

Family
Backtracking
Puget Sound Genealogical Society
Serving Kitsap and North Mason Counties

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wapsgs/homepage.htm>

1026 Sidney Ave., Suite 110, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4298

Volume XXIII, Number 4

December 1998

Introducing PSGS Officers For 1999

1999 is going to be an excellent year! Voting for the officers occurred at the October meeting and the results are listed below:

President:	Larry Swan
First Vice President:	Larry Hardin
Second Vice President:	Lois Roark
Recording Secretary:	Cindy Spore
Corresponding Secretary:	Jean Grimaud
Treasurer:	Cyril Taylor

Larry Swan is beginning his second term as President. Larry has been involved in genealogy for approximately three years and has served in a number of societies. His focus has been on promoting volunteerism as well as communication. Larry's email address is: lswan@silverlink.com.

Larry Hardin is also beginning his second term as First Vice President. What are the duties of the First Vice President? Larry arranges speakers or programs for each meeting among other things. It can be difficult finding speakers or organizing programs, so if you have any suggestions, you might take a moment to pass them along to Larry.

Lois Roark is continuing for another year as Second Vice President. Lois has focused on bringing in more membership to PSGS. Lois has been involved with genealogy and societies for several years. Lois has an email address at: lroark@oz.net.

Cindy Spore is new to the position of Recording Secretary. Cindy has been very involved with

PSGS, with her recent focus being on the Potato Bake at the Givens Community Center in October (see article within this issue). Cindy will be recording all the goings-on at each monthly meeting, so if you happen to miss something, you could contact Cindy. Cindy's email address is: cindys@oz.net.

Jean Grimaud is new not only to the position of Corresponding Secretary, but also to PSGS this fall. Jean has been doing genealogical researching for a short time.

Cyril Taylor is beginning his fourth year as Treasurer. Obviously, he knows what he is doing. Cyril has another talent too – writing how to's (see inside this issue). Cyril's email address is: ctaylor@krl.org.

**Congratulations officers
and good luck to a successful 1999!**

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Prez Says!!

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the members who contributed their time and effort into another successful year of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society. Especially:

- ☺ Larry Hardin, who provided us with some very nice programs.
- ☺ Lois Roark, who kept good track of the members and was always available for odd jobs.
- ☺ Thelma Gurske, who took on the job of Correspondence Secretary and found herself overwhelmed.
- ☺ Margot Delgado, an excellent Recording Secretary who we hope will continue to attend meetings when her family duties allow.
- ☺ Cyril Taylor, who did his usual outstanding job of minding the purse-strings.
- ☺ Marjorie Menees, our long-time and much appreciated librarian.
- ☺ Andi McDonald, who kept this newsletter going and contributed much to its content and its quality.
- ☺ Bill Richardson, the jack-of-all-trades who runs videos, organizes trips to Salt Lake City, rounds up nominees and tries to keep me out of trouble.
- ☺ Lorraine Kniert, the boss of the phone tree that makes sure we all know there's a meeting a commin' and does great baked potatoes.
- ☺ Pat Eder, who reads all those other newsletters, which probably bore her stiff, so we can get the benefits. This, when she isn't putting out publicity and doing odd jobs.
- ☺ Cindy Spore, *The Organizer*, a great seminar; the library volunteers; baked

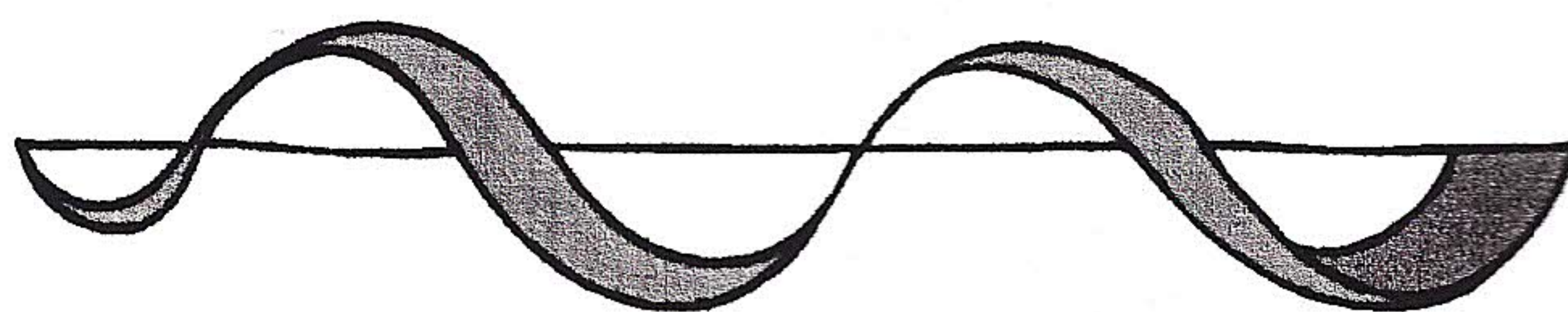
potato concessions and whatever else she can find for me to do.

We may not have had any great accomplishments this past year but we did get our 501(3)(C) status from the IRS so those of you so inclined can write off your magnanimous donations to us. We had a great trip to Salt Lake City and are looking forward to another.

I hope we can find someone willing to take on the task of editing, indexing and preparing the Kitsap marriage records for publication. Unfortunately, Andi MacDonald was not able to complete that task and it would be nice if we could go to a publication for those records instead of sifting through many issues of the Backtracker. There may be some records which were overlooked when they were compiled for the newsletter.

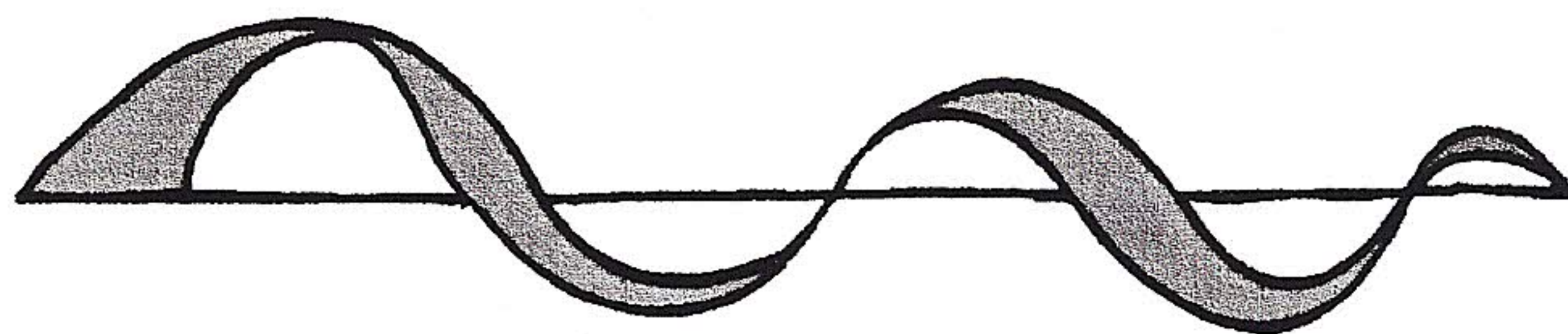
Here's to a great year!

- Larry Swan, President



A big thank you goes
To Northern Life Insurance Company
Of Seattle for the
Donation of printing this issue
Of Family Backtracking.

Thank you Northern Life!



Meetings

Meetings are held at the Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Ave., Room 110, Port Orchard, Washington, on the fourth Tuesday of each month except December which is announced each year at the October meeting. Times for meetings are 7:00 p.m. for March through October and 1:00 p.m. for November through February. Visitors are welcome.

The Belfair Chapter meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the North Mason Timberland Regional Library, N.E. 23081 Highway 3, Belfair, Washington.

Membership Fees

Single membership is \$15 and family membership is \$20 per year. Membership includes free use of the library and a yearly subscription to *Family Backtracking* published four times per year. Send membership application and fee to PSGS Membership, 1026 Sidney Ave., Suite 110, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4298.

Library

Our library is located at the Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Ave., Port Orchard, Washington in Room 110. Hours are Monday through Friday 10:00 – 4:00. Phone: (360)874-8813.

Queries

Questions may be sent to our genealogy society for investigation. A charge may be assessed for intense searches lasting more than two hours. Queries for the newsletter may be sent to The Editor, *Family Backtracking*, 1026 Sidney Ave., Suite 110, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4298. Queries will be placed as space permits.

Newsletter

Family Backtracking is published four times per year; March, June, September, and December. Due dates for material submitted are the 15th day of the month prior to publication. Materials must be camera ready and of high moral standards. Manuscripts, announcements, and items for review should be mailed to: The Editor, *Family Backtracking*, 1026 Sidney Ave., Suite 110, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4298. *Family Backtracking* will announce genealogical events and publications from genealogical societies, archives, or libraries at no charge as room permits.

The articles, reviews, advertising and news items in this publication do not necessarily reflect the view or support of PSGS of *Family Backtracking*. We are in no way liable for inconvenience or monetary loss to readers which may be the result of recommendations made in articles, reviews, or news items.

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The Great Potato Bake!

On October 24, 1998, PSGS was in charge of the food booth at the Givens Senior Center's Holiday Bazaar.

Lorraine Kniert deserves a BIG thank you from PSGS. She used her fine-honed skills as a food service supervisor and organized the Great Potato Bake. She created the menu, purchased the items and got volunteers to help her.

The volunteers were President Larry Swan, 1st V-P Larry Hardin, 2nd V-P Lois Limbocher Roark, Treasurer Cyril Taylor, Library Volunteer Cindy Shawley Spore, and a non-member who helped us move into our present library several years ago, Joan Kaul. These people were there with Lorraine from 7 AM until 4 PM, serving hungry people and collecting their money.

A small profit was made, but most of all, a good time was had by all and they all got to know each other a bit more!

- Cindy Shawley Spore, Library Volunteer Coordinator

Puget Sound Genealogical Society

Executive Board

President: Lawrence Swan

1st Vice President: Lawrence Harden

2nd Vice President: Lois Roark

Treasurer: Cyril Taylor

Recording Secretary: Cindy Spore

Correspondence: Jean Grimaud

Library: Marjorie Menees

Newsletter Editor: Michele Brittany

Committee Chairmen

Nominations:

Phone Tree: Lorraine Kniert

Publications:

Publicity: Pat Elder

Ways & Means:

Salt Lake City Trip: Marlys Marrs

It Pays to Advertise

By Cyril Taylor

What are you doing to contact other family history researchers who are also investigating your lineage?

This article will suggest a method I by happenstance discovered while exploring the WWW (World Wide Web). It is this gratifying discovery I wish to impart to you with the hope you too will find it *pays to advertise*.

I will begin at the first and give you a brief history of my experience putting my surname interests before the world of family historians through the use of the WWW.

My father, Cyril Edwin TAYLOR (1905 – 1962) was born in Poole, Dorset, England. His parents were Edwin George TAYLOR (1869 – 1927) and Edith Joy TAYLOR (1871 – 1962). Both were from families who had made Dorset their home for so many generations that their roots are lost in the mists of time. Because of this, it was natural for me to explore the WWW¹ searching for web sites having a connection to Dorset. Sites that might help me with my genealogical research. I typed into the browser's search field "**dorset+genealogy**". The result was about forty-five hits. The hit that looked most intriguing was one titled: **Dorset Genealogy Resources**². I promptly selected this item and immediately an array of options appeared on my screen³.

The very first item, the **Surname Interest List and Notice Board**, was the one that caught my attention. Through it, I gained access to a surname database. I scanned all the names listed and found none that pertained to my research. The means to add your own surnames to the database was provided and I immediately input my various family names and the villages and towns where they resided at various times during the nineteenth century⁴.

From that time, I would get occasional e-mail inquiries regarding one or the other of my surnames. Most of the inquiries were from those genealogically groping around in the dark. Most of them could provide neither the locality nor relevant date for the individuals they were attempting to trace. The only help I could offer these researchers was advice. On one occasion, I was able to help a researcher with a significant amount of data that was a great help with regard to researching her ORMAN ancestry. Then one day, I received the following e-mail message: "I live in Stalbridge and have access to the Parish Records. Do you require any information regarding Stalbridge? I.S., Stalbridge, Dorset."

I sensed immediately that this message was different. The message had the intimation of the possibility of genealogical progress. It was at Stalbridge that my third-great-grandfather Richard TAYLOR (1782 –) married Dinah DOBER (1783 – 1843) in October of 1805⁵. My

knowledge of Dinah DOBER's ancestry ended with her parents: George DOBER and Dinah —. My message e-mailed to I.S. conveyed this information.

Two days later I received this message: "I hope this makes some sense to you. I have taken this information from copies of the Stalbridge Parish Registers that I have". I.S. had provide ten entries from the Parish Register detailing Dinah DOBER's ancestry back in some instances three generations. With this and information that he subsequently sent, I was able to expand my ancestral lines moderately. The chart below illustrates the information I obtained in such an unexpected and fortunate way.

			Edward DOBER
		Edward DOBER	m: 1695/96
	George DOBER	bp: 1700/01	Elizabeth DREW
	bp: 1739	m: 1731	
	m: 1761	d: 1786	George POOL
	d: 1813	Ann POOL	m: 1694
		bp: 1707	Sussanna GOFFE
			d: 1712
Dinah DOBER			
bp: 1783			
m: 1805			Matthew BURGE
		Matthew BURGE	
		bp: 1720	Elizabeth —
		m: 1742/43	
	Dinah BURGE		
	bp: 1744	Elizabeth GAWLER	
	d: 1833		
The Stalbridge, Dorset Ancestors of Dinah [DOBER] TAYLOR			

In subsequent e-mail messages, my correspondent provided me with the names of the siblings and their baptism and death dates whenever available for my third-great-grandmother's ancestry. I.S. informed me that he had photocopies of the Stalbridge Parish registers from 1690's to 1900.

I have also entered my Irish ancestry surnames in the Liverpool Surnames Interest List⁶ because my great-grandfather Thomas WYNN (1830 – 1906) married Mary FARMER (1833 – 1897) at nearby Wigan, Lancashire in

1852. I am still waiting for a startling breakthrough on this front.

For those who have surname interests in England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands, you can access the following web site:

[Http://www.cs.ncl.ac.uk/genuki/SurnamesList/](http://www.cs.ncl.ac.uk/genuki/SurnamesList/)
Not all English, Welsh, Scottish, and Irish countries have working surname databases, but I am confident you who are researching your United Kingdom and Irish ancestry will find one or more surname interest lists where you can register your ancestral surnames.

There are many regional and local as well as specific surname databases here in the United States which I think will be worthwhile for you to search out. It is suggested that you browse Cindi's List as a starting point:

[Http://www.cyndislist.com](http://www.cyndislist.com)

Because of the positive results of my involvement with the surname interest lists, I can with enthusiasm and confidence recommend them to you. I urge you to begin immediately posting your surname billboards beside the information superhighway. And it is very likely that you too will receive an e-mail message with astonishing as well as thrilling additions to your ancestral tree. Information that will convince you that it *pays to advertise*.

¹My Internet Service Provider is the Kitsap County Regional Library's Linknet. They provide several

character based web browsers.

²<http://www.shogun.co.uk/dorset/family.htm>

³Dorset Genealogy Resources:

Surname Interest List and Notice Board
Somerset & Dorset Family History Society
Dorset Mailing List Server
Locating Place Names in Dorset
County Boundary Changes
Dorset Poll Book 1807
Genealogy UK and Ireland
Dorset Surnames Databases
Dorset Look-Up Exchange
Local Authority Resources
Local History Societies
Newspaper Indexes
Dorset Genealogy Books

⁴TAYLOR – Woolland, Kinson, Parkstone, Gillingham

DOBER – Stalbridge

ROSS – Holwell, Ibberton

KELLEY – Parkstone

STEVENS – Wareham, Parkstone

JOY – Cranborne, Verwood, Three Legged Cross (Woolsbridge Farm)

ORMAN – Cranborne, Verwood, East Dorset

KAIL – Witchampton, East Dorset

⁵Stalbridge, Dorset Bishops Transcripts: Richard TAYLOR of Hentridge (Somerset) & Dinah DOBER, of this Parish by Banns – October 27th (1805).

⁶The Liverpool Surnames Interest List – <http://www.globalserve.net/~scouse/list.htm>.

Genealogy Funnies...

1. My family coat of arms ties at the back...is that normal?
2. My family tree is a few branches short! All help appreciated.
3. My ancestors must be in a witness protection program!
4. Shake your family tree and watch the nuts fall!
5. My hobby is genealogy, I raise dust bunnies as pets!
6. How can one ancestor cause so much TROUBLE??
7. I looked into my family tree and found out I was a sap..
8. I'm not stuck, I'm ancestrally challenged.
9. I'm searching for myself, have you seen me?
10. If only people came with pull-down menus and on-line help...
11. Isn't genealogy fun? The answer to one problem, leads to two more!
12. It's 1998....Do you know where your-Great-G. Grandparents are?
13. A family tree can wither if nobody tends it's roots.
14. A new cousin a day keeps the boredom away.
15. After 30 days, unclaimed ancestors will be adopted.

16. Am I the only person up my tree...sure seems like it.
17. Any family tree produces some lemons, some nuts and a few bad apples.
18. Ever find an ancestor HANGING from the family tree?
19. FLOOR: The place for storing your priceless genealogy records.
20. Gene-Allergy: It's a contagious disease, but I love it.
21. Genealogists are time unravelers.
22. Genealogy is like playing hide and seek: They hide...I seek!
23. "Crazy" is a relative term in my family.
24. A pack rat is hard to live with, but makes a fine ancestor.
25. I want to find ALL of them! So far I only a few thousand.
26. I should have asked them BEFORE they died!
27. I think my ancestors had several "Bad heir" days.
28. I'm always late. My ancestors arrived on the JUNE-flower.
29. Only a Genealogist regards a step backwards as progress.
30. Share your knowledge, it is a way to achieve immortality.
31. Heredity: Everyone believes in it until their children act like fools!

Club News

"It's Time To Renew"... Believe it or not, it's that time again to renew your membership with the Puget Sound Genealogical Society. As with all things worthwhile, membership dues have increased. A single membership is now \$15.00 and a family membership is now \$20.00. The cost of dues still includes four (4) issues of *Family Backtracking*.

A membership form has been included with this issue. Please take an extra few minutes to check an area of interest that you would like to get involved in. Your help would be much appreciated!

For those who have already paid your membership at the old dues, could you please forward the difference to Cyril Taylor, Treasurer.

"Advisory Ballot"....Brought up at the November meeting was the issue of changing when to hold the monthly meetings. Currently, day meetings are held during October through February and evening meetings are held during March through September.

The following options were discussed:

1. Having all monthly meetings held during the day, or
2. Extend when day meetings are held by one month on either side of the current schedule thereby including September and March (putting evening meetings during April through August).

Some members expressed they were able to make either day or evening meetings.

A ballot has been included with this issue. Please take a moment and cast your vote. Mail the ballot to the attention of Larry

Swan, President.

"Congratulations To"..... A congratulations goes to former Backtracker editor, Andrea MacDonald for being awarded an Honorable Mention from National Genealogical Society Genealogical Newsletter Competition.

Awards were announced last May during the opening session of the NGS Conference in the States held in Denver, Colorado. Andi's mention fell under the category of County/Local Genealogical Societies. The other categories honored included Major Genealogical Societies and Family Associations. Congratulations Andi!

"New Members!".... A big PSGS welcome to the following new members – Linda Dawson, Susan Evans, and Michele Brittany! Linda is researching the following surnames: JOHNSON, CROSSMAN, BECKER, EATON, HOFFMAN, and BRENNAN. Susan is researching the following surnames BROWN, ENGLISH, SELDERS, BROUGHTON, BUSHY and MILLER. Michele is researching the following surnames: WILLIAMS, HAYNES, MCPHETRIDGE, NEVILLE, KNAUS, ADAMS, and LUND.

Welcome Linda, Susan, and Michele!

We want to hear from you!

Do you have suggestions, queries, a story to share? Don't hesitate – either write to the Editor c/o Puget Sound Genealogical Society, 1026 Sidney Avenue, Suite 110, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4298 or to Michele Brittany, Post Office Box 931, Seattle, WA 98111-0931 or you can email the editor at <mbrittany@earthlink.net>. Or see the insert for queries.

In Remembrance....

November saw the passing of a PSGS member, Dr. Frederick Edgar Drew. Born in Alabama in 1923, Dr. Drew was raised in many states. He attended Seattle Pacific College and joined the Navy. In November 1942, he took his future wife, Lucy Fine, on their first date, aboard the historic ferry Kalakala from Seattle to Bremerton. They were married in 1944.

Dr. Drew attended Louisiana State University School in Medicine and in 1948, began his internship at Naval Hospital Bremerton. He left the Navy in 1950 and became one of the first physicians at the new Doctors Clinic.

Dr. Drew spent 44 1/2 years in general practice and doing obstetrics and family medicine. He retired in 1995.

Dr. Drew enjoyed cooking, fishing, camping, singing, and genealogy. Dr. Drew is survived by his wife, six children and their families.

*- Condensed from Obituary in The Sun,
Thursday, November 19, 1998*



Special Project - Washington State 1910 Census Index

The Washington State Genealogical Society has decided to take on the project of indexing the Washington State 1910 Census. This census was not soundexed and has been a problem for many people with families who moved into the state and then disappeared.

An index will include name, age and birth place of each person. There will be an enumeration district, page and line number to allow for easy location on the microfilm. There will also be a soundex applied to each name which comes in handy for difficult names or those names with many spelling variations. A complete extraction is not being done.

The plans are to put the final product on CD-ROM with the possibility of hard copy or book format.

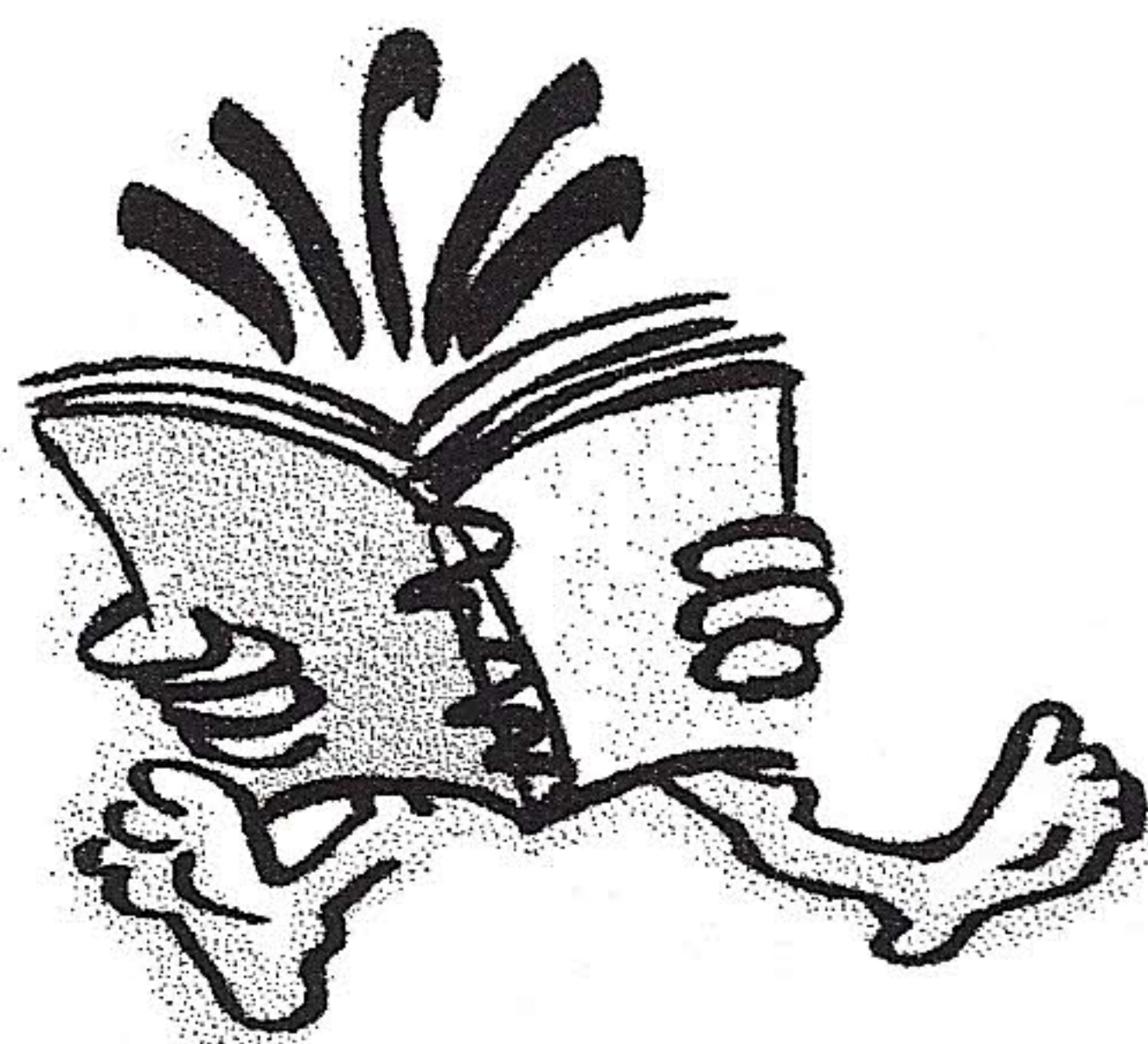
If you are interested in helping to collect data for a favorite county (Kitsap and Mason Counties do need volunteers), please go on-line to <www.rootsweb.com/~wagenweb/censusproject.htm>. There is an application form and instructions for extraction.

Other jobs include transcribing the data into a database with the individual jobs done in small "packets" which can be completed in a month or less. Or, finding city directories for Washington cities dated between 1905-1915, pictures, and maps that can included in the CD-ROM.

For those not connected to the web, please contact Celia Tomlin, Project Coordinator at WSGS, P.O. Box 1422, Olympia, WA 98507-1422.

Book Reviews

"The Power of Family Folklore"



Do you remember as a child listening to the various stories that your parents and grandparents would share? Sometimes they were used to show that the younger generation did not have the same amount of struggles as the older generation, but most often, they taught certain traditions. If you are currently recording such traditions or are interested but don't know where to start then *"The Power of Family Folklore"* by Randy Williams could be the book you are looking for.

Folklore is an integral part of genealogical research. It "fleshes out" your ancestors and might just explain why that quilt of your grandmother's is such a precious heirloom. Folklore includes four overlapping areas: verbal traditions, material traditions, customary activities, and beliefs. An enjoyable and probably an eye-opening experience, remember you need to make accurate documentation, seasoned with common sense.

I was unable to locate this book online, but Ever-

ton Publishers should carry it as it was reviewed in the September/October 1998 issue of *Everton's Genealogical Helper*.

"The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy"

Okay, so maybe the title puts you off a bit, but the language contained within the binding is well put together. It's well laid out for easy reading, and there's a quick reference as well as an index.

Like other "idiot" books, in the margins you will find cute little indicators to give you tips on such things as "Genie Jargon", "Tree Tips", and "Lineage Lessons".

There are two pitfalls. First, indentured servants refers only to those on ship passage and not the many other types and time periods that the practice of indentured servants occurred. Secondly, the 1890 federal census is referred to as a special Civil War Union index though in fact, it is the enumeration of Union veterans and widows.

If you are connected, Amazon.com has the book available for \$14.36 (please add tax and shipping) and will be delivered within 2 to 3 days of ordering.

F.Y.I.

The United States National Archives Information Locator program (NAIL) has digitized 650 registration cards for men living in Ohio in 1942 who were born between 1877 and 1897, and placed these digital copies online.

To find out more about NAIL and see the copies online, please visit the following web sites:

NAIL site: www.nara.gov/nara/searchnail.html

US National Archives: www.nara.gov

Original collection of cards are located at Great Lakes regional facility in Chicago. Their web site is: www.nara.gov/regional/chicago.html

Information from *Everton's Family History Newslines*



More Genealogical Humor....

- ☺ Many a family tree needs pruning.
- ☺ Shh! Be very, very quiet... I'm hunting forebears.
- ☺ Snobs talk as if they had begotten their own ancestors!
- ☺ That's strange: half my ancestors are WOMEN!
- ☺ I'm not sick, I've just got fading genes.
- ☺ Genealogists live in the past lane.
- ☺ Alright! Everybody out of the gene pool!
- ☺ Always willing to share my ignorance...
- ☺ Documentation... The hardest part of genealogy.
- ☺ Genealogy: Chasing your own tale!
- ☺ Genealogy.. Will I ever find time to mow the lawn again?!

Software Review

"Millennia's Legacy Family Tree"

November's meeting included the presentation of Millennia's Legacy Family Tree by Ken McGinnis. Based in Duvall, Washington, Legacy has been embraced by such genealogical clubs as Tacoma, Boeing, and East Side.

Legacy has two navigational screens: Family and Pedigree views. Both show multiple generations so that navigating, editing and adding individuals is easy. With the input screen, a researcher can enter vital statistics and other information such as alternate names, events, addresses, and photographs.

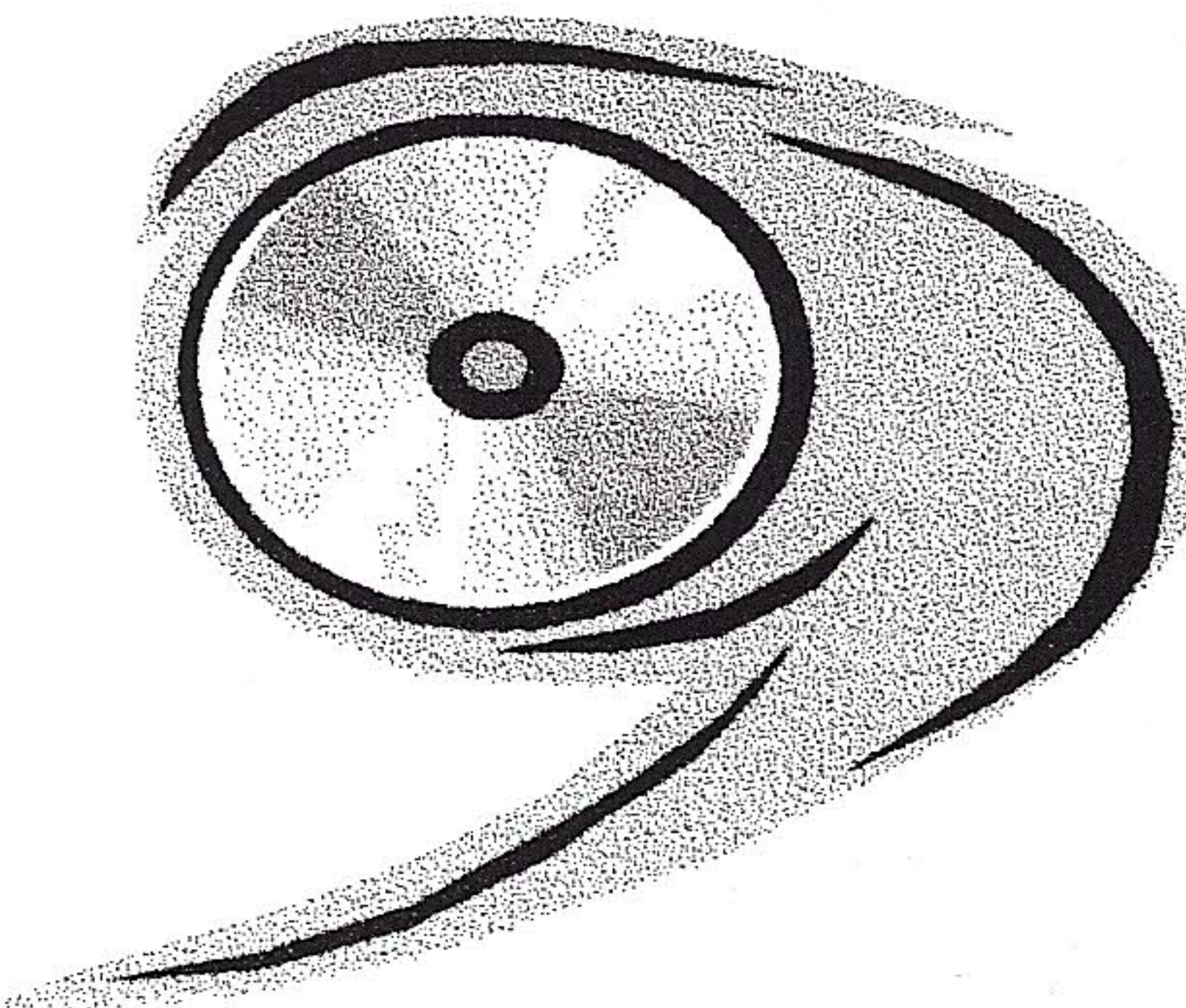
Speaking of photographs, Legacy recognizes 34 formats for pictures. Brightness and contrast can be edited, but another program would be needed for photos requiring "fixing".

Legacy has a complete source documentation system for keeping all those sources under control.

Legacy will match and merge individuals of separate

family trees, only after you have reviewed both same name individuals. Got 100 ancestors to review, but not enough time to go through them all? Legacy will save the work so you can come back to it at a later time.

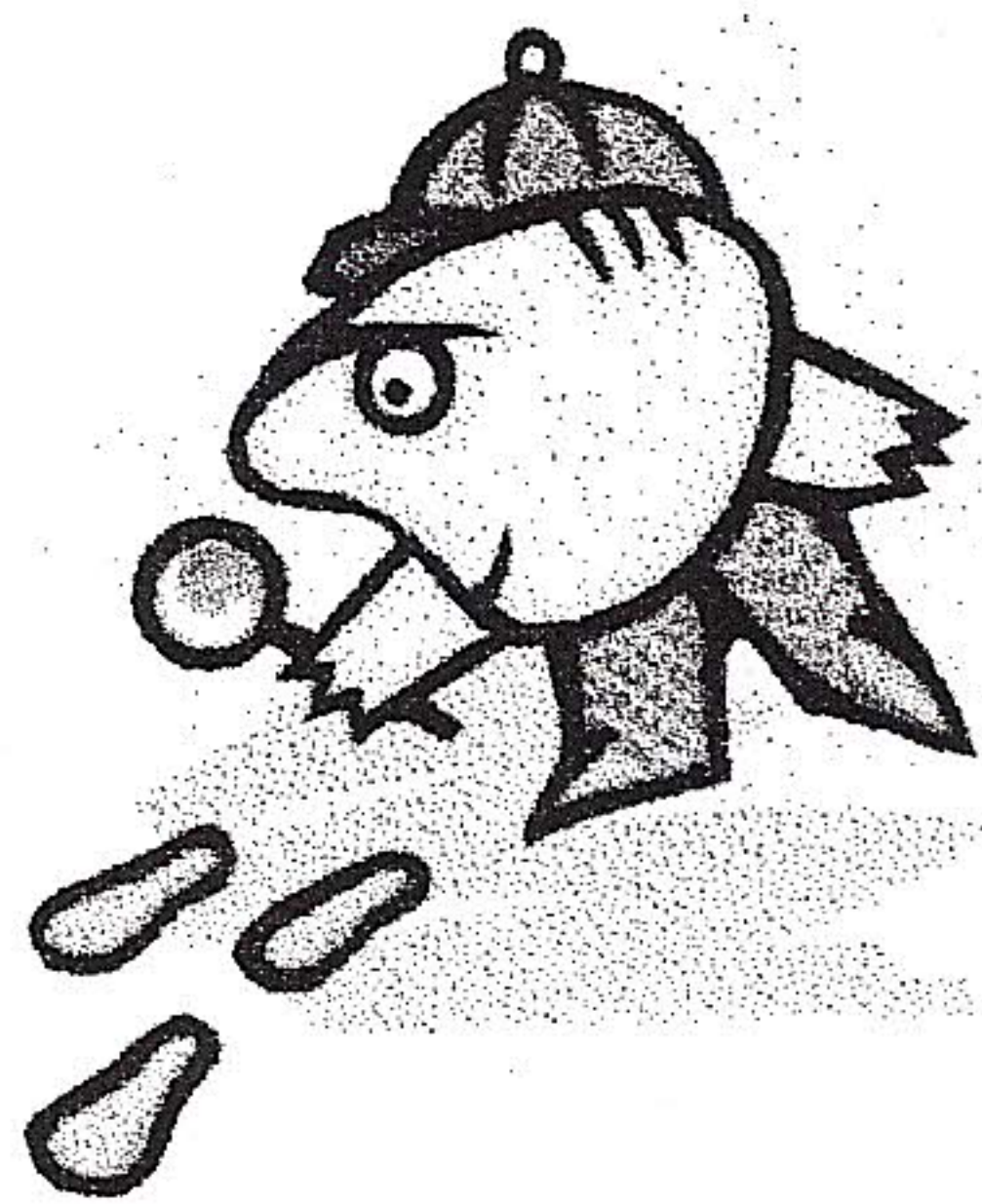
Other features include bookmarking, importing/exporting, LDS options, tutorials covering basic and intermediate subjects, and a pop up calendar.



System requirements include a minimum of IBM 486 or faster (Pentium highly recommended) with a minimum of 8 MB of memory (though 16 MB is preferred), 20 MB of free hard disk space, Windows 3.1 or Windows 95 and VGA or higher.

Upcoming improvements include creating your own web site. Updates occur every 2 to 3 weeks, available online or by mail (the first update is free and thereafter \$3.00). Download estimated at 10 to 15 minutes. Expect a full updated version next summer.

Want more information or would you like to download a demo? Online users seek out www.LegacyFamilyTree.com or call 1-800-753-3453 or write Millennia, Post Office Box 1800, Duvall, WA 98019-1800. Cost is \$49.95 plus shipping.



Queries

Seeking parents of Benjamin Frank CHIFFENS, born in Delaware 6 September 1849 and died in Earlville, Cecil Co., Maryland 1 May 1930. He married Ariana WHITE-LOCK 13 December 1877 in Cecil Co., Maryland. His mother is possibly Sarah MCKAY who was born in Delaware. His children are Arabella STRICKER, Adriana ROBINSON, John, Helen V. MOYER, Bessie M. SEAMAN, Ambrose, Bertha, Jesse, Samuel, and Harrison. Please contact Pat Eder, 2324 East 17th Street, Bremerton, WA 98310-5056.

MCPHETRIDGE/MCFETRIDGE. Seeking information on MCPHETRIDGE/MCFETRIDGE in Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana. Cereice Cook, Post Office Box 486, Port Orchard, WA 98366-0485 or e-mail: ccook@sincom.com.

ADAMS. Seeking parents of James ADAMS born possibly in Indiana in 1832. He married Zelpha THOMPSON 4 February 1855 in Parke Co., Indiana. His children are Sarah Elizabeth WILLIAMS, George, Mary PARKS, Amanda, William H., James H., John Q., and Charles. Please contact Michele Brittany, Post Office Box 931, Seattle, WA 98111-0931 or e-mail: mbrittany@earthlink.net.

Have a query, please see page 51 for details on submitting your query or the insert. Thank you.

Genealogy Mailing Lists Primer

By Cyril Taylor

What is a mailing list?

It is an electronic bulletin board to which you address your e-mail questions, requests and queries. The mailing list then transmits your message to all mailing list subscribers.

What is the purpose of mailing lists?

There are many thousands of mailing lists devoted to a myriad of topics. They offer a forum to exchange ideas and information. Genealogists are among those most active in utilizing this medium of communication. It is an ideal tool for solving genealogical problems, to seek information and to contact others researching your ancestral lines.

How do I subscribe to a mailing list?

It is rather simple to "subscribe" to a mailing list. Just send a message to the mailing list's address indicating you wish to subscribe. The sample e-mail message displays the proper method to "subscribe".

```
To      : [mailing list name]-[list mode]-request@rootsweb.com
Cc      :
Attachment:
Subject  :
----- Message Text -----
subscribe
```

Note: Never include your "Signature File" as part of this message.

How do I "unsubscribe" to a mailing list?

Send a message to the mailing list's address similar to the one you used to subscribe indicating you wish to "unsubscribe" as illustrated below.

```
To      : [mailing list name]-[list mode]-request@rootsweb.com
Cc      :
Attachment:
Subject  :
----- Message Text -----
unsubscribe
```

What do I use for "list name"?

There are many hundred of genealogy mailing lists. Some are of a general nature like ROOTS-L. There are others dedicated to family historians researching their ancestry in specific counties, regions, states, countries, specific surnames and ethnic groups. There is a genealogy mailing for every segment of our avocation.

Several examples of mailing list address are listed below:

AUSTRALIA	PSROOTS
SURNAMES-CANADA	ROOTS
INDIA	WASHINGTON
MEXICO	WAKITSAP

What if I cannot find a mailing list that meets my special needs?

If you don't find the mailing list that fits your requirements, the way is open to become a "listowner" or RootsWeb Sponsor of your own special interest mailing list.

What is list mode?

There are four list modes. Each is abbreviated to a single letter:

M=MAIL mode. Every posting to the mailing list is transmitted back to each subscriber as a separate message. Recommended to be used on mailing lists that experience light traffic.

D=DIGEST mode. The postings are batched together in groups and sent to each subscriber. An index is provided comprising the data in the subject lines of each posting. This mode is recommended for those mailing lists that have high traffic volume.

I=INDEX mode. A daily index of postings comprising only the data from the "From: and Subject:" lines of each posting. The subscriber then has the option to request only those messages that are of interest. This mode is recommended for the researcher who has to budget their time.

L=Default mode for mailing list.

How do I post queries to the mailing list?

All your postings should be sent to the mailing list using the following e-mail address format:

[mailing list name]-L@rootsweb.com

What is the most important factor of the posting?

The subject line is the most important segment of the message to the mailing list. It would be worded in such a way to catch the reader's eye in a fraction of a second. In Digest Mode it may be the only chance to catch the subscriber's eye. The subject line must briefly mention the locality, surname or object of your query.

What format should I use in preparing an inquiry to a mailing list?

- * State what you know about the problem to be solved.

- * State briefly what you expect from the query, question or request.
- * Keep it "simple" is the motto you should follow!
- * Each message should address only one question, query or request.
- * Don't use negative statements like "I am new on the list" or I am a "newbie".
- * Don't be too wordy. Be concise in your composition of your query.
- * Don't clutter your posting with nonessential information.
- * Use only positive phraseology.
- * Express appreciation for the help you seek.
- * Your name and locality.
- * Your e-mail address.

When should I post my first query?

For the inexperienced, it is wise to spend a few days reading the mailing list postings that will drop into your mailbox each day. Observe how other subscribers present their requests for help and advice. Once you get the feel of the mailing list's personality you can go ahead and post that first query and sit back and see what the results may be. Don't be disappointed if there are no responses. Wait a few days and send another reworded query. You have to remember that there is a continuous turnover of mailing list subscribers. Those who read your second posting may not have been a subscriber on your first try. This is especially true with the larger mailing lists.

How many mailing lists should I subscribe to at one time?

I would recommend that you start out with one. If it doesn't overwhelm you with mail, then you can add a second and possibly a third mailing list. You don't want to spend all your time reading queries.

When do I "unsubscribe" to a mailing list?

You should unsubscribe when the mailing list is no longer relevant to your family history research. Either you have solved all your family history problems associated with that mailing list or you have reached the conclusion that nothing can be gained by continuing your subscription. It is also advisable to unsubscribe when you will be away on holiday to forestall an avalanche of mail to be read on your return.

Should I reply to all those who respond to my posting?

Yes, it is suggested that it is a wise policy to thank each and every person who has taken the time and effort to respond to your query, question or request regardless of their contribution.

When should I respond to queries posted to the mailing lists?

You should respond when you are competent to answer questions posed by other subscribers or have some pertinent data that will be of value to other genealogical researchers. Everyone has specialized knowledge that they can share with other family historians. In other words, assist those you know you can help.

To whom should I respond?

You can respond either to the person who posted a question, query or request directly or to the mailing list or to both. Which choice you make is entirely up to you. If you think the information is of universal value I would advocate posting it to the mailing list.

How do I find out what mailing lists are available?

There is a World Wide Web site set up for that purpose. It is:

[Http://www.rootsweb.com/~maillist/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~maillist/)

This is a comprehensive index of mailing lists sponsored by The RootsWeb Genealogical Data Cooperative. It is constantly being updated as new mailing lists are created.

Isn't there a simpler way to subscribe and unsubscribe to mailing lists?

Yes, there is. To subscribe you simply highlight/enter or click on whatever mailing list you wish to subscribe while browsing the above referenced web site. An e-mail form will appear. You must leave all data entry field **blank** except the one in which you enter your e-mail address. Type the word "subscribe" (without the quotation marks) left justified on the first line of the message field and execute the **send** command. The same method can be used to unsubscribe.

What happens after I subscribe?

The mailing list will send you a "Welcome to the Mailing List" message and instructions concerning mailing lists. I recommend you study this document carefully.

What motivated me to write this article?

This instructional article has been written to inspire the family historian who has just begun or hasn't yet begun to exploit the genealogical resources of the World Wide Web to take full advantage of the remarkable possibilities provided by mailing lists. For you who have yet to purchase a computer, but contemplate doing so in the future, I hope to encourage you so you too can take advantage of the tremendous genealogical potentialities of the World Wide Web.

- November 1998

Exchange Notes by Pat Eder

Amer Ancestry 16:5 (Sep/Oct '98): researching female ancestors; NYC research; preparing for a library trip; locating your family's ancestral town; internet research – a case study; involving your children in family history; using maps in research/ federal gov't publications; computerized tombstones-the possibility of storing info about the deceased in his tombstone on a computer disk.

Amer Everton's Genealogical Helper 54:4 (Jul/Aug '98): 1998 directory of Genealogical Societies; finding WWI soldiers; Loyalist muster rolls; Civil War black soldiers; source citations on the internet.

Ibid. 52:5 (Sep/Oct '98): family folklore; a Japanese-American family; regular features of Q & A, missing folks, roots cellar and website listings; preserving family traditions, courthouse research; 1998 professional researchers list; death, marriage and divorce data from Virginia are closed except to spouse, children or siblings for 50-100 years.

Amer Ellen Payne Odom Genealogy Library "Family Tree" 8:4 (Aug/Sep '98): news of clans, family assns and reunions; ORDONO/ORTIZ family; many ads, book reviews and educational opportunities, two bills before the House of Representatives might give copyright protection on data bases and lock up info (that is in the public domain) behind a security system such as a pay-per-view website; National Archives possible closures.

Ibid. 8:5 (Oct/Nov '98): repository for the records of 105 family groups and Scottish clans; news of genealogical and historical societies; queries, family assn calendar of events.

Amer Genealogy Bulletin #46 (Jul/Aug '98): A Heritage Quest publication. Atlantic Canada censuses 1671-1901 when and where taken, what questions were asked and which are on microfilm; benefits of belonging to FGS and how they spend their funds (future filming of War of 1812 pension records and

bounty land warrants and the U.S. Colored Troops service records.

Ibid. #47 (Sep/Oct '98): Ontario, Canada census records 1796-1901, genie tidbits, queries.

Amer National Genealogical Society "NGS Newsletter" 24:4 (Jul/Aug '98): NGS Newsletter competition winners – Family Backtracking receives Honorable Mention; computer software review Family Tree Maker 4.0 Progenitor II and Ultimate Family Tree.

Ibid. 24:5 (Sep/Oct '98): how Roots WEB and US Gen WEB are working together on the Internet: software updates on Family Tree Makes 5.0, The Master Genealogist, Family Tree Makes 4.0 and Family Origins 6.0; preparing to submit info to ancestral file using PAF 3.0.

Amer Heritage Quest #77 (Sep/Oct '98): German research; Italian research; computer web links and new software; regular features such as book reviews, queries and Q & A.

CA Sequoia GA "Newsletter" 25:7 (Sep '98): Cherokee Strip Land Run of 1893, ongoing; register of Tulare Co 1869.

Ibid. 25:8 (Oct '98): Cherokee Strip Land Run of 1893 conclusion; great register of 1869 Tulare Co BLA to CEC.

FL Oskaloosa Co GS "A Journal of NW Florida" 22, Issue 73 (Spr '98): Holt cem Oskaloosa Co; cemeteries in Walton Co, FL; early Walton Co letters 1837; school news from 1930 Laurel Hill High School paper.

IL Clay Co GS "Clay Roots" (Fall '98): SPAULDING history; STOUT info; news items from Flora Record 1924; Clay Co place names; Oskaloosa history; early land entries up to 1853 in Oskaloosa Twp; BEAL family; Clay Co news items 1942 and 1960.

IA Jackson Co GS "Genie Gems" 19:3 (Sep '98): local news items from 1946.

KS Crawford Co GS "The Seeker" 28:3 (Fall '98): Crawford Co records of indexed births 1896 and marriage book K, SNE to YOR.; obits of local people born prior to 1900.

IS Jefferson Co Historical Society
"Yesteryears" (Apr '98): tribute to oldtimers written in 1941; history of St Mark's Church; Oskaloosa cemeteries; marriage licenses Jefferson Co 1932; JOHNSON bible; news items 1875; Jefferson Co statistics 1870 and 1940.

MD Frederick Co GS "Newsletter" (Aug '98): HAGAN-RAMSOWER family; DEEDS ahnentafel; JOHNSON decendency chart; news items various years.

Ibid. (Oct '98)" searching for the gravestone of a Union Civil War veteran; JOHNSON decendency chart; CENAS bible; 1770 LAMAR letter; newspaper abstracts various years.

MA Berkshire Family History Assn. "Bershire Genealogist" 19:3 (Sum '98): military and naval annals of Lee, MA, ongoing; town records Pittsfield, MA various years; 1855 state census of Lee, ongoing.

MA Falmouth GS "Newsletter" 10:6 (Nov/Dec '98): Cape Cod religious history 1650- notes from a lecture.

MN Otter Tail Co "Newsletter" 16:3 (Sep '98): Leaf Lake Twp issue focuses on history, 1880-85 homesteaders, 1880 census, and some cemetery records.

MT Flathead Valley GS "Newsletter" 22:4 (1997-98 supplement): grantor deed index 1884-97 conclusion.

MT Dawson Co GS "The Tree Branch" 18:2 and 3 double issue (Sep '98): Dawson Co death notices Jan-June 1998' ancestor charts of RUSSELL and LEHMAN.

MO Scotland Co GS "Newsletter" 12:4 (Oct '98): school student census 1915 Scotland Co; names of WWII military personnel extracted from Memphis, MO Revelle 1942; obits of 1996.

NM New Mexico GS "NM Genealogist" 37:3 (Sep '98): Afro-New Mexicans in Colonial era, part 2; Valencia Co 1890 poll tax list; Valencia Co probates 1882-88; vital statistics 1890 from Albuquerque Daily Citizen; San Antonio Cem, Bernalillo Co, NM.

OH Brown Co GS "On the Trail" 21:3 (Fall '98): bible records of SHORT, GREASLIN; BROOKS Cem in Clark Twp.

OR Genealogical Forum of OR "Forum Insider" 9:2 (Aug '98): listing of OR genealogical info online, includes many records.

Ibid. "Bulletin" 48:1 (Sep '98): HOLT journal 1847; OR Indian War pension files; TIGARD letter 1852; Lone Fir Cem 1846-80 ongoing; Civil War veterans who were residents of OR, DUF to EVA.

OR Willamette Valley GS "Beaver Briefs" 30:3 (Sum '98): OR death index 1903-20, BES to BRO; local news items various years; members surnames of interest.

PA Mercer Co GS "Past Times" (Sep '98): news items of 1898; MITCHELTREE - HILANDS chart.

SD Sioux Valley GS "Pioneer Pathfinder and Index" 24:4 (Oct '98): 1878 Wisconsin to Dakota travel journal; obits of local people age 95 and older; 1998 name index.

SD Lyman-Brule GS "Newsletter" 10:1 (Sep '98): Lyman and Brule Cos towns and post offices; listing of genealogical and historical societies in SD.

WA Chelan Valley GS "Apple Orchard" 8:4 (Jul/Aug '98): 1890 record of early Chelan settlers.

Ibid. 8:5 (Sep/Oct '98): STINSON and HALVERSON family; 1890 record of early settlers, ongoing.

WA Clallam Co GS "Bulletin" 18:3 (Fall '98): clues in census records 1790-1840; city directory of 1901 lists obscure communities for Clallam and other counties.

WA Clark Co GS "Directory 1998-99".

WA Grant Co GS "Big Bend Register" 18:3 (Sep '98): 1910 census Grant Co.

WA Grays Harbor GS "Family Tree Searcher" 9:5 (Sep/Oct '98): using interlibrary loan for research; local news items of 1948.

WA Stillaquamish Valley GS "The Star" 12:1 (Sep/Oct '98): deaths in Arlington, WA, MOU to NES.

WA Tacoma-Pierce Co GS "The Researcher" 31:1 (Fall '98): Roy, Pierce Co marriages by Charles Dodge, J.P. 1941-57; Nisqually Mission 1835-42 history; 1909 records of Washington school in Tacoma; news items from Tacoma papers 1887; probates of Pierce Co, Wa territory.

WA Yakima Valley GS "Newsletter" 30:3 (Sep '98): some WA state marriage licenses 1934-36; Janeck Drug store accounts 1897, ongoing; school records, Kittitas Co 1901, ongoing.

WA Kanawha Valley GS "Journal" 22:3 (Fall '98): BEANE cemetery in Sissonville, ongoing; ancestor charts of BURCHETT, ALDINGER, BALLARD, and STANLEY.



From the Editor.....

I'm writing this on the ferry bound for Seattle. I have just finished attending the November meeting. I would like to say that I'm excited to be a new member and the new editor for Family Backtracking.

I'm excited because after listening to guest speaker Ken McGinnis share all the positive features of Millenia's Legacy Family Tree (a review of this program is found within this issue), I feel inspired to start working on my genealogical research again after a period of lapse (which lasted approximately four years).

I'm also excited to serve as your editor. My editing interests began with 4-H when I served as editor of the club newspaper. (Back then, I use to create each issue manually.) I have created a monthly employee newspaper when I worked with McGraw-Hill and while living in England, I use to create a weekly sales newsletter for a conservatory sunblind com-

pany where I learned to use Microsoft Publisher (which I currently use).

I'm anxious to create a genealogical newsletter that justly represents you in two very important ways - a source for your genealogical research and a source for some interesting reading. With that in mind, I want to hear your suggestions, queries, interesting family stories, events, encouraging research finds, and okay, your constructive criticism.

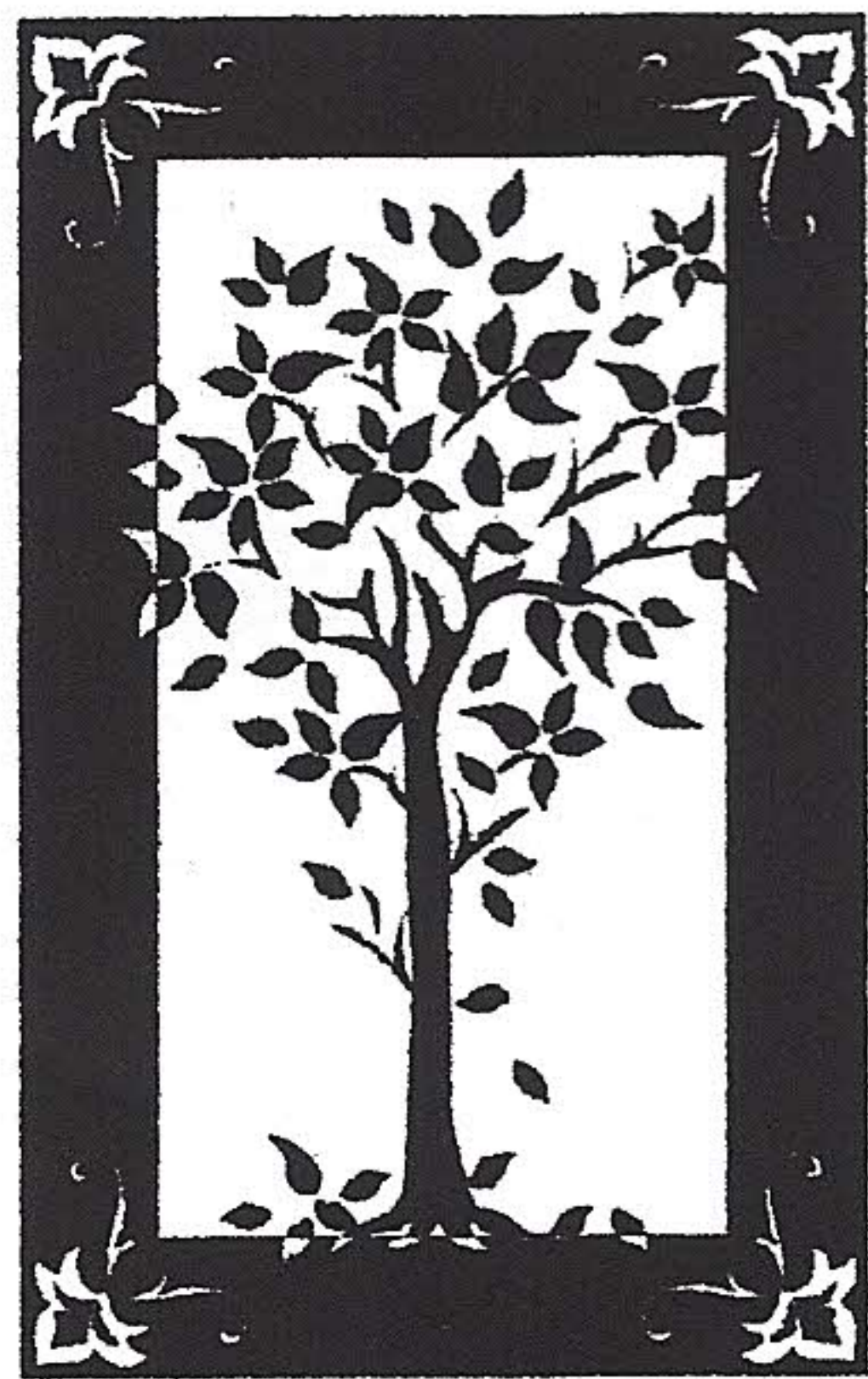
I hope you enjoy the newsletter. I have enjoyed the experience and challenge of putting my first issue of Family Backtracking together. I look forward to the path this editorship takes me by way of the people I meet and the people I hear from.

Wishing each of you a wonderful holiday season filled with cheer and good tidings! And of course, happy and successful genealogical hunting!

*- Michele
Mbrittany@earthlink.net*

The Living Family Tree

By Cyril Taylor



You who have never heard of a Living Family Tree,
Will logically ask, "What is it?"
The answer will define by degree,
The concept hopefully to your profit.

It is likely that you in quest of pedigree,
Have unknowingly become a disciple,
While searching for long departed ancestry,

Of the Living Family Tree principle.

Oh yes! The central goal of a family historian,
After ceaseless perusal of the microfilm image,
And disturbing ancient, musty courthouse records Victorian,
Is the endless work in progress, the family lineage.

In your quest for ancestors long dead,
You haunt weedy cemeteries of headstones tumbling,
Seeking out age inscriptions to be read,
In search for the ever elusive ancestor slumbering.

Piece by piece you reconstruct the family of yore,
Father and mother, brothers and sisters sibling,
A family unit once vibrant with life to the core,
Folk that time has dispersed to the four winds whistling.

The events of each person's life routed from its hidden place,
Birth, marriage and death,
That mark their life's inexorable pace,
Of each of our predecessors till their last breath.

Old family photographs, letters with ink faded,
Family traditions obscure, certificates of birth and marriage
Yellowed obituaries, ancient documents well creased,
Are among the tools of the researcher of family heritage.

Linking father to son, mother to daughter,
Bonding the generations back through the yesteryears,
The folk of times past of which you are their genetic inheritor,
In the reconstruction of your ancestral tiers.

The outcome of all this delving into personal genealogy,

Are tendriled lines reaching into antiquity,
Of ancestors rank upon rank without apology,
An elaborate blueprint of your individual heredity.

There is a great deal of personal exhilaration,
In documenting your heredity,
But is it enough for total self-satisfaction?
Isn't there something else to be done supplementary?

Yes! You have an implied duty,
To track and locate the unknown family offshoot,
With the same dedicated tenacity,
That you conducted your ancestral pursuit.

Your cousin quarry are hidden far and wide,
Search for them in the country Old or New,
Follow the compass rose to wherever they abide,
Seek them out, follow every clue.

And when you find your cousin hidden,
Present them with a record of the shared lineage,
For which you have long striven,
Because a common blood is an eternal heritage.

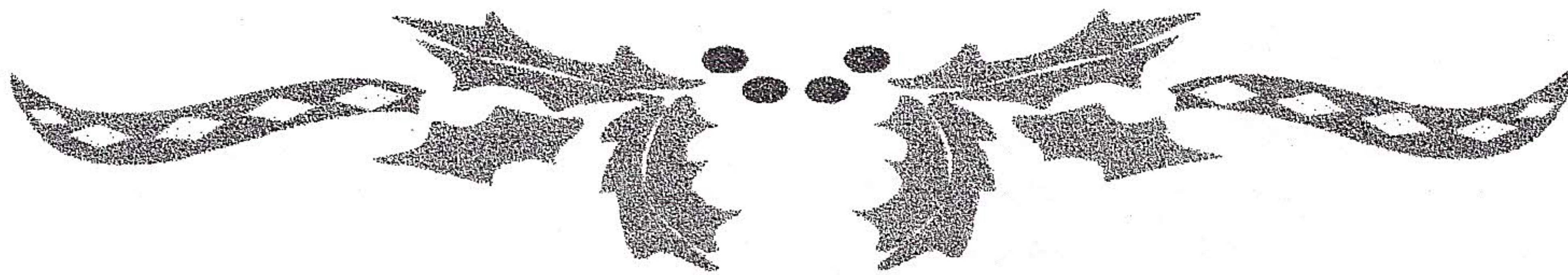
You grant without any great expectations,
But optimistically your newly discovered cousin,
Will share with you their family traditions,
As well as the vital statistics of your newly located kinsmen.

But your good intentions may have results unsatisfactory,
For your new found relative,
May not share your concern for personal history,
But this will not distract you from your main objective.

This type of disappointment will not cause your enthusiasm,
For family history research to wane,
Your effort will be rekindle with undiminished idealism,
To carry on your kin seeking campaign.

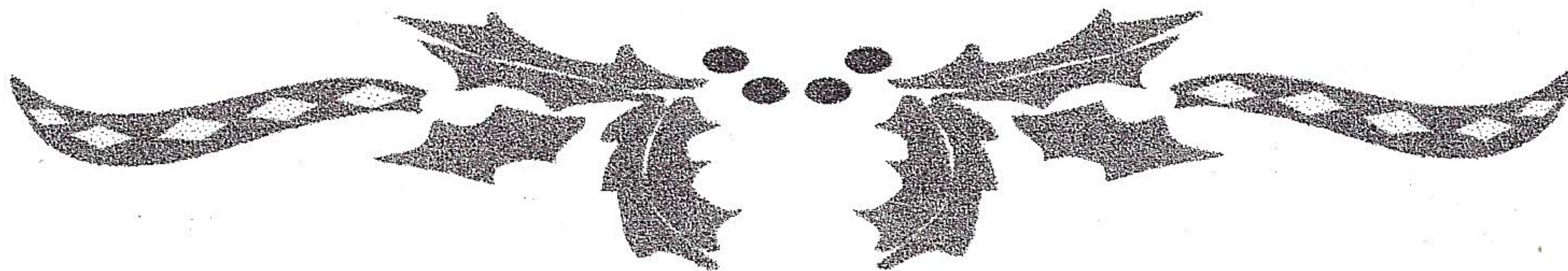
The culmination of this family history exploration,
With individuals recorded both venerable and modern is key,
To the genealogy with the simple designation,
"The Living Family Tree."

- Driftwood Cove
August 1998



"Backcover reminders"

- * Deadline for submissions to Family Backtracking's March 1999 issue is February 15th, 1999.
- * Don't forget to fill out the enclosed membership form for 1999 and the Advisory Ballot form.
- * Have a query? Send them in on the handy form that has been enclosed with this issue.
- * Want to advertise? Family Backtracking now accepts advertising. Please see the (you guessed it) form enclosed in this issue.



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