

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

Bea Ritter, Membership
Bearitter at centurylink.net

Eric Jordahl, President
President at ccgs-wa.org

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

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

Saturday
2nd Saturday only
10 am to 3 pm

How to get here:

From I-5, take the Hwy.
500 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

The photograph below shows Dennis Galbraith from Family Search with the boxes of books he was taking to Boise, Idaho for scanning. Thanks to Marian Crawford for the photo. The books will be returned and we will get a digital copy of the scans for our use. Choosing books from our library to send has kept some of our librarians busy, especially Sharon Barnes and Sharon Cleveland.

The Classes are scheduled and begin October 3. Thanks to our instructors Brian Runyan, Elsie Deatherage, Paula Schoenlein, Jane Germann, Marcia Grubb, Richard Engstrom, Kathy Geyer, and Kathy Solheim.

A big THANK YOU to McFarlane's Bark for their donation of 10.5 cu. yards of bark for our landscape. Volunteers Marcia Grubb, Dolly Merrick (pictured with driver, below), Steve Aberle, Sharon Barnes, Pam Evens, Paula Schoenlein, and myself helped move and spread the bark. Thank you Marcia for organizing, providing the photo, and making our landscape inviting and trim.

The Scandinavian Focus Group has resumed meeting in person on the second Tuesday of the month. The Legacy Users & the Research Book Club continue meeting virtually on the first Monday of each month. The Unfocused Genealogy group also meets virtually on the first Thursday of each month. The Family Foto Stories Focus Group meets in person on the second Saturday of the month. Travel Research Preparation and Family Tree Maker groups meet on the third Monday of the month in person. The Travel Research Preparation group is preparing to travel to Salt Lake City and the Family History Center in early December. Craft Clan meets in person on the fourth Saturday of the month. Thanks to the moderators of the focus groups, Brian Runyan, Paula Schoenlein, Lowell Kenedy, Richard Engstrom, Jerry Smith, Marcia Grubb, & Sheree Belanger. As always, check the website Event Calendar for times and cancellation notices due to weather, illness, school closures, etc.

Since COVID is slowly rising and flu season is near, get the vaccines if you can and protect yourselves and others.

Stay safe. Stay Warm. Use your Library often.





**October General Meeting
October 24, 10 a.m.**

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Artifacts
By Meagan Huff

Join Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Museum Curator Meagan Huff to learn more about this National Park Service site's collection of over 2 million archaeological artifacts. 2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the beginning of the Fort Vancouver NHS museum collection, which was begun by archaeologist Louis Caywood. See artifacts from the park's museum collection and discover how this collection helps us learn about and share local history.

**Education- Fall Classes
Marcia Grubb**

Mark your calendar as our Fall Class Series will begin on the first Tuesday in October. The Education Committee is creating a great class series including topics with broad appeal to both novice and experienced family story researchers. **Class schedule and details will be posted on the Events Calendar, on Sunday Email, and in the Library.** Reserve your seat; you may pre-register in the library or via email at gensoc@ccgs-wa.org

Tuesday, October 3rd, 10 a.m. **Free** beginning class.

Tuesday, October 10th, 10 a.m. "Using Family Search and Ancestry to Find Your Family"

Tuesday, October 17th, 10 a.m. "Genealogy and US Land Records"

Tuesday, October 31st, 10 a.m. "Genealogy Waterloo: Locating English, French and Prussian Records"

Tuesday, November 7th, 10 a.m. "Hidden Among the Graves: Cemetery Records in Genealogy"

Tuesday, November 14, 10 a.m. "Solving Complex Stories in Norway and Abroad"

The beginning class is free; all other classes are \$20 for non CCGS members and \$15 for CCGS members.

<https://www.ccgs-wa.org/activities/classes/>

**2023 Fall Seminar - A Day of Tools & Tech
November 11, 2023**

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon is pleased to open registration for the Fall Seminar. This event offers a full day of techniques and tips to get the most out researching on the computer. From using common apps in creative ways to squeezing the most out of Google, you are sure to learn something new! The main speaker is the charismatic and always entertaining Thomas MacEntee.

For more information and registration, visit us at <http://gfo.org/seminar>

MEMBERSHIP REPORT
OCTOBER 2023
BEA RITTER

I am delighted to welcome two new members:

NEW MEMBERS...Welcome

Tracy Reilly-Kelly

Shari Kirschenman

I send out renewal letters a month before it is due. Please remember to return the entire renewal letter when you renew your membership as it helps me keep our information accurate. Thanks to all of you who renew on time.

GALLEY OF GRANDMOTHERS

Virginia Ruth Whittlesey McGrew
Grandson Steve Aberle

This photo of Virginia Ruth (née Whittlesey) McGrew was taken in about 1918. She was born in Minnesota in 1899, the youngest of three daughters born to Elisha Jennings Whittlesey and Edith Olive (née Fry) Whittlesey. Virginia's father passed away when she was but four years of age, and her mother subsequently removed the family to Portland, Oregon. Virginia was a swimsuit model for Jantzen swimwear in the 1920s, was an avid golfer most of her life, and was a Red Cross volunteer. She and her husband became interested in agate collecting, lapidary work, and jewelry making, often hosting classes at their home. Virginia also took an interest in genealogy, and passed that bug along to subsequent generations of the family, including grandson Steve Aberle. She had an interesting sense of humor which included occasional pranks at family gatherings. These took the form of putting out dribble glasses with small holes hidden in an ornate design making them impossible to use without spilling, and pureeing carrots to look like cooked squash which were then served to a nephew who claimed not to like carrots. In 1965, Virginia and her husband removed to the Oregon coast where they spent their final years entertaining friends, making jewelry, golfing, and beachcombing. She passed away two months short of her 81st birthday.





MaBelle Sarah Fetzer
(Maternal Grandmother of Eric A. Jordahl)

Born: 24 November 1873 in Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio. Died 6 July 1955 in Elkhart, Elkhart County, Indiana

Met Peter J. Staudt, a Metropolitan Life Insurance agent, at his office when introduced by her friend. He didn't look up to acknowledge her so she stuck out her tongue at him, which he noticed in a mirror. Apparently he thought she had spunk. This was in South Bend, Indiana. They were married on 21 May 1902 in South Bend, Indiana.

They lived in Elkhart, Indiana for the rest of their lives.

When my family visited in the 1950's, they owned an apartment house and lived in one of the apartments. They had three children. (all girls).



Martha R. Wangen
(Paternal Grandmother of Eric A. Jordahl)

Born: 25 May 1872 in Freeborn County, Minnesota Died: 21 November 1934 in Fertile, Polk County, Minnesota

Everything I know about my Grandmother is from the family history written by my Grandfather. She died from a cerebral hemorrhage before I was born.

She lived on a farm in her childhood and in her teens went to Chicago and worked in a tailoring establishment. Taught school for nine years (1891-1900) and married Sivert Jordahl on 6 September 1900.

My Grandfather Sivert wrote his first letter to Martha on his 21st birthday and they were married on his 27th birthday. "The long delay of the happy event was not exactly a matter of choice. We both felt that I should finish my University course and make an attempt to pay off my school debts, which I was able to accomplish after two years at the Lutheran Normal, In spite of the fact that my income from teaching these two years amounted to only \$1,140."

They corresponded regularly over the six years and each saved the letters that they had received.

Report: Volunteer Appreciation Night
By Jane Germann

Over 30 people attended Volunteer Appreciation Night, over 20 in person and about a dozen on-line. Brian Rhinehardt spoke on how to separate many people with a common name down to finding the one you want. He used all his detective skills to find just the one person he was searching out. He had to find out if the family story was true: Did his person serve in the Civil War? He did!

Certificates were handed out to those present. Certificates will be at the society for about two weeks if you earned one.

Nearly 60 people were honored because of their volunteering or donating to the society. We are grateful to these people as we could not fulfill our mission without all this help. Thank you.

We would like to honor four of these volunteers by adding their names to the quilt (now a banner). Elaine Meis, Tanaka Axberg, Sheree' Belanger and Sandy Thompson have been added to the bookshelf this year.

Elaine Meis not only helps with the library, but also volunteered to do the embroidery on our quilt/banners. Elaine also helped digitize the vertical files.

Tanaka Axberg has been working with the library group to do various things. We thank you for doing this. We appreciate your dedication and hard work.

Sheree' Belanger has been leading the Family Tree Maker Focus Group.

Sandy Thompson digitized and updated our Pioneer files and has been rebinding our CCGS collection of marriage, cemetery and newspaper vital/obituary books. A member since 1981, we are especially proud of her achievements.

In 2022, we ran out of space on our Appreciation Quilt and Jane's embroidery machine broke. So we just had our Volunteer Appreciation without any Quilt. In 2022 and 2023, banners were created to make room for honoring more names. Added was a cake for those helping with the 50th anniversary, two members helping with the cemetery project, a new bookshelf to honor volunteers and a new scroll to thank donors for their monetary contribution. Elaine Meis stepped forward to embroidery the names on the banners.

There isn't enough room here to list all the honored volunteers. Please stop by the library to view the quilt/banner, and to pick up a copy of the volunteer brochure.

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-wa.org>
Library: 3052 NE 52nd St.
360-750-5688

CCGS Meetings and Programs

October 2 Legacy Users group 10 a.m. (meeting virtually)
Book Club Group, 12 noon (meeting virtually)
October 3 10 a.m. Free beginning class in person at CCGS
October 5 First Thursday Unfocused group, meeting virtually, 1 p.m.
October 9 Board Meeting, meeting virtually 10 a.m.
October 10 10 a.m. CCGS class, see page 2 for details
October 10 Scandinavian Group, in person meeting at CCGS, 1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
October 14 Family Foto Stories Interest Group, 11 a.m. in person at CCGS
October 16 Preparing for a Research Trip Focus Group, 10 a.m.
Family Tree Makers' Focus Group, 12 noon at the CCGS Library
October 17 10 a.m. CCGS class, see page 2 for details
October 18 CCGS Newsletter deadline
October 23 General Meeting, 10 a.m. at CCGS (note winter hours time change)
October 31 10 a.m. CCGS class, see page 2 for details

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.