

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

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General Meeting, St. Luke's Episcopal Church
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.
25 May 2004

***Find Your Ancestors --
In the County Courthouse***

with Gerald S. Lenzen

Gerry will be giving you research information on

- Courthouse Courtesy
- Court Records
- Land Records
- Vital Records
- Miscellaneous Records

Gerald S. Lenzen, a native of Wisconsin, lives in Portland, Oregon. He graduated from Portland State University and is retired from the Bonneville Power Administration.

Gerry has been conducting historical and family research for over 40 years. He teaches and lectures at the local, regional, and national level. He is a life member of the Clark County Genealogical Society and participates as instructor for CCGS classes. Gerry is a current officer of the state-wide Genealogical Council of Oregon; serves in several capacities for the Genealogical Forum of Oregon located in Portland; is a Board member of the Archdiocesan Historical Commission of Portland, Oregon; and serves several other organizations in a variety of positions.

Cleaning and Mending Old Tombstones

Thanks to CCGS member Virginia Holter for securing permission from the editor of the Missouri DAR Bulletin to allow CCGS reprint an excellent article about *Cleaning and Mending Old Tombstones* by Cynthia Carr, John Patterson Chapter. The entire article will be in the next issue of the *Trail Breakers*. The informative article was printed in the March 2004 issue of their Bulletin.

One item the author included in the article was the following:

“Safe Cleaning Solutions: Water. CLEAR AMMONIA, a non-ionic, without scents, color or suds. Lots of water that is rather soft. A garden sprayer, and individual spray bottles that will be used to hold **1 part ammonia and 4 parts water** is the safest cleaner I will recommend for the amateur.”

***Beginning Genealogy Classes
SPRING QUARTER CANCELED***

Burt Paynter, chairman for the education classes presented by CCGS, has announced the spring quarter of *Beginning Genealogy* at Clark College was canceled because there were not enough people signed up to operate the classes.

Watch the CCGS web page and the Clark College catalogs for the next scheduled series of beginning classes.

The Mature Learning Class scheduled Friday, April 30, 2004, ending date: Friday, May 28, 2004 **will be held**. More details about it on our web page or through Clark College.

Election at May meeting!

The slate of officers for the term 1 July 2004 through 30 June 2005 is:

Bill Duchie, President
Diana Cruz, Vice President
De Ann Wilson, Secretary
Lynne Novotny, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Earlene Holmstrom, Treasurer.

The election will be held at our May 25th meeting. (Nominations will also be accepted from the floor under the rules outlined in our bylaws.) Please plan to attend the May meeting so we will have a quorum. The officers will be sworn in at our June 22nd meeting.

***Salt Lake City Research Trip
October 3-10, 2004***

It's not too early to sign up for the annual Salt Lake City research trip. If you think you might be going this year, please contact Jeanine Bailiff as soon as possible so she can arrange for your room at the Carlton Hotel. You need not pay anything now. Then you can obtain your own plane ticket whenever a good buy can be found. Jeanine can be reached at: 360-566-9422 or by e-mail at: jgmb@pacifier.com.

***A Note From the President -
May, 2004***

The "Baby Boomers" are shaping every-thing. And their potential impact on genealogy is only beginning to be recognized. This is one reason the CCGS Board of Directors initiated a strategic study (discussed elsewhere in this newsletter).

As interest grows, so do the resource available to everyone. Supply of an item is always driven by demand. Just look at what has happened in 30+ year history of CCGS. What used to take months, can now be found in minutes and that which would take years or thought to be lost is now available.

CCGS has always been very actively engaged in stoking individual interest and improving the level of genealogy being done. Our teaching partnership with Clark College and other groups, the assistance offered by our librarians, the web page and chat room, *CCGS Newsletter*, *Trail Breakers*, mini-courses, general meeting programs, various interest groups and the recently completed Spring Seminar all cater to the needs of the beginner and advance genealogists.

CCGS also provides genealogical introduction presentations to a wide range of organizations. Since January presentations have been made to: Delta Delta Delta (women's sorority), Computer's for Seniors, The Bedford (Retirement Living), Plumbers & Steamfitter's Local 290, Washougal's Community Education as well as informational tables at Ridgefield Heritage Days and Vancouver 2004 Senior Expo. Through June there are additional presentations scheduled at: Vancouver Mall Branch of FVRL, Camas Public Library, Washougal's Community Education, Computers for Seniors and Holy Redeemer (Catholic) Seniors.

If you know of a group that would like an introductory presentation or perhaps you would like to assist in making such presentations, please contact Diana Cruz or myself

Bill Duchie, CCGS President

Welcome new members!!

Don Allen	Jim N. Cooper
Michael Burton	Carol A. Burton
Donna Hodsdon	John Kenneth Miller
Frances Page	Richard Page
Lurene Richardson	Sharon M. Steinmeyer
Duncan M. Tanner	Beverly VanOrden

SPRING SEMINAR 2004 & 2005

Just a few comments from the 2004 Spring Seminar evaluation forms:

“Dr. Colletta is superb!”
“Thank you for a full learning day.”
“Very well organized, a great conference.”
“Wonderful handouts.”
“A fabulous Presenter.”
“I enjoyed my “Day with the Feds”
Can’t wait to schedule a trip to NARA.”
“Everything was great he’s one of the best.”
“A great speaker.”
“We should plan a trip to the Washington DC archives with Dr Colletta as speaker.”

There were 162 attendees and many were from out of town. The society has a membership of well over 500, *where were the rest of you?* Don’t delay for next year we will have a limited number of registrations. Now get ready for next year!

Cyndi Howells returns!!!

Yes, we will be having Cyndi Howells at the Spring Seminar 2005. Cyndi Howells, a genealogist for more than 24 years, is the creator of *Cyndi’s List* on Internet; author of three books for genealogical research on the Internet; a member of the board of directors for the National Genealogical Society and active member in several other genealogical groups.

We have reserved the same great facility. The auditorium at the Washington State School for the Deaf, it can hold many more people. The date is already listed on Cyndi Howells’ web page, **March 19, 2005** <http://www.cyndislist.com/speaking.htm>.

Also listed on her web page is a list of the various lectures she presents, she has some great new choices. Check this out and send your choices to me, Maria Adler at: amadler@myexcel.com

And of course I am looking for many volunteers.

Registration chairperson- (computer savvy would be good) **& Assistants...**

Caterer/Lunch chairperson

Donation chairperson

Publicity chairperson & Assistants (computer necessary, emailing membership and genealogical societies)

Kitchen chairperson & Assistants....

Salesperson, Cyndi Howells Books

Thanks to everyone for all the assistance and to Dr. Colletta for the wonderful seminar.

Maria Adler, Seminar Chairman

Legacy Users Group

The users of Legacy Family Tree meet the first Monday of each month at the CCGS library to exchange ideas and learn new things this program can do. There are usually 12 to 15 people in attendance and it’s a fast two hours beginning at 10 a.m. Even long time users are gleaning new ideas each month under the leadership of Don Finel.

CCGS is an affiliate of Legacy and will receive a small commission if you purchase the program. Just mention the code 21A9Mai when ordering it by phone or online.

CCGS Board Approves Strategic Planning Effort

The Clark County Genealogical Society has been a successful part of the area genealogical scene for more than 30 years. Emergence as one of the premier genealogical societies in the Pacific Northwest has not been an accident. It was a result of the imaginative, creative and hard work of CCGS founders, subsequent governance teams and an untold number of Society members.

The Internet and other factors have significantly increased the number of people interest in genealogy and greatly impacted how genealogy research is done. Such changes are expected to continue into the foreseeable future.

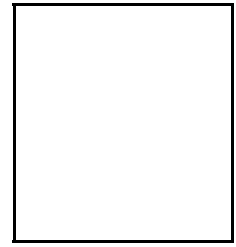
Recognizing that if CCGS is to continue growing and ultimately survive in this new world, the Board of Directors agreed it was important to establish an appropriate long-term strategy which will provide the broadly based framework for activities of Society Committees and work groups.

This new strategy is intended to be expressed in terms which will allow CCGS to attract new members and to meet the varied needs of a broadly based genealogical community. To help understand the proposed strategy and facilitate implementation it will be compared with our current strategy as it is presently understood and described in the Society Bylaws and elsewhere in governance documents.

The Committee was asked to target completion and presentation of the strategic plan to the Board of Directors in October 2004. Intermediate reports will be made to the Board at appropriate times as determined by the Chairperson.

Earlene Holmstrom has been appointed chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee.

There will be many opportunities for each member of the Society to participate in the development and comment on the strategy.



Clark County Genealogical Society
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Our Officers:

President: William DUCHIE
Vice President: Diana CRUZ
Secretary: Janette BIRCH
Treasurer: Joy SCHMOLDT
Asst. Secretary-Treasurer: Karen FROST
Past President: Sharon WODTKE

CCGS MEETINGS AND PROGRAMS

3 May 2004 Legacy Users Group, CCGS Library 10 am - noon. All Legacy users are welcome
10 May 2004 CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. All members are welcome.
17 May 2004 Irish Interest Group, CCGS Library 10 am - noon.
25 May 2004. General Meeting, St. Luke's Episcopal Church 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.
7 June 2004 Legacy Users Group, CCGS Library 10 am - noon. All Legacy users are welcome
14 June 2004 CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. All members are welcome.
3-10 Oct 2004 Annual Salt Lake City Research Trip.
19 Mar 2005 CCGS Spring Seminar with Cyndi Howells of Cyndi's List.
General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month (except in November) at St. Luke's Parish Hall.
Morning meetings will be 10 a.m. - noon in January, February, October, and November.
Evening meetings will be 7 - 9 p.m. in April, May June, and September.