

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

Bea Ritter, Membership
Bearitter at centurylink.net

Eric Jordahl, President
President at ccgs-wa.org

Alice Aultman Allen, Editor
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CCGS Library
3205 NE 52nd St.
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
3rd Thursday only
6-9 pm

Saturday
2nd Saturday only
10 am to 3 pm

How to get here:

From I-5, take the Hwy. t
east to St. Johns Rd. exit.
Turn left onto St. Johns
Rd. and proceed over the
highway. Continue to NE
52nd St., turn left and we
will be on the left, across
from Hi-School
Pharmacy.



Presidents Message

Eric Jordahl

President@ccgs-wa.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR. I hope you all made a resolution to work more on your genealogy this year and possibly put your results or your story in a book.

THANK YOU to all who sent donations in response to our Appeal Letter. If you have forgotten about our request for funds, it's not too late.

We have GOOD NEWS! Our Education Team has scheduled 6 FREE beginning genealogy classes in February and March. Topics vary and are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. All of us can use a refresher and possibly contribute words of wisdom to other members.

Your Board received a proposed Privacy Policy from Steve Aberle and discussed it at great length at a special Board meeting. I appointed a committee to simplify and revise the proposed document for our use. Members of that committee are Steve Aberle, Richard Engstrom, Brian Runyan, & Eric Jordahl. Sharon Thiesmeyer will also be added. We do respect any requests to avoid publishing or otherwise disseminating people's private information without their consent, even in our own directory.

I received an Email from Amazon Smile stating that after February 20, 2023 they will no longer be donating to 501(c)3 non-profit organizations such as ours. Any purchases made before that date will accrue money for us (if we are designated). This has been a helpful contribution to our organization, and I thank them for their generosity. It was never large, but every donation helps.

Brian Runyan has faithfully promoted and shown the Legacy Family Tree Wednesday Webinars in the Library for several years. Due to lack of attendance, he is resigning from that duty. With the Pandemic and the ease of watching from home, it may be time to terminate the project. It was nice to have several persons discuss the presentations in a communal setting. Wednesday webinars will be shown thru February. If anyone wishes to step up and continue this service, please contact me.

The pandemic will pass. Stay safe. Use the Library often.

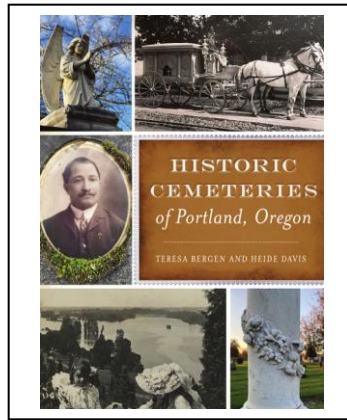
Library Trees

More than just winter has altered the library landscape. Some will notice that all the Birch trees are gone and their stumps are now chipped bark mulch. The landlord must replace the 9 removed trees this spring and this may offer a CCGS Arbor Day event around April 28th. Stay tuned.

General Meeting
10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28
In Person Only

Historic Cemeteries of Portland, Oregon
Presented by Teresa Bergen and Heide Davis

Friends Teresa Bergen and Heide Davis have long loved to visit cemeteries together. During the pandemic year of 2020, they decided to write a book about their favorite historic cemeteries in Portland. *Historic Cemeteries of Portland, Oregon* covers 25 final resting places, from the grand to the more humble. The book is part travel guide, part history, and features remarkable tombstones and a cross-section of the Portlanders they commemorate, including suffragists, spiritualists, Romani kings, politicians and murderers. Teresa and Heide will talk to members of the Clark County Genealogy Society about the process of writing the book and some of the interesting stories they uncovered along the way.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT.
Feb Newsletter 2023
Bea Ritter

Please continue to return the entire renewal letter or a membership form with your payment of dues. It helps me keep my records accurate. If you move or have changes in contact information, please send changes to gensoc@ccgs-wa.org or mail a new membership form to the library. I am looking forward to our 6 Free Classes in February and March for members and people interested in genealogy. We are hoping our classes will bring in new people to join us. I am excited that we now have a new member.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER
Dora Lanphear

HISTORIAN REPORT
Bea Ritter

We still have copies of our Anniversary Book, Celebrating 50 years of History...CCGS. You can buy them at the library or on our website. You are helping our Society when you buy a book. A special thanks to the many people who have already bought a book.

Basic Genealogy Strategies
FREE Spring Class Series FREE
Held at 3205 NE 52nd St., Vancouver, WA

10:45 am – Welcome and sign-in.

7 th Feb 2023	11am	<i>The Beginning</i> – Alice Allen
14 th Feb 2023	11am	<i>Organize with Purpose</i> – Bea Ritter
21 st Feb 2023	11am	<i>Where Are Your People Located?</i> – Marcia Grubb
28 th Feb 2023	10am	<i>No Class – General Meeting Speaker</i>
7 th Mar 2023	11am	<i>History and Your Family</i> – Bea Ritter
14 th Mar 2023	11am	<i>How to Use Ancestry Effectively</i> – Elsie Deatherage
21 st Mar 2023	11am	<i>Possible Clues from Probate Records</i> – Dale Deatherage
28 th Mar 2023	10am	<i>No Class – General Meeting Speaker</i>

Please pre-register: in the Clark County Genealogical Society Library or via telephone at 360-750-5688.

Speaker presentation duration will be about 1 hour with question time after.

Handouts and further resource materials will be available at start of each class.

Each class offers great research ideas whether you are an absolutely new genealogy researcher or just wanting to refresh your skills!

This **FREE** class series is presented by experienced CCGS speakers and members.

Clark County Genealogical Society
 3205 NE 52nd St., Vancouver, WA
 360-750-5688

**Legacy Webinars
February**

Wednesday, February 1, 2023: 11:00 AM

Using Mitochondrial DNA Testing for Genealogical Problem Solving

Presented by Michael D. Lacopo, DVM

Utilizing this form of DNA testing in genealogy garners a lot of negative advice. Learn how vitally important this kind of testing can be when you use DNA as an active tool in the genealogical toolbox. This case study will show you how pairing good research and DNA testing can be the perfect marriage.

Wednesday, February 8, 2023: 11:00 AM

Hints & Tips for solving Irish cases of Unknown Parentage

Presented by Maurice Gleeson

There are many examples of Unknown Parentage cases in Ireland – illegal adoptees, a foundling grandparent, or simply an Irish Brick Wall. This talk explores the approach to solving these cases, the challenges faced with Irish records, and some hints & tips to overcome them.

Wednesday, February 22, 2023: 11:00 AM
Flying Under the Radar – Discovering Charles Olin's Alias
Presented by Mary Kircher Roddy, CG

Charles Olin disappeared from his Nebraska roots about 1908. The DNA in the descendant of an out-of-wedlock child born in 1919 point to Charles as the father, but no records place him there. This case study proves the alternate identity Charles used for 40 years.

Gallery of Grandmothers Continues

Last month, waiting in the library was the remarkable story of Frances Alfaretta Snyder Allen. Born in 1886, her story relates incredible achievements during challenging times. Thank you Barbara Redwing for sharing you grandmother's story and her beautiful graduation photo.

All of the more than 40 Gallery of Grandmother Stories displayed at our 50 year Celebration Picnic will be preserved both digitally and in a scrapbook format for viewing in the library. This will also be an amazing preservation volunteer opportunity. If interested, visit the Craft Clan Focus Group at the next Saturday meeting January 28th or contact marcia@ccgsua.org.

Where Did That Event Take Place?
by Steve Aberle (<http://aberlegenealogy.com>)

Over the holidays, while reviewing source citations in my own genealogy, and seeking additional sources, it became clear that simple checking of political boundaries is not a top priority in the “cut and paste” world of online family histories. A simple examination of compilations from the American colonial period revealed frequent and repeated errors:

- Births, marriages, and deaths shown as taking place in towns on dates before those towns were settled.
- Towns reported as being in certain counties before those counties were established.
- A general mix-up of the early colonies, their geographical boundaries, when they were formed, what towns they included, when they merged, and historical changes from “Colony” to “Province” designation.
- Not using dual dating for days between 1 January and 25 March in years prior to the British Calendar Act of 1751.
- Use of a modern name for a town which had a different name when the birth, marriage, or death took place.
- Recording of “USA” on any record prior to 1776.

For example, if you read that an ancestor was born in 1646 at Milford, New Haven County, Connecticut, then that should be a red flag to you that something is off. Milford was part of New Haven Colony in 1646. New Haven Colony didn't merge with Connecticut Colony until 1664. New Haven County wasn't established until 1666. Connecticut didn't become a state until 1788. Also, Milford should not be confused with New Milford which was settled in 1707.

This geographical misidentification problem isn't new, as these same types of errors are found in books published in the middle to late 19th century, and some into the 20th century. During that period there was a lot of public interest in family history, but not much respect for accuracy or citing of information sources. Do you know of a family association that is still churning out books and articles using those 19th century traditions in their publications?

Can any assembly of family history information be trusted by others? For many of those who post online summaries of what they have “found” the answer could be a resounding “No” based on obvious mistakes. And, if one leaves basic political boundary mistakes uncorrected, what is the message to others? Will anything else in a work that is riddled with mistakes be deemed factual? It is not uncommon for researchers to keep a list of tidbits of known bad information for their reference. This saves research time as those publications which cite that wrong information can easily be relegated to roadkill on the information superhighway.

Verifying the political boundaries for any settlement, village, town, or city in your genealogical records is much easier nowadays thanks to publications and on-line databases. Your CCGS Research Library has a copy of the *Red Book: American State, County & Town Sources, Third Edition* on the shelves. Just come in and use it! There are also online tools, like the Atlas of Historical County Boundaries (<https://digital.newberry.org/ahcb>) and the Historical U.S. Counties at <https://www.randymajors.org/maps>, and even shareware, that are just few clicks away. Additional mapping resources can be found on the Family Search website (https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Maps and https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Historical_Geography).

The bottom line, as always, is that you need to be your own (very meticulous) fact checker on all the genealogical information you collect and share with others

TRIBUTE TO DIANA V. CRUZ

Diana V. Erickson Cruz passed away on December 31, 2022, in Vancouver, at age 77. She was born on July 10, 1945, to Vaughn and Martha V. Erickson. She married George F. Cruz on February 14, 1965, in Vancouver, and they had sons Scott and Matt. Her interest in genealogy was sparked when she saw two volumes of Chilton History compiled by her grandfather's cousin. Her interest increased with computers and the internet. She retired after 26 years as a secretary for Vancouver School District, where she honed her computer skills. She joined CCGS in 1998. She took over Membership, reorganized the membership files, and created a membership database. This was an immense project as we had over 500 members. In 2004-2005 Diana also served as Vice President, and from 2005-2007, she served as CCGS president. In 2007 she spearheaded the 35th Anniversary Celebration. Thank you, Diana, for your service.

TRIBUTE TO GENE KUECHMANN

Gene Swain Kuechmann passed away on December 24, 2022, in Vancouver, at age 97. She was born on June 10, 1925, in Ohio, and grew up in New York and Florida. She graduated from high school at age 16, then served in the U. S. Signal Corps, before enrolling in the State University of Iowa in Engineering. There she met William Kuechmann, who was a graduate student and ordained Presbyterian minister. They married in 1945 and had Frank, Bruce, Mariha and Kayla. She earned her BS and Masters in Mathematics, then was a high school teacher, textbook editor & author, and software designer. They lived in many states before moving to Vancouver in 1983, where William and Gene helped found SHARE to provide for the homeless. She joined CCGS in 1983 where she volunteered to be the newsletter editor from 1985-1989. She facilitated a computer interest group and was one of the instructors for the series of Beginning and Intermediate Genealogy classes taught through Clark College. She served again as newsletter editor from 2000-2012 with Pat Bauer as co-editor. Gene was a multi-talented person who willingly shared her talents to help others. We are grateful for her service to CCGS.

TRIBUTE TO CORALEE BREWER

Coralee Auverson Brewer of Vancouver, passed away on February 14, 2022, at her winter home in Apache Junction, AZ, at age 64. She was born on January 10, 1958, in Rugby, ND, to Donald and Jeanette (Enger) Auverson. Her father was a heavy equipment operator and they lived in various locations. She graduated from Lapwai High School in Idaho, University of Idaho in Communications, and attended Eastern Washington University. Coralee married Andrew Brewer in 1980 at her parents' home in Lewiston, Idaho. Their first home was in Spokane where she worked for 30 years for Spokane-Review Newspaper. She was active in many community organizations. After retiring, they moved to Vancouver, where she was Project Director for the annual book of Clark County Historical Society. Coralee and Andrew joined CCGS in 2011 and have since been faithful members. We extend our condolences to Andrew.

All tributes were composed by CCGS Historian Bea Ritter.

Note: Marian Kenedy passed away on Saturday, January 21st 2023 in Vancouver. We plan to have a tribute to her and her work with CCGS in the next newsletter.

Hidden History of Civil War Oregon

The Lincoln County Genealogical Society (Oregon) would like to invite you to a zoom presentation provided by Randol Fletcher on the "Hidden History of Civil War Oregon" on 4 February 2023 (Saturday) at 11:00 a.m.

In order to receive a timely reminder notice/zoom instructions about this meeting, please send your name and email address to:

Searchlightlgs@gmail.com

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,
Lincoln County Genealogical Society

If you've been doing genealogy for more than a week you are familiar with the name Elizabeth Shown Mills. Educator, author of fourteen books including the sourcing bible, Evidence Explained and over 600 articles in the fields of genealogy, history, literature, and sociology, she has delivered over 1,000 lectures internationally and has appeared on radio and TV talk shows on three continents. She hung up her speaker's microphone in October 2021 but has been coaxed out of retirement by Geoff Rasmussen of Legacy Family Tree Webinars. Over the course of 2023, Ms. Shown Mills will deliver a series of twelve lectures that will range in topic from "What's the Evidence? How to Probe Documents Beyond the Obvious" to "Okay, I 'Got the Neighbors'—Now What Do I Do with Them?!" to "Margaret's Baby's Father & The Lessons He Taught Me", plus nine others.

She will lay out her secrets for genealogy success that all revolve around her watchwords, "strategy", "skepticism", and "soul". This series is only open to Legacy Webinar subscribers but in an arrangement with Family Tree Webinars, Clark County Genealogy Society has been given permission to host these webinars LIVE in our Education Center at 3205 NE 52 nd St in Vancouver. They will be screened every fourth Friday except November at 11AM.

These are NOT open to the general public but are offered to you, a CCGS member, as a thank-you for your continuing support.

The first, "Trousers, Black Domestic, Tacks & Housekeeping Bills: Problem Solving with 'Trivial Details'", will be shown this Friday, January 27, 2023, 11AM. Yes, you could sit at home and watch these with your own webinar subscription but wouldn't it be more fun to come on down to the CCGS library and savor some coffee or tea while inhaling wisdom from this genealogy icon?

Be there or be square.

P.S. Please don't share this message outside of our Society

Clark County Genealogical Society
3205 NE 52nd St.
Vancouver WA 98663
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

President: Eric Jordahl
Vice President: Paula Schoenlein
Secretary: Richard Engstrom

Treasurer: Lowell Kenedy
Asst. Treasurer: Maria Adler
Past President: Brian Runyan

<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org>
Library: 3052 NE 52nd St.
360-750-5688

CCGS Meetings and Programs

February 2 First Thursday Unfocused group 1 p.m. (meeting virtually)
February 6 Legacy Users group 10 a.m. (meeting virtually)
Book Club Group, 12 noon (meeting virtually)
February 7 First Spring class, 11 a.m. in person at CCGS (see related Article)
February 13 Board meeting 10 a.m. (meeting virtually)
February 14 Second Spring class, 11 a.m. in person at CCGS (see related article)
Scandinavian Focus Group 1:00-3:00 p.m.
February 15 Deadline for March Newsletter
February 20 Preparing for a Research Trip Focus Group, 10 a.m. (meeting virtually)
Family Tree Makers' Focus Group, 12 noon at the CCGS Library
President's Day Holiday
February 28 General Meeting, 10 a.m. (meeting in person)

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

No General Meetings are 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. [jgmb105 @ gmail.com](mailto:jgmb105@gmail.com) or call Jeanine at 360-566-9422.