

# CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter

Denni Hamilton-Levonian,  
Membership  
mayflwham at gmail.com

Lethene Parks, President  
gensoc at ccgs-wa.org

Alice Aultman Allen, Editor  
allen.alice at gmail.com

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

**Hours of operation**  
Closed Sunday & Monday

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

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

**Tues. - Fri**  
10 am to 3:00 pm

**Saturday**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

Deadline for the June  
newsletter is  
Wednesday, May 20

### President's Message

Over many years of researching the history of my own family lines, writing their stories, and teaching other people how to write the stories of their own and their families' lives, one useful technique I have learned is to make lists of people or families or events to write about and then choose one topic from the list to write about. A useful version of this is a "life list" of topics, with items crossed off as you research and write about them and other items added as you think of them. Thus I always have a list going, in my head and on paper. Within the past month, three items, all sub-topics of things that have been on my list for years, have risen to top priority and demanded some attention. All are leading me into some unanticipated genealogical research.

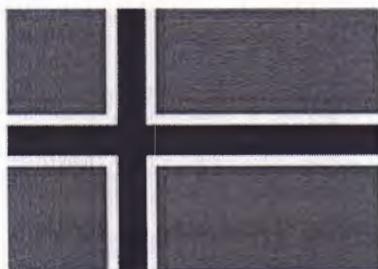
The first "trigger" was the recent death of a cousin, from cancer, after a short illness. Hers is the second death that can definitely be attributed to a gene mutation in my father's family; my sister's death in 1989 was the first. Cancer researchers at the University of Washington have been studying our family for about fifteen years. Most of my fourteen first cousins have sent their DNA samples to the study. Within the last year the researchers identified a previously unknown genetic mutation associated with pancreatic cancer and perhaps some other cancers. Each of us who had submitted DNA samples received only the information as to whether we are carriers of the mutated gene or not (I am not; my sister was). Another cousin and I decided that we needed to gather information from our other cousins and to put together a basic family tree identifying all those who carry the mutated gene and all those who have had cancer. We then need to share this information with all of our cousins. We do know at this point that my father and all of his siblings who had children carried the mutated gene, because each of them has at least one child who carries the mutated gene, and others who do not. A number of cousins in both groups have had cancer of various sorts.

The second new priority started with an article in the *Columbian* newspaper a month or so ago, about a 101-year-old local resident who as a young man had served in the 10th Mountain Division of the U.S. Army during World War II and who had written two books about his experiences. I was able to purchase copies of both books; I have read the first one and am reading the second one now. This brought to mind my memories of two very close friends of my father's who served in the 100th Mountain Division. One of them was killed in the Division's fighting in Italy and the other was my childhood piano teacher. I knew both men very well, as they and my dad were all members of the Spokane Mountaineers Club in the 1930s and early 1940s. Shortly after I started reading the first book about the 10th Mountain Division I received an e-mail telling me that the Spokane Mountaineers Club was celebrating its 10th anniversary this fall and asking if I had photographs and or memories I was willing to share for the anniversary celebrations. So I have started doing some research on these three men and so far have identified birth, death and burial information and found photographs of both of the men who were my father's friends and have pinpointed exactly which part of the 10th Mountain Division each of the three men served in.

As I was going through boxes of family photographs I found a 1941 photo of Barnes General Hospital here in Vancouver. Barnes Hospital was a part of the U.S. Army Fort Vancouver during World War II. In July 1941 my father, who had been a Reserve Officer ever since his college days, was called to active duty in anticipation of coming war with Japan. He was sent to McChord Field near Tacoma, where, as a U.S. Army Captain, he became a non-flying squadron commander of a newly formed bomber squadron. In September he became ill with a case of food poisoning and was hospitalized.

(continued on page 2)

## "Scandinavian Focus Group"



Welcome to this edition of the Scandinavian Corner. The Scandinavian Focus group went on their annual field trip in April. We had a great turnout with 12 members joining us on our visit to the Multnomah County Library. We were able to explore some of the resources available to Scandinavian researchers. Best of all, we convened later at Broders Nord, a Scandinavian restaurant in Portland.



The Focus Group will hold its next meeting on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 11:30am in the CCGS meeting room. Please join us as this will be our final meeting since we will be taking a summer break before reconvening again in September.



A final photo of an example of the great food at Broder Nord.

### President's Message (continued from pg. 1)

There it was discovered that he was suffering from leukemia (which has been diagnosed several years earlier but was in remission at the time). He was sent to Barnes General Hospital in Vancouver, where he spent the next three months completely cut off from any contact with his family at home in Spokane. My mother, my sister and I were not allowed to visit him, nor was he allowed to leave the hospital grounds for any reason, not even to see us should we come to Vancouver to visit him. It was a thoroughly miserable time for him, as reflected in a small diary he kept (which I have). He was discharged from the Army on December 8, 1941 and returned home to Spokane and his newspaper job until his death in May of 1943.

There is of course much more to all three of these stories. My message to those of you who read this *Newsletter* is to jot down the memories when something triggers them. Write down enough details so you can recall the stories later. Make time on a regular basis to look at your list, choose an item from the list, and write about it in more detail. It is these collective stories that someone remembers and writes down that become our history—of ourselves, our families, our community, our country, our world. It's an important task and one that all of us need to participate in.

**Periodicals News**  
**Lillian Fullerton, Periodicals Chairman**

The April/May 2015 issue of Internet Genealogy features the following articles:

Researching Your Danish Ancestors

Ancestors Born at Sea

This periodical is located in the rack behind the front desk.

**Membership Report**  
By Denni Hamilton-Levonian, Membership Chair

***Welcome, New Members:***

Mary and Richard Foster  
Noradene Guerra  
Calvin Meek

***Welcome Back, Reinstated Members:***

Wendy Ackerman  
Diane Hadley  
Lowell Norris

***Thanks for making special donations in addition to your dues:***

Alice and Don Allen  
Jacqueline Andersen  
Jane Wetzel

**May General Meeting and Election of Officers**  
**Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m. in the Annex**

CCGS annual election of officers will take place during May's General Meeting, which will be held at the CCGS Annex on Tuesday, May 26 at 7 p.m. Nominations include:

Vice President: Bea Ritter  
Assistant Treasurer: Eric Jordahl

Plan to attend and vote. Watch the weekly CCGS e-letter for more information on program, etc. as we get closer to this scheduled meeting.

**Extra, FREE Beginning Genealogy Class**

Brian Runyan will be giving an Introduction to Genealogy class at the Battle Ground FVRL at 6:30pm, June 22nd. They are located at 1207 SE 8th Way, Battle Ground, WA.

### Legacy Family Tree Webinars

We continue to set up the screen and projector to show most every scheduled Legacy Family Tree webinar. Most are on Wednesdays, but there are occasional webinars on Fridays, too. This year they are doing something new—holding at least one webinar a month in the evening, start time at 6 p.m. local time. The day webinars are usually at 11 a.m., but occasionally there may be a time change. We'll note the dates and times below in the schedule. Be sure to check the CCGS web page for any last minute changes to this schedule.

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, May 6<sup>th</sup>

Genealogy 101: a 3-Session Course in Beginning Genealogy – session 2, with Peggy Clemens Lauritzen

#### Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

After You've Gone – Future-Proofing Your Genealogy Research, with Thomas MacEntee

#### Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> - 6 p.m. (note time change)

GenealogyBank-The Power of Finding Our Ancestors' Stories, with Tom Kemp

#### Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>

Martha Benschura - Enemy Alien, with Judy G. Russell

#### Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>

Migration Patterns East of the Mississippi Prior to 1860, with Mary Hill

#### Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Genealogy 101: a 3-Session Course in Beginning Genealogy – session 3, with Peggy Clemens Lauritzen



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.

Also for Legacy Family Tree members, there are bonus webinars added frequently, which are only available to members.

#### **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.

### **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 a note to [gensoc@ccgs-wa.org](mailto: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

**New to Our Library**  
Compiled by Alice Allen & Lonna Parker

**Donated by Mildred Flick**

Title: Abstracts of Old Ninety-Six & Abbeville District Wills and Bonds

Author: Willie Pauline Young  
(duplicate copy for checkout)

Title: Greene County, Tennessee Marriages, 1783-1868  
Author: Goldene Fillers Burgner

Title: The History of Winnebago County, Illinois, Its Past and Present

Author: H.F. Kett and Company  
(duplicate copy—for checkout)

Title: History of Kentucky Illustrated, Edition 8-B  
Author: W.H. Perrin, J.H. Battle

Title: Washington County, Tennessee Marriages 1780-1870  
Author: Goldene Fillers Burgner

Title: Biographical & Historical Cyclopedia of Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania  
Author: Samuel T. Wiley

Title: Century Review of Maury County, Tennessee 1807-1907  
Author: D. R. Robbins, Rev. Silas Emmett Lucas, Jr.

Title: Tennessee Tidbits 1778-1914, vol. 1  
Author; Marjorie Hood Fischer

Title: History of Lexington, Kentucky  
Author: George W. Rank

Title: History of Fairfield County, South Carolina  
Author: Fitz Hugh McMaster

Title: Let the Drums Roll-Veterans & Patriots of the Revolutionary War Who Settled in Maury Co., TN  
Author: Marise Parrish Lightfoot

Title: History of the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, vol. 1  
Author: J. R. Sypher

Title: History of the Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, vol. 2  
Author: J.R. Sypher

Title: Some South Carolina Genealogical Records  
Author: Janie Revill

Title: Edgefield County, South Carolina Records  
Author: Janie Revill

Title: Marriage and Death Notices from the Charleston Observer 1827-1845

Author: Brent H. Holcomb

Title: First Settlers of South Carolina, 1670-1700  
Author: Agnes Leland Baldwin

Title: Warrants for Lands in South Carolina, 1672-1679  
Author: A. S. Salley, Jr.

Title: History of Forsyth County, Georgia 1832-1932  
Author: Garland C. Bagley

Title: The 1832 Cherokee Land Lottery of Georgia  
Author: James F. Smith

Title: Genealogical Material from Legal Notices in Early Georgia Newspapers  
Author: Judge Folks Haxford

Title: The Georgians- Genealogies of Pioneer Settlers  
Author: Jeannette Holland Austin

Title: History of Eugaula, Alabama, the Bluff City of Chattahoochee  
Author: J.A.B. Besson

Title: Early Settlers of Barbour County, Alabama  
Author: Marie H. Godfrey

Title: Pendleton District and Anderson County, SC Wills, Estates, Inventories, Tax Returns and Census Records  
Author: Virginia Alexander, Colleen Morse Elliott, Betty Willie

Title: The Georgia Black Book: Morbid, Macabre, & Sometimes Disgusting Records of Genealogical Value  
Author: Robert Scott Davis, Jr.

Title: The Georgia Black Book: Morbid, Macabre, & Sometimes Disgusting Records of Genealogical Value, vol. 2  
Author: Robert Scott Davis, Jr.

**Quick Quips**

If you see someone without a smile, give him one of yours

There's always room for dessert!

## Question of the Month

### What Was Your Biggest Genealogical Breakthrough?

From Steve Aberle (CCGS Tech Team member)

On Monday, 15 September 2003, I photographed several pages of the Chirton Parish Register at the Wiltshire Records Office in Trowbridge, England. After returning home, I used digital photographic enhancement techniques and discovered that a previously published transcription of a surname on one of those pages was in error. When coupled with other records, this was the linchpin that resulted in the article entitled "Identification of the Unnamed Daughter of John and Elizabeth (Thomson) Cogswell Who Remained in England" which was published in the January 2008 edition of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

Contributed by Larry Dean (Librarian, Moderator of First Thursday Unfocused Group)

The biggest breakthrough of my early research was when I contacted a lady who had submitted some information on my 2g grandfather, George W. Dean, to the Ancestral File. The contact information for her in the Ancestral File didn't work so, after months of trying everything else, I mailed a letter to someone with that surname in the Salt Lake City telephone book. Luckily, he turned out to be her son and he delivered my letter to her. She turned out to be my third half cousin once removed (common ancestor, George W. Dean). She told me about George W. Dean's gravestone and soon after that she sent me a copy of his will. More recently I had another big breakthrough when, after ordering two YDNA tests that didn't match me, I ordered a third YDNA test which did match me. But that's another story.

Mary McMonegal (CCGS Weekly E-Letter Editor)

When I moved to Alexandria, Virginia from California, being near the best genealogical research area in the country didn't help me cross the pond with my Irish ancestors. But I had a long-ignored note from an aunt saying that we were related to a priest from Georgetown University. So I finally called, thinking that if I was really lucky, they would tell me where he was at the time - I didn't think he would still be there since the note was so old. Well, imagine my surprise when he spoke to me! We had dinner, he told me about a Gallagher cousin in Philadelphia, and I met him too. All my Gallagher cousin could tell me was that his McMonagle grandmother used to take him to Luzerne County PA to meet "the family". The family were my grandfather's siblings. I have since attended a McMonagle reunion in Ireland and met many of my cousins. We still don't know how we're related, but we are - I persuaded one of my California cousins and an Irish cousin to do DNA tests and they are closely related.

**Question for next month's newsletter:** If you could spend **ONE** day with one of your ancestors, who would it be, and what would you do with him/her?

(Guess that's really TWO questions)

### FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Did you know that the Clark County Genealogical Society has a Facebook page? Ours is one among 4,500 across the nation! People in genealogy are communicating in all sorts of ways and the CCGS Facebook page is another way to notify you about upcoming workshops and seminars, plus other valuable research tips. We hope you will "like" (become a friend and/or join) the CCGS Facebook page. 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! Plus, you might consider joining the Clark County Genealogical Society Facebook Group Page where you can ask questions, get answers and start conversations. If you don't have a Facebook profile and would like to get started, go to [www.Facebook.com](http://www.Facebook.com) and follow the steps to sign up. It's easy! Or, stop by the CCGS library and one of the librarians might be able to help you get started (call first to see if there is a Facebook expert on hand).

Speaking of Facebook, did you know that there are tons of genealogy-based Facebook groups? Some are for general topics, such as "The Organized Genealogist" and "Genealogy Do-Over." Others are area specific, such as the "Knox County Ohio Genealogy and History" group, "Illinois Genealogy," and more. There are surname groups, groups for various categories such as Rootsweb, USGenWeb Project, and more.

Most are closed groups, meaning you must request to be added to the group. Once you've been approved, you can read and post to your heart's content. The groups I've joined have had people willing to help with translations and/or do lookups for you. Facebook groups are the new Message Boards and Mailing Lists. Have fun exploring!

## News From Other Genealogical Societies

We often receive news items from area genealogy societies, which we publish here. They usually include upcoming events such as Seminars, and links to newsletters, etc.

### Genealogical Forum of Oregon's May newsletter:

<http://gfo.org/insider/15-May.pdf>

### South King County Genealogical Society Newsletter

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waskcgs/newsletter.html>

### WILLAMETTE VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

May 9, 2015 General Meeting—10: 30 am to 1 pm New location! Salem Public Library Central Library 585 Liberty St SE Salem, OR 97301

Our speaker will be Cliff Grimmell. His topic will be "Rogue Indian Wars" & "How to Use Sources to Develop a Family Narrative around your ancestors".

### Northwest Genealogy Conference

1. , **Free Beginning Genealogy Workshop**, Aug 12 from 1-5 at the Byrnes Performing Art Center in Arlington, WA. Winona Laird and Janet Camarata will teach four courses. The event is free, but registration is required. Details at [http://www.nwgc.org/?page\\_id=1826](http://www.nwgc.org/?page_id=1826)
2. **Northwest Genealogy Conference** Aug 13-15, 2015 at the Byrnes Performing Art Center in Arlington, WA. Speakers include CeCe Moore, Judy G. Russell, Angela Packer McGhie, Linda Harms Okazaki-- 20 speakers in all over three days. Details at <http://www.nwgc.org>.

### SKAGIT VALLEY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY SEMINAR

The Skagit Valley Genealogical Society will hold it's seminar later this year on September 19, 2015 at the Mount Vernon Senior Center in Mount Vernon, WA. The theme will be "Genealogy – It's All About Life".

<http://skagitvalleygenealogy.org/>

The following is a link to a web site showing locations of Nazi bombings of London during WWII. This link was contributed by CCGS member Steve Aberle.

<http://tinyurl.com/otuoznq>

Given the extent of the bombing, it is a wonder that any genealogy records survived WWII. (Steve Aberle)

### **More Quick Quips:**

- There's no sense in advertising your troubles . . . there's no market for them.
- Money can't buy happiness, but it sure makes shopping more fun!
- An act of love, no matter how great or small, is always appreciated.
- Jelly is basically a food found on bread, children and piano keys.
- Those who think the competitive spirit is dead ought to watch the customers when a cashier opens a new checkout.
- Sign hanging in a kitchen—you have two choices for dinner. Take it or leave it!

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-s-wa.org>  
Library: 717 Grand Blvd  
360-750-5688

***CCGS Meetings and Programs***

May 2 Free beginning Genealogy class, 10:30-12 noon in the CCGS Library Education Center  
May 4 Legacy Users Group - 10 - 11:30 am, CCGS Education Center  
May 7 First Thursday Unfocused Group, 1-3 p.m. CCGS Education Center  
May 11 Board Meeting - 10 a.m. CCGS Education Center  
May 14 Scandinavian Focus Group - see article on pg. 2 about this month's meeting  
May 20 **June Newsletter deadline** (Last newsletter until September)  
May 26 General Meeting & election of officers, 7 p.m. CCGS Education Center (Annex)

Note: The Native American Focus group is on hiatus until further notice

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 at pacifier.com](mailto:jgmb@pacifier.com) or call Jeanine at 360-566-9422.