

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

Denni Hamilton- Levonian,
Membership
mayflwham at gmail.com

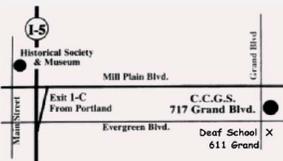
Stephen Cornick, President
gensoc at ccgs-wa.org

Gene Kuechmann, Editor
gskuech at gmail.com

Patricia Bauer, Co-editor/web
apmb at iinet.com

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 am 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, June 28, 2011
Beginning at 6 pm
CCGS Library Annex
715 Grand Blvd in Vancouver



We'll start the evening sharing good food and fellowship. This is pot-luck, so bring your favorite dish, your table service, and your appetite. Coffee, tea, and soft drinks will be available.

Following the meal, we will install our newly elected officers:

Vice President: Dolly Merrick
Asst. Secretary Treasurer: Eric Jordahl

Finally, we will round out the program by sharing our genealogical successes and failures for the year, and our plans for a summer of scaling brick walls and discovering lost ancestors.

SPRING SEMINAR UPDATE

Carol Clark, Seminar Coordinator

Remember, this year's Spring Seminar is Saturday, June 4th. Our speaker, Connie Lenzen, has some exciting topics to present.

Parking is available at the Air Academy on the corner of Mill Plain & Grand. We must leave enough parking spaces in our complex so they are available for our neighboring businesses.

Registration starts at 8:30 AM and the seminar at 9:00 AM. It is possible to pay the day of the seminar, but we would appreciate your signing or letting us know that you are attending - so we can have a packet made up and have enough seating for everyone. A complete brochure with a registration form is available on our web page. Click on Seminar Brochure at www.ccgs-wa.org/p4307.htm

We will have lots of prizes on display. Tickets will be sold at the seminar, and prizes will be awarded during the afternoon break.

New CCGS Photocopier

Those of you who stopped by the CCGS Library during the last few days of May might have noticed our new Kyocera FS-3040MFP copier. This replaces the old Xerox Workcentre 232, for which the lease expires in June. Your CCGS Information Technology committee, plus the CCGS Treasurer and President, worked months on coming up with the most economical solution to meet current and projected CCGS copying needs.



The driving factor behind our decision on the replacement unit was total cost of ownership of a copier rated for our monthly use. The Kyocera won out over many other copier makes and models. Our savings is projected to be nearly \$1,100 at the end of the first year of use, and about \$3,000 per year thereafter.

Bargain Ink Cartridges for a Canon Printer

Gene Kuechmann

My old Canon i860 printer finally gave up the ghost, leaving me with 7 new, unused Cartridge World ink cartridges. They can be used with any of these Canon printers: BJC-8200, i560, i860, i900D, i950, i960, i9900, S800, S820, S820D, S830D, S900, S9000, and Canon PIXMA models: iP3000, iP4000, iP4000R, iP5000, iP6000D, iP8500, MP750, MP760, MP780. Contact me at gskuech at gmail.com if you are interested.

Do you have RICE in your family?

In your family tree, that is? The Edmund Rice (1638) Association has a good website and an excellent newsletter that you might like to investigate. The family goes back to Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1638, and it includes Revolutionary War soldiers. The website is <http://www.edmund-rice.org> - the association offers a nine-generation Rice database on CD for \$15, including shipping.

Welcome to CCGS!

New Members

Sally Morello
Sharon Shull
Sherrie Kelley

Terri Frazier
Jerry Jeffrey
Jean Collins
Thomas Nelson

Welcome Back

Tamara A. Croft

Getting to know Denni K. Hamilton-Levonian



I was born in the San Fernando Valley area north of Los Angeles, California, in 1958, to Albert Hamilton and Peggy Irene Childers. I have an older half-brother, Mike Barber, who now lives in the Brush Prairie area. At the age of 3, I was diagnosed with severe hearing impairment in both ears. There was no known cause for my hearing loss, except for the fact that I previously had a severe infection that was treated with antibiotics. After my diagnosis, I was fitted with a hearing aid. I also received speech and lip-reading therapy at the John Tracy Hearing Clinic, which was started by actor Spencer Tracy because his son John was deaf.

I lived in the San Fernando Valley for about 28 years until I moved to Simi Valley, Ventura County. My father worked for the Los Angeles City Fire Department for 33 ½ years, first as a firefighter, then as Captain II. He was a Third Class Petty Officer on active duty during the Korean Conflict. Later on, he was promoted to Chief Petty Officer for the U.S. Naval Reserve. My mother was a devoted and active housewife.

Because of my hearing loss, I attended Special Education classes from kindergarten to my senior year of high school. The use of American Sign Language was never part of my curriculum. Unfortunately, I had to be bussed to downtown Los Angeles, or from one end of the Valley to the other, for my schooling. I think more of my hours were spent on the bus than in school. In my last semester of high school, I worked at my first job, as a program vendor at Dodger Stadium. It was only possible because my mother drove me there and also got a season ticket so she could drive me home. I think it cost my mother more than my earnings for the season. After high school, I attended a two-year college for my AS degree and a Physical Therapy Assistant certificate. A couple of years later, I went back to college to earn my Respiratory Therapy Technician certificate, and I then worked at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles for about 15 years. After suffering a back injury and increased deafness in both ears, I went into private home care for a 4-year-old, medically fragile, trached, quadriplegic girl, Lorrin Kain (www.lorrinworld.com). I had the privilege of being her caregiver and respiratory therapist for 9 years. Through one of Lorrin's night nurses, I was introduced to Eric Levonian, who happened to be a neighbor of mine, on February 1, 2003, the day of the Columbia Shuttle disaster. That same month, Lorrin and her mother stood by while I underwent surgery for a cochlear implant. When I came out of surgery, Lorrin had her biggest laugh ever when she saw my bandaged head. Eric and I were married on my parents' 50th wedding anniversary, October 1, 2004, in Las Vegas - with a singing Elvis.

My interest in genealogy came from my grandmother, who had managed to trace back my grandfather's Hamilton line to the 1650's and a lineage from Pilgrim William White of the Mayflower. After my grandmother's passing in 1989, I became the family genealogist. Since then, I have found two lines of descent from Pilgrim William Brewster. I became a CCGS member after my parents moved from Simi Valley to Vancouver in 1992, even though I was still living in California. My move to Vancouver from Simi Valley came in September, 2008, so I could help my father with the care of my mother, who had Alzheimer's disease. After my mother's passing in 2009, I wanted to do something special and patriotic. Since I was living in proximity to the Brush Prairie Cemetery on NE 117th Avenue, I started a project to locate and list all of the veterans who are buried there. I have also included the Crawford Cemetery, north of Battle Ground, in my project. The Fort Vancouver DAR and I have been commemorating our veterans at both cemeteries by placing flags on their graves for Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Last year, I rejoined CCGS and started volunteering as a librarian. In February of this year, I was accepted into the Daughters of the American Revolution through my Patriot ancestor Nathan Hamilton. I was inducted into the Fort Vancouver DAR in March, 2011. I am also a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Battle Ground. As of May this year, I have accepted appointment as Membership Chair for CCGS.

Volunteer Day - May 16, 2011

Jane Germann, R&P Chairman

Next Volunteer Day: Monday, June 20, 2011, 10 to 2 at the annex
No Scheduled Volunteer Day in July or Aug

President Steve Cornick came in to support the volunteers who showed up for Volunteer Day. **Carol Clark** worked on Seminar brochures. Her husband "**Doc**" **Clark** vacuumed the floors, did sundry maintenance chores, and even did some cutting and pasting of vitals. **Vickie Schwab** worked on periodicals and an inventory of book supplies so an order can be made soon. **Dolly Merrick** worked on her vertical file project, and **Elinor Perlich** did miscellaneous jobs. **Larry Germann, Erick Jordahl, Barbara Baker, and Yvonne Muchmore** worked on financial matters.

Sally Morello is a new volunteer; she learned how to "cut and paste" and took home a packet to index. **Yvonne Muchmore** showed her the ropes and also worked on cutting and pasting obits. **Lillian Fullerton** was among those working at home. **Martha Cieglo** is still at work extracting/indexing *The Reflector* vitals. **Jane Germann** organized materials and created spines for Newspaper Vitals. If you are interested in having a packet to index in your "spare" time during the summer, give Jane a call at 892-8019 or e-mail her at germann@wa-net.com.

SUMMER SCHEDULE: Cut-and-Paste will resume in September. Other volunteers will probably meet on the third Mondays through the summer, but the Library is taking July and August off. All groups will be at work again in September.

WATCH FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT that the 2011 issue of the *Trail Breakers* is available. There are several interesting articles. **Carol Clark** and **Lethene Parks** have articles on the Short family of Clark County. **Jeannine Bailiff** tells about her relationship with Marie Aoise Laguvoise, known by many as Marie Dorion.

CCGS LIBRARY BIG EVENT Oct 24-25

CCGS members will be given the opportunity to acquire selected family history periodicals from the CCGS library collection in a special event this fall. CCGS library needs shelf space and is offering you the opportunity to add these to your personal collection. Those that we are offering are all pre-2002 and are indexed in Periodical Source Index (PERSI) . Included are vital statistics, research methods, family histories, etc. for your use. Our CCGS library has access to PERSI and you can obtain full text articles through Interlibrary loan.



***Our condolences are extended to
the families and many friends of three of our members.***

Marylyn D. Karecki passed away in Vancouver, February 17, 2011.

Mary L. Geoghegan, a long-time CCGS member and our former Head Librarian,
died in Vancouver, April 27, 2011.

Judy Caughlan passed away May 22, 2011, after a long illness. Judy was a long-time CCGS member.
Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Charlie and their family.



CCGS Library Additions

Compiled by Alice Aultman Allen

The following books are new to CCGS this month.
Look for them on the "New" Shelf during the month of June.

Donated by Florence Schack:

The Evergreen Log: Yearbooks from Evergreen High School in Vancouver. Years 1956 (first edition) to 1965.

Donated by Matt Oftedahl:

My Website is Better than Yours
Author: Nicholas Longo
(How to create your own website)

Family Tree Guide Book to Europe
Author: Erin Nevius
(Tips for researching your family in Europe)

The Organized Family Historian
Author: Ann Carter Fleming
(Organizing help for your genealogy research)

Donated by Patricia McKee Bauer:

Vancouver High School Class of 1949 - 60 Years of Memories
Author: Patricia McKee Bauer
(Reunion book for the Vancouver High School's class of 1949)

Donated by Jerry Olson

Surveying North of the River (CD)
Author: Jerry C. Olson
(compiled by CCGS' own Jerry Olson, mapping from 1851)

Donated by Jean M. Collins

Genealogy and History of the Nelson Family 1150-2010
Author: Jean M. Nelson-Collins
(A Nelson Family History, third revision)

The following books became separated from their donation slips, so we don't know who donated them to us:

Guthrie County, Iowa
Author: Guthrie County Genealogical Society
(Book contains early Cemeteries, Marriages & Deaths in Guthrie Co. Iowa)

Ball Beginnings, volumes 9-13 and Ball Beginnings, volumes 16-19
Author: Claudette Maerz
(compilations of Ball Family Newsletters)

Solving an email problem easily and by yourself!

Do you sometimes have an email message you would like to forward to someone else? Perhaps it contains a graphic or some other item that you're not sure will "travel" as it should.

Most email programs have excellent tools for you to use. I am a fan of Mozilla's Thunderbird program for my email and I'm able to get to the top of the page, click on "Message," then on "Edit Message as New" - all of this is done with the message open. I can then delete various unneeded lines, names, etc. from the original message and send it on. If it's something with graphics, *I always send a copy to myself* before I send it to anyone else. How many times have you asked a friend to check a message you will be sending to see if it arrives intact? Not necessary - just send it to yourself next time. Pat Bauer

Getting to know . . . Dolly Merrick



"Portland Central" could be the title of my biography, but don't wait for the first printing! After growing up in the Laurelhurst area, I joined the Holy Names Community. During those years, I got a degree in secondary education at Marylhurst College, and then taught at high schools in Eugene and Portland. One highlight was teaching my younger (by 13 years) sister when she was in high school; we had great fun.

After leaving the Community, I worked in Vancouver and Seattle business colleges for a few years. Then I married, which led to a "short" twenty-year stint in the Spokane area near my husband's family.

Having come back to the Portland area (my husband refuses to renounce his Washington state citizenship), I have started to research those deep Portland roots. While growing up, I was blessed to have all my grandparents close by; they had immigrated to the United States from Germany, Luxemburg, and Croatia just for me! That fact, combined with all of the pictures and papers I've inherited, has made researching my family's 100-plus years in Portland delightful. My roots include these surnames: Merrick, Kenoyer (USA); Kies, Schutz (Luxemburg); Petros (Croatia); Wiederhold, Hartweiger (Germany, Austria).

ANNUAL SALT LAKE CITY RESEARCH TRIP OCTOBER 2 TO 9, 2011

Sharon Houck, Chairman

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 2 through October 9 at the Carlton Hotel, where we have group discount prices. They serve a custom breakfast every morning for lodgers and have shuttles that run to and from the library several times a day. I will make the final 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 email 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 email messages as soon as I can. Let me know if you have questions about the trip. I hope you will plan to join us this time. It is always an enjoyable experience for those who go.

I will have a meeting at the library in mid-September to answer last minute questions and so we can meet each other. I will send out information about this meeting the first of September.

Contact Sharon Houck at 360-892-8106 or by email to: genfever@msn.com

Book Review

Bill Whalley



The Family Tree Problem Solver: Proven Methods For Scaling The Inevitable Brick Wall.

Overcome the burned courthouse

Separate two people of the same name

Navigate the problem years before 1850

By Marsha Hoffman Rising

Family Tree Books, Cincinnati, Ohio, 2005, 232 pp

Available in the CCGS Library and the Camas and Vancouver public libraries

This book is not so much about where to find records, but how to use them in ways you might not have thought of. *It is not for the beginning genealogist.* The author uses a number of case studies to illustrate her points; that the good stuff is where you find it, so you should look everywhere, and keep looking, analyze your data, and rinse and repeat.

The author advocates researching on a broad basis, certainly not just for the surname of interest, but in tough cases, finding out about virtually everyone you can say has had a contact with your target. She might say that it takes a community to make a genealogy. The examples are exclusively USA-based, but the principles involved can be used to research anywhere.

Chapters cover:

Plan a strategy

Before civil registration

Census tips

Full Family Context researching

Court records

Substitutes for missing records

Land record tips

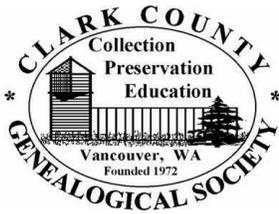
Separating individuals who have the same name

Finding your pre-1850 ancestors

Mistakes not to make

Interestingly, there is not even a mention of DNA as a means to solve brick wall problems.

Good news! There are two copies of this book on the CCGS Library Shelves. One will be available for checkout.



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

President: Stephen Cornick

Co-vice Presidents: Doc & Carol Clark

Secretary: VACANT

Treasurer: Larry Germann

Asst. Sec-Treas.: Eric Jordahl

Past President: Garry Lucas

<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org>

Library: 717 Grand Blvd

360-750-5688

CCGS Meetings and Programs

June 2 First Thursday Unfocused Genealogy Group - 1:30 - 3:30pm, CCGS Library Annex

June 4 Annual Spring Seminar - see web page for information

June 6 Legacy Users Group - 10am - Noon, CCGS Library Annex

June 6 Computer Clinic - 1pm - CCGS Library/Annex

June 7 Writing Focus Group - 1:30 - 3:30pm, CCGS Library

June 11 British Isles Focus Group - 10:30 - Noon, CCGS Library

June 13 CCGS Board Meeting - 9am - 11am, CCGS Library Annex

June 20 Volunteer Day - 10am - 2pm, CCGS Library Annex

June 28 General Meeting - Potluck - beginning at 6pm, CCGS Library Annex

Oct. 2-9 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 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 or call Jeanine at 360-566-9422.