

Clark County Genealogical Society Newsletter

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June Meeting: June 22, 6:30 – 9 p.m.

Potluck Dinner, Show-and-Tell, and Installation of Officers

St. Luke's Episcopal Church Parish Hall at 426 E 4th Plain Blvd., Vancouver

Remember last year's show-and-tell meeting? There were family heirlooms, family histories and charts (published and unpublished), photographs, scrapbooks, and all manner of other interesting things. Why not bring one or more of the treasures or trivia relating to your family research to this year's show-and-tell? It truly is great fun to see what other people are doing!

Of course, you don't have to come early and bring food if you don't like to, or can't, eat potluck. In fact, **the most important part of the program is the installation of officers.** Let's show our support to the new slate of officers by attending their installation. This is also your chance to meet all of them!

President's Column

Early in May I had a "wakeup call." It came in the form of a transient ischemic attack (TIA). For those like myself, without a medical background, a TIA is a neurological event with the signs and symptoms of a stroke, but which goes away within a short period of time. I spent some time in the ER and having testing. Still awaiting the final reports, but I feel fine. Of course this event and its implications have caused a lot of concern and reflection within our family.

I have been working on my genealogy for almost ten years. Like many of you, I intend to eventually compile all of this information into a book for my children, grandchildren, and subsequent generations. I haven't published anything yet because, like most genealogists, I am still gathering information.

While I am not dwelling on the TIA, it has caused me to give some thought on how my research would fare if something happened before I wrote my first book. In all probability, most of it would be lost because there isn't anyone to immediately pick it up and keep it going. Of course it could all be done again at some time in the future, but that means redoing all the work. On the other hand, if I write my book now our descendants can focus on pushing the line further back or collecting new information. I plan to continue doing some research, but I will shift my primary focus to compiling my work to maximize the chances for its survival.

Bill Duchie

CCGS 2005 Spring Seminar Will Feature Speaker Cyndi Howells

Cyndi Howells is the owner and webmaster of *Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet*, which is found at <http://www.CyndisList.com/>. It is a categorized index to over 209,500 online resources. It has three times been voted the best genealogy site on the Web and receives more than 3.2 million visits each month. Cyndi, a genealogist for more than 24 years, is a member of the board of directors for the National Genealogical Society. She is the author of three books for genealogical research on the Internet: *Netting Your Ancestors*, *Cyndi's List*, and *Planting Your Family Tree Online: How to Create Your Own Family History Web Site*.



Be sure to check the list of subjects at www.cyndislist.com/speaking.htm and let us know what topics you would like to have her cover.

We need your help to make this a great success for our society. Please contact Maria Adler for a list of volunteer positions at the seminar. This is a great way to get involved and also hear a great speaker. You can e-mail Marie at amadler@myexcel.com.

CCGS Member Connie Lenzen is Honored

I hope that, like me, you are a regular reader of Connie Lenzen's columns in *The Columbian*. They are a gold mine of information and ideas for genealogists. Her column that appeared in the November 13th, 2003, issue of *The Columbian* won First Place in the 2003 International Society of Family History Writers & Editors contest in Category I - Newspaper Columns. The column was titled "Cold Trail? It's All Relative."

In her column, Connie likened doing genealogical research to the efforts of Hansel and Gretel to find their way home after being abandoned in the forest. In some cases the path is well marked, but in others it has been "nibbled away" and is more difficult to follow. She cites courthouse fires, wars, mold, and carelessness as some of the most common reasons for gaps in the records. I quote, with permission:

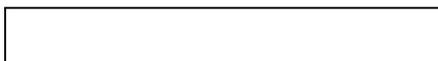
"When we have a situation like this, there is a genealogical method that works. It is called "research the neighbors." This is because our ancestors were social animals. They lived near their relatives. They sold property to their relatives. Their relatives married their spouse's relatives. They moved to new areas with their relatives. Their neighbors were their relatives, and their relatives had the same ancestors as they did.

Collect the names of everyone who was associated with your ancestor. This includes the census neighbors, the people who witnessed deeds, the neighbors who were mentioned in deeds, and the people who testified to military service. Look for court records and tax records.

Where do you find these records? You find them in courthouses, in libraries, and in manuscript collections. Many have been microfilmed and are in the Family History Library collection that you can access at Family History Centers. Make today the first day in solving your difficult problems. Go out and collect records on the relatives."

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Library: 717 Grand Blvd
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President: William DUCHIE

Vice President: Diana CRUZ

Secretary: Janette BIRCH

Treasurer: Joy SCHMOLDT

Past President: Sharon WODTKE

CCGS Meetings and Programs

- 1 March** Spring/summer Library hours begin
- 14 June** CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library 7 - 9 p.m. All members are welcome.
- 22 June** General meeting, St. Luke's Parish Hall, 6:30 – 9 p.m.
- 22 June – 21 Sept.** RESEARCH AND RECORDING FAMILY HISTORY
HAPPY HUNTING!
- 18 August** Deadline for September Newsletter (previously announced as 11 August)
- 3-10 Oct.** Annual research trip to Salt Lake City

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.