



# clark county genealogical society

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## newsletter

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### CCGS Officers

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President: Eric Jordahl  
[president@ccgsa.org](mailto:president@ccgsa.org)

Vice President: Paula  
Schoenlein  
[paulas@ccgsa.org](mailto:paulas@ccgsa.org)

Secretary: Richard Engstrom  
[rengstro60@yahoo.com](mailto:rengstro60@yahoo.com)

Treasurer: Lowell Kenedy  
[treasurer@ccgsa.org](mailto:treasurer@ccgsa.org)

Asst. Treasurer: Elaine Meis  
[editor@ccgsa.org](mailto:editor@ccgsa.org)

### CCGS Directors

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Directory Editor: Lois Bosland

Education: Marcia Grubb

Finance: Barbara Baker

Library: Sharon Thiesmeyer

Membership: Bea Ritter

Newsletter: Elaine Meis

Program: Elsie Deatherage

Public Relations: Kay Cooke

*Trail Breakers*: Marcia Grubb

Webmaster: Steve Aberle

*This Week*: Denise Erkkila

## President's Message

*Eric Jordahl*

[President@ccgsa.org](mailto:President@ccgsa.org)

"Spring has sprung and the grass is riz" to paraphrase a 1951 Burma-Shave sign. The days are longer and we will be having our General Meetings at 7:00pm. In addition to our guest speakers, the May and June meetings are especially important due to the election of officers in May and their installation in June. Even though our speakers may be virtual, please try to attend in person.

Our First Tuesday classes seem to be popular and well attended. Thanks goes to Marcia Grubb who had the idea to spread them out and provide the afternoon workshop idea to apply what the class taught. The next class will be on Scandinavian research on May 7. There will probably be some Scandinavian "goodies" available. The classes are only \$15.00 for members.

We have a new Newsletter Editor, Elaine Meis. She actually volunteered without being asked. We gratefully thank Alice Allen for her long (10+) years of service as editor, and hope her health improves.

We also have a new Sunshine Lady. Barbara Baker has graciously accepted that appointment. We also thank Jeanine Bailiff for her many (14) years of service in providing get-well and sympathy cards to members and member families.

A third change is the editorship of *This Week at CCGS*, our weekly update service. Mary McMonegal has faithfully provided this service for many years (10+) and indicated that she wished to retire last year. She graciously extended her service an extra year. We gratefully thank her for her service. Denise Erkkila will be the new Editor of *This Week*.

Richard Engstrom along with Sharon Cleveland and Bea Ritter comprise the 2024 Nominating Committee. Their report will be in this Newsletter. Many thanks for their work in finding nominees to serve in the next fiscal year.

**Enjoy the added Sunshine. Stay safe. Use your Library often.**

## Special Interest and Focus Groups

Craft Clan: Marcia Grubb  
 Family Tree Maker Users: Shereé Belanger  
 Family Foto Stories: Jerry Smith & Marcia Grubb  
 Legacy Users: Brian Runyan  
 Research Book Club: Paula Schoenlein  
 Scandinavian: Richard Engstrom  
 Travel Research Preparation: Paula Schoenlein  
 Unfocused: Lowell Kenedy

## Legacy Family Tree Webinars

May 15, 11 a.m.  
 Craig R. Scott, MA, CG, FUGA  
***Forgotten Records: The Record and Pension Office***  
 Military research is not complete without consulting the R&PO, yet few do. They can be a goldmine of information, or not.

May 22, 11 a.m.  
 Richard Miller  
***A Tour of Goldie May' Genealogy Power Tools***  
 Organize your research into projects, keep an automatic research log, write citations easily, analyze your research, quickly navigate relevant record collections, and untangle knots your family tree.

# General Meeting

**May 28, 7 p.m.**  
**Writing Your Own Family History**  
 by David Bruey



Family history books take many forms ranging from some stapled photocopied pages to thick hardcover volumes. Some histories trace only one family surname while others trace all ancestral lines. Some stop at listing the

“begats” while others go deeper to tell stories of ancestors’ lives. There is not only one “correct” way to write a family history. Each is a unique product of its author’s creativity. This program presents numerous options open to prospective writers. It will use *The Ancestry of Amelia Marilla Morley* to illustrate the stages of writing and publishing from the book’s original conception to its acceptance onto the shelves of major genealogical libraries.

David Bruey is the author of *The Ancestry of Amelia Marilla Morley* and is working on his next family history book. He has taken twenty-eight genealogy courses thus far and presents programs without charge for genealogical societies. David holds a BA in English and an MA focused on cross-cultural communication. He has taught English Language and Comparative Literature and has lived and worked abroad in French and a dialect of Arabic. David is retired from his university career in international education administration and lives with his wife Nancy in Salem, Oregon. They have four children and six grandchildren.

*The program will be presented virtually and can be viewed from home or with others at the library.*

## Legacy Family Tree Webinars

May 24, 11 a.m.

Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG,CGL

### **Identity Crisis: Right Name, Wrong Man? WrongName, Right Man**

What do we do with ancestors whose names don't match from one record to the next? Or those who pose the opposite problem: too many men or women of the same name? This session examines the litany of social customs and naming patterns—then offers techniques and strategies by which we can establish that any two records do or do not apply to the same person.

May 29, 11 a.m.

Colleen Robledo Greene, MLIS

### **Capturing Their Stories, Part II: Next Steps With Your Family**

You've recorded that video or audio interview, now what? This presentation builds on the best practices covered in Colleen's part one webinar. We will explore ideas and tools for trimming out mistakes or sensitive content, and for adding a title screen and ending credits screen before sharing with others. We will also look at ways to enhance your recordings by weaving in relevant supporting visual imagery like photos, and historical documents. Finally we will review options for generating full text transcriptions of your interview.

## Membership Report

*Bea Ritter*

[gensoc@ccgs-wa.org](mailto:gensoc@ccgs-wa.org)

I send out a Renewal letter about a month before your membership expires. If your membership expires in February, I would send you a Renewal letter the first of January. This letter shows the information we have in our database for you. Please check to see if any of the information is wrong or needs to be updated, When you pay your dues, please return the **entire** letter as it helps me keep your information accurate. If you pay on our website, please make sure you also return the Renewal letter or a membership form. Your membership expires one year from the time you joined, unless you have reinstated after a lapse in membership. Then I would use the date of your new renewal as your new expiration date. I really appreciate every one of you who pay on time. It makes my job so much easier. Please let me know if you have questions. Send to gensoc at ccgs-wa.org. We look forward to welcoming new people and welcoming back reinstated members. Please join our monthly classes held on the first Tuesday of the month. Check our calendar for the classes.

## WELCOME

We are excited to announce a new LIFE MEMBER:  
Nancy Benthin.

## THANKS THANKS THANKS

*Bea Ritter*

We want to thank two special ladies who have spent many years serving CCGS. Alice Allen has done an outstanding job as our Newsletter Editor since 2012. We really appreciate her efforts to keep us informed about classes, programs, special events, and Society news. Jeanine Bailiff has been our Sunshine Lady for at least 10 years and faithfully sent out sympathy cards and get well cards to members and their families. We thank both of them for their many years of service to CCGS.

## Summer Stories with My Father

CCGS is seeking your summer memories with your father  
for publication in the July and August issues of

### **CCGS Special Summer News.**

Please submit your stories with photo by May 15th to  
[gensoc@ccgs-wa.org](mailto:gensoc@ccgs-wa.org)

## CCGS Nominating Committee Report

We are pleased to present the slate of nominees for election at CCGS Membership Meeting on May 28, 2024.

President: Paula Schoenlein

Treasurer: Lowell Kenedy

Secretary: Tanaka Axberg

It should be noted that the CCGS Board of Directors on April 9, 2024 voted to authorize the nomination of Lowell Kenedy for a 3rd term as Treasurer.

Officers can only serve two terms but per the CCGS By Laws, the Board can vote to authorize an additional term of office. In addition, the Nominating Committee is seeking a nominee for the position of Vice President which is presently held by Paula Schoenlein. Please contact Richard Engstrom, Nominating Committee Chair, if you are interested in being nominated for this position.

Respectfully Submitted:

Richard Engstrom, Chair CCGS Nominating Committee

Bea Ritter-Member

Sharon Cleveland- Member

## ***This Week at CCGS Editor***

As of Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>, Denise Erkkila has taken on the responsibilities of editor of the "This Week at CCGS" email; Mary McMonegal has decided to step down after 11 years of weekly posts. Please send your notices or changes by Friday each week to Denise at [deniseerkkila@gmail.com](mailto:deniseerkkila@gmail.com) or call her 360-521-8702. We want to give a big THANK YOU to Mary for her service. The weekly updates really helped to keep CCGS members informed!

## Grandmother Pages

### Georgia Carol Philpott Chappell

Mother of Jane Germann

Born 20 Sept 1915, Randolph, Coos County, Oregon

Died 28 May 1974, Bandon, Coos County, Oregon



Georgia was the daughter of William Philpott and Rosa Ann Davy. She married George Chappell on December 24, 1941, in Reno, Washoe County, Nevada. He died on August 8, 1971, in Bandon. Because Georgia died in 1974, at only 58, she only got to see Susi, Chris, and Brian of her grandchildren. She had five more born after her death. She would have been an amazing Grandmother as she was fun to be around.

Susi, too young to say Grandmother, called her Pampa, and so she was named. She was continually busy. Her own mother died when she was in college, but she continued with her education and became a Home Economics Teacher. She was a seamstress for many people and volunteered often. She made the wedding dresses for both of her daughters, Jane and Jill. Actually, she made most of their clothes. They were accustomed to tailored dresses and were fussy when ready-made clothes did not fit well.

### Effie Lucretia Emery Chappell

Grandmother of Jane Germann

Born 28 Oct 1876, Sherman Mills, Aroostook County, Maine

Died 22 Mar 1945, Bandon, Coos County, Oregon, buried Bandon



Effie Lucretia Emery was the daughter of Wesley Emery and Helen Foster. She married Richard Chappell on August 8, 1908, in Silver City, Owyhee County, Idaho. Effie and Richard lost their grand house downtown in the Bandon Fire of 1936. They found a house on the hill on June Avenue, but that was too far away from people, so they moved a house down near Ferry Creek and lived there. It is still there, sort of catty-corner from the Cheese Factory. Richard died in 1942.

Effie made quilts, one was a pink quilt 36" X 40", with a dark blue border for Jane, which she still has. Effie was active in the church aid society, who worked on various things as a group – quilts, tea towels, napkins. She loved to read, being a constant patron of the local library. When Jane's dad was in the army air corps during WWII, she wrote him letters. One of the letters asked how the *disposable* diapers worked out. Who knew they even existed back then? Jane's paternal grandmother and maternal grandfather were the only grandparents living when she was born and they died before she was three. So she didn't really know any of her grandparents.



# Grandmother Pages

## **SELMA LEANDERSON JOHNSON**

Grandmother of Bea Ritter



Selma Leanderson was born on May 11, 1887, in Ärtemark Parish in Dalsland, Sweden, to Leander Henriksson and Kristina Andreasson. They lived on a farm near Bengtsfors that had been given to them by their grandfather Johannes Larsson. It was a small rocky farm and wasn't able to support a family. When Selma was 3.5 years old, Leander immigrated to Marshall County, Minnesota, where his brother Albin and Johan were farming. He had worked in the Sudan iron mine before his marriage, and hoped to get a job to earn enough to bring his family to the U.S. Tragically, he was killed in a blasting accident in the mine in Feb 1891. Selma's mother Kristina managed on her own on the farm by hiring help. She had learned to braid straw to make hats and sold them to make extra money. She worked at times as a cook for community events. After six years, her neighbor, August Granath, returned from America. They were married soon after and had Ivan, Gerda, Henry and Otila. When Selma was 19, she traveled with her friend Mina to the U.S. She visited Stephen where her uncles Albin and Johan Henrikson were farming. She realized while living with Albin's family, she was not learning English. She worked in a restaurant in Stephen, then moved to Minneapolis where she was a housekeeper for an elderly lady, and a doctor. After four years, she had saved enough silver dollars to buy her passage back to Sweden.

After returning to Sweden, Selma and sister Frida traveled by train to Halden, Norway, where they worked as maids on a large farm. On one trip, she met Johan Emil Jansson from Bengtsfors. They made an instant connection, and made plans to immigrate to the U. S. They worked to earn enough so they could travel 2nd class and avoid the lines at Ellis Island. They sailed on *S.S. Compania* in March of 1913. Johan got a job with the railroad in Minneapolis, and changed his name to John Emil Johnson. They were married on January 31, 1914, in Minneapolis. After seeing ads for homesteading in Oregon, they traveled by train to Bend. John worked on the road to Sisters and they lived in Tumalo where Signe was born in Sept. 1914. They homesteaded near Brothers in desert country, and in the winter rented rooms in Bend, where son Henry was born in January 1917. While John worked on jobs, Selma cared for Signe and Henry, and traveled 5 miles by wagon to fill barrels with water. After John received his Citizenship and Homestead Deed, they moved to Cove Orchard. Their daughter Winona was born in August 1921. Selma was famous for her butter and could sell as much as she could make. They lived on farms near Yamhill, Carlton, and then built a house in Lincoln City. Her husband John E. Johnson died in December 1964 at his home. Selma never learned to drive, but got rides with friends or rode the bus to visit her children. She sewed, crocheted, made gifts for grandchildren, and baked bread and cookies. Bea loved when she picked walnuts or prunes with them, or came in the summer to help can fruit. Selma Leanderson Johnson died on March 15, 1973, in the Forest Grove at age 85. She was buried with John in Evergreen Memorial Gardens in McMinnville. She left two daughters, a son, 11 grandchildren, two brothers, and three sisters.

# Grandmother Pages

**Ann Elizabeth Chope Wilson**  
**Great-Great Grandma Larry Germann**

Born 28 Nov 1824, Biddeford, Devon, England  
Died 6 Oct 1907, Salmon Creek, Clark County, Washington  
**Clark County Pioneer of 1864**

Born in England to Edward and Mary Chope, the family immigrated to Michigan in 1837 when Ann was only 13.

She had been used to fine furniture, even in Detroit. But when she married T. J. Wilson, she became a true pioneer, going first to Missouri, then traveling the Oregon Trail in 1864 to Clark County. When her husband served with the Garrison at Fort Harney, Ann traveled by ship (probably) to Eureka, California, on the steamer *Queen*, to visit relatives with her daughter Clara and her husband, Capt. P. E. Ferchen, a Columbia River guide for ships going to Portland. She also won ribbons at the Clark County Fair for patchwork quilts, woolen stockings, and dried blackberries about 1875.

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## First Tuesday Class

Scandinavian Day

Tuesday, May 7th, 10 am. to 3 pm

**What You Need to Know in Researching  
Your Norwegian Roots**

with Kathy Solheim

\$15.00 members/\$20.00 non-members

Followed by Scandinavian Workshop (free)  
Put to work the information you learned in the class. Genealogists will be on hand to help you use the resources in our library.  
Bring your laptop.



Scandinavia

**Scandinavian Treats, Coffee, Tea – Raffle**

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

## CCGS Meetings and Programs

May 2	First Thursday Unfocused Group (meets virtually)
May 6	Legacy Users Group, 10 a.m.- 12noon (meets virtually)
May 6	Research Book Club Focus Group, 12 noon - 1:30 p.m. (meets virtually)
May 7	First Tuesday Education Session - Scandinavian Day Festival 10 -11 a.m. followed by Guided Workshop 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
May 11	Family Foto Stories Focus Group, 11 a.m. - 1p.m. (in person)
May 13	Board Meeting, 10a.m.- 12 noon (meets virtually)
May 15	Legacy Family Tree Webinar, 11 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. (in person)
May 20	Travel Research Preparation, 10 a.m. - 12 noon (in person)
May 20	Family Tree Maker Focus Group, 12 noon - 2 p.m. (in person)
May 22	Legacy Family Tree Webinar, 11 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. (in person)
May 24	Legacy Family Tree Webinar, 11 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. (in person)
May 25	Craft Clan meeting, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. (in person)
<b>May 25</b>	<b>Deadline for June Newsletter</b>
May 28	General Meeting, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (hybrid)
May 29	Legacy Family Tree Webinar, 11 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. (in person)