Ann Steel Murdoch:      ☐ John Murray and Isabella Crawford Murdoch:  
☐ William and Janet Lennox Murdoch:      ☐ William and Mary Reid Lindsay Murdoch:

Please enter the name of your third generation Murdoch ancestor: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Family dues \$10.00 per year.    **Please return this completed Registration Form with dues payment to:**

**Gary Lloyd  
5862 W. Victoria Lane  
Highland, Ut 84003**

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Gary Lloyd  
5862 W. Victoria Lane  
Highland, Ut 84003

Return Service Requested