

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

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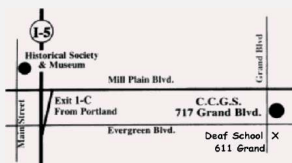
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CCGS Library
717 Grand Blvd
Vancouver, WA

360-750-5688

gensoc at ccgs-wa.org

Hours of operation



Closed Sunday & Monday

*Check the on-line library
calendar*

for unexpected closures.

Tues, Wed & Thurs:

10:00am to 4:30 pm

Friday

10 am to 3 pm

Saturday

2nd & 3rd Saturdays only

10 am to 3 pm

How to get here:

From I-5, take the Mill Plain exit, go east about 1 ½ miles to Grand Blvd and turn right. We are in the strip mall on the left side, north of Evergreen.

General Meeting
Tuesday, March 23, 2010

10 am until noon

CCGS Library Annex
715 Grand Blvd
Vancouver, WA

Join us to hear about

Garry's Wonderful Adventure

Finding his other family



Our president, Garry Lucas, will tell of his search for his biological parents after not knowing he was adopted until age 17.

Several of our CCGS members know they were adopted. Some have completed their searching, others have not. Find out the where, when, why, and how of Garry's interesting search.

Having two families has given Garry a double amount of genealogical research to accomplish. Remember - this all began before the days of computers in every home and Internet. Join us at the meeting and find out how his search was done and what he accomplished. It's an amazing story.

DO YOU SEW?

The CCGS Librarians have a wall hanging for displaying their name badges that needs to be replaced. The present one is kind of like a mini-shoe bag. Currently there are 50 librarians with badges, so we want a holder for 60 if possible. If you are creative and willing to make a name badge display for us, please call Kara Lynn Rankin at 360-901-5331 and I'll meet you at CCGS.

URGENT MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT GARRY LUCAS!

Members and friends of the Clark County Genealogical Society:

In the past few years, economic and other pressures in our lives have increased dramatically, as have the options available to occupy our free time. As a result, civic organizations all across our country have suffered a decline in membership and subsequently a decline in their resources and revenue. As membership declines, so does the number of people willing to do what needs to be done. The 80/20 rule is a constant. 80% of the work in any volunteer organization is accomplished by 20% of the membership.

CCGS has evolved over time into a complicated organization that is in some ways more complex than a small business, with all the same regulatory requirements. Yet right now the society has about 400 members, down from almost 800 a few years ago, so fewer people are doing more work than before.

There are currently two critical volunteer posts that are vacant: the publicity chair and the program chair. The **Publicity Chair** is responsible for media relations, releases regarding our monthly programs, publicity for our classes, and press releases for our fall and spring seminars. The **Program Chair** is responsible for arranging meaningful programs for our monthly meetings. There are resources available to assist each of these people in their responsibilities. Each of these positions is critical to the success of the society.

If you have the time and the interest in volunteering for either of these positions, I would ask that you give me a call. Your assistance would be gratefully appreciated. 360-750-5688

Yours in the interest of broken brick walls,
Garry Lucas

BRITISH ISLES FOCUS GROUP

Bill Whalley

The British Isles Focus Group meets in the CCGS library on the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 until noon. We have no set agenda. Sometimes nobody comes; sometimes we get a lively group, like last time. Vicki Schwab had read about our last meeting and brought some books about Batley and Dewsbury (towns in Yorkshire, England). She says that the books are a regular series, The Archive Photograph Series, that has Victorian photographs of many English towns. She recommends ABE Books (<http://www.abebooks.com/>) for reasonable prices.

Sometimes we just share our latest findings. I told about locating some Whalley descendants in Scotland who were 3rd cousins and who lived about 4 miles apart but did not know of each other. Two of them even worked on the same naval base and were acquainted, but did not know that they were related. They have a reunion planned. Wish I could be there. I think that they are my 4th cousins, but that's not proven yet. This shows what fun you can have by researching collateral lines. Maybe one of them will have the link that I've been searching for. Incidentally, I found a lot of them already on the social networking website Facebook.

We also explored how to use Rootsweb's FreeBMD database (a great way to locate vital records of your English relations, after 1837, that is). We also looked at FreeReg which promises to put English parish registers on-line. Alas, more promises than data at this point. Someone also mentioned an Immigration and Naturalization web site, but I didn't get the URL. Sometimes the key to finding the English origin is to research the US immigration and naturalization records.

We also talked about some software we use; Legacy Family Tree, of course, and for image editing, Irfanview (for Windows) and Gimp (for Windows and Linux). Image editing came up in the context of identifying photographs. You can write on a paper photograph, but what about a digital image? Adding identification information to the face of a digital photo is a way to keep the identities with the scanned image. Using an image editor, I create a blank space under the image then add the information.

SPRING SEMINAR

Saturday May 1, 2010

Carol Clark, VP & Seminar Chairman

May 1 is the date of the Spring Seminar. Barbara Hovorka, who taught at the Family History Center for years, will be our speaker. A tri-fold brochure with a reservation form is included on pages 5 & 6 of this Newsletter for your convenience.

The price for the seminar is \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members.

The topics are:

Directories, newspapers, Obituaries, and Cemeteries

Google Genealogy

Is there an Index to THE Index of the Immigration Index?

An added bonus for this year's seminar is that our President has agreed to make his famous spaghetti sauce, so we will be offering spaghetti lunch for \$5 a plate.



HELP NEEDED

I am still looking for volunteers to help out the day of the seminar. We also need donations of cookies and muffins or breakfast rolls to snack on during the seminar. Please contact me by e-mail at cclark6446 at comcast.net if you can help.

FINDING NUGGETS ON MESSAGE BOARDS

Pat LaRock

Message Boards are kinda like a pile of rocks with gold nuggets hidden within. You have to know which pile to dig in and what to do to increase your chances of digging up gold.

I've had whole lines of ancestors unlocked by finding just one missing "rock"! To explore this free under-used resource, go to www.ancestry.com or www.rootsweb.com and click on "Message Boards" at the top. It's a good move for first-timers to go to the bottom of the page and click on the tiny blue link for "Board Help" and read some of the FAQs. It's very important when you put a query on a Message Board to begin with important words, because only your first words will be displayed (Bad: "I'm looking for family..." / Good: "Thomas Blake, Cheshire, 1720-90"). Roam around on a Message Board to see how this helps. Clicking "Help" will also yield tips on how to search Message Boards.

Have you changed your e-mail address since putting a query on a Message Board? Just go to "Board Help" at the bottom of the Message Board screen, look for the topic "Registration/Login," and follow directions to change your user name.

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Compiled by Alice Aultman Allen

The following books are recent additions to the CCGS Library. They will be found on the "New" Shelf and will be there until the end of March.

Donated by the family of former CCGS member Judy Worthington, who passed away last year:

Cartographic Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs

By Laura Kelsey

Handbook on Irish Genealogy

By Donal F. Begley

Guide to Genealogical Records in the National Archives

By NARA

American Passenger Arrival Records

By Michael Tepper

The Story of Oklahoma

By Muriel Wright

The Story of the Irish Race

By Seumas MacManus

History of Clearfield County, Pennsylvania

By L.C. Aldrich

Catalogue of the Names of the First Puritan Settlers of the Colony of Connecticut

By R.H. Hinman

Historic Gleanings in Windham County, Connecticut

By Ellen D. Larned

The Course of Irish History

By T.W. Moody & F.X. Martin

Donated by Clarissa Farnsworth

Italian Family Research

By J. Konrad

Marriage Records, Pickaway County, Ohio, 1810-1862

By Pickaway County Historical Society

British, Irish, Scottish & Welsh Journal, vol. 4, Dec 1992

By British Isles Family History Society of Los Angeles

Early Long Island Wills of Suffolk County 1691-1703

By Francis P. Harper

Published by the Cleveland County, Oklahoma, Genealogical Society: *Cleveland County, Oklahoma, Index to Marriages*

(4 books, each with groom's index and bride's index)

1890-1895, 1895-1901, 1902-1907, 1908-1914

Cleveland County, Oklahoma, Index to Marriages, 1891-1914

Cleveland County, Oklahoma, Divorce Petitions (Index), 1890-1950

Meyer and Meyer Funeral Home Records, 1918-1958

Primrose Funeral Home Records, 1933-1958

French and French-Canadian Family Research

By J. Konrad

Donated by Glen Jones

Idaho Genealogical Society

Quarterly, Winter 2005-Spring 2006

Idaho Genealogical Society

Quarterly, 2006

Idaho Genealogical Society

Quarterly 2007

Donated by Irene Page

Wyandot County, Ohio, Marriage Licenses, 1845-1873

By Wyandot Chapter, OGS

Wyandot County, Ohio, Naturalization Records, 1842-1929

By Loretta Kin

Donated by James Hurley

Postal History of Walla Walla County, Washington

By Robert Keatts

Donated by Helen Bales

Alki 1932

(Vancouver High School Yearbook)

SALT LAKE CITY TRIP

OCTOBER 3 TO 10, 2010

Plan ahead now to make a genealogy research trip to Salt Lake City Family History Library. They have records for all states and many foreign countries. They have translators who can read and write many languages and are invaluable in helping others find records in foreign countries.

I have made reservations for the week of October 3 through October 10 at the Carlton Hotel, where we have group discount prices. They serve a custom breakfast every morning for lodgers and have shuttles that transport you to and from the library several times a day. I will make the specific reservations about September 1, so I would appreciate having the details of your plans before then. You are responsible for making your own travel arrangements whether you travel by plane, car, train, or bus.

I prefer to be contacted by e-mail because I am often gone during the day. If you call me, please leave a message and I will return your call. I will answer e-mail messages as soon as I can. Let me know if you have questions or if you plan to make the trip. I hope you will plan to make this trip. It is always an enjoyable trip for those who go.

Contact Bea Ritter at 360-896-6104 or britten at integra.net.

WELCOME!

Welcome, new member **Gerald Brock** and reinstated member **Bruce Maas**.

Spring 2010 Seminar flyer is here in the mailed edition.

See it at: <http://www.ccgswa.org/p4307.htm>

Seminar flyer - same as above

RESEARCH AND PRESERVATION

Jane Germann

Next Cut and Paste is Monday March 15, 10 to 3.

LDS Women Cut and Paste: On Saturday, January 30th, sixteen women from the LDS church came to CCGS for their service project. The hour-plus was spent in cutting and pasting the 2009 vitals of the Reflector. A total of about 30 volunteer hours was earned for CCGS (travel included) by these women: Barbara Lay, Lynn Rutherford, Robyn Boyle, Kathy Furin, Sandra Hamilton, Ruby Streng, Jessica Cottam, Jessica Kelly, Fabiola Woodland, Enriqueta Alquicira, Jeannette Fisher, Dawn Johnson, Carol Crusan, Lovell Snead, Donna Taylor and Beverly Smith. Thank you for helping make records available to genealogists.

Cut and Paste resumed in February after a short hiatus. Darla Brock completed paging a complete year of Columbian vital records. Lillian Fullerton brought back the 1999 vitals, which she had been indexing over the winter. This book will soon be on the shelves of the CCGS library. Gaydena Thompson pasted vitals from the Reflector. DeAnn Wilson worked on pagination and pasting vitals. DeAnn is also taking home some old tax records to extract for an article for the Trail Breakers. Beth Cross came with the 2009 vital records already indexed and nearly ready to put on the shelf; she also explained to Jane how she does this process. Thanks ladies for your time!

MY SKELETON

Carol Clark, CCGS VP

Everyone probably has a skeleton in the family closet. I just had not found mine, until now. Through a Google Book search I found a book on my father's side of the family. The book just had a snippet view, but included the page numbers, so I asked for copies through Interlibrary Loan. The pages contained part of a will for my g-g-g-g-grandfather stating that his daughter, my g-g-g-g-grandmother, would continue to receive money to live on, even after he died, as long as she did not go back to her husband. If she ever did go back to him, the money would be lost to her forever. I have no clue to why she left, but it does spice up any family history to have interesting stories to go along with the facts.

I CHALLENGE YOU!

Lethene Parks

On February 9 eleven people, several of them beginners at family history research, attended the class on "Defining Research Problems and Developing Research Strategies." Discussion was lively, with everyone participating. At the end of the class I issued a challenge to those attending: Define a research problem from your own family history—a question you want to answer, a problem you want to solve, a brick wall you want to climb over. Develop a plan for researching the problem. Over the next several months work on finding the answers, then write up what you have learned and present it as a program for CCGS members or write an article for the Newsletter. I would like to extend the challenge to all CCGS members and readers of the Newsletter.

In the last two or three years there have been a number of periodical articles that may be helpful. I will put copies of these, along with the handouts from the February 9 class, in a notebook and place it in the CCGS Library for people to use. Please take up the challenge to solve your family history problems and then share what you have learned with your fellow researchers. We can all learn from each other.

UP-COMING TUESDAY CLASSES

10 to 12 noon - See more information at <http://www.ccgswa.org/p5291.htm>

March 2, Census and Tax Records.

March 9, Vital Records (Local, State, and Federal): Jane Germann

April 6, Beginning & Refreshing Genealogy (free)

April 13, Working with Timelines

May 4, Land and Tax Records (Federal, State and Local): Jane Germann

May 11, Following the Family (Whole Family Genealogy): Lethene Parks

USCIS SERVICE FOR RESEARCHERS

In the past month-and-a-half, both *The Columbian* and *The Oregonian* have reprinted an article by Anna Gorman about a "little-known genealogy service for relatives wanting to know more about their family history" – a service provided by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. (Actually, the service is available to any researcher.) The article is somewhat lacking in specifics, but full details are available at <http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy>.

For \$20, USCIS will use biographical information you provide to search indices for the following:

- Naturalization Certificate Files (C-files) from September 27, 1906 to April 1, 1956
- Alien Registration Forms from August 1, 1940 to March 31, 1944
- Visa files from July 1, 1924 to March 31, 1944
- Registry Files from March 2, 1929 to March 31, 1944
- Alien Files (A-files) numbered below 8 million (A8000000) and documents therein dated prior to May 1, 1951

Search results (record citations) are returned to the researcher, along with instructions on how to request the file(s) from USCIS or the National Archives. The fee for records is \$20/\$35, depending on the record type.

It is essential to read the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), form instructions, and other information on the website before sending any money.

WASHINGTON STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2010

Journey of Discovery

When: Friday, September 17, 2010 7:00 - 8:30 pm (bonus speaker)
Saturday, September 18, 2010 8:00 - 3:45 pm

Where: Assembly of God Bethel Church, 132 Kirkland Road, Chehalis, Washington

Information: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/seminar.htm>

WASHINGTON STATE LIBRARY FACES CUTS

Due to state budget cuts, the number of staff of the Washington State Library has been reduced. We remain open to the public, will continue our Ask A Librarian service, and will continue offering free obituary searches. However, with a smaller team of librarians our response time will be affected. Therefore, obituary and other genealogy requests may take up to 4 weeks (instead of 2) to answer. As always, we will strive to respond to questions as quickly and accurately as possible. Thanks for your understanding.

Donations have always been appreciated! Now it is even easier to give to the State Library. Go to <http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/LibraryDonations.aspx> and click on the Donate Now! button to donate on-line by credit card. You can also mail donations to: Washington State Library, Office of the Secretary of State, PO Box 40224, Olympia, WA 98599

Visit our Obituary Requests page for more details about the service:
<http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/Obituaries.aspx>

For more information about the budget cuts, go to:
<http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/StateLibraryBudgetCuts.aspx>

CALL FOR ARTICLES FOR THE TRAIL BREAKERS

Do you have an interesting article for the CCGS Trail Breakers? Our now-annual publication is in need of some articles about Clark County pioneers, how-to-do articles, or brick walls.

Call Jane Germann at 360-892-8019 for details on how to submit an article or contact her by e-mail at: germann@wa-net.com

SOUTH KING COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SPRING MINI-SEMINAR

Seattle's Pioneer Women: More Than Pretty Petticoats

When: March 20, 2010 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Where: The First Baptist Church of Kent, 11420 SE 248th St., Kent, WA 98030

Full details can be found on their website

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waskcgs/>

Civil War Pictures

Probably a million photos were made during the American Civil War on wet glass plates. Popular during the war, they lost their appeal afterwards, so many were sold for the glass. These were often used in greenhouses, and over the years the sun caused the images to disappear. But fortunately, many glass-plate photos did survive. One collection may be viewed free at

<http://www.mikelynaugh.com/VirtualCivilWar/New/Originals2/index.html>.

Another collection of Civil War photos is found at <http://www.footnote.com> where 5761 images by Matthew Brady and other photographers may be viewed free.

NBC To Air "Who Do You Think You Are?" Television Series

Fridays at 8 pm beginning March 5, NBC (Channel 8 in our area) will air a new series titled "*Who Do You Think You Are?*" The series will lead seven celebrities to discover more about their ancestors. Sarah Jessica Parker, Spike Lee, Matthew Broderick, Susan Sarandon, Emmitt Smith, and Brooke Shields will be featured.

The idea for "*Who Do You Think You Are?*" originated from a show that first appeared in the UK in 2004. Since then, the UK has seen a surge of interest in family history. It is expected that "*Who Do You Think You Are?*" may have the same effect here. As a result, more people may want to join genealogical societies or visit their libraries. It could mean more interest from the media and increased media exposure. The potential is great.

For more information go to <http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are>



Clark County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 5249
Vancouver WA 98668-5249

President: Garry Lucas
Co-vice Presidents: Doc & Carol
Clark
Secretary: Steve Cornick

Treasurer: Larry Germann (acting)
Co-Assts. Sec-Treas: Larry Germann
and Cheryl Brooks
Past President: Diana Cruz

<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org>
Library: 717 Grand Blvd
360-750-5688

CCGS Meetings and Programs

Mar. 1 Legacy Users Group - 10 am-noon, CCGS Library Annex
Mar. 2 Census & Tax Records Class - 10 am - noon
Mar. 4 First Thursday Unfocused Genealogy Group - 1:30 - 3:30, CCGS Library Annex
Mar. 8 CCGS Board Meeting - 9 am - 11am, CCGS Library Annex
Mar. 9 Vital Records Class - 10 am - noon
Mar. 13 British Isles Focus Group - 10 am - noon, CCGS Library
Mar. 15 Cut & Paste work party - 10 am - 3 pm, CCGS Library Annex
Mar. 17 **CCGS Newsletter deadline - copies to editor and co-editor please**
Mar. 23 GENERAL MEETING - 10 am -noon, CCGS Library Annex
May 1 Annual Spring Seminar - flyer/registration included in Newsletter
Oct. 3-10 Annual Salt Lake City Research Trip

General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month at CCGS Library Annex.
Morning meetings: Oct - Mar, 10 a.m. - noon. Evening meetings: Apr-Sept. 7 - 9 p.m..
No General Meeting is usually held the month of the Spring Seminar, July, August, or December..

Notify Jeanine Martinell Bailiff, our Sunshine Lady, of anyone needing a card from CCGS such as get well, thinking of you, sympathy, etc. [jgmb at pacifier.com](mailto:jgmb@pacifier.com) or call Jeanine at 360-566-9422.