

# Using the Nova Scotia Mailing List (nslist) to Find People

By Joe Petrie

## Nova Scotia Mailing List

Nova Scotia Mailing list (nslist) is a mailing list sponsored by The Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia. It provides a medium for exchanging genealogical information pertaining to Nova Scotia, sharing research methods and material, encouraging an interest in family history research, and raising the standard and quality of published works. It is aimed at all those with roots in Nova Scotia. Many subscribers would agree that this is one of the most helpful mailing lists available.

To subscribe:

- send email to [majordomo@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:majordomo@ednet.ns.ca)
- leave subject blank
- first and only line should say: subscribe nslist

To post to the list:

- send messages to [nsroots@EDnet.NS.CA](mailto:nsroots@EDnet.NS.CA)
- choose carefully the words for your subject line so that it reflects what the message is about
- more detail in your message increases the chances that someone can help you

To unsubscribe:

- send email to [majordomo@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:majordomo@ednet.ns.ca)
- leave subject blank
- first and only line should say: unsubscribe nsroots

Posted messages are distributed to all listed Email addresses.

The following is the origin of a successful posting from Robert Harnish:

“Hi:

My name is Robert Harnish - son of Lester Wilson Harnish - born in Halifax 1920/1921.

I am looking for any information on my dad as he was orphaned at the early age of 5 years old.

He did spend some of his teen age years growing up around Skye Glen CB and moved to Thetford Mines PQ -where he married my mom.

He passed away in 2004 - He never spoke of his years in the orphanage and so I know very little about his history.

Can you provide any help locating any information. His mom,s name was Mary (so I am told).

Appreciate your time and assistance”

Robert received three replies:

1. Ron Zinck provided information from the Census of Canada for 1921: specifically:

Edward John Harnish<<http://search.ancestry.ca/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=CanCen1921&indiv=try&h=8108168>>  
age 38

Cora Olive Harnish<<http://search.ancestry.ca/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=CanCen1921&indiv=try&h=8108169>>  
age 27

John Oride Harnish<<http://search.ancestry.ca/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=CanCen1921&indiv=try&h=8108170>>  
age 5

Lester Wilson Harnish<<http://search.ancestry.ca/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=CanCen1921&indiv=try&h=8108171>>  
age 10/12

Victorin Evalla Harnish<<http://search.ancestry.ca/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=CanCen1921&indiv=try&h=8108172>>  
age 7

Beatrice Mildred Harnish<<http://search.ancestry.ca/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=CanCen1921&indiv=try&h=8108173>>  
age 4

Eva Mae Harnish<<http://search.ancestry.ca/cgi-bin/sse.dll?db=CanCen1921&indiv=try&h=8108174>>  
age 3

Note that Ancestry has the following information from the 1921 Census:

Name:	<b>Lester Wilson Harnish</b>
Gender:	Male
Marital Status:	Single
Age:	10/12
Birth Year:	abt 1920
Birth Place:	Nova Scotia
Relation to Head of House:	Son
Father's Name:	Edward John Harnish
Father Birth Place:	Nova Scotia
Mother's name:	Cora Olive Harnish
Mother Birth Place:	Nova Scotia
Racial or Tribal Origin:	Dutch
Province or Territory:	Nova Scotia
District:	Halifax
District Number:	57
Sub-District:	North Shore Polling District No 32B
Sub-District Number:	33
City, Town or Village:	North Shore County Municipality of Halifax
Street or Township:	Queensland

Municipality:	Halifax	
Neighbors:	<a href="#">View others on page</a>	
Household Members:	Name	Age
	<a href="#">Edward John Harnish</a>	38
	<a href="#">Cora Olive Harnish</a>	27
	<a href="#">John Oride Harnish</a>	5
	<a href="#">Lester Wilson Harnish</a>	10/12
	<a href="#">Victorin Ewalla Harnish</a>	7
	<a href="#">Beatrice Mildred Harnish</a>	4
	<a href="#">Eva Mae Harnish</a>	3

2. My response to Robert was advice on what to search, specifically:

Search the Census of Canada for 1921 and search for Harnish, Lester. The family should be intact.

Also, look at Ancestry Library to see whether there is a source record for Lester's parents and his siblings.

Finally, search NovaScotiaGenealogy for birth, marriage, and death records.

3. Irene Schofield provided the most information; specifically,

Your father certainly has an interesting background. Here is what I have researched since yesterday. According to the census of 1921; and two other websites although there could be more websites. The information regarding the NS Historical records and those of the parish/church records show a bit of discrepancy; not exact but perhaps a look at cemetery stones in the area may prove to quantify more accurate results or you may come to a consensus.

I do believe the children may have had a connection to Cape Breton; perhaps it could have been an orphanage.

(Not sure where he said his Mom's name was Mary; maybe a foster Mom or someone at the orphanage, I am just guessing).

**Lester's Parents' Marriage Record:**

Source: NS Historical Vital Statistics Year 1911- Book 11 pg 445

Date: 16 September 1911

Place of Marriage: Church of England East River, Lunenburg County, NS

**Edward John Harnish age 30**

b. East River, Lunenburg, NS

Son of Alfred Harnish and Elizabeth (further investigation states that Elizabeth's maiden name is Stevens)

**Cora Olive Schwartz**

b. Black Point, Halifax, NS

d/o Adopted daughter of Amos Schwartz and Amelia Ann Dauphinee

Witnesses: William Harnish and Lottie Harnish

**Lester's Schwartz Grandparents' Marriage Record:**

Source: NS Historical Vital Statistics

Date: 20 March 1880

Place of Marriage: NS

Amos Schwartz (age 25) (b. ca 1855)

b Hubbard's Cove, NS

Son of Archibald Schwartz and Rachel Amelia Ann Dauphinee (age 16) (b. ca 1864)

b, NS

d/o George Dauphinee and Seah (Leah or Sarah)

**Lester's Mother's Death Record:**

NS Historical Vital Statistics - Year 1921 Book 23 Pg 401

**CORA OLIVE HARNISH**

DATE of Death: 10 September 1921

Place of death: Queensland, NS

Status: Married:

Adopted daughter of Amos and Ann Dauphinee

Buried: 13 Sept. 1921

States that she was ill for 9 months cause of death Pulmonary TBC

Informant: Adopted mother

**Lester's Sister Beatrice's Death Record:**

NS Historical Vital Statistics - Year 1921 Book 23 Pg 369

**BEATRICE MILDRED HARNISH**

Date of Death: 17 August 1921

AGE: 3 years, 5 months, 17 days

Cause of Death: Tuberculosis/Meningitis

d/o Edward Harnish and Cora Schwartz

Buried: Queensland

Informant: Mrs. Anne Kennedy, Black Point, NS

**Lester's Brother John's Obituary:**

3 March 1993 (The Chronicle Herald - Halifax Herald)

Harnish, John Orville - 82, Glendale Manor, Sackville, formerly of Queensland, died March 4, 1993, I Halifax Infirmary. Born in Queensland, he worked as a woodsman. He is survived by a sister Eva McPhail, Baddeck; brother Lester; stepdaughter Nora Keenan, Montreal. He was predeceased

by his wife, the former Marjorie Westhaver, sister Erma Spencer;. His body has been cremated. A memorial service will be 11 a.m. Monday at the Multi-purpose room, Glendale Manor. Rev. Jonathan Eayrs officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. John's Anglican Church, Queensland. Arrangements by Ronald A. Walker Funeral Home, Hubbard.

Bob Hegerich's website states the following

Cora SCHWARTZ is born 27 Oct 1890 in Queensland, Halifax. She marries an Edward HARNISH, date and place still unknown, and they reside in Queensland here they have children Ursula Victoria, John Orville, Eva May, Erma Rose, and [apparently twins] Gertrude Beatrice and Lester, all baptised at St. Luke's, Hubbard's. Erma Rose m. Ralph Waldo SPENCER, and John Orville m. Marjorie Alice WESTHAVER.

In addition, Irene provided the following link to Cora's Schwartz ancestry going back to Lunenburg, Halifax and Germany:

<http://www.wainwrightfamily.org/schwartzfhr.html> .

57. Amos Robert<sup>5</sup> Schwartz (Archibald<sup>4</sup>, John Christopher<sup>3</sup>, Leonard Christopher<sup>2</sup>, Johann Georg<sup>1</sup>) was born 08 November 1854 in Hubbards Cove, Halifax County Nova Scotia, and died 27 January 1934 in Queensland, (buried Hubbards) Halifax County Nova Scotia<sup>167</sup>. He married Amelia Ann Dauphinee 25 March 1880 in Hubbards Cove, Halifax County Nova Scotia Canada <sup>168</sup>, daughter of George Dauphinee and Leah ---. She was born 1864 in Hubbard's Cove, Lunenburg County Nova Scotia Canada, and died 1945 in Hubbards, Halifax County Nova Scotia.

. Notes for Amos Robert Schwartz:

According to his death record, Amos was the Postmaster for Queensland.

Children of Amos Schwartz and Amelia Dauphinee are:

104 i. Allerton<sup>6</sup> Schwartz, born 13 July 1880 in Queensland, Halifax County Nova Scotia; died 05 March 1947 in Hubbards, Halifax County Nova Scotia<sup>169</sup>. He married Daisey ---.

105 ii. Cora Olva Schwartz, born Abt. 1892 in Windsor, Halifax County Nova Scotia Canada; died 10 September 1921 in Queensland, Halifax County Nova Scotia<sup>170</sup>; Adopted child. She married John Edward Harnish; born Abt. 1881 in East River, Lunenburg County Nova Scotia Canada.

In Summary: Robert now has genealogical information that he never had. In addition, if he follows Irene's information and checks it against Bob Hegerich's World Connect web site, he'll be able to trace his many of his ancestors to founding Lunenburg families. Also, Bob and I are related through his grandmother Cora to my Boutilier, Maillard, Dauphinee and other Lunenburg families.

Joseph F. Petrie

Founding Member, Friends of Irish Research  
Member, Association of Professional Genealogists  
Member, Cape Breton Genealogy and Historical Association  
Member, Family History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Member, New England Historic Genealogical Society

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