

# CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter

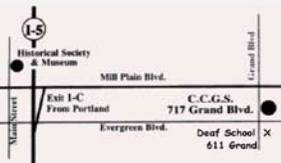
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**CCGS Library**  
**717 Grand Blvd**  
**Vancouver, WA**  
360-750-5688  
gensoc at ccgs-wa.org  
**Hours of operation**



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**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, October 26, 2010

10 am - noon

CCGS Library Annex  
715 Grand Blvd  
Vancouver, WA



*Are you Searching in  
New England  
for clues to your  
ancestors?*



It has just become easier...our own society has purchased a subscription to the *New England Historical and Genealogical Society database.*

We can thank a number of our members who voluntarily donated the funds necessary to purchase this addition to our library.

*Come to this meeting and  
Lethene Dennis Parks  
will show us how to use this new resource.*

**Don't miss the annual CCGS Fall Seminar to be held  
Saturday, November 6, 2010.**

**Full details and a registration form are in this Newsletter and on  
our web page at: <http://www.ccgs-wa.org/p4307.htm>**

**Hope to see YOU there.**

## **WSGS AWARDS PRESENTED**

Four active volunteers with the Clark County Genealogical Society were honored by the Washington State Genealogical Society for exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of Clark County Genealogical Society. Awards to Karen Frost, Richard Engstrom and Barbara Baker, all of Vancouver, Washington, and Glen Jones of Portland, Oregon, were given the 18th day of September in the year 2010, at the annual meeting of WSGS at Chehalis, Washington by Sue Semenza Ericksen, president of the state society. Here are their stories:

### **KAREN CHATHAM FROST**



Karen Frost joined the Clark County Genealogical Society ten years ago and immediately jumped in "feet first" by volunteering to be on the Society's Board of Directors as the Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. She held that position under three treasurers. When the last treasurer resigned, Karen took over that position, which she held for one year, finding the job demanding but challenging. It entailed keeping abreast of and managing the Society's money, taxes, and paying of the bills. Karen served for five years as the library scheduler, placing librarians to work at the Society's library. She is currently a librarian, as well as one of the members on the library committee. She had also worked in the capacity of backup to the secretary, distributed and monitored library security codes and keys, worked with the recording treasurer with data entry, and twice chaired the Society's spring seminars. Karen's versatility and energy make her a highly valued asset for Clark County Genealogical Society. Well done, Karen.

### **RICHARD D. ENGSTROM**



Richard Engstrom has been a member of the Clark County Genealogical Society for approximately 10 years. Beginning in 2005 with the photographing of grave markers and headstones in selected Clark County cemeteries, he became a very active volunteer. This project has included the updating and posting of burial records for these cemeteries. In 2008, Richard developed a grant proposal to begin the restoration and preservation of the Vancouver Old City Cemetery. A second grant was developed in 2009 to continue that work. He is working with other society members to develop a walking map for the cemetery. This past year Richard also acted as the manager for the meeting room annex for the Society. In addition, he serves as a volunteer librarian and as a member of the Society's Board of Directors. As a fifth generation Clark County, Washington, resident, he is presently working on his family history, which will highlight three pioneer families of Clark County. Richard's many talents and willingness to serve the Society are greatly appreciated.

### **BARBARA STUMBAUGH BAKER**



Barbara Baker has been a member of Clark County Genealogical Society since 1999. She served as Treasurer for three years and has continued on as Chair of the Finance Committee since 2002. She researches Internal Revenue Service and Washington Department of Revenue regulations to ensure the Society is in compliance with current laws. She works closely with the Society's accountant and other finance advisors in determining how best to invest funds and account for all income and expenses. Barbara has been an active member of the Library Committee for many years as the Budget Director, and has helped with other functions, including participating in inventories and reorganization of the library to use the Dewey Decimal System. She serves as a librarian on a regular basis. Barbara has helped on many of the Society's special projects, including Heritage Teas; spring and fall seminars; working with the Research and Preservation committee, proofreading indexes of obituaries for publications issued by the Society. She also served on several committees for the National Genealogical Society convention in Portland, Oregon, in 2001. The Society is rightly proud and appreciative of all the accomplishments and leadership of Barbara Baker.

(See next page for Glen Jones)

## **GLEN A. JONES**



Glen Jones has been an active member of Clark County Genealogical Society since 2005, when his enthusiasm and experience in family history pursuits were recognized and he was elected to the Society's Board of Directors. Glen brings a rich family history of working with the railroad and being an active outdoorsman during his life-long residency in the Pacific Northwest. Glen has become a "go-to" person for researchers navigating the bureaucratic and cultural traces of Native American family history. As the Society's Education Chair, Glen and his committee developed a comprehensive curriculum that significantly empowers the members who participate. He also serves as an instructor in the program. As a volunteer librarian for the Society's library, his infectious enthusiasm makes a visit to the library a positive experience, even for those patrons suffering "brick-wall frustration." Because he is an active member in other organizations and connects with many historians and family researchers, he has become Clark County Genealogical Society's ambassador to many regional family history organizations, large and small.

### **ARE YOU HEADING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER?**

Pat LaRock, Membership Chair

**We want to be sure you receive your monthly newsletters.** You have two ways to get your CCGS Newsletter that will keep us from paying fines: 1) Let us know you'd like to read it online; or, 2) Tell us your winter address and the dates you'll be there. You can phone the CCGS office and ask a Librarian to give the information to the Membership Chair or you can send an e-mail containing the information to ptb4rk3 at yahoo.com. Please be aware that if you do NOT inform us of your temporary address change, the Post Office will charge us 50 cents each time they are unable to deliver the newsletter to your regular address; they DO NOT forward mail under our bulk mail permit. Thanks for taking care of this matter before you leave and be sure to notify us when you return!

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY CO-ASSISTANT TREASURER – UPDATE**

There is now an **urgent** need for someone to help the Treasurer, primarily as vacation relief. We normally have one person acting as both Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary. Because of a family health crisis on the East Coast, our present Assistant Secretary/Treasurer does not expect to return to Vancouver for a very long time. The most important qualifications for this position are the abilities to receive and document income, pay bills, and keep routine income and expense records.

If you are interested and can help us out, please contact the Treasurer, Larry Germann, or the President, Steve Cornick.

## **ATTENTION! NAME BADGE ORDER IMMINENT!**

Larry Germann, Treasurer

Anyone needing either a CCGS Name Badge or a replacement for one, please access the badge order form at our web site (click on the Membership and Renewal Form link); print the form, fill it out, and turn it in with your money at the Library. We are about to place an order, and we'd like to order all those that are needed at the same time.

## **NEW BOOKS SOON TO BE ADDED TO CCGS LIBRARY COLLECTION**

Reviews by Lethene Dennis Parks, CCGS Library Director

These two books will help you with your family history research, from the basics to more complex research problems. Both have been published recently enough to be pretty much up to date on technology and the Internet, and both focus on computers and the Internet as valuable tools to help you research your family history. Both were donated with the intent that we make our members aware of them as resources for genealogical research. Look for them on the CCGS library shelves soon

***Crash Course in Family History***, 4<sup>th</sup> ed., by Paul Larsen. St. George, Utah  
<http://www.EasyFamilyHistory.com> 2010. \$34.95. Donated by Paul Larsen.

The sub-title describes this book very well, calling it “An easy step-by-step illustrated guidebook and comprehensive resource directory.” The book covers everything from the most basic steps through research techniques and tips, finding various types of records, documenting your research, writing your family stories, organizing your files, and preserving your documents and artifacts, and finally, sharing the results of your research. Throughout the book many web sites are listed and described, as are some print resources. The author states that he intentionally has treated research in libraries and genealogical and historical societies lightly, as he wanted to focus on computer technology for genealogical research. This book really covers everything. It is clearly directed to an audience of LDS-member researchers, but will be equally useful to anyone wanting to research their family history.

***Better Than Sliced Bread: Genealogy and Technology***. Santa Clara, CA: Silicon Valley  
Computer Genealogy Group, 2009. \$15.00. *Donated by Carol Latta of Vancouver, whose sister and  
brother-in-law are two of the authors represented in the book.*

The Silicon Valley Computer Genealogy Group has been around since the 1980s and is well known in genealogical circles as one of the most knowledgeable groups around when it comes to using computer technology for family history research. The material in this small volume is adapted from some of the “most useful,” “engaging,” “relevant and thought provoking” articles published since 2004 in the group’s monthly newsletter *Past Finder*. Included are articles under four headings: genealogy basics, Internet and technology, software management, and families lost and found. Specific articles deal with onsite research and local libraries, verifying earlier research, tracing colonial American ancestors, oral history, timelines, search engines, wikis, fixing your genealogy database, family stories, and much more. All are very well written and informative and offer practical help.

### **UPDATE ON GENCHAT**

Patricia McKee Bauer

Our (used to be) popular GenChat was held each Thursday evening from 7 until 9 pm, and is now off-line. The chat room is still there but, until someone decides when and if we should resume, both Nancy Elder Petersen and I are taking a break which has been enjoyed by both of us. The past few months it seems we mainly just sat at our computers, watching a blank screen with visitors few and far between. The idea of a brick wall project for each session worked out quite well until we were no longer receiving any information from our members. Some people wouldn’t send us projects because they couldn’t join us that evening; others thought it was just a waste of time; maybe some people had other reasons. If you have any thoughts on GenChat - let us know.

## **Getting to know . . . Alice Aultman Allen**



I began doing family history research back in 1968 as the young mother of a newborn daughter. My aunt, Elsie Johnson Kirk of Yacolt, had compiled a brief family history based on information from her mother and from aunts and uncles who were still living at the time. Aunt Elsie made a booklet for each of her sisters. I don't think my mother saw hers much once I read it, because I was hooked! I still have that little booklet today, and am still thanking Aunt Elsie for starting me out on a life-long obsession.

Research in the pre-computer days wasn't what it is now, and as I was in the midst of raising six children, it was often put on hold. Until 1995, that is, when we got our first computer. My brother told me we needed "The Internet." I didn't know much about "The Internet" at that time, but was a dutiful sister and agreed, so he signed us up for Prodigy, at something like \$9.95 a month for FIVE whole hours! I didn't know what to do with "The Internet," until one evening I was struck by the thought that maybe there was genealogical information online. I discovered Prodigy's message boards, immediately found a cousin who helped me with one of my dead-end lines, and on the same message boards found information on my husband's Allen family that took that line back to 1694—something his parents were unable to do in spite of more than 35 years of looking. After our year with Prodigy, my brother said we were ready for the "real" Internet.

Internet genealogy was just getting its start in 1996; there wasn't much online yet. The best sources at that time were mailing lists, message boards, etc. I had been a member of a Kansas History mailing list and had apparently said enough on that list to attract the attention of Nancy Trice, who was organizing a web site for Kansas in the USGenWeb Project – a brand-new source for free genealogy data. She asked me to be a coordinator for Marshall County, Kansas, and offered to teach me what I needed to know to get a web page up. In July 1996 I said "Yes," not knowing where it would lead. Fourteen years later the USGenWeb Project is now the largest repository for free online genealogy data. I host seven counties, including Clark County, and serve on the Project's advisory board.

Somewhere in that time frame, I was doing some research at the Family History Center on NE 119th Street and met Roy & Mary Katschke. They convinced me to join CCGS when they learned that I was the USGenWeb coordinator for Clark County. I wasn't very active in the Society those first few years, but in early 2000 or 2001 I volunteered to be a librarian, and was also asked to be the Accessions Director. While that job title and some responsibilities have changed in the past couple of years, my main job with CCGS has been entering new books, microfilm, microfiche, and CD's into our Readerware catalog program. As if I didn't have enough to do, I volunteered a few years ago to be the Research Correspondent for CCGS. I am also on the Education Committee and teach some classes for CCGS.

I love what I do and love helping others find their roots. It's the least I can do in repayment for the help that I've been given in the past. I have met many wonderful people in the course of this hobby, in real life as well as online. I can't think of anything else I'd rather do.

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE RESEARCH HINTS**

Glen Jones

The New Hampshire State Archives has 40 volumes of provincial and state records online at [www.sos.nh.gov/archives/nhstatepapers.html](http://www.sos.nh.gov/archives/nhstatepapers.html)

To see what else the New Hampshire Archives has that could be of use to you, go to <http://www.sos.nh.gov/archives/archival.html>

## **DO YOU HAVE A STORY OF ABUNDANCE?**

Does the fall bring back memories for you of picking apples from your family's farm or that of someone you knew? Did you ever earn money harvesting cherries or peaches or hazelnuts? Maybe you were involved in preserving food grown in your family's garden, or perhaps you entered a prize pumpkin in the Clark County Fair?

If any of this brings memories to your mind, then you are someone we want to talk to! Urban Abundance is a local organization that is seeking to re-visit the ways that gardening, farming, and food production have always been a part of the social fabric of life in Vancouver. Through our gleaning program, seed ball making, and pruning workshops we are finding ways to share the abundance of this area and to educate the community about the importance of good homegrown food.

Another important component of our work is the Stories of Abundance project. The stories about the kitchen gardens and farms of the past have huge potential to connect youth to the future possibilities for their own gardens. We would like to invite members of the Clark County Genealogical Society who are nearing their 70's or have already reached that milestone to participate with us on this project. Student-led interviews will explore the history of food in Vancouver and the role that it has had on building the community. We are excited to give high-school students a chance to meet some members of the community whom they might not otherwise know and to learn to see themselves as members of the community that they are exploring.

If you wouldn't mind bringing us along as you stroll down memory lane, or if you can think of someone else to whom we should talk, please contact Emily Jameson, Stories of Abundance Project Coordinator, at 503-409-6561, or emily.jameson at gmail.com.

## **DIGGING INTO COLONIAL HISTORY**

Pat LaRock

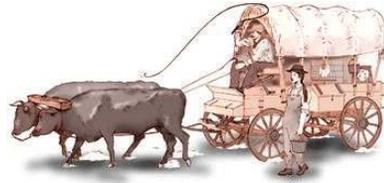
While searching for material on my ancestor John Smith (oh, yeh??), I traced his grandson Ezra Smith (via NARA Revolutionary War pension records) to Sudbury, Massachusetts. So where the heck is or was Sudbury? I'd heard of Concord, Lexington, and Boston, of course, but not Sudbury. I discovered it is located only a few miles from Concord. My search online (using Google search tips learned at one of our CCGS classes) brought to me a great website just filled with colonial period material:

<http://www.town.sudbury.ma.us/archives>

It includes an historical timeline, images, maps, full books online, biographies, and.....(drumroll!.....) it allows you to search by a person's surname and/or first name (males and females). The official town, county, and some state records are there. I also found transcribed minutes from town meetings dating from the beginning of Sudbury in the 1630s. Did you know all men were REQUIRED to attend all town meetings? So if a man was alive, his name can be found in the minutes. Sudbury men were active in preparing for war against the British. I knew that townsmen had removed powder and shot from storage at Concord in anticipation of the British Regulars trying to capture it, but I hadn't known that they also removed large quantities of other materials that would be needed if the colonials went to war (over 10,000 canteens, hundreds of blankets, food stores, and so on). It was fun to read accounts of what role town citizens (including mine) played in the Battle of Lexington & Concord. I don't know if similar websites exist for other small towns of that time, but I highly recommend looking for such records online.

# Clark County Genealogical Society Fall Seminar

## *Finding Your Ancestors Along the Oregon Trail*



**Saturday, November 6, 2010  
CCGS Library Annex  
715 Grand Blvd  
Vancouver, WA 98661**

Come discover how you can find members of your family as they traveled along the Oregon Trail and settled in the Pacific Northwest. Listen to the story of Peter Skene Ogden, in his own words, as he recounts his explorations of Oregon and Washington in the 1820's. Learn about new places and resources to research your ancestors. View the places your family saw as they made their journey west.

**8:30-9:00** Check in and pick up handout packet

**9:00-10:00** *A Conversation With Peter Skene Ogden* - A re-enactment presented by Tom Laidlaw

**10:00-10:15** Break

**10:15-11:15** *Virtual Journey Along the Oregon Trail* presented by Lethene Parks

**11:15-1:00** Lunch (furnished by CCGS members) and socialize

**1:00-2:00** *How to Research Your Oregon Trail Ancestor* presented by Jim Tompkins

**2:00-2:15** Break

**2:15-3:30** *Oregon Trail Websites for Research* presented by Lethene Parks and Jim Tompkins

**3:30-4:00** Questions and Discussion

The price will be \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members which includes lunch.  
*Pre-registration required to receive the printed material.*

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Please complete registration form and return with payment to  
CCGS Fall Seminar  
P.O. Box 5249  
Vancouver, WA 98668-5249

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email & Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Member - \$30 with CCGS Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Non-member - \$35

\_\_\_\_\_ I want to learn more about CCGS membership \_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in volunteering at CCGS

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## **NEW SEARCH PILOT PROGRAM!**

Pat LaRock

Familysearch.org has a new way to search, and it's especially good for England in areas not well covered by the IGI. To get to it, go to <http://www.familysearch.org> and click and hold **Search Records** (in the bar at the top) to bring down a drop-down menu, then select **Record Search Pilot**. Experiment with it. My cousin in England said she had to go in person to County Record Offices for information that she can now see on that site. It contains many Parish Records and Bishops Transcripts. Good hunting!

NOTE: At the pilot site mentioned above, there is a note suggesting that the same collections and more are available at [beta.familysearch.org](http://beta.familysearch.org). It is hard to keep up with the fast pace of additions and changes being made by familysearch.org.

## **MY PROBLEMS WITH FAMILYSEARCH.ORG**

Gene Kuechmann

Familysearch.org has some significant problems with their indexing project. I am one of many who have reported transcription errors in which the index doesn't match the image. In my case, a wife in a US census image became a mother in the index. To see other problems, click the Feedback tab at the right on the search page.

A problem with the English records is the absence of images and the difficulty of knowing whether an image of a parish record or of a Bishop's Transcript was indexed. The parish record of a baptism is somewhat removed from the actual birth of the child. The BT is even further removed, being a handwritten copy of the parish register made as much as a year or more after the event, possibly by a pastor who thought he had better things to do. And, of course, an index or transcription of an image of either is still further removed from the event. It is NOT a primary source.

A case in point: The BT of records of the parish of Barnoldby le Beck, Lincolnshire, shows the father of Peter (b 1769) and William (b 1771) Kirmond as Matthew Kirmond. But the parish record was corrected by the pastor or clerk after the 1769-1771 BT was made; in each case, Matthew was crossed out, and Michael written in. The familysearch.org index shows one record for each with just the surname Kirmond and another for each with Matthew Kirmond – no mention of Michael. If I had not done the research onsite in England, I would still be searching for Matthew Kirmond. An image of the parish record would have shown the correction.

### ***Do you use the helpful links on the CCGS web page? If not, you're working too hard!***

There are many very useful links on our CCGS web page at <http://www.ccgswa.org/p883.htm> Some are: Make a TinyURL - to make that huge web address into a very manageable size. How about a "Cousin Chart" for finding how that person also descending from your great great great grandfather is related to you? Another is a site for Genealogy Forms of all kinds. There's a link to a very handy "Soundex Converter" and all you have to do is put in the surname and click a button. We hope you will be pleasantly surprised when you visit this page. Happy hunting!



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

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President: Stephen Cornick  
Co-vice Presidents: Doc & Carol Clark  
Secretary: Sherry Warren

Treasurer: Larry Germann  
Asst. Sec-Treas.: VACANT  
Past President: Garry Lucas

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

### ***CCGS Meetings and Programs***

- Oct. 3-10     Annual Salt Lake City Research Trip
- Oct. 4        Legacy Users Group - 10 am-noon, CCGS Library Annex
- Oct. 4        Computer Clinic - 1 pm - CCGS Library/Annex
- Oct. 7        First Thursday Unfocused Genealogy Group - 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm, CCGS Library Annex
- Oct. 9        British Isles Focus Group - 10:30 am - noon, CCGS Library
- Oct. 11       CCGS Board Meeting - 9 am - 11 am, CCGS Library Annex
- Oct. 18       Cut & Paste work party - 10 am - 2 pm, CCGS Library Annex
- Oct. 20       CCGS Newsletter deadline - copies to editor and co-editor please**
- Oct. 26       General Meeting - 10 am - noon, CCGS Library Annex
- Nov. 6        Annual Fall Seminar - see web page for information (no November General Meeting)

General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month at CCGS Library Annex.

Morning meetings: Oct - Mar, 10 am - noon. Evening meetings: Apr-Sept. 7 - 9 pm.

**No General Meeting is usually held the month of the Spring or Fall Seminar, July, August, or December.**

**Notify Jeanine 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.**