

MORRISSEY FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER
DESCENDANTS OF PATRICK MORRISSY AND MARY PHELAN
www.morrisseyfamilyhistory.com

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Welcome to the Morrissey Family History Newsletter. This, and future issues of the Newsletter, will contain Morrissey news and updates for the family history website. I hope you find something of interest in the Newsletter. Please email me if you have news or photographs you would like included in the Newsletter or if you know someone who would like to be added to the mailing list. The list of newsletter recipients is not shared or sold. Please email me if you would prefer to not receive the newsletter and I will delete your email address from the list.

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Notes:

- I am proud to announce the marriage, on October 6, 2007, of my son Jake Walsh-Morrissey to Samantha Burton. They had a beautiful wedding at Birk's Chapel followed by a reception at Thomson House, both at McGill University. They are a truly lovely couple and I am very proud of both of them.
- Quite often I drive by my grandmother's old home (Edith Sweeney Morrissey) at 2226 Girouard Avenue, located here in Montreal. The family lived there for about forty years and my memory of her home, a second floor flat on a busy street, is that it was always clean (I remember the cleaning lady, Bella, with rolled up nylons waxing the hard wood floors on her knees) and enjoyable to visit. There were three bedrooms (my Aunt Mable had the room in the front, with a balcony, facing Girouard; my grandmother's bedroom was off the dining room, and my great aunt Essie (Edith's sister) had the room to the left as you walked down the hall to the kitchen; there was also a storage room off the kitchen where my grandmother's father lived in his old age in the early 1940s. There was a large living room facing Girouard Avenue, where there was a maroon couch covered with white sheets as well as other furniture. It may not have been luxurious but it was home to many people over the years, including my parents and my brother and I in the early 1950s.) A few years ago, by chance, I spoke to someone leaving the flat and asked him if I might see what the place is

like today. He was friendly enough but I never heard from him again. He suggested that not much had changed, the claw-foot bathtub was still there, but he added that the place had become terribly run-down; the roof leaked since the ice storm in 1998 and the flat was noisy and dusty. Just yesterday I drove by the flat on my way home from work. I regret to say that 2226 Girouard is probably the worst maintained place on the street. There is plastic on both the outside and inside of the windows to keep in the heat. The front stairs are covered with snow and I wonder if anyone is living in the upper flat. There is garbage piled up on the outside landing. I still want to visit the flat, but it is unfortunate the present owners have let it go to such a degree.

- I often learn something about the Internet when I visit my son. Here is the latest: it is how to make a search restricted to the content of a specific web site. As an example, let's search for "Montreal" on our website, www.morrisseyfamilyhistory.com. Go to www.google.com, or another search engine, and type in "Montreal site: www.morrisseyfamilyhistory.com" (omitting the parentheses) and every reference to Montreal on the site will appear in the results. As soon as the Morrissey Family History Newsletters are online anyone can access all the information they need on a specific person or event, with updates in the Newsletters, simply by doing a search in the way I've described.
- The daughter of the vocalist for the Herb Morrissey Jazz Orchestra recently contacted me. I wish I had more information to give her regarding Herb's band. You can see a photograph of the band at www.virtualmuseum.ca/pm.php?id=record_detail&fl=0&lg=English&ex=00000195&rd=97196
- On the evening of October 21, 2007, I fell down the basement stairs at home while carrying an armload of laundry. I thought I had broken both ankles! Instead, I severely sprained both ankles and broke the fibula in my right leg. It is just over four months since the accident and I am finally back at work, but still going to physio.

An Inventory Of The Record Collection Of Frank Morrissey

An enduring memory of my grandmother's home at 2226 Girouard Avenue is the cabinet of sheet music in the living room, much of the sheet music literally spilling out of the cabinet was from the 1920s. There was also an upright piano in the living room that one day, when I was around ten years old, I tried to get my grandmother to play. Finally, there was an old Victrola record player that hadn't worked for year in the living room, to the right of the door as you entered the flat. Patti Ferrari's mother, Patty Morrissey, who is also my second cousin, would have known this scene intimately as I am told she often stayed at our grandmother's flat. I am also told that Patty was like a sister to my father who was the youngest in the family. Patty's father, Frank Morrissey, was my father's brother.

Patti Ferrari, a granddaughter of Frank Morrissey writes in a recent e-mail: "Thank you so much for the Newsletter and including the information about my Mom in it [please see "Morrissey Family History Newsletter, Number Seven"]. I'm attaching a list of 78-RPM record albums that came from my grandmother's [Frank's wife, Eva]. I'm not sure if any of these may be part of a collection, but I thought they might be." Here is a list of the records that belonged to Frank

Morrissey; a list of the records belonging to Edgar Morrissey appeared in the last issue of the Newsletter.

List Of Records Belonging To Frank Morrissey:

Brother Bones and His Shadows- Oriole

Margie
Sweet Georgia Brown

Gene Krupa and His Orchestra- Columbia

Star Burst

Frankie Carle and His Orchestra

Sunrise Serenade

Mel Torme- Vogue Coral

Blue Moon
That Old Black Magic

Peggy Lee- Brunswick

Oh! No!
OOH That Kiss

John Charles Thomas- Victor

Oh What a Beautiful Morning
Kansas City

Tommy Dorsey and His Orchestra- Victor

Careless - Fox Trot
Darn That Dream - Fox Trot

Mills Brothers- (?)

Nevertheless
Thirsty for Your Kisses

Edmund Hockridge- Parlophone

Can - Can -- I Am in Love
Can - Can -- It's All Right With Me

Les Brown and His Band of Renown- Coral

Just When We're Falling In Love
Where You Are

Lionel Hampton Quartet- Columbia

It's Blue World

Flying Home

Dizzy Gillespie- Vogue
Swing Low Sweet Chariot
Interlude in G

Gerry Mulligan Quartet- Vogue
I May Be Wrong
Swing House

Gerry Mulligan Quartet- Vogue
Walking Shoes
Lullaby of The Leaves

Gerry Mulligan Quartet- Vogue
Jeru
Love Me or Leave Me

Johnnie Ray- Columbia (Decca Records)
Out In The Cold Again
Walking My Baby Back Home

Russ Morgan and His Orchestra- Decca (The Compo Co. Ltd. Lachine, Que.)
So Tired (Bob Eberly)
Rambling Rose

Charlie Barnet and His Orchestra- Capitol
Gloomy Sunday
Be-Bop Spoken Here

Caterina Valente- Polydor
The Breeze and I
Jealousy

George Shearing Quintet- MGM
Lullaby of Birdland
When Lights Are Low

Woody Herman and His Orchestra- Capitol
Skinned
Skinned Again

Stan Kenton and His Orchestra- Capitol
Laura
Jump for Joe

Slim Whitman- Quality (Decca Records)

China Doll

Indian Love Call

The Glenn Miller Story- Decca Records

Music from the Movie Sound Track

(James Stewart & June Allyson)

Web Stats:

There have been over 17,000 visitors to www.MorrisseyFamilyHistory.com since the site went online in 2003.

Please email me (sm@MorrisseyFamilyHistory.com) any news you would like included in the next newsletter, or family history that you'd like on www.Morrisseyfamilyhistory.com.

Stephen Morrissey

February 28, 2008

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