

# Clark County Genealogical Society Newsletter

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**General Meeting**  
**April 26, 2005, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.**  
**CCGS Research Library**  
**715 Grand Blvd.**

***Genealogy On the Web – Why  
Sometimes Things Don't Work***  
**Ken Pritchard**

Ken will cover in a **non-technical** talk why some common problems arise and how to fix them without becoming a computer geek. Such things as, why don't the pictures I get print well; why don't messages I send look the same when they are received; why is my computer so slow; do I need a new computer to work on Genealogy on the web?

Ken writes: "I have all of my working life been involved with industrial control and information systems. I have a degree in Business Administration, and one in Electrical Mechanical

Engineering. The first computer I worked on was programmed with punched cards. I built my first computer by hand, long before there was a Microsoft or Apple. I have designed, installed, and troubleshot robotic systems, storage and retrieval systems, wire-guided delivery systems. I have designed and built cards for computer systems and written the drivers to operate them. I owned and operated a small company, Control West, that designed custom systems for small businesses. I have always been fascinated with computers and still love working with them today."

## **ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS !!!**

Barbara Baker

The following people have been appointed to the Nominating Committee: Barbara L. Baker, Chair; Jan Mayfield; Jeanine Bailiff; Joy Schmoltd and Lillian Fullerton. There are three elected positions to fill: Vice-President; Secretary, and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer. We also need to fill the appointed position of Recording Treasurer.

Please be thinking about where you would like to share your time and talents. If you would like to volunteer, or just get more information, you may contact one of the committee members. The jobs have a one-year term running from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

We are under a short time frame for completing our task. The elections will be held at our May 24th General Meeting, with the installation of officers to take place at our June General Meeting. We want to announce our candidates in the May Newsletter, giving our members time to consider those who are running for office.

## **RAFFLE A HUGE SUCCESS!**

Pat Bauer

The raffle at the Spring Seminar in March was deemed a HUGE success! We cleared \$750 by raffling each item separately. Each item had a separate container for tickets so those attending could try for the items they wanted. This worked much better than one raffle that might result in several people receiving something they wouldn't want and couldn't use. The most popular item was the lovely hand-crafted Wooden Jewelry Box made by Dick Pettigrew and donated by Dick and his wife Clare. The second most cherished item was the Dinner for Two at The Restaurant at the Historic Reserve which was donated by Jennifer Petersen of Carnelian Tea Company, 1803 Main in Vancouver. Thanks to everyone donating prizes and to everyone buying tickets.

## **IS YOUR STORY IN THE VERTICAL FILES?**

Mary Anne Best, Library Director

Have you written, or are you writing, your life story, your parents' story, or that of any of your ancestors? Have you donated a copy to the library? Many of us write small histories of our ancestors for our children and grandchildren, and they would make a welcome addition to the Vertical Files.

The Vertical Files are full of wonderful things. Take a look when you next visit the library. Glenna Brock has been reorganizing and cataloging them and doing a fantastic job – thanks, Glenna. We also have a good-sized selection of bound family histories and would appreciate donations of books also.

Speaking of binding – if you have several loose pages of stories, consider binding them. The library can bind them for you for a small fee.

## **A HUGE THANKS to those who worked on the Naturalization Records:** Jane Germann

Volunteers: Jennifer & Jim Warren, Alice, Heidi & Katie Allen, Barbara Baker, Jeanine Baliff, Glenna Brock, Evelyn Campbell, Rebecca Cole, Diana Cruz, Alberta & George Dawson, Bill Duchie, Mary Ann Ealen, Clarissa Farnsworth, Lillian Fullerton, Jane Germann, Bea Hicks, Sandra Hinzman, Rosalie Kepler, JoAnn Lee, Rhoda Lehman, Kathy Prichard, Judy Riley, Joy Schmoltdt, Gloria Scullin, Sharon Steinmeyer, Chuck & Marian Thompson, Dorothy Wear, Pat Wildman, and DeAnn Wilson

Some worked on one file, others several files, and a few did many files. This was a project tailored to the time commitment of the volunteer and all are thanked for their contribution. If anyone was missed, we thank them too and ask them to contact Jane for recognition. As a result of volunteering for this project, CCGS gets to keep the copies of these naturalizations for their library. Only the first few very fragile records up to about 1945 were not copied and will be available to researchers shortly. After 1945, the records are available at the Archives. Volunteers are also working on Territory censuses and early birth and death records for Clark County.

## **WE'RE RECYCLING PRINTER CARTRIDGES!**

Cartridge World Vancouver is now recycling our printer cartridges. They even pick them up at our library monthly. There is a bright yellow, labeled cardboard box near the copy machine where you can leave your empty inkjet or toner cartridges. Not only is this a local company but they will take ALL brands of cartridges so it saves many of them from the landfills and we're able to derive a small income from the project.

You can also save up to 50% on refilling your inkjet or laser toner cartridges at their store (next to Walmart at the corner of I-205 & Mill Plain. Phone: 360 882-4ink) and they will still credit the society for a donation for the cartridge – just mention Clark County Genealogical Society. They use high-quality 100% guaranteed inks.

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## **Family History Conference**

Saturday 23 April 2005 at the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints

11101 NE 119th Street, Vancouver, WA (a few blocks west of Prairie High School)

9:30 a.m. - 2:15 p.m. (Area set aside for those bringing lunches.)

Two Inspiring Keynote Speakers; Classes available from Basic to Advanced; Each class will repeat once.

Class Topics: •Basic PAF •Photo Preservation •Where Did You Find That? •Census Research

•The Internet and Family History Research •Unknown Irish Sources

## **Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society Presents Donna Potter Phillips**

Saturday 11 June 2005 at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center, The Dalles, Oregon

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.; \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, including lunch; Topics: •Squeezing the Census

• Overview of Military Records •Leaving a Legacy •Finding Vital Records Information

## NOTE FROM PRESIDENT BILL DUCHIE:

Most genealogists would disagree, on principle, with *The Columbian's* new obituary policy, which was simultaneously announced and instituted on January 1, 2005. It was developed without community input or discussion within *The Columbian's* Advisory Council.

I found their logic for this change to be especially weak considering the long history and widespread use of obituaries as news items. *The Columbian* said that unreasonable demands by bereaved families were at the core of the decision. More realistically, it was *The Columbian's* response to family requests that, over time, changed the death of an individual from a story to an advertisement, for which *The Columbian* wanted to be paid.

Recently I compared the obituary pages of February 2005 with those of February 2004. The number of paid memorials increased by 340% since substituting death notices for obituaries. Clearly families do not believe the new policy meets community needs. In addition *The Columbian* reaps a windfall in excess of \$100,000/year.

The February 2005 experience indicates 35% are either financially unable or decide not to place a memorial item. If this experience continues, 700+ Clark County residents per year will have little or no mention of their life at the time of their death. This must be seen as a failure for a community newspaper. Nor is it consistent with *The Columbian's* statement: "We are equal opportunity pursuers of news. Rich or poor, young or old, black or white, men or women." Certainly every person's life is newsworthy and merits at least a few column inches in their community newspaper.

## WANT TO WRITE A LETTER?

Pat Bauer

The change in *The Columbian* obituary policy has many of us very unhappy. Unless an expensive obituary is purchased, only a death notice containing the name, age, date of death, and funeral director is printed. Not nearly enough info for anyone – especially any genealogist! We're suggesting you write a letter to *The Columbian* and complain about it. Follow these guidelines from *The Columbian's* web page (but do not say anything about genealogy or CCGS): "Letters can be mailed to Letters from Readers, *The Columbian*, P.O. Box 180, Vancouver, 98666; faxed to 699-6033; e-mailed to [letters@columbian.com](mailto:letters@columbian.com); or hand-carried to 701 W. Eighth St. Letters must include full name, address and phone number for verification. Letters become the property of *The Columbian* and are subject to editing; those of fewer than 200 words are more likely to appear without major cuts. Contact information can be found in the lower right corner of the Opinion page."

## LOOKING FOR A GOOD GENEALOGY DATABASE PROGRAM?

Don Finel

Our Legacy Users Group meets the first Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon. We discuss both Legacy and add-on programs that might be of value. Meetings are open to members and non-members of CCGS, regardless of level of experience.

Recently we introduced a program called "FamilyHistoryCD" at our meeting. This program makes quick and easy work of creating CDs for sharing facts, photos, and more with your family and friends without their needing to have a genealogy program. Pat and I offer it at a good price, \$29.95 plus tax, with a portion of the money going to CCGS as a money-raising project.

*We offer our condolences to Fred Smith and his family on the death of his wife on March 10.  
We also offer our condolences to the family and friends of Marilyn J. Anderson of Seattle, a life member  
CCGS, who died on February 11.*



**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: Diana Cruz**

**Secretary: DeAnn Wilson**

**Treasurer: Vonda Erickson**

**Asst. Sec-Treas: Lynne Novotny**

**Past President: Sharon Wodtke**

### **CCGS Meetings and Programs**

- 4 April Legacy Family Tree Interest Group, CCGS Library, 10 a.m. – noon**
- 11 April CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 7 p.m.; All are welcome.**
- 26 April General Meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. – noon and 7 \_ 9 p.m.**
- 20 April Deadline for May Newsletter; e-mail material to [gskuech@pacifier.com](mailto:gskuech@pacifier.com)**
- 23 April Family History Conference (see page 2)**
- 11 June Donna Potter Phillips at The Dalles (see page 2)**
- 2-9 Oct. Research trip to Salt Lake City**

**5 November World of Genealogy Fall CCGS Seminar with Ron Bremer (details later)**

**General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month (except November) at CCGS Library Annex. Morning meetings: 10 a.m. - noon. Evening meetings : 7 - 9 p.m..  
No General Meeting is held in March (Spring Seminar), July, August, or December.**