

# CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## *Newsletter*

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### **General Meeting**

**10 a.m. to noon - Tuesday, February 28, 2006**

**CCGS Library Annex - 715 Grand Blvd., Vancouver, WA**

The theme of the February meeting will be

***The Search Continues...***

***where else can I find information on my ancestors?***

This will be a roundtable session along with a **live demonstration of our GenChat room**. We will be helping each other decide where to look next by sharing where there have been successful searches and help in finding the next piece in the family history puzzle. Many of our success stories have been as a result of sharing our own genealogical experiences. Nancy Elder Petersen and our webmaster, Patricia McKee Bauer, will be co-hosting the sample GenChat demonstration with others helping.

Plan on asking questions and sharing answers in an informal roundtable & online discussion. Let's see what Nancy can find for you on internet via the GenChat room!

### **And speaking of sharing ... A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

During the last CCGS Board Meeting we took a few minutes to hear about some random acts of genealogical kindness either received or given by a few of the people attending the meeting. I know the feeling of receiving information from another person I have never met that opened up some greater understanding of my gr-great grandfather. I was not sure I would have liked this grandfather, but seeing the stories that he relayed about his life printed in the White River Historical Review showed me another side that made me realize he was a warm, caring person and lived an interesting life and survived through some very hard times. I think I would have liked him very much.

I have also been on the side of finding information for other people that had eluded them and how much joy I received just being able to help them in their searches and finding a few unknown facts that brightened their day and inspired them to continue the search for yet another ancestor.

I am sure many of you have also experienced the joys of sharing what you have found and where you found it, and given others inspiration to continue the search in their own family history. Keep up the good work. It is so amazing to find that helping others in their search also opens up some new finds in your own searches.

Diana

## Clark County Cemeteries by Patricia Bauer, webmaster

Our CCGS project of having a web site for each cemetery in Clark County is coming along nicely. (See the main web page at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wacclacem>.) This is thanks to the donation of time and talent by several of our members. Some have donated one or two photos or obituaries for the various pages, others have done many hours of transcribing, photographing, etc., to fill in blank places on the pages. A welcome contribution by Vonda DeMerritt of Camas was the transcribing of all the obituaries published in 1953 by the Camas-Washougal *Post Record*. These have now been uploaded to the various cemetery sites. We were given permission by the newspaper to use their obituaries on our web pages. Vonda says she will begin on the 1954 obituaries soon and hopes to continue this transcription project, which is greatly appreciated.

Another member, Rosalie Kepler, is typing the obituaries for the Venersborg Cemetery. These copies were furnished by Lois Kullberg. Lois also furnished up-to-date alphabetical and chronological lists of the burials in the Venersborg Cemetery, which have been posted. Many other people have helped us and every bit of it is greatly appreciated! Two who have done much work on the project are Eileen Abernathy and Don Finel. The maps and other input from Pat Hanning were important additions to the entire site.

If you have photos or obituaries you would like to have included, please contact me. Scanned copies of the photos work beautifully, and typed copies of the obituaries are needed. They can be in a text file, as I will do the formatting needed to make them uniform with the others that are being posted. If a person lived in Clark County at one time but died and was buried elsewhere, that obituary can also be used. [patbauer@pacifier.com](mailto:patbauer@pacifier.com).

### Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Honorable members of Clark County Genealogical Society!

Your faithful Servant and fellow society member, Peri Lane Muhich, is in need of your assistance with the Spring Seminar, which will be held Friday evening, March 24, and Saturday all day, March 25, 2006. See further details on our web page at <http://www.ccgswa.org>. Just click on Spring Seminar.

To lend a hand (or two) contact Peri at [ccgs\\_programs@hotmail.com](mailto:ccgs_programs@hotmail.com). A meeting will be held later this month to go over the details. You can also leave a message at the CCGS library - 360-750-5688.

HELP IS NEEDED IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

**Cookies & Baked goods for the Friday night coffee & dessert and for breaks on Saturday of the Seminar. We need YOUR help!**

FOUR people are needed to help with the registration check-in table (this is a great opportunity to meet and greet your fellow genealogists!)

ONE person to be the vendor liaison

ONE person to take charge of the signs including those that need to be set-up in the parking lots and on the corner of Evergreen & Grand the day of the seminar

TWO people to be in charge of the coffee/tea/water & snacks at break times

TWO people to help put together the syllabus

TWO people for lunch/kitchen help

## Interesting mail facts from various sources (passed on by Don Finel)

Until the late 1800's mail was sent postage free but you had to pay when you went to pick up your mail on the receiving end (COD). A list in the newspaper let you know you had a letter to pick up. A lot of mail was never picked up because of lack of funds. President Lincoln pushed to get the system changed to the present system of the mailer being the payee.

Letter lists were very important to New Englanders, some who didn't get their mail from around Christmas until after "mud Season"— this in the days before RFD of course. If you apply to the "Government" through one of the lists that can be found on the National Archives web list of holdings, you might be able to obtain a regional or area map that shows what geographic areas were handling the mail for a given period. I do not know how early these maps or records exist, but I did find one for the 1850 for a very small location in Maine. If you were on the east side of the River your mail went to another town a few miles away and if you lived on the North side of the River your mail went to the small village in the next state. This might be help in placing your ancestor or subject of your research.

Are you familiar with the postal term "General Delivery"? Mail addressed to a person, General Delivery, name of town, is held at the main post office for that town for the person to pick up. Although it was used much more commonly in the past, General Delivery service still exists. Homeless people commonly receive mail this way, as do travelers or anyone without a permanent address. For example, those hiking the Appalachian trail mail themselves, or have others mail, boxes of supplies c/o General Delivery at post offices along the trail to be picked up as they travel along. See:

<http://www.usps.com/retail/choicesfordelivery/retailmailinanotherplace.htm>

### Research & Preservation News from Jane Germann

It's been raining here for nearly two months non-stop. The weather will break and spring will come. It will soon be warmer and drier and time to get out to re-read cemeteries that are not on line and take photos of the stones. If anyone is interested in joining me, give Jane a call at 892-8019. Pat Bauer has done a marvelous job of heading up the Clark County Cemetery Site on our website. Larry Dean got us started on combining indexes for our cemetery books and it is coming right along, thanks to volunteers who joined together. These contain names of stones that have become lost or buried and are valuable. He had estimated it would take him over two years to do! Many hands make small work. Judy Riley and Dorothy Wear have been faithful in helping clean up some work that needed to be finished for the State Archivist so we could send in completed territory censuses. Other projects continue to move right along. If you'd like to help, there is always work that can be done. Give Jane a call at 360-892-8019 or e-mail to [germann@wa-net.com](mailto:germann@wa-net.com).

### Bureau of Indian Affairs Surprise

Glen Jones

On the 15th of December I got a surprise. My cousin in Lenore, Idaho called me to tell me the BIA had contacted him about my Father's aunt, who died in 1938. It seems her estate has not been entirely settled, and they were looking for possible heirs. My cousin is sending them all he has on our family history, and I called the BIA contact the next morning and now have to get what I have on the family together and send it to them.

The monetary value is not much; the real value is in the *probate records* and the genealogy information that they contain. The BIA contact told me they may even have a copy of my father's birth certificate, which I had not been able to locate. I am also hoping the records may help with a road block that I have on that side of my family. Needless to say, I am excited about the possibility of getting copies of the records.

**The tapestry bag raffle prize was won by Bea Frahm at the January meeting.**



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President: Diana Cruz  
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### ***CCGS Meetings and Programs***

Feb. 6 Legacy Family Tree Interest Group,. CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. - noon  
Feb. 13 CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. - noon  
Feb. 22 Deadline for March Newsletter  
Feb. 28 General Meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. - noon  
Mar. 6 Legacy Family Tree Interest Group,. CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. - noon  
Mar. 13 CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. - noon  
Mar. 22 Deadline for April Newsletter  
Mar.26 Spring Seminar with Sharon DeBartolo Carmack: *Searching for Your Female Ancestors*

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