

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

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CCGS Library
717 Grand Blvd
Vancouver, WA
360-750-5688
gensoc at cogs-wa.org

Hours of operation
Closed Sunday & Monday

*Check the on-line
library calendar for
unexpected closures.*

<http://www.cogs-wa.org>

Tues, - Fri
10 am to 3:00 pm

Friday
10 am to 3 pm

Saturday
2nd Saturday 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 right. We are in the
strip mall on the left side,
north of Evergreen.

**CCGS is on
Facebook!**

See related article

President's Message

This month I want to bring Newsletter readers up to date on some of the activities CCGS is focusing on this year and some activities for which we need more volunteers to step forward and help.

One of our major goals is to make people – members and non-members alike – more aware of CCGS, what we do and what resources we have for those who want to preserve the histories of their own families and the history of the community in which they live. Getting more people to come to the CCGS Library is one way to do this. The CCGS Board supported the idea that having Ancestry.com available in our library would be one way to achieve this. Members agreed and stepped up to the plate to donate the money for a one year subscription. Ancestry.com Worldwide Library Edition is now installed on all five of the CCGS computers. Brian Runyan has conducted two sessions to help our volunteer librarians learn how to help library users learn how to use the site, and there will be more at our January 27 general meeting. The other under-used pay site that we subscribe to is the New England Historic Genealogical Society site. It's been several years since we did any training on how to use this site; this may be the year to do it again.

One of our major assets is of course our CCGS library. We have many fine resources for how to do genealogical research and for researching in any part of the United States and in other countries as well. We have focus groups that meet monthly to help each other with Scandinavian research and native American research. Sandy Thompson stepped forward to become Library Director for this year at least and has been doing an excellent job. She and several others have neaten up the library – I hope you have noticed – and I am hearing many comments about how dedicated and caring she is in all that she does.

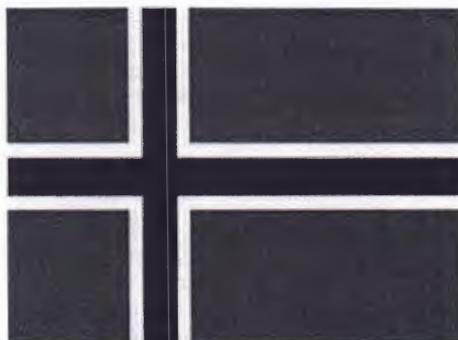
Another need has been to have more and more consistent publicity for our society and what we have to offer. We've been very fortunate to have Kay Cooke, who has professional experience in this area, volunteer to be our PR person. She has been making contacts with local media and gathering ideas. At our general meeting Kay will talk about how to our Facebook presence more visible and more useful to people.

Another major way to attract members is a quality education program. Brian Runyan has been very active in doing just that for CCGS. We had a very successful fall workshop with nationally known speaker William Dollarhide, and a spring workshop emphasizing archival resources available to our members is in the works. Brian has been able to negotiate with Legacy to bring to all of us their series of excellent webinars on a wide variety of topics of interest to family history researchers. And there will be a series of classes scheduled for spring. Monthly programs are another way we reach out to people. The general public is always welcome to attend, and no costs are involved. We still need a program chair to oversee these monthly events. Even our front window can draw people in and many thanks are due to Dolly Merrick for seeing to it that the window display is always fresh and interesting.

We also continue our efforts to partner with others in the community with whom we have interests in common. Richard Engstrom is doing a fine job with the pioneer burial/Old City Cemetery burial project and we are about to set up a volunteer position for a WSU-Vancouver student who will transcribe the two early Clark County tax records ledgers that were donated to us a few months ago.

I think we are accomplishing many worthwhile things. I have not been able to mention by name all of our members who have and do help with these efforts, but you know who you are and please know that you are very much appreciated.

"Scandinavian Focus Group"



Welcome to this edition of the Scandinavian Corner. As many of you know, CCGS has recently purchased the Ancestry.com Library Edition and it is now available in the CCGS Research Library. This is a great resource for researching your Scandinavian ancestors. For Sweden it includes Marriage, Death and Birth Records as well as Immigration Records. There are also some related genealogical resources to help you with your Swedish research.

The Norwegian records include Census and Voter Lists and Birth, Marriage and Death lists.

Another resource in Ancestry is their Wikipedia section. Look to see if there is information about the parish or area where your ancestors lived.

The Scandinavian Focus Group will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 12th from 10am to 11:30 am in the CCGS meeting room. This is a great place to meet other individuals researching their Scandinavian roots. If you are just beginning your search, please join us. At this meeting we will have a presentation by Lori Aberle on tips to translating Swedish and Norwegian documents.

Richard Engstrom
rengstro60@yahoo.com

Bylaws Committee:

The By-laws committee consists of President Lethene Parks, Lowell and Marion Kenedy, Brian Runyan, Eric Jordahl, Sandy Thompson and Chair Jane Germann. If you have any changes in the by-laws you would like to see, contact one of these persons to have your proposition reviewed.

2015 Trailbreakers:

Trail Breakers is being put together for a June 30 publication date. If you want to submit something for publication, please send you information to Editor, Jane Germann

(germann @ wa-net.com)

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
by Kay Cooke, Publicity Chairman

Did you know that the Clark County Genealogical Society has a Facebook page? Launched several years ago, it hasn't been as active and vital as it will now become. Like all other organizations, CCGS must communicate in a variety of ways. Our website has been recently revamped, we produce print and electronic newsletters (plus other noteworthy publications), and now it is time to ramp up our presence locally and nationally through social media.

CCGS is in good company with our Facebook presence. Recently on the CCGS page, links were posted to two documents that contain thousands of links to Facebook pages and groups. One list, compiled by Kathrine R. Willson, contains 4,132 links to Facebook pages and groups throughout the U.S. and around the world (www.socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list). The other list, by genealogist Gail Dever, contains 14 pages full of Facebook pages dedicated to Canadian sites (www.Genealogyalacarte.ca).

Tips like these will appear on the CCGS Facebook page along with notices of meetings, seminars, webinars, classes, plus other learning opportunities and activities. The Facebook page does not allow much two-way interaction or conversations; therefore, we are exploring the start of a Facebook group page. Stay tuned or announcements of that...you will see it announced on our Facebook page (as well as in our newsletters).

We hope you will "like" (become a friend and/or join) the CCGS Facebook page. Of course, to "like" our page, you must have a personal profile of your own. Even if you aren't very active with your own Facebook profile, we encourage you to "like" the CCGS page – and invite your genealogist friends to do so as well! Consider asking family members to "like" us. It could be a good way to create awareness and interest in the topic of family genealogy.

If you don't have a Facebook profile and would like to get started, go to www.Facebook.com and follow the steps to sign up. It's easy! But, if you have questions, see me – Kay Cooke – and I will be happy to "try" and answer them when I'm at the library. Or, you can email me at news @ ccs-wa.org.



Find us on
Facebook

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Garry Lucas, a past CCGS President, on the birth of a 9 pound son born Friday, January 16, 2015. Avery Jacob Lucas Warne was born at the Salmon Creek Legacy Hospital to Garry's wife Katy. Mother, father and baby are all doing great! Garry retired at the end of December from his career with the Clark County Sheriff's office. He had been with the department for 47 years and served as Sheriff since he was first elected in January 1991.

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

Education Chair Brian Runyan continues to come to the CCGS Library each Wednesday that there is a scheduled webinar from Legacy Family Tree. He sets up the screen and computer projector for those who would like to come and view the webinars. Usually there is a discussion following each webinar for those who are interested.

For a description of each webinar, go to
<http://www.familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php>

Webinars begin at 11 a.m. PST, unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, February 4:

One-Place Studies: Tracing the History of a Community, with Kirsty Gray

Friday, February 6:

Step-by Step – Finding Confederate Soldiers and Their Records, with J. Mark Lowe

Wednesday, February 11 6 p.m. (Note time change)

Zigzagging Through German Church Records, with James M. Beidler

Wednesday, February 18:

Researching your New Zealand Ancestors, with Jan Gow

Friday, February 20:

Researching Ancestors in the Era of Freedom, with Angela Walton-Raji

Wednesday, February 25:

Tap Into your Inner Private Eye – 9 Strategies for Finding Living Relatives, with Lisa Louise Cooke

Wednesday, March 4:

Researching with Karen, with Karen Clifford

If you are unable to come to the library to watch these, they are available to you in your own home if you pre-register. They are also available for free for about a week following the original showing. And for Legacy Family Tree members, the webinars are available at any time with your paid subscription.

CCGS MEMBERS CAN SUBSCRIBE TO LEGACY WEBINARS FOR HALF-PRICE!!

The introductory price is normally \$49.95 for a year subscription. Geoff Rasmussen has provided CCGS with our own discount code that allows a CCGS member to purchase a yearly subscription for ½ price. If this is of interest to you, you may call the CCGS library and a librarian, after verifying you are a current member, will give you the code.

Weather Reminder: If Vancouver School District is closed, CCGS Library will also be closed. Be sure to check our web page before coming in, CCGS closures will be posted there. Some of our librarians live in outlying areas, their weather may be worse than what is happening in Vancouver.

New to Our Library
Compiled by Alice Allen & Lonna Parker

Donated by Judi Kirkland:

Title: Trace Your Roots with DNA
Author: Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak and Ann Turner
(2nd copy available for checkout)

Title: Skookum: An Oregon Pioneer Family's History and Lore
Author: Shannon Applegate
(2nd copy available for checkout)

Title: Your English Ancestry: A Guide for North Americans
Author: Sherry Irvine

Title: Searching for Cyber-Roots
Author: Laurie and Steve Bonner

Title: Guide to the LDS Family History Library
Author: John Cerny & Wendy Elliott
(2nd copy available for checkout)

Donated by Billie Jo Westby

Title: Magna Carta Ancestry, a Study in Colonial and Medieval Families
Author: Douglas Richardson

Title: Plantagenet Ancestry, a Study in Colonial and Medieval Families
Author: Douglas Richardson

Title: Genealogy and Memoirs of Isaac Stearns and His Descendants
Author: Avis Stearns Van Wagenen

Title: History of the Dudley Family with Genealogical Tables, Pedigrees, etc., vol. 2
Author: Dean Dudley

Donated by Marian Kenedy

Title: The Book of Names, Especially Relating to The Early Palatines and the First Settlers in the Mohawk Valley
Author: Lou D. MacWethy

Title: Find Anyone Fast: Easy to Use Guide to Finding Anyone Anywhere
Author: Richard S. Johnson & Debra Johnson Knox

Donated by Linda French Dawson

Title: Greenbrier County (West) Virginia Birth Records, 1853-1899
Author: Larry G. Shuck

Donated by Madeline Mesplay

Title: Healing Secrets of the Native Americans
Author

Donated by Jane Germann

Title: Covered Wagon Women 1840-1849
Author: Kenneth L. Holmes

Donated by Bruce Timms

Title: Nimrod: Courts, Claims, and Killing on the Oregon Frontier
Author: Ronald B. Lansing

Donated by Joan DeCamara

Title: DAR Patriot Index, vol. 3, an Index to Spouses
Author: National Society DAR

Title: DAR Patriot Index Centennial Edition, Part I A-F
Author: DAR

Title: DAR Patriot Index, Centennial Edition, Part II G-O
Author: DAR

Title: DAR Patriot Index Centennial Edition, Part III P-Z
Author: DAR

Donated by CCGS Irish Interest Group

Title: A History of Modern Ireland with a Sketch of Earlier Times
Author: Giovanni Costigan

Title: Celtic Heritage, Ancient Tradition in Ireland & Wales
Author: Alwyn & Brinley Rees

Title: So You Think You're Irish
Author: Margaret Kelleher

Title: Guide : National Monuments, Ireland
Author: Peter Harbison

Title: In Search of Your British & Irish Roots
Author: Baxter, Angus
(2nd copy available for checkout)

Title: Ireland Before the Vikings
Author: Gearoid MacNiocail

Donated by Mildred Flick

Title: Hanson Relatives
Author: Charlotte Nicely

Title: The Ferguson Family
Author: Alberta H. Huggins

Title: The Ancestors & Descendants of Cicero Mordecai Hutchinson & his Wife Francis Carter Sawyer
Author: Marvin Clayton Hutchins

Donated by Ken McGee

Title: Ben Chapman and Morg McGee, Two Confederate Soldiers from Monroe Co., Missouri
Author: Ken McGee and Nancy Stone

Membership Directory

At long last the new edition of the CCGS Member Directory is here. Members may download it from
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waccgs/d/2014_directory.pdf

If you wish you can pick up a printed copy at the CCGS library (give us a few days to make some copies), or contact me for other options.

Bill Whalley, Directory Editor, wghalley@gmail.com,
360-834-4859

Long time CCGS member and former librarian Alberta Dawson passed away on January 1st. She is survived by her husband George (also a long time CCGS member and former librarian), four sons and a daughter. A funeral mass was held on January 8th at Holy Redeemer Catholic church, with burial at Holy Cross cemetery in Washougal.

Our Condolences to the family of former CCGS member Geneva Wohlgemuth, who passed away on January 15th. A memorial service was held on January 24th at Evergreen Memorial Gardens.

From the Family of Margaret Colf Hepola

"Thanks for your kindness. My mother enjoyed your group so much."

Membership Report
By Denni Hamilton-Levonian, Membership Chairman

Welcome Back, Reinstated Members:

Lyn Milner
Randy Studer

Thanks for making special donations in addition to your dues:

Barbara Baker
Lyn Milner
Jan Oliva
Constance Ronayne

Area Genealogy News:

RootsQuest 2015:

You, your members, and your friends are invited to chart your course for RootsQuest 2015, a free genealogy conference hosted by the Forest Grove Oregon Stake on March 21, 2015. This year's event will feature keynote speaker Crista Cowan, the "*barefoot genealogist*" from Ancestry.com. Crista will also teach classes throughout the day. Classes will be available for all levels, from beginner to advanced, including research outside the United States. Registration opens February 15, online here: <http://roots.fgos.org/>

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Southwest Washington Regional History Day

On Saturday, February 21, hundreds of middle school and high school students from all over southwestern Washington will descend on Pleasant Valley Middle School to participate in the 2015 Southwest Washington Regional History Day competition.

The day will be a colorful whirl of music, performances, exhibits, documentaries, costumes, and students, each presenting their chosen topic of history and carefully tying it to the 2015 National History Day theme of **Leadership and Legacy in History**.

We are currently looking for teachers, thespians, librarians, writers, web page designers and IT specialists, media technicians, artists, historians, museum staff and volunteers, in fact, any adults who enjoy working with students, who might be interested in volunteering as judges during the day-long competition.

We can offer you the sheer joy of working with students interested in history, from their own backyard to the far corners of the world, complimentary breakfast and lunch and the opportunity to work with other judges in this most worthwhile of endeavors!

Interested? Intrigued? You can learn more by checking out the National History Day website at www.nhd.org or the Washington State Historical Society's webpage and links to the state events.

If you, or any of your staff, volunteers, or colleagues are interested, sign up for our regional contest, using this link: <http://form.jotform.us/form/43356924648162>

Competition will be held at Pleasant Valley Middle School, 14320 NE 5th Avenue in Vancouver. We will begin with breakfast about 7:30 am; training will begin at 8 am and judging begins promptly at 9 am.

Meet Kay Cooke, CCGS Publicity Chairman



Like many people researching their roots, I became immediately curious about them right after a parent's death. When my dad, Jesse Wills (born in LaCenter), passed away, I was given his battered brown military suitcase. It contained, among his collection of funeral cards, several diaries written by his father. The family had a small dairy farm on the Lewis River in Woodland, Wash., and Grandpa Joe's journals were filled with observations such as, "Flossie come fresh today."

My parents started life in Woodland, although my mom, Dorothy Russell Wills, was from Olympia. I was born at Vancouver Memorial Hospital and, consequently, call myself a Clark County native. While researching my Wills roots, I discovered that my 4Xgreat grandfather, George Wills, led the Oscaloosa Company wagon train on the Oregon Trail in 1847. His abolitionist beliefs originally caused him to leave his home state of Kentucky, and the family of 11 children settled in the Johnson Creek area of Portland. In addition to being a farmer, lumberman and sawmill owner, George Wills was a Baptist minister, founding the Little Flock Baptist Church in the Willsburg community (later renamed to Milwaukee).

As for me, I actually didn't live in Vancouver until 1997, when I married my second husband, Bob Cooke (who is also avidly tracing his roots along the Atlantic seaboard). I grew up, and subsequently raised my two sons, in Olympia, Wash. One son is still in Olympia and the other is in Camas, with two of my six grandchildren. My four grandgirls live in Gresham.

I'm a "greener grad" having earned my B.A. (communications) from The Evergreen State College at age 40 after closing my executive suites leasing and word processing business. My second career was spent working for non-profit organizations, primarily in the post-secondary education field. I've worked for a bunch of critters – Penguins, Beavers and Ducks (my last position was with the Clark College Foundation).

Several years ago, while still working, I managed to flush out sketchy genealogy notes from my paternal grandmother's Jackson line to gain admission to the D.A.R. organization. I've come to CCGS periodically in the past and was most recently lured back in because of the Scandinavian Focus Group. I have begun sleuthing the roots of my Swedish grandfather and his wife, my Norwegian grandmother. Because I was inspired to persist by the group, I've finally unearthed the names of Gx2 grandparents in Norway and Sweden. My next challenge is to see if I can find any live cousins over there!

While I'm pursuing that goal, I want to help create more awareness of CCGS in our community and attract new members. Recent television shows have spurred interest in genealogy research, with most genealogists doing their legwork on the internet. We need to increase our social media presence through CCGS's Facebook page (see additional article in the newsletter). Plus, I'll also post our webinars, seminars, and other public activities on electronic calendars in area media. I will appreciate it if you can let me know when you see these items appearing in print. Suggestions for other ways that we can reach out to our community and spread the word about our vibrant, resource-intensive genealogical society are gratefully welcomed. Please email me at [news at ccgs-wa.org](mailto:news@ccgs-wa.org) or stop to chat when you see me hanging around the CCGS library!

Question of the Month:

When did you start doing genealogy/family history research,
what got you started?

This is the question I posed to several CCGS members recently, and here are their responses. If you'd like to share what got you interested in researching your family and how long you have been researching, drop me an email at allen.alice@gmail.com by the deadline for March's issue (February 25), and I'll include your comments in March's newsletter.

From Steve Aberle (Information Technology)

"I began doing family history data collection while in elementary school after being introduced to it by my maternal grandparents, and this blossomed into full genealogical research a few years later."

From Bill Whalley (Webmaster, Directory Editor, Information Technology, Legacy Users Group)

"I was exposed to genealogy when I attended my wife's family reunion in 1992 and read a report on her ancestry. A few years later my stepfather died and I realized that I knew little about his family and what's more, little about my father's family. My father died when I was young, and before that had spent much of his married life overseas building oil refineries in Bahrain. My mother didn't know much about his family either. My grandparents and uncle had died and I had lost track of my cousins.

I found my cousins and they provided a copy of a family chart done in 1955. I started writing cold-call letters to names I found on the list and found a bunch more Whalley relations--I believe I am related to half of the Whalleys on the US west coast--and they gave me the start of many great stories: we went to Australia "to make money from sheep"; we helped kick off the Yukon gold rush (and found gold!); an ancestor led the Nulato massacre which tied in with the lost Franklin expedition; a great uncle was in the siege of Mafeking; the family did shoddy manufacture in the English industrial revolution; TV star Richard Whiteley; Pearl Harbor; Butch Cassidy--oops, that's my mother's side; Princess Di--oops that's my wife's side. So many stories, so little time."

Sharon Cleveland (Library Committee)

"My paternal Grandmother was my inspiration. She was the only daughter of Norwegian immigrants and proud of her ancestry which she loved sharing. With her husband, my Grandfather, they lived on the family farm homesteaded by my Grandfather's family, which was next door to us. Several members of my Grandfather's family also settled nearby. My Grandmother was always telling me who I was related to and how, which ended up being a lot of people in our little county. If she was here today she would so love what I have found."

Patricia McKee Bauer (Retired Webmaster and Newsletter Editor)

"My interest in genealogy began in earnest in the 1980's when I was given copies of family information which had been gathered by my maternal great grandmother's sister. This information was compiled in 1894 and hand copied by each family to pass on to their children. Most of it has proven to be accurate, as opposed to the stories I was told by one of the cousins. Apparently in 1894 there was no commercial carbon paper and therefore many hours were spent copying the information by hand on the families which came over in 1630 and after. They all settled in New England before venturing west. A few of the names from long ago were Ford, Clapp, Cook, Foote, Belden, Newberry and Allyn."

Alice Allen (Newsletter Editor, Research Correspondent, Library Accessions)

"I was a new mother of a baby girl in the spring of 1968 when my mother's youngest sister gave her a copy of a family history she compiled, mostly sourced from recollections of her aunts and uncles. After I read it, I was hooked! And I don't think my mother ever saw that history again (I still have it in my files). Aunt Elsie and I worked together after that, adding to our family lines. She wrote to courthouses and genealogy societies, I read microfilms from LDS Family History Center. Sadly, she died in 1987. She would have loved the Internet and all the information that can be found online now."

Some More News and Links

The following item was posted by an outside contributor to the CCGS Facebook page. Mark your calendars for the Northwest Genealogy Conference on August 13-15, 2015 in Arlington, WA. Angela Packer McGhie, CeCe Moore and Judy G. Russell will headline 19 speakers and 40 classes! Early registration opens April 15. For more details: <http://nwgcc.org/> (Kay Cooke)

How Are We Related?

From Eastman's Genealogy Newsletter:

Crestleaf has created a family relationship chart to explain how you're related to other people.

<http://crestleaf.com/blog/relative-family-relationship-chart/>

Genealogy Forum of Oregon's Calendar of Events

<http://www.gfo.org/calendar.htm>

REPORT YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS!

CALLING ALL REPORTERS of volunteer hours worked for CCGS. PLEASE remember to include travel time when you sign the volunteer sheet in the library. And, if you work at home, or on a special project, you may submit a note on the total hours (without listing each day's time). Send an note to gensoc@ccgs-wa.org (or to my email) with Volunteer Hours in the heading. Let's be sure to report all hours worked in this new year. Thanks, from Dolly Merrick

Just For Fun

I will never be over the hill, I'm too darn tired to climb it!

Someone sent me an email about using vodka for cleaning around the house. It worked! The more vodka I drank, the cleaner my house looked.

When a woman says, "What", it's not because she didn't hear you. She's giving you a chance to change what you said.

Middle Age: The time when you finally get your head together, and your body starts falling apart!

On growing older: "Don't 'bemoan' growing older. The alternative is to not be here at all...I think aging is a beautiful option to that." Diane Lane

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

President: Lethene Parks
Vice President: Bea Ritter
Secretary: Marian Kenedy

Treasurer: Larry Germann
Asst. Sec-Treas: Eric Jordahl
Past President: Steve Cornick

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

CCGS Meetings and Programs

Feb 2 Legacy Users Group - 10 - 11:30 am, CCGS Library Annex
Feb 5 First Thursday Unfocused Group - 1 - 3 pm, CCGS Library Annex
Feb 9 Board Meeting - 10 am - 12 noon, CCGS Library Annex (**NOTE THE NEW TIMES**)
Feb 12 Scandinavian Focus Group - 10 a.m. - 11:30, CCGS Annex
Feb 14 Native American Focus Group - 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
Feb 23 Library Committee meeting, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, CCGS Library
Feb 24 General Meeting, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, CCGS Annex
Feb 25 **March Newsletter deadline**

To save space, the Legacy Webinar schedule is posted in a separate article in this newsletter.

General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month at CCGS Library Annex.
Morning meetings: Oct - Mar, 10 am - noon. Evening meetings: Apr - Sept, 7 - 9 pm.

No General Meeting is held July, August, or December.

Notify Jeanine Bailiff, our Sunshine Lady, of anyone needing a card from CCGS such as get well, thinking of you, sympathy, etc. jgmb@pacifier.com or call Jeanine at 360-566-9422.