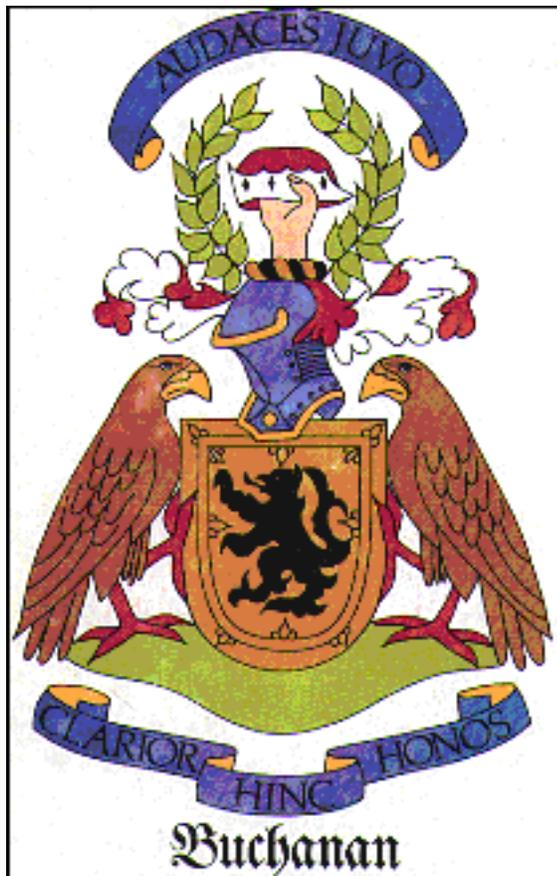


# Archie Earl Buchanan/Florene Davis Genealogy

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## Families, Reunions, Website and Newsletters

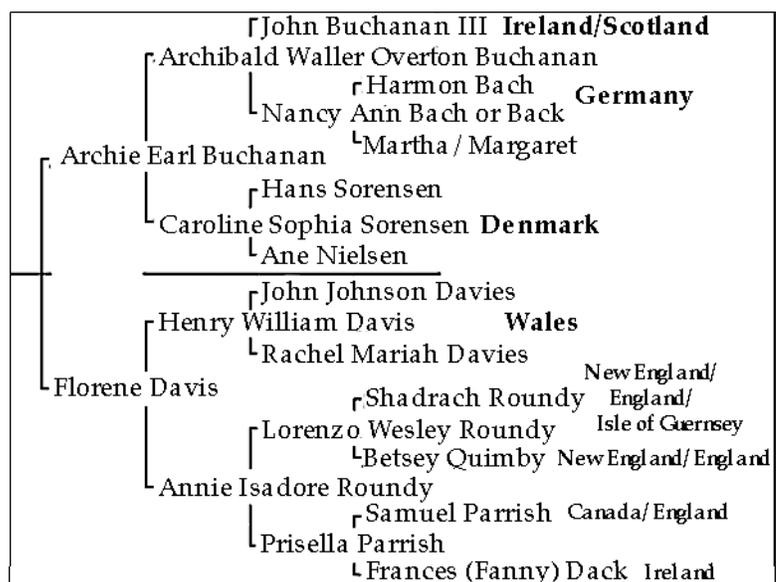
As surely you have noticed, it has been six months since the last issue of this newsletter. The reasons for the gap are many, mainly my busy summer with scouting and family activities, but probably more importantly, I am running out of significant material to write about.

I am looking for involvement from others and particularly looking for direction for my work in the future.

When I started the newsletter and family website, my design was to produce something that could be similar to an ongoing family reunion-type experience, without its physical experience and logistical difficulties. My main incentive at the outset was encouragement by Maxine for me to be the family representative for genealogy. At the time, I was nearing the time of the end of my service as a bishop and felt it a good time to move myself into more serious genealogy research and family history collecting

and sharing. Since the last issue, Maxine passed away (March 29th). My deepest feelings and prayers go out to the family. That event and the ongoing change in our families has left me wondering what the family really needs.

After over five years of producing a newsletter and building a family website, I am taking a look at the whole picture and trying to see what has worked and what hasn't. I have had encouragement and positive response from many of you, including welcome financial contributions. Those have been



appreciated and I am not asking for that kind of support now. I see that as secondary to the work of the family. I would like to see a stronger involvement of others in the whole family process.

### **What Does a Family Organization Need?**

Some families have periodic, somewhat regular, family reunions. Reunions are great and I feel that we need them. However, there are particular problems with reunions. The main problem is that participation is not usually very consistent. Busy families have varying priorities as well as many challenges that supersede attending reunions. The main advantage of a reunion is that people get together and renew acquaintances and support one another. Important family traditions and values are shared from one generation to another. We have fun together and learn about our heritage at the same time.

Newsletters are a good way to share information and bring family tradition and values to members of the family without the complications of physically meeting together. Interaction is lacking, so much of the real experience of family is absent. Newsletters can be copied, saved, shared, etc., but there are problems inherent to the medium such as bias, fixing errors and the whole process of putting together and distributing the documents. Mailing lists are difficult to maintain so many people are left out.

Websites provide a way to bring information to a broader audience. Materials can be presented in many forms and can be easily corrected and updated. One advantage of website-based family information is that people who are interested can find these resources and can be brought together through the ubiquity of the Internet, something that is a marvel of our time. The problem is that a lot of people either do not or cannot access the internet websites.

What does our family need? I plan on writing newsletters and working on the website still, but the process needs more involvement from others. I would like us to form a group of family representatives to help direct the work of support of our family heritage. I need direction concerning what is important to be shared with the upcoming generations. If it is only research for temple work, that is OK.

Outreach is one area that I feel needs work. My communication is limited to those I know about. Of the children of Archie Earl and Flo, my main communication is with Deane's, Jerry's and Forrest's families. Can we include the others? I am willing to do the work of communicating, but I do not know how to get to them. I respect the wishes of those who do not want contact or interaction, but I wish I knew my cousins' families better and could share more with them.

Some of our families are facing very difficult challenges. Those are important matters and have priority over these heritage issues, but perhaps the blessing of our ancestors' faith can at least be a comfort to those who suffer so much. My call for support is not intended to bring a burden on those who are already struggling and cannot take on more.

I am willing to take charge of a committee or family support group. I feel that we need a reunion. I need help by receiving contributions (information) to the newsletter and website. I would like to help set up ways to reach more of our family. I want to share with family the great heritage we have and help those who want to, to be involved in any part of this important work, be it research, temple work, sharing of recipes, music, talents, humor, cheering up those who struggle, etc. We can be a resource for each other.

Please send me email, call me on the phone, send letters, anything, even if it is a note saying you would

love to help, but cannot. Money is not what I am looking for, just thoughts, ideas, suggestions, complaints, jokes, family stories, photos, etc.

Thank you!

### **Lorenzo Wesley Roundy's Life in Southern Utah**

I have been interested in finding out more details about the last 10 years of the life of Lorenzo Wesley Roundy. Everett Roundy, in his book "The Roundy Family in America," includes some good details. There are notes in Annie Isadore's autobiography about his life. There are good details in the memorial pamphlet written by Reneé Mounteer in 2007. In addition to these writings, I find details about him in other references and I wonder what we do not yet know about his involvement in Southern Utah activities of the time. It is obvious that he had the confidence of the prophet Brigham Young and had an important role in the events in Southern Utah between 1865 and his death in 1876. I recently purchased a book about Lee's ferry ("Lee's Ferry" by P.T. Reilly) that gives some interesting details in describing incidents related to the ferry. That book has good footnotes referencing a number of journals of people who were involved with him in his life. I hope to research and find out what more is known about his relationship to Brigham Young, Jacob Hamblin and John D. Lee. He apparently knew them all well. I have no reason to believe that he was involved in the Mountain Meadows massacre (1857) or the events leading up to the execution of John D. Lee, but he did know the mind of Brigham Young and reported to him. The recent book about the Mountain Meadows Massacre has no reference to him at all, but the Lee's Ferry book seems to indicate that Lorenzo had some involvement with key people of the time. I will report my findings in a future newsletter.

Here are details recorded in the Everett Roundy and Reneé Mounteer writings:

"After some years in Centerville, Lorenzo decided to sell his lands and stock and seek new adventure in Southern Utah, then a wilderness inhabited by Indians who were generally unfriendly. In 1865, travelling for many weeks over desolate country, Lorenzo and his large family at last arrived at the little frontier settlement of [Upper] Kanab, joining a small band of courageous white settlers there. This place is now known as Alton.

"Everyone had to be constantly on the alert against depredations of the savages. The wagons were placed in a circle and served as a fortress, while every night some of the men stood guard. Crops were planted and cultivated while vigilant eyes watched for lurking redskins. Log cabins were built west of the site of the Kane County Dairy. That winter was one of the severest in the memories of Utah residents, with a depth of three feet of snow. An epidemic of scarlet fever broke out, taking the lives of four of the children in the settlement. In January 1866, two of the men of the company were killed by Indians at an outpost, Pipe Springs. A badly frightened herd-boy managed to escape, and brought the news to St. George and get help to guard the Kanab fort. Byron Roundy was one of the two who volunteered. They left Kanab at nine o'clock that evening, and travelled on horseback through the deep snow all that night, expecting to be surrounded by Indians at any moment. They reached St. George the next morning at ten o'clock. A company of men was dispatched to Kanab, where they remained that winter. In spite of this, the savages continued their marauding, always during the 'dark of the moon.' Cattle, horses and sheep were stolen. The settlers were never able to catch them, although once the savages were forced to leave their meat broiling on live coals at the approach of the Kanab pioneers.

"In March of that year the harassed settlers of Kanab received a call to desert this forbidding region and move to Long Valley to strengthen that place. Five days were required to complete this journey of fifteen miles. The teams were poor and the loads heavy. At their destination, Mt. Carmel, crops were planted and

plans made for a settlement. More trouble with the Indians developed and two men and a woman were killed. In June the settlers received orders to move back to Dixie, for safety, and a company of armed men escorted them.

"Lorenzo Roundy was next sent with a company to settle Kanarra, in Iron County, Utah. There they built a fort. During their first winter there the people had to live in cellars. The next spring Lorenzo laid out plans for a town, and, while crops were growing, the men built a road up into the mountains where they cut pine logs and hauled them down to the settlement to use in constructing homes. As the little village grew, Lorenzo prospered and became a successful business man. He kept a store, freighting his own merchandise from Salt Lake City. Eventually the people formed a cooperative store by each investing \$100 in capital stock. Lorenzo was president of this store for a number of years.

"He owned the first flour mill in Kanarra, operated by water power. This was a real luxury in those days of slow transportation and limited supplies. He also served the townspeople in many other ways, representing the colony in the State Legislature for several terms. Lorenzo worked untiringly and increasingly for the church in the community and was the first bishop, a position he held until his death. He built a two-story brick house, which was the meeting place for young and old alike and was always the headquarters for church authorities who visited Southern Utah. Lorenzo was ever ready and willing to sacrifice his time and energy for the betterment of his fellowmen, surveying and building roads, churches and schools. Brigham Young called him many times to investigate new locations for settlements. He would report on climate, water supply, fertility of the soil, and the like. It was on one of these trips that he met his death. He had been requested to reconnoiter a region in Arizona with a small company of men. This required the crossing of the treacherous Colorado River. Their boat capsized in midstream and Lorenzo Roundy, although a splendid swimmer, was drowned. He was fifty-seven years of age." - *The Roundy Family in America*, Everett E. Roundy, 1942, pp. 253,255.

"In the fall of 1865 Lorenzo took the entire family and went to settle in answer to Brigham Young's call. In Lorenzo's history it explains in more detail about their moves after arriving in Kanab.

"Along with the Indian troubles, scarlet fever struck the little settlement. Sophia Almeda, Samantha, and John Davis buried two children, Lorenzo and Susannah lost their little daughter Betsey, and one of the Smith families lost a child. They were buried due west from the northeast corner of the old fort on the hill between two cedar trees. [Footnote: *Mrs. Malinda Parker ROundy, 'Pioneers of the Early Days,' Kane County Standard, 30 May 1930*]

"In the fall of 1866 Lorenzo was made the bishop of the Kanarra town ward. [Footnote: *ibid*] Susannah was placed in charge of all tithing produce that was given to the Bishop. She helped to distribute it before it spoiled. She served as the Relief Society President for a number of years. ... [paragraph about her omitted]

"Lorenzo had been on several exploration trips from Brigham Young in Southern Utah and Northern Arizona. However, when he received the letter in May of 1876 requesting he join a group to cross the Colorado and explore northern Arizona for settlement, he had a very strong impression settle in on him, that he would not be returning from this trip. Susannah and Priscilla both asked him not to go as the family story goes. But he told them he would rather die than have Brigham Young believe he would disobey him. He counseled with his family during the night and with his ward the following day. When he left, he knew that his body would not be found, and supposedly told the family so. The apprehension that Susannah and Priscilla must have felt before they got word of his death, would have been difficult to live with. He died 28 May 1876, at Lee's Ferry on the Colorado River." - *Memorial Service for Lorenzo Wesley Roundy - July 14, 2007 Kanarraville, Utah*, René R. Munteer, pp. 19, 20

[ This and other material can be found at the web site: <http://aeb.buchananspot.com>, including a table of contents of the newsletter issues.]