

Newsletter

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Get Ready, Get Set, To Go ...

To the January Show and Tell

January can be kind of a “blah” month. There’s the post-holiday let down, the often crummy weather, the December gift and donation bills to pay, the diet and exercise program you forsook for the holidays, New Year’s resolutions that already look too ambitious and less interesting than they did when you made them, tax info to organize ... It’s a time for a refreshing change!

Our January 28 meeting will be such a change. Begin now to think about what you could bring to Show and Tell your fellow CCGS members. Have you found a new book? Or an old one? Printed out some colorful charts? Do you have a collection of interesting family photos? Some handwork done by an ancestor, or a treasured painting of/by one of them? Snapshots you took in Salt Lake City or when you went hunting for your ancestors’ grave sites? Maybe a map of the area where they lived? A collection of heirlooms passed down through the generations? An old autograph book or collection of recipes?

Well, you get the idea ... we’ll spread out on tables so everyone can browse and chat and relax.

To the Spring Seminar with Dr. John Philip Colletta

With the help of our members, four terrific topics have been chosen for the Spring Seminar on March 15, 2003. Dr. Colletta will speak about:

- * Breaking Through Brick Walls: Use Your Head!
- * The County Courthouse: An Enormous "Trunk in the Attic" for Family Historians
- * Documentation: How to Cite Your Sources
- * Our National Archives: An Overview for Genealogists

Are you having trouble thinking of a unique Christmas or birthday gift for that special friend or relative? Do your family members have a difficult time choosing a gift for you? Why not suggest a gift of Spring Seminar registration?

See the enclosed flyer for more information. Please include the completed registration form with your check or cash payment. We encourage you to send your registration early. You won’t want to miss hearing Dr. Colletta!

No General Meeting in December

November Meeting Summary – Scandinavian Genealogy

The business meeting before the program included the election of Janette Birch as Secretary, the resignation of Al Collins as Vice President, and the installation of officers. (Announcements that were made are covered elsewhere in this Newsletter.)

Member Mike Thompson presented a program on Scandinavian research, with particular emphasis on the histories, languages, and naming systems of Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland. Mike gave many examples showing how the same names varied according to the language in use.

After the meeting, a number of us went to lunch with the speaker. After the meeting and during lunch I heard many 'complaints,' such as: "There wasn't enough time," "Can we have him for an all-day seminar?" and other comments of similar nature, from people with Scandinavian ancestry as well as from those without. Great job, Mike!

For those of you who want more information on Scandinavian research, and research in general, please see the schedule of meetings of the Scandinavian Genealogical Society on page 5.

November Board Meeting Summary

The meeting, open to general membership, was held November 11 at the CCGS library. A quorum was present, with sixteen Board members participating.

First quarter financial summary showed income of \$5,545 and expenses of \$5,547. Cash, cash equivalents and time deposits totaled \$66,707. Physical assets (library holdings, CCGS publications, furniture and equipment) totaled \$76,783.

Janette Birch was introduced as candidate for Secretary.

Charles Moore wrote thanking Don Finel and Rose Marie Harshman for helping him find genealogical information. He enclosed a "thank you" donation.

CCGS will participate in the 12th Annual Neighborhood Resource Fair "Making Connections" November 16th.

Four Society members participated with other community groups in the Fort Vancouver Regional Library visioning process for a new central library. Many spoke to the obvious opportunities for library and CCGS cooperation. CCGS will evaluate these opportunities.

A presentation was made to the Vancouver PC Club in October.

Until a General Meeting Program Chairperson can be found, the Board will share responsibility for program development. The remaining 2002/2003 schedule will be finalized at the December Board meeting. Jennifer Warren was thanked for her effort in chairing this activity for several years.

The CCGS Web page has been updated and has a new look.

A small working group (Pat Bauer, Diana Cruz and Gene Kuechmann) was asked to investigate putting the newsletter on line in PDF format. The driving forces are cost saving and accessibility.

Initial draft guidelines were presented for a program to formally recognize extraordinary member contributions to Society success.

A final draft of new membership brochures was distributed for comments.

Next Board of Directors meeting: Monday, Dec. 9, 10:00 a.m., at the CCGS Library.

I would like to thank all my genealogy friends for their kind expressions of sympathy following the death of my mother, Lois Thomas. Your kindness has really helped me and my family.
Sincerely, Barbara Baker

LIBRARIES ON THE WEB

You can access Heritage Quest and other sources online using your Fort Vancouver Regional Library card.

1. Go to www.fvrl.org
2. Select: Magazine and Research Databases
3. Select: Magazine Indexes & Online Databases
4. Go to: Databases
5. Enter barcode and last name.

Did you know that Vancouver residents can now obtain a Multnomah County Library card at no cost? And when you have a MCL card, you can access the library holdings on line. Here's how:

1. Go to www.multcolib.org
2. Select: Genealogy
3. Select: Online databases

If that doesn't work, try this:

1. Go to www.multcolib.org
2. Click: Subscription Databases
3. Select: Available from home

You can also search the New York Times 1851-1999 if you have a Multnomah County Library card.

1. Go to: <http://www.multcolib.org/index.html>
2. Click: Electronic Resources
3. Click: News Media
4. Click: Newspapers online
5. Click the purple card next to: New York Times Historical (1851-1999) Facsimile images of the original newspapers

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

B-188B Anthony Birch
F-085A Catherine Fields
F-085B Mark Fields
F-084A Charles T. Fikes
T-062A Jerry Thompson

Phone, snail-mail, and e-mail changes & corrections

New e-mail addresses

Joy Schmoldt: <JRSchmoldt@att.net>

Dorothy Wear: <DWear28920@earthlink.net>

E-mail messages sent to the following addresses were returned:

Karen LaClergue <caronne@aol.com>

Catherine & Mark Fields <mic2fields@aol.com>

New address for Ed & Barbara Peters:

16517 88th. Ave. Ct. E.

Puyallup, WA 98375-9652

phone 253-445-2442

E-mail: <el.peters@earthlink.net>

If anyone wants to receive Pat Bauer's weekly message, they can send a note to her at:

<patbauer@pacifier.com>

If you did that and still aren't on the list, try again. Maybe her computer ate it! (They do that.)

ATTENTION

We're affiliated with Heritage Books, Legacy Family Tree, and Ancestry.com. There are links to all three of these on several of the pages on the CCGS web site. CCGS receives a commission from each of these companies for sales to anyone accessing their site from our web page. However, Ancestry's automatic renewal system does not credit CCGS. Please refuse the automatic renewal and resubscribe from our web page. It doesn't cost you any more.

We extend our sincere condolences to Ruth Bishop and her family on the death of her Mother on November 20.

Note From President Bill Duchie

How will you spend your holidays? Alone? With family or friends?

Whatever your plans, it is also a wonderful time to do some genealogy and for sharing your own story.

Holiday events and family traditions, new and old, trigger memories and stories. Some preparation helps provide a safe environment for sharing and minimizes the potential for resurrecting issues with associated hurt feelings.

As genealogists, it seems natural to begin asking questions to get the information we are seeking from family members. I use an alternative approach.

I begin by sharing my own experience. Usually something involving the person or individuals in the group. This helps to break the ice and participants do not feel "on the spot". They can select the story they wish to share. As the comfort level increases, one can move to the more traditional genealogical questions.

Diana Cruz and I worked the Neighborhood Resource Fair held on November 16 from 10 AM to 4 PM at the Vancouver Water Resource Facility. The weather was not as cooperative as it might have been, but there was a steady flow of people through the exhibit area.

The exhibits remain pretty crowded so it is difficult to do a lot of communication without plugging up the aisle. Those people who did stop by were generally pretty interested. We gave out 46 four-generation pedigree charts with our Society business card. Thirty-five copies of the new Society brochure were also handed out.

A few of my memories:

My grandmother Langdon used to say when she was kneading the turkey dressing: "This is one time of the year I get my finger nails really clean."

My father's revolving Christmas tree in the 1940s was the talk of the neighborhood. On one occasion my mother was showing it to her friends. There were many ohs and ahs. No one noticed the venetian blind cord was caught in the tree. While they were drinking their coffee, the decorated tree and venetian blinds crashed to the floor.

In our extended family there have always been one or two we could count on for creating a crisis. No matter how careful we were, eventually there was an explosion of emotions, arguments, silence, and sometimes leaving the house. But once the pressure had been released, there was reconciliation and we could all begin having fun.

Have a glorious holiday season and I look forward to a New Year of exciting genealogy opportunities with you.

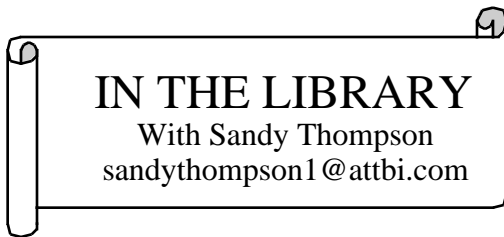
Individuals who have been meaning to start their genealogy really like the four-generation pedigree chart developed by Maryalice Gordon earlier this summer. Our instructions for completing it in 1/2 hour and sharing it with family seem to be just what many are looking for. They can do it quickly, and even if nothing else is accomplished they have made a giant step toward preserving their knowledge for future generations.

Those people already involved in genealogy were please to hear about our organization and the ways it may be helpful to them.

PLEASE KEEP US POSTED

Irene Page, <pageig@pacifier.com>: news that calls for a greeting from the Sunshine Department
Gene Kuechmann, <genekuech@aol.com>: news that calls for notice in the Newsletter.

Pat Bauer, <patbauer@pacifier.com>: news and items for the CCGS web page or weekly news bulletin



LAST REPORT OF YEAR 2002!

Now is the perfect time to give a report on what some very talented, dedicated and energetic members have accomplished this past year.

Our Library Collection is more User Friendly:

1. CDs are reorganized and cataloged for easier use.
2. Books on shelves are being cleaned and repaired.
3. Dewey Decimal System for Washington State organized with new spine and reference labels.
4. All Handybooks for sale were sold.
5. "Germans for America" CDs and books about Washington State were purchased from donations.
6. Over 500 books have been accessed and shelved.
7. There is a reference bookcase for librarians' use.
8. Two librarian training days were held with 5 volunteer members teaching our experienced and new Librarians to understand improvements we've implemented.
9. Our new PAPERBACK-BOOK-BINDING-SERVICE is off to an exciting start with two Christmas gift projects. Details are in the Nov. 2002 Newsletter.

As Library Director, I have been blessed to work with all those members that have really kept this Library going and together. Thank you to everyone who has consistently served our members and also non-members in the Library and over the phone. Thank you all for this year of service. I'm looking forward to new things happening in the coming year.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO EVERYONE !

Irish Interest Group

The Irish Interest Group will not meet in December. Look for an announcement of the next meeting in the January Newsletter.

MINI-CLASS SCHEDULE

Special-topic mini-classes are being offered at the CCGS Library one Tuesday each month. The fee for each class is \$10. A maximum of 16 people will be able to attend each class. Register by visiting the CCGS Library and signing up or by calling in and reserving a space.

Payment must be made prior to attending a class. Space reserved but not paid for by the class date may be offered to people who walk in that day.

For additional information, call Burt Paynter, CCGS Education Director, at (360) 891-9411.

The winter schedule is:

Dec 3, 10 a.m. – 12: Recording Oral History
Jim Strassmeier

Jan. 28, 1 p.m. – 3: Basic internet Research
Burt Paynter & Pat Bauer

Feb 4, 10 a.m. – 12: Searching the 1930 Census
Gerry Lenzen

Scandinavian Genealogical Society

Scandinavian Genealogical Society meetings are held 9-noon on the third Saturday of the month, September through May, at Portland State U., Cramer Hall (enter from south, turn right), Room 124 ("the Finnish Room").

Jan. 18 -- Military records of the U.S. and Scandinavia

Feb. 15, March 15, April, May – (series) "Is that a fact?"

The April and May meetings will not be on the third Saturday, but we're still inquiring about room availability for an alternate Saturday.

LET'S MAKE NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

What a pleasure it was to get acquainted with the following members who attended our first New Member Get Together on November 19 at the CCGS library: Jo Ann Abts, Janette Birch, Tony Birch, Mary Jane Borman, Bea Hicks, Amor Hirsch, and Pat Wildman. Hearing each person's story of how he/she got interested (as in *hooked, addicted!!*) in genealogical research was most enjoyable.

A special thanks to Ruth Fisher, a CCGS member for 20+ years, who came to the meeting so that she could help new members who wanted to stay to do research. Thanks also to Diana Cruz and Bill Duchie for helping to present information about the activities, programs, and services CCGS provides for members and the numerous opportunities available for members to become more active and help CCGS.

The next New Member Get Together will be held on Sunday, February 9, 2003, from 2 to 4 p.m. You are welcome to attend, even if you are not a new member, if you want to learn more about CCGS. Mark your calendar now!

The best thing about belonging to CCGS is the people. Let's remember, when we're at a meeting, working at the library, or whatever CCGS activity we're involved in, to make an effort to introduce ourselves to folks we don't know and make them feel welcome. The more each of us makes others feel welcome, the more they will want to participate. And the more members who actively participate, the stronger CCGS will become and the more we can accomplish together.

Jennifer Warren
jwarren@pacifier.com

Bill Freeman in Salt Lake City

Arriving in Salt Lake City, I had no idea what I was going to be able to do, researching my family names. I had a vague idea of what to look for and was familiar with the LDS computer system. But I was in for a pleasant surprise.

After a day of searching on the computer I found I was covering old ground and not really making any headway in breaching my "brick wall" or in finding much about the other names in my family tree. I decided I would confine my search, at least for a while, to what others had written. I suppose I was hoping for a short cut, that is, someone else's work that might involve some of my ancestry.

It was then I got lucky. I had previously taken my direct line back to about 1660 and was stuck there. Earlier research had shown a person named Bridges Freeman arriving about 1620 in the James City, VA, area. I had learned that he had owned land in Virginia that was later occupied by my great (4) grandfather George Freeman (ca.1680 - 1735), but I had been unable to establish a connection.

But then I discovered one researcher had a George Freeman as a grandson of this Bridges Freeman. Nothing much more was furnished except the approximate dates and the name of his wife. Fortunately, Bridges Freeman was a well-known local business man and farmer, a Colonel in the local militia, and had arranged for other members of his family to settle in Virginia. His ancestry had been traced by this researcher, and others, back to the mid-1500s in England.

This represents a major break in my continuing efforts. It does, however, leave much work to be done: search for census and church records and other documentation. But it added impetus to my genealogy quest and definitely made this trip to the LDS library in Salt Lake City very worthwhile.

Help Us Serve You Better! CCGS Library Hours Survey

The CCGS Library is open on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m., and on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 1 to 5 p.m. The library is closed on Monday and Tuesday for meetings and classes.

Please provide your input as to what days and times you would like the library to be open.

I prefer using the library in the daytime: What day(s)? _____

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. _____ 12 noon to 5 p.m. _____ 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. _____ 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. _____

Other _____

I prefer using the library in the evening:

M _____ Tu _____ Wed _____ Thurs _____ 6 to 9 p.m. _____ 7 to 9 p.m. _____ Other _____

I prefer using the library on weekends: Sat _____ Sun _____ What time? _____

Are you a: _____ Member _____ Non-member

Thank you for completing this survey. Your input will assist the Library Committee as it considers library operating hours for the spring of 2003. Please return the completed survey by:

a.. Emailing to: library@ccgs-wa.org

b.. Mailing to CCGS, P.O. Box 5249, Vancouver WA 98668-5249

c. Dropping off at: CCGS Library, 1717 Grand Blvd.

CCGS OPPORTUNITIES

Look over this list of activities important to the success of the Clark County Genealogical Society and our ability to provide the premium genealogical site in southwest Washington. There are many opportunities to match your interests, experience, and skills, while strengthening your genealogical skills. Thanks for considering your level of involvement. Contact any CCGS officer or committee chair for more information.

Audio Visual

By-laws

Chat Room

CC Historical Society

Computers

Education

Adult

Youth

Children

Endowments

FVRL

Display Case

Partnering

General Meetings

Programs

Setup

Grants

Graphic Artist

Historical Scrapbook

Library

Director

Facility Manager

Window

Mailing

Marketing

Membership

Nominations

Partnering

Phone Tree

Printing

Publications:

Newsletter

Trailbreakers

Directory

Web Page

Public Relations

Research Trips

Speaker's Bureau

Treasury

Accounts Receivable

Auditing

Recording

Volunteers

Volunteer Hours

Visioning



P.O. Box 5249
Vancouver WA 98668-5249
<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org>

Library: 717 Grand Blvd
360-750-5688

President: William DUCHIE

Vice President: (vacant)

Secretary: Janette BIRCH

Treasurer: Joy SCHMOLDT

Past President: Sharon WODTKE

CCGS Meetings and Programs

- 9 Dec.** CCGS Board Meeting, CCGS Library 10 a.m. – noon
No General Meeting in December – Have a Happy Holiday!
- 3 Dec., 4 Feb.** Special-Topic Mini Classes, CCGS Library, 10 a.m. – noon
- 13 Jan.** CCGS Board Meeting, CCGS Library, 10 a.m. – noon
- 28 Jan.** General Meeting, St. Luke's Parish Hall, 10 a.m. – noon
- 28 Jan.** Special-Topic Mini Class, CCGS Library, 1 – 3 p.m.
- 9 Feb.** New Member Meeting, CCGS Library, 2 – 4 p.m.
- 15 March 2003** Spring Seminar with John Philip Colletta

2002 – 2003

General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month (except in November) at St. Luke's Parish Hall.

Evening meetings will be 7 - 9 p.m. in September, April, May and June.

Morning meetings will be 10 a.m. – noon in October, November, January, and February.