

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

Celebrating 35 years!

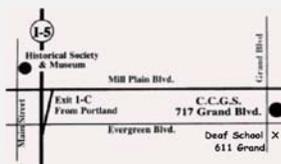
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CCGS Library
717 Grand Blvd
Vancouver, WA
360-750-5688



Hours of operation

Closed Sunday & Monday

Tues, Wed & Thurs:

Noon to 6 pm

Friday

10 am to 3 pm

Saturday

2nd & 3rd Saturdays only

10 am to 3 pm

How to get here:

From I-5, take the Mill Plain exit, go east about 1 ½ miles to Grand Blvd and turn south. We are in the strip mall on the east side, north of Evergreen.

General Meeting

Tuesday, January 23, 2007

10 a.m. - noon

CCGS Library Annex

At the January meeting, Lethene Parks will give us some answers to the question

Why Can't I Find My Ancestor on the Internet?

Come and hear her answers to this question and learn about other ways to find those elusive ancestors.

The Unfocused Group

On December 7th The Unfocused Group with Larry (Dean) met at CCGS from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM. This new group is designed as a forum for unstructured discussion on any genealogical topic. Fifteen people attended the initial meeting. The meeting got off to a very good start with a lot of talking and listening; it was reminiscent of King Arthur's round table where everyone was treated equally and all were encouraged to participate. There was a good mix of attendees with newer members from the fall class mingling with knowledgeable CCGS members.

We enjoyed listening to each other as we talked about what we are doing with our genealogy. We also discussed what options might be available for getting more help and where to go with our family research. It was relaxed and most attendees enjoyed tea and goodies provided by Roxanne Raymer, a newcomer who also has donated her talent in the display window. As we got to know one another, plans were made to get together for research at the library or to meet for coffee and just talk about how our research is going.

The next "unfocused group" is set for Thursday, January 4th at 1:30 PM at the CCGS library. Tea will be served and we encourage everyone to come and talk about his or her research.

Newsletter submissions

Do you have an article for the Newsletter? It must be in writing and it must be submitted to the Newsletter editors at the library or e-mailed to both of them.

Submissions to only one editor will be shared by both. Also, we send a copy to our CCGS president for final approval. Just a casual mention of a subject is not the way to have it included. The e-mail addresses are above.

A note from President Diana Cruz

As I write this note the New Year is just days away. 2007 is a special year. It is the 35th anniversary of Clark County Genealogical Society. We are planning a celebration for the 35th anniversary, with the date to be determined later. If you would like to help with the planning, please let me know.

How did it all begin? With the realization that Vancouver, and specifically southwestern Washington, needed a genealogy research facility, the first meeting was held at Fort Vancouver Library on November 3, 1972, with fourteen people invited to attend who all had an interest in genealogy. The invitations were sent by Margaretta Zimmerman, who acted as chairman. This first meeting included: Lois Bauman, Augusta Dean, Myrtle Fennefos, Janice Fillman, Mildred Finley, Gertrude Hamblen, Jean Holroyd, Bernice Hughes, Violet Miller, Lois Plotts, Mildred Porter, Joan Solheim, Helen Sykes, and Harleith Ward. For the next meeting in November, nine others joined them: Marjorie Grahner, Linda Loy, Lillian Showers, Virginia Holter, Robert Scott, Mrs. Gessford, Mrs. Idler, Mrs. Pettygrew, and Lavelle Martin. From the beginning this group focused on identifying materials of genealogical and historical nature of Clark County, Washington, and early Clarke County, Oregon Territory, building up materials for use by the membership, creating a popular interest in genealogy, and compiling, preserving and perpetuating records of our ancestors. In early 1973 dues were set at 25 cents per meeting or \$3 per year. In September 1973 the group decided to be known as the "Clark County Genealogical Society."

Next month I will add more information about the early years of CCGS. Until then, I want to thank all of the wonderful volunteers who have been the reason the society has been in existence for those 35 years; with the continued help of those willing to volunteer for jobs large and small, it will last for another 35 years at least. We will have lots of ways to volunteer some help when the Research and Preservation committee meets on January 16th, 10:00 - 4:00, so come see what's available during those hours. I'll be looking forward to seeing you all at the January meeting on the 4th Tuesday morning.

HELP WANTED: Window Display Coordinator Roxanne Raymer would like someone to share the responsibility for the display window at the library; it is changed every month to six weeks. E-mail Roxanne at roxanne_raymer@hotmail.com and put WINDOW in the subject line.

Research and Preservation Cemetery Project: The two-acre Livingston Cemetery, located in the rural area of Vancouver, has been overgrown and unkempt for many years. Recently we received an e-mail message from Charles Dorendorf saying he is supervising a state offender work crew and they are cleaning up the cemetery. He is hoping to get donations of gravel for the drive/parking area, benches, grass, and possibly even picket fencing to define the cemetery from the forest. If you know anyone willing to donate any materials, Charles says he has an endless supply of free labor. His crew is working one day a week at Livingston. If you, or someone you know, will donate material for the project, please contact our webmaster at apmb@pacifier.com and she will forward the mail to Mr. Dorendorf.

Research and Preservation - Cut and Paste party!

Jane Germann, chairman of the R&P committee, has returned from the trip to visit her family and is ready to begin work again on a very important part of the R&P project. We have lots of boxes of old periodicals piled up in the storeroom of CCGS awaiting the important information to be pulled out. Tuesday, January 16 from 10 am until 4 pm,, the CCGS Research and Preservation team will tackle this project by taking the periodicals apart and saving the printed Birth, Death, Marriage, Census, Cemeteries, Land, Probate or Funeral, Surname (Family Histories) sections to be put in the Vertical Files here at CCGS. This is something that you can help with. It takes back-to-kinder-garten skills and will be a lot of fun. Computer skills are not required. Come join us with this project. The Vitals Records are always in need of help. And they keep growing. Come help us organize those obits, births, and marriages or current reports. We have lots to do and many hands make the work light!

Sepia-toned Mystery is solved!

Patricia McKee Bauer - webmaster

One day during the past summer a woman from Brush Prairie stopped by the CCGS library and asked if we would take an antique photo album as a donation. The album had been purchased about 30 years ago from an antique shop in the Portland area. The woman said her relative had given it to her and, since the people in the book were not related to their family, she would like to get it back to the original family. Pat Wise was librarian that day and she left the book with a note for our web master to see if we could do something with it.

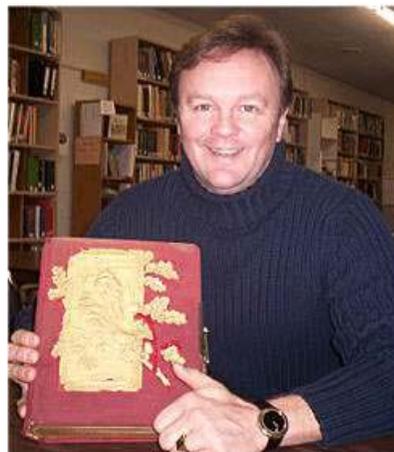
We have a lot of old, unidentified photos on our CCGS web page and this is where most of the photos from the book were posted. See the photos at <http://www.ccg-s-wa.org/p4222.htm> About the album: It has a well-worn red, padded cover with a metal hinge inside imprinted with 1882. And on almost every page was a name, written in pencil, to identify each photo. Inside the book was a large photo of seven people - four men and three women - with their names handwritten on the back! There was also an envelope containing four tin-types (no identification) inside the book. The men in these photos resembled the men in the large photo.

Without the names, this would have been an impossible task, but it was perfect for the people in our weekly GenChat session on October 5, 2006. The "crew" went right to work on the project and we had a family chart set up with details on the Rands family which came to Oregon City, OR. from Iowa. The people in the large photo were siblings, with two of the girls marrying twin brothers named White and the other girl married a man named Swafford. Nancy Elder Petersen, GenChat co-host, found and posted a lot of information about the family, as did Joy Kersteter. Then others got busy with it - Jerry Thompson, Jim Cochran, and Charles Hansen found information to post in GenChat. Everyone was searching for more clues.

I contacted Tricia Jones at the Columbian and she was immediately interested in doing a story on the album. It was published November 15 and was titled, *Sepia-toned Mystery*. We thought

someone in the family would come forward soon to claim the book but no one contacted us.

I tried calling a few people including some Rands folks in Vancouver and some in Oregon City, with no success. I left the album, with a family chart and instructions, at the library, thinking I might find time to work on it later. On December 5th Sandy Thompson was showing new librarian KaraLynn Rankin some ideas for doing research. Sandy saw the album and decided to try calling some other names from the family tree. She reached Thomas B. Swafford in Tigard, OR. He was indeed related to the family as he was a great grandson of Temperance Rands Swafford in the family photo. He passed the info on to his uncle who was going to come over to Vancouver to see about the book after contacting Diana Cruz. Since he hadn't yet contacted Diana by December 15, I called Tom and arranged to meet him at our library.



He came over that day and was so excited and grateful for the book. He said they would give it to his father the next day, his 81st birthday. As he looked through the photos, he recognized many names he had heard of over the years. Tom said he has been appointed "family historian and keeper of the records" for his family. Those of us at the library that day were almost as excited as Tom because this was a perfect ending to this *Sepia-toned Mystery*!

New additions to our book shelves:

Reference Encyclopedia of the American Indian
Author: Barry T. Klein
Donated by Madeline Mesplay

Emigrants From Derry Port, 1847-1849
Author: Dessie Baker
Donated by the Lower Columbia River Genealogical Society

Kimball's New Sectional Map of Vernon County, Missouri
Author: E.E. Kimball
Donated by Pat Bauer

My Ain Folk
Author: Graham S. Holton & Jack Winch
Donated by Barbie Baker

Bartholomew's Clan Map, Scotland of Old
Author: Sir Iain Moncreiffe

Tahmahaw, the Bridge of the Gods
Author: Jim Atwell.
Donated by Barbie Baker

Benjamin Webb 1761-1826
Author: Robert C. Gordon
Donated by Robert C. Gordon

Gabrielle's People
Author: Walter J. Saucier

A List of Parishes in Boyd's Marriage Index
Author: Society of Genealogists
Donated by the Estate of Jean Langowski

Washington, A Bicentennial History
Author: Norman H. Clark
Donated by Glenna Brock

Beginning Genealogy
Author: Clark County Genealogical Society

Misplay
Author: Patricia Weeks

Rejected or Suspended Applications for Revolutionary War Pensions
Author: Alex H.H. Stuart
Donated by Lower Columbia Genealogical Society

Northern New York and the Adirondack Wilderness
Author: Nathaniel Bartlett Sylvester
Donated by Dixie Olson

State of Oregon Marriage Index 1925-1929, vol. 1
Author: Genealogical Forum of Oregon (CD)
Donated by Lorlei Metke

Donations by Lower Columbia Genealogical Society:

Summers Family History
Author: American Genealogical Research Institute

The Armstrong Family
Author: National Genealogical Research Institute

The Lynch Family
Author: National Genealogical Research Institute

The Caldwell Family
Author: National Genealogical Research Institute

The Horn Family
Author: American Genealogical Research Institute

Family Record of Preacher Benjamin Eby
Author: Ruth L. Eby

Smith Wills-Deeds & Family Histories, vol. 1
Author: Linda G. Cheek

The Shivelys
Author: Esther Shively Keeney

Welcome new members

Richard Pender III
Jimmy and Paquita Rupp
Wendy Van Dyk

Reinstated:

Nona Clark
Shirley & Julius Richter, Jr.

The Kennedy Family Bible

Sandra Meredith Thompson

One day several years ago while I was working as a librarian at the CCGS Library, a woman came into the library carrying a Bible. She said that it was found along the side of a road near Hood River, OR, a few years prior to that time. It was torn and separated from the binding, but all pages were intact. The person in charge of the CCGS library at that time did not feel it was appropriate genealogical material. She felt that we had no room for it on our shelves and, because of its condition, it wasn't worth keeping. But rather than disposing of it, I brought it home with me. It sat on my closet shelf until a week before Thanksgiving of this year. My intention, when I brought it home a few years ago, was to find it a home for it, but it was out of sight and out of mind. I began researching with Ancestry.com, Genealogy.com, Social Security, Washington and Oregon Death records to trace the family.

The last entry in the Bible was of Archie Kennedy. I was able to find information on Archie and his wife Selma Berg Kennedy. They are both deceased. I then corresponded with a Pat Kennedy in Medford, where

Selma died. She said her husband was Marvin, Archie's step son. Pat Kennedy mentioned that the Bible had been missing for some 60 years, ever since the family went from North Dakota to Washington. She said no one knew what had happened to it. Pat Kennedy mentioned she knew a relative in Portland whose grand-mother was the daughter of the original owner of the Bible. His name is Jack Thompson. Pat contacted Jack and Jack called me.

Jack Thompson is retired and had a business in preserving documents and old books in Portland. Jack came to my house and got the Bible on November 27th. I was able to take a picture of him with it. He was so happy to get it. He mentioned that he has a nephew who was getting married that following weekend. After the wedding, Jack emailed me a picture of the happy couple and mentioned that the Bible was used in the wedding.

What a joy to be able to return it to its family, where it can be cherished and appreciated. I have very little from my family and would love to have someone give me a gift such as this.

Spring Mini-Classes Planned

These stand-alone classes will begin in late February 2007 and run through March. Probable topics: Organizing, Documenting and Preserving Your Genealogy; Choosing and Using a Genealogy Database Program; Military Records: Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War; County Land Records; How to Research Your Indian Ancestor. Classes will be \$10 per class if you register prior to the class date and \$12 at the door. Register ahead of time to be sure of receiving handouts. More detailed information on topics, presenters, dates and times will be forthcoming in the February newsletter.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon

Who: Rabbi Jonathan Seidel, PhD UC Berkeley 1996

What: "Changes in Jewish Marriage and Divorce in Eastern Europe in the 19th and early 20th Century".

When: Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Where: Ahavath Achim Synagogue, 3225 SW Barbur Blvd, Portland, 7:30 pm

Information: 503-694-5646 Sandra Shapiro

Family Genealogies Wanted

Oregon Historical Society Library would like to get more family genealogies for their collection. If you have one to donate to them, please contact our CCGS VP Glen Jones for more details. E-mail: glenkc7mbm@comcast.net

Legacy Group Report

Don Finel, CCLUG moderator

The CCLUG met 4 December, 10:00 to noon. Seventeen regular members attended, as well as one new.

The latest tip sheets, as posted to the web site, were discussed and the steps reviewed to accomplish the method. Also, a Record Resource Information sheet was reviewed, with copies handed out and later posted to the web site.

It is expected that the holidays of November and December may have been the reason for the lighter turnout at our meeting. We seem to continue to have a high interest in the meeting and presentations, though it is hard to get suggestions from participants of what they would like covered. We also have some regulars from the Portland Legacy Users Group coming to our meetings, which is good as those people are getting a double learning process and a variety of presentation methods.

There will not be a meeting in January 2007 as that is New Year's Day and to attain a day other than the 1st Monday would be a huge obstacle. Our next meeting will be on 5 February 2007.



Clark County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 5249
Vancouver WA 98668-5249

President: Diana Cruz
Vice President: Glen Jones
Secretary: Dorothy Wear

Treasurer: Alene Kempton-Gragg
Asst. Sec-Treas: Karen Frost
Past President: Bill Duchie

<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org>
Library: 717 Grand Blvd
360-750-5688

CCGS Meetings and Programs

- 4 Jan Unfocused First Thursday Research Group, Library Annex 1:30 - 3:30 pm
- 8 Jan CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 am - noon; All are welcome.
- 16 Jan R&P - Cut & Paste session - Library Annex, 10 am - 4 pm - please join us!
- 23 Jan General Meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 am - noon, All are welcome
- 24 Jan Deadline for Feb Newsletter; e-mail material to gskuech@pacifier.com & apmb@pacifier.com
- 1 Feb Unfocused First Thursday Research Group, Library Annex, 1:30 - 3:30 pm
- 5 Feb Legacy Family Tree Interest Group, CCGS Library Annex, 10 am – noon
- 30 Sept - 7 Oct 2007 research trip to Salt Lake City

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.. Usually no General Meeting is held in March (Spring Seminar), July, August, or December.

Notify Verneice Adams, our Sunshine Lady, of anyone needing a card from CCGS such as get well, thinking of you, sympathy, etc. vadams234@gorge.net or call our library and leave a message - 360-750-5688