



Volume XXVII, Number 2

*Dig for past relatives, turn up today's cousins.*

June 2002

# Belfair Bylines

Featuring Articles  
by Members of PSGS' Belfair Chapter

Contents		Belfair's History by Jan Stevenson
The Distaff Side	28	<p>Belfair has a history rich with a community of people who populated both the north and south shore of Hood Canal and along the Old Belfair Highway. There is very little documentation of the known "firsts" for the Belfair region. Clifton was the name given to the settled area now known as Belfair, but no date has ever been identified when Clifton was first settled. Early information on the region notes the first post office was established in 1880. Alfred Jones was the first postmaster. The</p> <p><i>(Continued on page 37)</i></p>
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Family History Research in the Shenandoah Valley	34	<p>Oscar Olafsson Foster, Belfair Pioneer by Estelle Foster</p> <p>Oskar Ferdinand Olafsson was born August 27, 1865, the son of Olaf Andersson and Anna Greta Eriksson. The birthplace was a farm named Tor-garod, in the village of Stenshult, parish of Forshalla, Goteborg och Bohus Lan in Sweden. He was the youngest in a family of seven children, four boys and three girls. The oldest son, of course, inherited the farm and the rest of the children left home for work elsewhere or to be married and live where their hus-bands worked, during the years of 1873 and 1874.</p> <p>In 1881, at the age of sixteen, Oskar received a permit to work away from home, probably on the</p> <p><i>(Continued on page 32)</i></p>
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## **Puget Sound Genealogical Society**

### **Meetings**

Meetings are held at the Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Ave., Suite 110, Port Orchard, Washington, on the fourth Tuesday of each month except August and December. The December meeting date and time is announced each year at the October meeting. Times for meetings are 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. for April through September and 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. for October through March.

The programs are varied and include workshops, question/answer sessions and talks, both by outside speakers and by our own members. Meetings are open to the public and guests are always welcome.

The Belfair Chapter meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 P.M. in the Belfair Community Baptist Church - Library, 23300 N. E. State 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 our newsletter *The Backtracker* which is published four times per year. Send membership application and fee to PSGS Membership, 1026 Sidney Ave., Suite 110, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4298.

### **Genealogical Research Library**

Our library is located in the Givens Community Center, 1026 Sidney Ave., Suite 110, Port Orchard, Washington. The library is open Monday and Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Phone: (360) 874-8813.

### **Research Policy**

Prior to conducting research projects, Puget Sound Genealogical Society requires prepayment of a \$10.00 fee. This fee covers the cost of one research request, postage, envelope, and up to five (5) photocopied pages. There will be an additional charge of fifty (50) cents for each additional page over five (5) pages. Additional charges may be incurred for intensive research. All additional charges must be authorized in advance by the requestor.

### **Newsletter**

*The Backtracker* is published four times a year in March, June, September, and December. Due dates for material submitted are the 15th day of the month prior to publication. Material submitted for inclusion in *The Backtracker* may be either typed or hand written. The latter must be legible. Manuscripts, announcements, news items, queries and items for review should be mailed to *The Backtracker* care of Puget Sound Genealogical Society. This material may be sent to the editor at [ctaylor@krl.org](mailto:ctaylor@krl.org) as an e-mail attachment. *The Backtracker* will announce genealogical events and publications from genealogical societies, archives, or libraries at no charge as space permits.

The articles, reviews, advertising and news items in this publication do not necessarily reflect the view or support of PSGS or *The Backtracker*. 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.

## **Executive Board**

President:	Sandie Morrison <a href="mailto:morrison@nwinet.com">morrison@nwinet.com</a>
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Queries:	Kathy De Los Reyes <a href="mailto:kwajkat@silverlink.net">kwajkat@silverlink.net</a>

### **PSGS Web Page:**

[www.rootsweb.com/~wapgsdgs/homepage.htm/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~wapgsdgs/homepage.htm/)  
Sandie Morris — Website Manager

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## PSGS Program Schedules and Notices

### PSGS Program Topics and Speakers:

See letter from Larry Swan, Program Chairman on page fifteen. In his letter he describes in detail his philosophy as it regards to the meetings he plans for our membership meetings.

### PSGS Meetings Dates:

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>June 25th</b>      | Ida Mae Swedberg will discuss Internet researching accompanied by show and tell of her successes. |
| <b>July 23rd</b>      | Bobby Kennedy will speak on his Tennessee research  |
| <b>August</b>         | There will be no meeting.   |
| <b>September 24th</b> | To be announced.  |
| <b>October 22th</b>   | Lynn Ramey — Program details to be announced at later date.                                       |

### Belfair Chapter Meeting Schedule

Meeting Place: Belfair Community Baptist Church Library, 23300 N E State Highway 3, Belfair.  
Time: 1:00 PM.

- July 9 —** A work party on matching obits to Belfair cemetery interments.  
**August 6 —** A field trip. Details to announced later.  
**September 3 —** A Schweitzer film is to be shown.

### Belfair Chapter Web Site

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wabgs>

### Volunteers Wanted!

Volunteers are the lubricant that make the machinery of the Puget Sound Genealogy Society run smoothly.

## Wanted

*Backtracker* Advertising Manager  
If you are interested in this  
**Volunteer Position**  
Please Contact Your Editor

## Please Notify Us When You Change Address!

When you move, please advise the *Backtracker* of your new address. We want you to be aware that because of our non-profit postal status the *Backtracker* will not be forwarded.

Thank you,  
The Editor.

### Video Schedule for 2002

The Puget Sound Genealogical Society will show its educational film series from February through November (except August) on the Friday following the monthly meeting. The films are shown in the Research Library at the Givens Center at 1:00 P.M. Handouts recapping the covered material are available each session for 25 cents. Following is the schedule for the year 2002:

5. **June 28, 2002** -- The Genealogist's Video Research Guide Part V. Passenger Lists and Passports. The Genealogist's Video Research Guide Part VI Naturalization Records.
6. **July 26, 2002** -- The Genealogist's Video Research Guide Part VII. Federal Land Records and National Archives Maps.
7. **Sept 27, 2002** -- Research in England and Wales Part I. Civil Registration.
8. **Oct 25, 2002** -- Research in England and Wales Part II. Parish Registers.
9. **Nov 29, 2002** -- Research in England and Wales Part III. Census and Probate Records.

### PSGS Sunshine Committee.

If any member knows of another member who is in the hospital or ill at home, please notify Jean Grimaud or any officer so that a "get well" card from PSGS can be sent. Common colds don't count. Also, please notify Jean or any officer if you know of a member or former member who has died recently so that a "condolence" card from PSGS can be sent.

### Notify Us

### When You Change E-Mail Address

Please advise the *Backtracker* whenever you change your e-mail address. Send message to me at [ctaylor@krl.org](mailto:ctaylor@krl.org). Thank you. The Editor.

### Remember!

This is a member participation newsletter.  
Your participation as a **writer**  
Is necessary for its success.

## The Distaff Side

Nancy B. Carter

When I bought my house I remember being worried about taking this big step. Quicker than I was ready the day for closing came. Saying that it was imposing is to minimize my feelings. Soon papers started to fly by me. Each asking for my signature and identifying me as a spinster and the buyer and the seller as a widow. This was a surprise, but I was too intimidated to question it. As time went by I became curious about this usage which was as far as I was concerned was archaic for this day and age. What was going on?

When in doubt turn to the dictionary: I used the *American Heritage, College Edition*, and found out the following information: "Spinster" (First); a woman who has remained single beyond the conventional age for marrying and (Second); a woman whose occupation is spinning. "Spin" is defined as: to draw out and twist fibers to make thread and yarn. To hand spin you use a "spindle" to wind the finished thread on so it is ready for use. A "distaff" is used to gather the wool or other material from which thread is drawn. The distaff is usually held in the left

hand versus the "sword hand," i.e. the right hand. Next it gives the meaning woman's work or concern or even woman and women in general. Finally we get to the distaff side: the female line or maternal line of a family.

Now we are getting some where! A "spinster" is either an unmarried woman or one is/or occupied as a spinner in the clothing trade. Somehow this word gets tied in with women in general through use of the term distaff. Lets not forget "widow" whose meaning is a woman who has lost her husband and is not remarried. She loses this state when she remarries. The approved state of mature women is wife in the eyes of the society and its laws. I need to add that men who didn't marry were highly stigmatized in society, but were not excluded from property ownership. Marriage according to Western Culture gives the right hand or the male the power over the wife and supports this right through law and religion. Husbands have strength and generally the right or the responsibility to make the money and own the

property and/or tools required. Wives are left to serve the man and to raise children.

How then did cloth manufacturing get involved in all this? Making cloth for the family to wear was women's work. The individuals who were good and quick could produce more than they needed and could trade and sell the surplus. Over time in many loca-

tions the cloth industry grew, especially in Europe. Men turned to weaving as it became a prosperous occupation. Women continued the tedious spinning task.

In Europe the cloth trade from the 15th to the middle 19th centuries turned into a major industry employing a huge number of people. Time led to technology changes as well as growing competition from other areas and countries. This led to major unemployment and population movements. Many left France, Belgium-Holland and Great Britain for other locations including America. Ship lists show numerous women as singles and members of families as "spinsters." These individuals were generally working class and poor. They left little to mark their passing. Even afterwards their status didn't change after the establishment of the industry in the United States. Of course, there was the well off women whose choice was to remain single in the 1800's. These women were not usually considered quite proper, but were able to live on their income and were also called spinsters. Poor women who were not married took such positions as servants, cooks, and household help as well as prostitution and other unsavory positions if they were not in the cloth making industry. Some unmarried women stayed home to take care of aging parents. There are many variations of these themes.

What does all of this have to do with genealogy you may now be asking? Law and custom limited women's place and the continuation of the use of the words in my house contract suggests that it still exists in some degree. Marriage means the change of surname and the children carry on the male surname, not the woman's name. Finding the name and surname of the maternal side

(Continued on page 38)

### IN MEMORIAM

**Gerald Edwin Menees, 83**

Born August 27, 1918, Seattle

Died March 2, 2002, Port Orchard

*Marjorie Menees' Husband.*

**Member, Ruth Louise Strube, 76**

Born September 21, 1925, Port Orchard

Died March 23, 2002, Seattle.

*Ruth will be long remember for the many afghans she crocheted and donated to our meeting raffles. They are highly prized.*

**Katherine Swan, 88**

Born July 17, 1913, Evanston, Illinois.

Died April 9, 2002, Port Orchard.

*Larry Swan's Stepmother.*

**Member, H. G. "Bud" Scott, 67**

Born April 17, 1934, Powell Wyoming.

Died April 5, 2002, Seattle.

## Allyn and Victor History To Be Written

Pam Merrill of Outlook Writing & Design of Belfair plans to fulfill the late Irene Davis' incomplete project to write the definitive history of the communities on North Bay including the towns of Allyn and Victor. In order to accomplish this objective, Ms. Merrill will be utilizing the immense amount of research material accumulated by Mrs. Davis.

Ms. Merrill requests your help in her search for historical material. She would like to hear from those who may have information on North Bay pioneer families, landmarks, events, business enterprises and anything that would be apropos to this history. She is also appealing for copies of antique photos of North Bay pioneers, places and events.

You may contact her at:

Pam Merrill  
Outlook Writing & Design  
(360) 275-0561  
FAX (360) 275-1978  
outlook@htc.com  
P O Box 142  
Belfair, WA 98528

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If You Write An Article  
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PSGS is now offering advertising in the *Backtracker*. Do you have a business that you would like to advertise? Here is a way to advertise your product and/or services very economically. Do you know of friends in business here on the Kitsap Peninsula

Ad Size	Dimension (Approximate)	Cost (One Time Only)
Full Page	10" X 8"	\$40.00
Half Page	10" X 4" 5" X 8"	\$20.00
Quarter Page	5" X 4" 2.5" X 8"	\$10.00
Eighth Page Business Card	4" X 2.5"	\$5.00

Ad copy will be printed in black and white.

Contact the newsletter editor at ctaylor@krl.org or (360) 769-8131 for further information.

The *Backtracker* is published four times a year in March, June, September and December. The deadline for advertising copy is the last day the month previous to publication. Please make checks payable to PSGS and send them to PSGS *Backtracker* Advertising, 1026 Sidney Avenue, Suite 110, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4298.

## Spring Cleaning

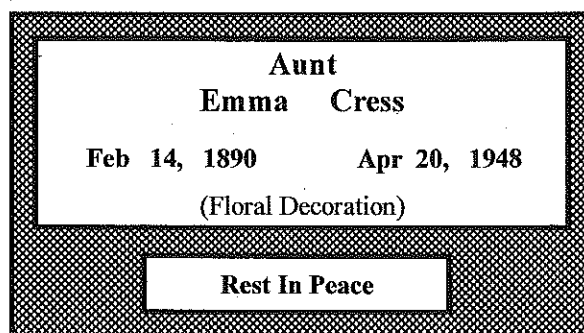
Sandie Morrison

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> we held our silent auction which we titled "Spring Cleaning." Members were requested to donate items relating to genealogy and computers and bring them to the general meeting. We had such an overwhelming response of items that we had to keep adding tables to display everything on. We ended up with six tables loaded with goodies for members to bid on.

The bidding was done silently by each person writing down their name and bid for the item they were interested in. Some items created a great interest and the bids just kept going up. Other items went for a very reasonable price in the end so there was a price range for everyone's pocketbook.

When the dust finally settled down we had received a total of \$169.72! A thank you to all the members that donated items to make this fund-raiser the success that it was. And a big thank you to all that helped set up the items. Perhaps we will make this an annual "Spring Cleaning" as it was a great way to clean out items that you no longer use or want and to also help raise money for your Puget Sound Genealogical Society.

## The Tombstone Mystery! Who is Aunt Emma Cress?



In May of 1988 the tombstone for Aunt Emma Cress (1890—1948) was found in the Twin Firs Cemetery near Belfair, Washington. It is not from this cemetery and no one seems to know where it came from. It is a flat stone that lays level on the ground. The Twin Firs Cemetery commissioners would be very much interested to find its correct home. Anyone who knows about this stone or Emma Cress can call Jan Stevenson at 360-275-2034. She will pass this information on to the Twin Firs Cemetery commissioners.

Jan has searched the Washington State death records index, but could not find a reference for Emma Cress. Is she from another state? Please help find the correct home for this headstone.

## From the President

Sandie Morrison

I hope you are receiving your full benefits as a member of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society by attending the monthly meetings and using the genealogy library.

The April meeting was a busy evening with the business of PSGS to discuss, Cindy Spore's presentation on "Getting Organized," the refreshment break with the donated cookies and last but not least, our fun and profitable silent auction.

Larry Swan has lined up great programs for the coming months that you will not want to miss. I have found that even if the topic is not one related to my area of research, I still learn something new and useful.

Our library is steadily growing with new donations and purchases so plan to drop by and see what is new on the shelves. You are welcome to bring a friend with you to visit our library and also to attend our meetings.

In June we will start working on committees for the Myra Gormley Seminar. The seminar, which is to be held on May 3, 2003, will be held at Givens and we will need all members' assistance to make it the success that the 2001 seminar was. Please contact me if you would like to be on a committee and share in the planning.

Don't forget the Washington State Genealogical Society Conference in Port Angeles on June 21st and 22nd. This is hosted by the Clallam County Genealogical Society. There will be great classes to attend and vendor booths to check out, so send in your registration now. If you have any questions call 360-417-5000 or ccgs@olypen.com. I hope PSGS will make a good showing and let others know that genealogy is alive and strong here in Kitsap County.

We will be starting our State Research Day at our library and our monthly mini workshops. Our phone tree will let you know the dates and the topic. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sandie

## Program Speakers Wanted

Our Program Chairperson, Larry Swan, is searching for individuals who would be interested in speaking at a membership meeting about any topic of general interest. Enthusiasm for your subject is the only prerequisite. Please contact Larry at lswan@silverlink.net.

## PSGS Research Library Patron Notice

I have an offer that is too good to turn down. A chance to break away from the Internet and spend a couple quiet, relaxing hours exploring the past of your ancestors. Where better than at the PSGS Research Library. The only cost is your time. You will find like minded individuals there that will have like you a keen interest in family history research. You will also find microfilm, microfiche, publications, newsletters, magazines and a myriad of other resources within easy reach. If you have a question, you will find the answer close at hand on the crowded shelves of the PSGS Research Library.

## Library Report

Marjorie Menees

We will be ready to start our Special In-depth State Days on Friday, the 7<sup>th</sup> of June with a dig in Pennsylvania. Tentatively we are scheduling these specials from 11:00 to 3:00 on the second Friday of each month. Library materials pertaining to the chosen state will be set out in an especially designated "corner" for your use. If you have materials that you could share with others, plan to bring them as well as your pens, papers, notebooks, and reading glasses.

Listed below are the current planned days for you to note on your calendar.

June 7th	Pennsylvania
July 12th	North Carolina
August 9th	New York
September 13th	Arkansas

We will be looking forward to seeing you.

## The Editor Speaks

Cyril Taylor

I want to thank the following members of the Belfair Chapter for their help in putting together this special Belfair Bylines edition of the *Backtracker* :

Phyllis Brown	Linnie Griffin
Nancy Carter	Jackie Horton
Madi Cataldo	Jan Stevenson
Estelle Foster	Nadine Tietge

I want to thank Madi for acting as my co-editor and my contact person in Belfair.

I wish to thank Marjorie Menees for coining PSGS' brand new tagline: "Dig for past relatives, turn up today's cousins." It has been incorporated into our masthead. It was our former editor, Michele Brittany, who inspired several of us think about a tagline for PSGS. Marjorie's won the informal contest between several submissions. Thank you Michele for your continued interest in our organization.

I want to thank every contributor to this edition of the *Backtracker* and for their cooperation during the edit process. It is through your efforts that makes this member written newsletter a success.

You will find in this edition a **first** for your newsletter. Our first full page advertisement. I urge you to read Kitsap Automation's advertisement on page 31 and check out their array of technology products and services.

## Backtracker Policy Statement

It is the intention of your editor to encourage the PSGS membership to write family history articles. Articles telling us of your family history victories or those moments of revelation when you learned an important genealogical principle.

In accomplishing this goal it is our objective to include on the pages of the *Backtracker* member written essays exclusively. There may be exceptions to this rule from time to time, but with your wholehearted help we are confident we will adhere to the ideal.

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## Oscar Olafsson Foster, Belfair Pioneer

by Estelle Foster

(Continued from page 25)

barges of nearby waterways. We find he had a photograph made in Trollhattan during 1886, the year of his twenty-first birthday. The clerical survey record for the Forshalla parish shows him leaving that same year for the town of Orgyte, a suburb of the city of Goteborg. The clerical record for that area shows him living with relatives and working as a laborer in a barrel factory.

On August 27, 1886, he signed into the police register as leaving for Boston on the ship *Romeo*, going to Hull, England. Precise records of his activities at Hull have not been located at this time, but family legend has it that he served in the English Merchant Marine aboard sailing vessels. During this time, one of the Captains for whom he served and whom he respected was surnamed Foster. This name he assumed upon coming to the United States.

Oskar next appears in Chicago, as Oscar Foster, living with a Charley Wallins at 189 Neyberri Avenue, and applying for United States Citizenship on April 19, 1890. While still living at the Neyberri Avenue address, he took his final oath of allegiance and received naturalization papers on November 26, 1897.

On September 23, 1898 he enlisted in the United States Navy and served aboard thirteen different vessels between 1898 and his discharge on May 4, 1912. He began service as a Seaman and became Petty Officer with the duties of Coxswain on December 2, 1910. On October 4, 1905 he was initiated into the Masonic Grand Lodge of Virginia, Seaboard #56. He was hospitalized three times while in the service: Norfolk Virginia January 18, 1903, again in Yokohama Japan October 11, 1908, and again in Bremerton May 4, 1912, due to varicocele.

While attached to the USS *South Dakota* and stationed in Bremerton, Oscar found property along the Union River, in Mason County, which reminded him of his homeland in Sweden. On March 22, 1910 he purchased land from the Mikelsons, described as being in Section 29, Township 23N, Range 1WM, SW 1/4. He then went on to serve two more years in the Navy until May 4, 1912. After his discharge he came to Clifton, later named renamed Belfair, in Mason County.

In Seattle on May 6, 1912 he married Anna Becker. They came to his property in Clifton and set-

tled down to an early day life of farming. On August 28, 1914 Anna died and was buried in the "family" plot. This cemetery was comprised of adjoining corners of Ocar Foster's and Henry Larson's individual farms. This "family plot" is now the lower corner of Twin Firs Cemetery.

Oscar continued on alone for a short time, but felt the need of a helpmeet, so on December 24 1914 he married Lucy M. Trigg in Port Orchard. Again a home was started near the Union River and farming and occasional outside labor for cash money was the usual routine. Oscar had no family of his own at this time, but Lucy had a small grandson named Benny Trigg who had been orphaned at an early age. This child Oscar subsequently adopted and raised as his own for several years. Unfortunately, in the years

1918 and 1919 an influenza epidemic was rampant throughout the country, and poor Lucy succumbed on 22 April 1919. She too, was buried in the small cemetery plot next to Anna.

Oscar kept on for nearly a year, caring for Benny, farming and working out usually as a laborer on the county roads. During the early spring of 1920 he met Lucy May Brown through mutual friends. A romance blossomed and May 17, 1920 they were married, also in Port Orchard, and then traveled to Clifton and the farm near the river. Oscar and Lucy had five children together; Oscar James, born April 4, 1921, Roy Ferdinand on 2, 1922, Jesse Cornelius on July 28, 1924, Lucy Katherine on February 2, 1926, and Homer Paul on October 3, 1931. All were born at home in Clifton (Belfair).

Lucy already had three small children. Farming, hunting and fishing kept the family fed and Oscar's outside work kept enough money coming in to buy the necessities that could not be produced at home. The receipt of a big box of merchandise ordered from Sears Roebuck once or twice a year was a special occasion.

The family had their share of sadness. On September 7, 1923, little Oscar James died of pneumonia. He was followed ten years later by Roy Ferdinand who passed away at age eleven because of peritonitis.

In the early 30's, Oscar was fortunate enough to have daily work on the State road crews. This was welcome wages and he continued to farm as he had



Oscar Ferdinand Foster  
1865—1936

(Continued on page 33)



## Oscar Olafsson Foster, Belfair Pioneer

by Estelle Foster

(Continued from page 32)

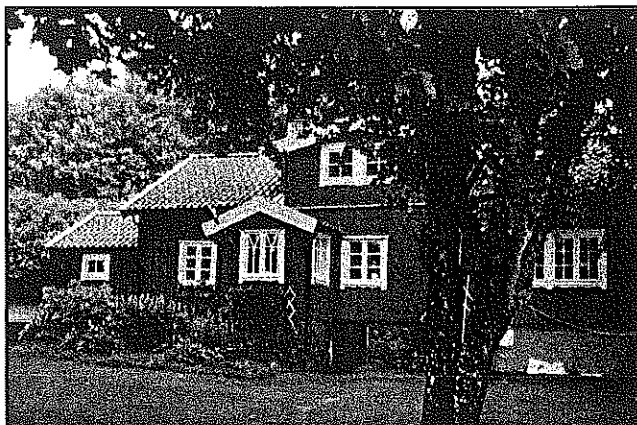
added to his holdings by purchasing more property directly across the river. This was bought from Robert Irving on July 7, 1927. He worked at clearing and fencing by hand and before long built a new house and moved his family across the river.

All this work and struggle did nothing to improve Oscar's health, which had not been good since its first occurrence while in the Navy, stationed in Virginia during 1903. He was in and out of the Veteran's Hospital for treatments that did nothing to relieve his illness.

On June 12, 1936 he was admitted to the hospital at the Washington Veteran's Home in Retsil, Washington. He was diagnosed as having chronic rheumatism, general anemia and stomach cancer. On June 23<sup>rd</sup> he was taken to the Marine Hospital in Seattle where he died on November 1, 1936.

Oscar was buried in the little cemetery he helped form in Belfair. Oscar's life was not an easy one. As a child the family was poor and it was a struggle to

keep going. As soon as he was old enough he set out and made his own way, eventually becoming one of Belfair's early settlers. Some of his descendants are still making their homes in this community, and probably will be for some generations to come.



*Oscar Foster's birthplace and home until age twenty-one. farm of Torgasöd, village of Stenshult, parish Firshalla lan Göteborg och Bohus, Sweden.*

## PSGS Notes

New member **Pat McGuire's** mother and her siblings were born in the Olalla area between 1910 and 1917. Her grandfather William Edgar Irwin operated a chicken and tree farm there. Pat is pleased to have recently obtained the Washington Pioneer Family certificates for her great-great-grandparents William W. Powell and Isabella Bowden Powell.

**Sandie Morrison** recently made contact with a maternal third cousin, Roland Warner. He has graciously sent her via the Internet an immense file on her great-great-great-grandfather's family. They were located in Ontario, Canada in 1927 "which is a new country for me to do research in."

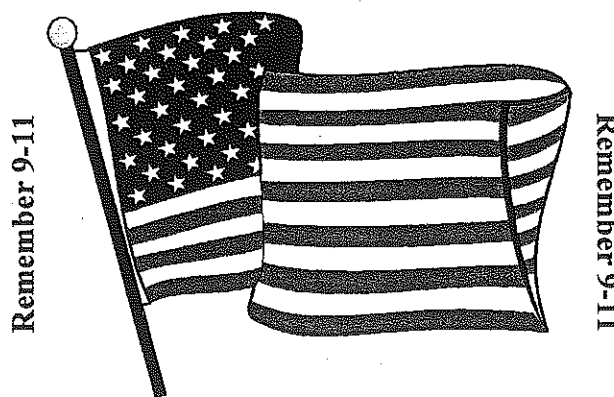
**Jean Grimaud** has been excited about obtaining recently data on her Barnes line back to 1602. I very meticulously entered all this new information into her Legacy program. Then I ran the "Possible Problems" feature of Legacy and discovered I had a myriad of inappropriate dates.

For example a baby born when the mother was thirteen or mothers having children after twenty years of marriage. It was disappointing, but proves what has been said about not taking for granted the information found on the Internet. But I am grateful because now I have the names and places. All I have to do is verify the information and determine the correct dates.

The computer scanner donated by **Terry Mettling** was won by **Odette Beck** in a raffle drawing at our March 26th meeting. Thanks Terry for your generosity.\

Our own **Larry Swan** recently appeared in the Bremerton Community Theatre's production of *Bye-Bye Birdie*. Break a leg Larry!

**Library Volunteers Wanted**  
Call Cindy Spore today and volunteer for  
Library Duty.  
Our librarians play a vital role of  
Service to family historians.



**United We Stand**

## Family History Research in the Shenandoah Valley

by Phyllis Bails Brown

My husband, Earnie, and I drove to Western Virginia in the spring of 2001 to research those counties where my ancestors had lived. We first went to Rockbridge County where my paternal grandmother, Elizabeth Ebberd Bails (1864-1950) was born. I learned a little more about her parents (Philip Ebberd and Elizabeth Baer) and grandparents (Samuel Ebberd - Catherine Hepler) and Joseph Baer-Anna Hite). Our chief sources of information were original manuscripts at the Leyburn Library at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia and the records located in the Rockbridge County courthouse. Visits to cemeteries and properties along the Calpasture River near Goshen, just outside of Lexington played an important roll in my genealogical research.

We spent several days in that beautiful part of Virginia with the Allegheny Mountains on the west and the Blue Ridge Mountains to the east. But I still wanted to go up into Page County in the Shenandoah Valley where the Baers had first settled when they came to Virginia from York County, Pennsylvania. The town of Luray is near Thorton's Gap where Blasius Baer settled. The Luray Caverns are nearby. The Hite's lived on Mill Creek, southwest of Thorton's Gap. Thorton Gap is a major entrance to the Shenandoah National Park with its Skyline Drives and Parkways.

In Luray, the clerks at the Visitor's Center suggested we visit the Page Public Library. It was there that I made an eye-opening discovery. Not in any of the history or genealogical books we had researched, but in a file drawer for the Genealogical Society of Page County. I found a newspaper clipping that appeared in a 1920 edition of the local newspaper, *Page News and Courier*, It was a reprint of an article written by Abraham Hite (born 1843) dated May 10, 1879

I began to realize as I read this article that not all of my ancestors had gone to Rockbridge County as I had believed. My ancestor Daniel Hite (born circa 1760 and died circa 1829) had remained in this area (which was then part of Shenandoah County) and raised his family here.

When I returned home, I requested a copy of Daniel Hite's will from Shenandoah County, rather than Rockbridge County, where I incorrectly believe he had resided. The will enabled me to sort out who and who were not Daniel Hite's children. The will named all his offspring, living and deceased. He addressed my third-great-grandmother by her married name Anna Hite Baer (1782-1872). This was the proof I needed to know I had the correct family. All thanks to one little but very important newspaper clipping originally written in 1879 by the sixty-six year old grandson of Daniel Hite.

## My Inspiration To Become A Genealogist

by Nadine Tietge

Why did genealogy interest me? Well! You can blame my sister. She spent her book fund for clothes in Seattle after waiting over three years for the Starr book. Then she found out it was on special order. When it became available, she sent me notice the book was waiting and would I like to buy it for a mere \$89.00.

The Starr book was written by Buris Pratt Starr in 1879 was the result of an immense amount of research. It has been invaluable to many other Starr descendants and me. My line is from Thomas Starr's son Dr. Comfort Starr. Comfort and his wife Elizabeth are buried in Kings Chapel in Boston.

The book had my fourth great-grandmother's (Mercy [Starr] Rogers) history, with the story of her move from Connecticut to Ohio after her father Captain Tim Starr, (the Revolutionary War hero) died

in 1809. What wonderful stories I found in the pages of that book. It confirmed what my mother had told me about the unusual names we had in our family.

Since I have had the Starr book, I have made a trips to England and Connecticut where I found local histories on other members of my family, went to their churches and visited a few of their homes that are still in existence. When I departed the cemetery where my Starr, Parson, Miller and Roger families are buried, I could feel my ancestors asking me not to forget them and to come back sometime.

What a great group of members we have in our genealogy community. It has been a great thrill to find other PSGS members who are researching the same surnames as I am.

Now my great passion is to find the birthplace of my ancestor, Slippery George Bowzer.

### Did You Know?

Puget Sound Genealogical Society is a non-profit corporation determined by the Internal Revenue Service (letter dated June 8, 1998) to be "exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3) and "Donors may deduct contributions to you as provided in section 170 of the Code. Bequests, legacies, devises, transfers, or gifts to you or for your use are deductible for federal estate and gift tax purposes if they meet the applicable provisions of Code section 2055, 2106, and 2522."

**Cash and In Kind Contributions  
To the Puget Sound Genealogical Society  
Are Tax Deductible.**

## The Art of Composing Effective Queries

by Linnie Griffin

The purpose of a genealogical query is to obtain certain family history information through the means of an aptly written message of inquiry. It is often overlooked, but it is one of the simplest and easiest methods available to us in our quest for specific family history knowledge.

Our own newsletter, the *Backtracker*, and those of a multitude of other family history societies will gladly accept your query for publication. Most genealogical newsletters as well as our own enjoy a wide circulation through their membership, exchange programs with other genealogical societies and distribution to various libraries. Your query is assured of a wide distribution and a longer shelf life than you would imagine. The chance of a positive response for a properly targeted and written query is very good.

The first and last rule of genealogical writing is to keep it simple and short. Your question should include these details and not much more:

Name(s),  
Date,  
What information you desire,  
Locality where event happened.  
Your name and address.

For example:

Rachel McGee McDowell Long

married James McDowell 1837,  
Cooper County Missouri, Seeking  
her parents?

If you have one, include your e-mail address with your mailing address.

Some genealogical society newsletters only accept member queries. In that case I encourage you to join. At the same time submit your query. It is always wise to join genealogical societies located in areas in which you are doing extensive research.

Here are some common abbreviations used in queries:

B	Born	FA	Father	SIB	Sibling
CA	Circa	HUS	Husband	WI	Wife
CH	Children	M	Married	WID	Widow
D	Died	MO	Mother	Y	Years
DAU	Daughter	RES	Resided		
DIV	Divorce	S	Son		

I urge you not to underestimate the power of the clearly written query. Make it a point to take a mental survey of those areas in which you are conducting family history research. These are the localities that will most benefit from this strategy. Don't procrastinate writing that query. Do it now!

## PSGS Notes

The Bremerton *Sun* is to be commended for the fine article on family history research that appeared in their Sunday, April 7, 2002 edition. It was good publicity for PSGS.

Noted genealogist and columnist **Myra Gormley** has agreed to conduct a seminar on May 3, 2003. More information on the topics of the seminar will be provided at a later date.

Our librarian **Marjorie Menees** would like to inform everyone that the library has genealogical and census forms for sale.

Library Acquisition — **Kathy De Los Reyes** has donated *The German Resource Companion* by Shirley Riemer.

**Larry Harden** reports that he can see the light at the end of the tunnel with the long ongoing obituary project. This will be a wonderful resource for researching Kitsap County ancestors.

A Internet Service Provider has selected for the library computer. The service is named **Nocharge** for which we paid a charge for an annual subscription.

**Fredi Perry's** recently published history, *Bremerton and Puget Sound Naval Shipyard*, can now be found in our library.

The PSGS Notes column was instrumental in reuniting two high school friends who were members of the Bremerton High School class of 1956.

**Joan Gathings** of Clermont, Florida noted in the March edition of the *Backtracker* that **Kay Fowler** had moved to Missouri. Joan felt sure that Kay was her high school classmate and your editor enabled them to confirm this through an exchange of e-mail messages. They are now renewing their friendship.

**Phyllis Brown** has recently returned from a week at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. She rendezvoused with two distant cousins there and they spent their time researching their common ancestral surname, Bails.

**Sandie Morris** has been rolling back the generations and has become acquainted with six previously unknown cousins this past year thanks to the miracle of Internet technology.

Would you be excited if you were to received a CD-ROM with a copy of your great-great-grandmother's diary? **Sue Plummer** is ecstatic to have a copy of a diary written by Juliette Cole Thayer in 1861. She is transcribing it prior to distributing copies to the members of her family.

## My Seafaring Granddads

by Madi Cataldo

I had two granddads---guess everyone does! But I think mine led very interesting lives. My father's (George Abbott Smith, November 1898 – December 1974) father was known to me as Thomas Smith (January 1860 – November 1947). He lived in Brighton, Massachusetts, but he had a thick English accent. He had worked at the Boston Shipyards and retired from the Boston and Albany Railroad. As a child I remember him saying he had come to the United States from Cardiff, Wales on a ship. For some reason I thought he had been a stowaway.

When I became interested in genealogy I looked for Thomas Smith in the Cardiff, Wales census. For twenty years I persevered in my chase for a record of his origin. I spoke with Arthur Fiske, a professional, and he said, "perhaps Smith was a chosen name as many Welsh did not have definite surnames."

I only knew he had a sister Mary Jane. Of course, as so many of us do, I waited to ask questions when all but one younger aunt was alive. When questioned she said we had no relatives in Wales, but she had one cousin in Devon England. In May of 1982 I quickly wrote to my cousin Frederick Elliott. Late June when the reply arrived I was stunned. "My brother died in January, he knew all about the family, I am Fanny May, the youngest sister (in my 80's) and I know very little." But she did tell me that my grandfather joined the British Navy to escape working the coalmines in Wales. He went AWOL, changed his name to Thomas Smith from Frederick Elliott. She liked the name Elliott much better. I received two letters from her prior to her death. She told me about her mother and my granddad's brother was her father. It took me a long time to realize that this



*Front Row: George A. and Mildred,  
Back Row: Thomas, Harriet, Wendell and  
Ernest Smith.  
Circa 1905.*



*Annie and Brooks W. Grindle.  
Circa 1940.*

family did not start out in Wales, but in Ottery St. Mary, Devon, England. When I checked those census returns, there they were. My granddad Thomas or Frederick was the youngest. His mother died of cancer when he was eleven years old. His older Sister Mary Jane married a gentleman that had a job with the government in Cardiff, Wales and he must have moved there with her. From the Mormon Church I was able to buy birth, marriage and death certificates. It was such a thrill to find this family.

My maternal grandfather was Brooks W. Grindle (August 1856 – June 1943) of Maine. He was a schoolteacher and superintendent of schools. When I knew him he was retired and a farmer. As a young man he signed as a deck hand on the three masted schooner *Hattie Tapley*. They sailed from Maine to New York, around the horn and north to Japan.

He was quite the storyteller and crossword puzzler. I remember listening to him as he told of his sailing adventures. He said when approaching Pacific islands they could smell the flowers before they could see the land. On the way home pirates chased them. The captain had them boil water, scatter tacks about the deck, and grab weapons in case they were boarded. Luckily they escaped.

I feel very fortunate to have known both of these adventurous men. It was a mystery for years why my mother Ruth Estelle Grindle, (October 1905 – December 1975) had a shawl in her hope chest made in India. I am sure Thomas traveled far and wide.

I'll treasure a canvas bag made by Brooks while he was at sea. He also wrote a diary, brought home dishes, a ladies purse, and an ivory mirror from Japan. But his stories are the real treasures.

What wonders are revealed when we research our past. It is fascinating!

## Belfair's History

(Continued from page 25)

Clifton post office existed between 1880-1913, but was closed down due to lack of business and an absence of individuals interested in applying for the position of postmaster. In 1915 the Clifton area residents requested a new post office from the State of Washington. Unfortunately, another town of Clifton had been established in the State of Washington. The first postmaster of Belfair, Elizabeth Murray, proposed the name Belfair, which was an inspired from the poem *St. Elmo* (See Editor's Note).

The Wilkes Expedition was the first European people in the area. Lieutenant Augustus Case led a mapping and survey team in 1841, which provided the first mapping of the eastern arm of Hood Canal. Prior mapping by Captain George Vancouver in 1792 did not include that portion of Hood Canal or the Belfair area.

The first European settlers to the Belfair area are not documented, however an early settler on record was Franklin Purdy who lived on the canal in 1854. Franklin married Emily Kirkland, daughter of Moses and Nancy Kirkland of Louisiana; the couple raised eleven children. The Kirkland family relocated to California in 1856 then returned to the Puget Sound area in 1859. Nancy Kirkland died in 1863 while the family resided on the south shore of Hood Canal. Her burial wishes were to be buried on the other side of the canal, which was later named Tombstone Territory after Nancy's burial site. Boating across the water, rather than driving or use of wagons was the mode of transportation to the funerals at the time.

The biggest draw for people to settle the Belfair area was for inexpensive land and plentiful timber on most land in the area. Logging was extremely profitable at the time, which helped the landowners clear land for farming.

One of the more interesting of these farms was the 160-acre Company Farm owned and operated by John McReavy in 1868 at the mouth of the Union River. It was built and homesteaded with two large barns, a variety of fruit trees numbering 150 and an additional forty acres of cleared and fenced land. McReavy also installed 500 rods of drainage ditches. McReavy founded the Union River Logging Railroad Company which was incorporated 1883 with his brother Ed McReavy and brother-in-law, John Latham. Due to financial problems, John McReavy sold most of his Clifton land to the Puget Mill Company, which later became the 300-acre Company Farm. John also had land in Union City, which is now known as Union, Washington. This farm on the Union River was leased over time to several tenants who raised cattle, hogs and crops. Crops included

oats, wheat, barley, potatoes, onions, turnips, carrots and peas. One of the most interesting crops was peppermint, raised between 1920-1923. The local townspeople could smell it from all around. Lack of sales and problems with the distilling process caused the farm to abandon its cultivation.

Many of the early area settlers are documented in Irene Davis' *History of Belfair and the Tahuya Peninsula 1881-1940*. Mrs. Davis found descendants of early Belfair residents and used their old photographs to her book. Some of these descendants still have a Belfair connection.

My husband and I came to Belfair in 1959 for construction work. We decided to stay and raise our family here because it was such a quiet small town of closely-knit families. We quickly adjusted from urban life to a sleepy little town where the streets rolled up at 6:00 p.m., deer frequented our front yard and you could live quite inexpensively in cabins along the canal and enjoy rich seafood all year long. In the summer Belfair's population always swells with vacationers passing through to the Twanoh and Belfair state parks or people renting cabins along the canal.

Belfair has many wonderful offerings such as the Midsummer's Festival every July and the Theler Wetlands, a two and half mile nature walk along the dikes at the point where Hood Canal ends. Also extraordinary views of the Olympics and Cascade mountains and vast array of community sports and school functions are available.

My memories of the grocery and general store in Belfair begins with one operated by George and Alice Pope. It operated between 1935 and 1943 then was leased out to others. The store had a butcher, an old-fashioned glass meat display, general merchandise, hardware and offered credit to customers who were struggling between paydays.

Editor's Note: The work *St. Elmo* has been attributed to Elizabeth Barrett Browning. It cannot be verified that she wrote anything with the title *St. Elmo*, but it is known that in Elizabeth Barrett Browning's *Aurora Leigh*, Third Book, that there are two references to the name **Belfair**. They are (out of context): "My critic **Belfair** wants another book" and "That's hard, my critic, **Belfair**! So-what next?" Could this have been the inspiration for the naming of Belfair? Additional Editor's Note: With regard to the Kirkland, McReavy and Purdy families, see pages 68-69 of the September 2001, *Backtracker*, *Long, Long Ago in the Skykomish Valley*.

**Explore the multifaceted resources of the PSGS Research Library. There is more than meets the eye. Be inquisitive and search every nook and cranny for that elusive ancestor.**

When I started researching in 1973, my grandmother, Viola Violet [Bates] Valiquet was still alive and according to her, the courthouse in Dakota County, Minnesota, where she was born, had burned and all records had been destroyed.

On a hunch I sent for her birth certificate and shortly thereafter received a copy in the mail. Her parents were listed as William Almon Bates and Susan Morrison. I was not able to talk to Grams again as she died on my birthday the following year. Continuing my research, I found that her father had died in Silverton, Marion County, Oregon in 1919 and was buried in Green Mountain Cemetery. As soon as time permitted, I headed south to look for his grave.

I found a large cemetery in Silverton and proceeded to look for the grave of William Bates – (it was a Sunday and the cemetery office was closed). After searching the cemetery and not finding his grave, I headed for my car wondering what to do next. I observed a woman putting flowers on a new grave, so I asked her if she knew of any old cemeteries near Silverton with graves dating back to 1919. She hesitated and asked who I was looking for. I told her Bates and Leikem (the married name of William's sister). She said yes there was a very old cemetery about ten miles away on a mountain road. She suggested I call the Leikem's who still lived in the area. She led me to a shopping area where I placed the phone call to the Leikem's who invited me to their home.

I was overwhelmed by this woman's kindness, and she insisted I follow her to the cemetery. In the cemetery I found the graves of William Bates, his

brother LeRoy and his sister Charlotte Leikem.

When this woman and I exchanged names, I was absolutely stunned. She stated that her name was Ann Robinson. William, LeRoy, and Charlotte Bates' mother's name was Sarah Ann Robinson!

I took photographs of the tombstones, spruced up the area, and headed down the road to visit the

Leikem's. They knew very little about the Bates family, but did give me a phone number of Charlotte's stepdaughter who lived in Vaughn, Washington (which is outside of Purdy – about 25 miles from my home in Silverdale, Washington). I called and she invited me to her home. When I arrived, she said she did not know anything concerning the Bates family since it was her stepmother's family, but she did have the family photo album that belonged to Charlotte. She handed the album to me and said, "These are your Bates family so you should keep it." You can imagine how astounded I was. The album, on a permanently mounted stand, opens outward and is bluish green velvet with a pretty ecru raised scroll and flowers. The date inside says 1881.

I took the album home but could not identify any of the pictures. The first picture in the album is a wedding picture. When I went to Minnesota in 1979, I took the album with me hoping my uncle or aunt could identify some of the pictures. As soon as my uncle saw the wedding picture he exclaimed, "That is mom and dad!" Yes, this was my grandmother who I had started researching! I think fate had a lot to do with my finding this album. Most of the photos in this beautiful old album have now been identified.



*Napoleon Louis Valiquet (1884-1919)  
and Viola Violet Bates (1882-1974).  
October 1903.*

*(Continued from page 28) The Distaff Side.*

is very difficult. What do you do with your maternal ancestors in your research? If you ignore them you can't be blamed but you are losing half of your family tree. The propertied and well off are often easier

to trace and since they marry into similar families who live close geographically and if they are stable will continue to live together even if they move. It then becomes easier to deduce what the surname of the female is from property and tax rolls, and the later censuses as the families continue to be listed in the same area. If you are lucky! Marriage and other church records may exist, but you must know where to look. You may look at the geographical information found above and it will be helpful if you know what religion they followed. Even sometimes what

*(Continued on page 39)*

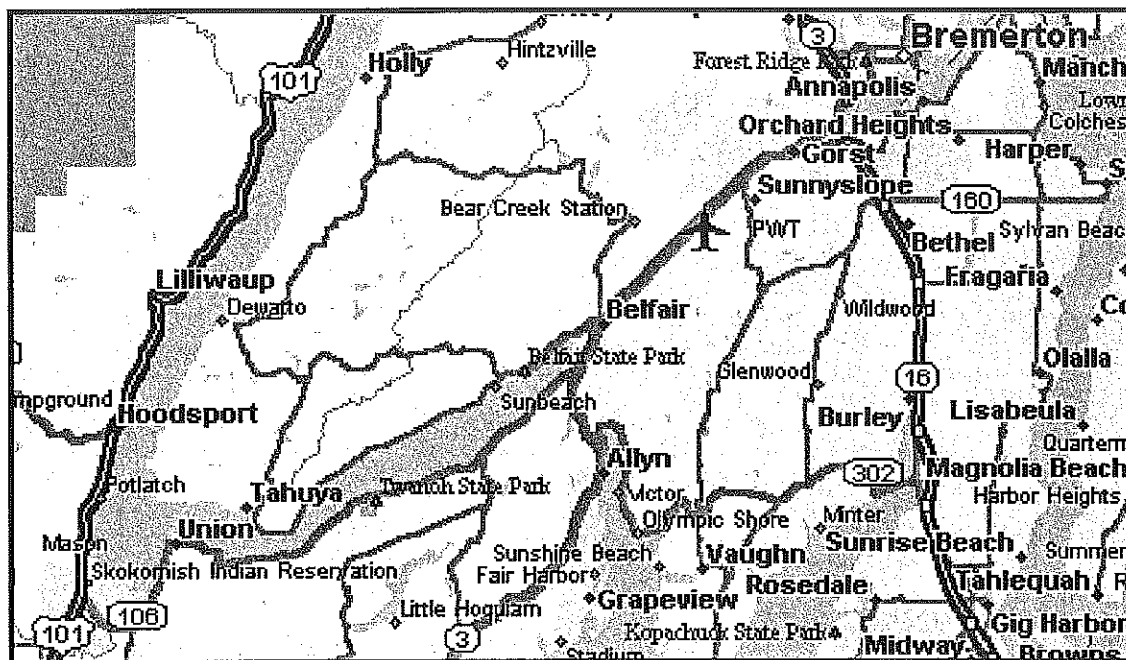
## Wanted

## Genealogical News Tips

Local and National

Contact Backtracker Editor





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### Where is Belfair?

When asked, "Where is Belfair?" Mary Gunn responds, "When looking at a map you will see that Hood Canal is in the shape of a fish hook. Well! Belfair is right at the tip of the hook."

(Continued from page 38) *The Distaff Side.*

their occupation was can help if customarily certain churches served people who worked in a certain plant or industry or income level. Information about the social status of your individual and knowledge of the social history of the time and place can be the most important part of your search for any ancestor, but most as help in finding your females. Many of my ancestors were glass workers and knowing this makes my searches easier. I just search where the glass plants were.

Marriage Licenses were kept earlier than most official data and also were likely to be listed in local newspapers although the poor and lesser people were omitted. Wills and probate records do not help if they had nothing to leave. Shall we admit some relatives will never be found?

Let me ask you another question: What would your family tree look like if you decided to do a maternal line rather than the one we all make, the customary paternal line? Lets talk about this question and others dealing with finding our Distaff Line in further articles.

I would be happy to receive any suggestions for topics of future genealogical essays.

### Surname Interests

Mary K. Gunn, 91 NE Old Belfair Highway, Belfair, WA.  
98528-9602, [marykgunn@yahoo.co.m](mailto:marykgunn@yahoo.co.m).

**Thaves/Thews** — Pomerania, GER WA 1868-present

**Wilek/Wilock/Wilke** — Pomerania WA 1868-present

**Christopher/Christoffer** — Lengerich Westphalia  
GER MD MN WA 1827-present

**Inhelder/Enhelder** — Switzerland IA WI NE WA  
1808-present

**Kelly** — IRE UK IL IN WI WA 1854-present

**Cunningham** — MD IL IN WI W

### Important Information

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Just go to our web site:

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Click on: "Important Links"

Click on: Legacy

**PSGS will earn a 15%**  
**Commission on your**  
**Online Purchases.**

### **Volunteer Readers Wanted** **Olympic Reading for the Blind**

wants volunteers one morning a week to read and record  
local news stories from the *Sun*  
for the visually impaired.

If you interested, contact Susan Evans at  
360-895-0305 or [suhelen@aol.com](mailto:suhelen@aol.com).



## Our Genealogical Odyssey

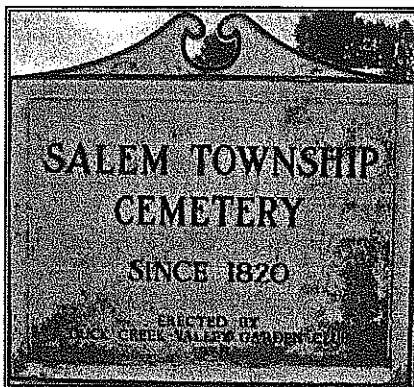
We departed Bremerton on the morning of June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2000 with visits along the way with elder brother James Wayman Ramey of Elma, De's sister, Darlene Hoskins Sander-son of Yakima. We stopped by cousin Fern Neiland of Wapato where we scanned a couple dozen old family photographs and a letter from President Teddy Roosevelt's young daughter that had been sent to De's Aunt Ella Rooker Neiland when she was a little girl (1903). We took photographs of both the letter and the envelope it was mailed in. Our next stop on this genealogical trek was Park City, Montana where we visited De's cousin Roberta Laura Cowles before resuming our journey to Bismarck, North Dakota. While in Bismarck we visited Cousin Edith Wilson. We scanned her nine-page list of family names and addresses for future reference.

From Bismarck we went about thirty miles southeast to Hazelton, North Dakota. There we met a number of people that either knew De's family or worked with her dad, Oscar Leroy Hoskins, back in the thirties. We had some wonderful conversations with these older citizens. De kept a journal of all they had to say to be used in the future when she compiles her ancestry book. De met the lady that helped her mother on the day she (De) was born. We spent seven days in Hazelton staying at the home of De's cousin, Clara Rose [Rooker] Hettich. We scanned into the computer over 165 family pictures that De had never before seen. Most of those depicted had been identified too.

From Hazelton we drove to Sibley and Ocheyedan, Osceola County, Iowa. This is where De's father, Oscar Leroy Hoskins, was born in 1896. We went to the library in Sibley and looked at the microfilm of the "*Osceola County Tribune*." They had two microfilm readers in the library, one was electric and worked great. The other was hand cranked and the crank did not work, so it had to be turned by hand using a pencil in the microfilm spool. Well! De sat down at the electric one and started skimming through the files while I put a film on the broken machine and slowly started working my way through it. We had been there about four hours when De got dis-

couraged because she wasn't finding anything and it was supertime. I told her to wait while I finished my roll of film for I was almost through. This microfilm ran from 1886 through 1896 and I had been turning this thing by hand for almost four hours. Nevertheless as I got to October 1896 I slowed way down and began looking real close at what I was reading. On the paper dated November 5, 1896, I found the following notation in the Gossip Column. "A 10 lb. baby boy arrived at Oliver Robert Hoskins' last Friday." Well Dad was born on the 30th of October 1896 and this paper came out on Wednesday 5th of November 1896. We counted back and discovered that it must be Dad because Oliver was his father. His mother was Bessie Myra Wilson.

From Sibley we went on to Ma-



rietta, Washington County, Ohio. We stopped at the Historical Society office; there they had books upon books about the Hoskins and Fultons. We spent a considerable amount making copies of records, land deeds, wills, notes, letters, etc. We also joined the Washington County Historical Society. This was in appreciation for all that the good lady there had done for us. The lady then told us to go to the Washington County Courthouse. With the book numbers, page numbers and reference numbers information we had gleaned from her, we ask the Clerk of the Court if we could see the various books they referred to. This was a Godsend; the clerk was so gracious and kind. She showed us what room the books were in and how to use them and then left us to our own devices. She did admonish us to be

## Lynn and Delores Ramey

careful with the records and if we need anything copied to bring it out to the front desk and she would copy it for us. We spent almost three hours in the courthouse making copies. It was great.

We spent the night in Marietta and the next day drove around the county to see what we could find on our own. We came to the "Salem Township Cemetery" founded in 1820. De said, "Just run up in there and see if we can find a family headstone." Well, as we drove in there was a headstone on the right inscribed with the surname "Hoskins." I stopped and found at least sixty more. We also found many headstones that had the name "Fulton" on them. "A gold mine." We took over 149 pictures using the digital camera. We are still sorting and identifying them.

From there we drove up to Noble County and found a little burg called Hoskinsville. Not much there except an old cemetery from the turn of the century. The headstones were all weathered away and fallen over, except for one. It was half buried in dirt, but we could read the top half. It proved to be the headstone of Abigail Hoskins, wife of Waite Hoskins. Waite it seems might be a brother to De's great-great-great-grandfather. We're still trying to link this one.

This is where we started home, back to the West. We stopped in Cincinnati, to visit Lynn's younger sister, Joanne Ramey, and then to Rowan (pronounced *round*) County Kentucky to see if we could find something of Lynn's family. "No luck." We then went on to Morgan County with an equal lack of success.

From here on it was a vacation only as we visited friends in Tennessee for a few days, then on to Lynn's family reunion in Gravois Mills, Missouri where over 150 relatives congregated. From there to Oklahoma City to visit a Son Timothy Lee Ramey and family, our foster son in Dallas, and finally our daughter Valerie Ann Ramey Hutz and family in San Diego. We were back in our Bremerton home on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

We gathered a huge amount of new information and now we have an immense job of organizing it into some semblance of usefulness.

## Don't Disregard the Step-Relatives

Larry Harden

In 1988 my oldest son, Jeff, graduated from high school. He enrolled at a technical school located in Phoenix Arizona with classes to commence in December. In September I decided that it would be nice to take a trip and spend some time with my son in conjunction with some genealogical research. Our third goal was to inspect the school he would be attending. To get to Phoenix we left home (I lived in Silverdale then) and drove through Sacramento California, Reno Nevada, Salt Lake City Utah, Denver/Boulder Colorado and Albuquerque New Mexico (where we visited my mother's 96 year old cousin, Clifford Blunt). Since we were nearby we visited El Paso Texas and then finally backtracked to Phoenix. On the return trip we visited the Grand Canyon and finally made our way to Interstate Five and then northward.

My great-grandfather Thomas Jefferson Hardin was the first born of ten children. After he was born there were seven girls and then finally two more boys. The next to youngest boy was John Wesley Hardin (not the famous gunslinger) who was born in Missouri and ended up in California. A cousin had told me that he had married late in life, had no children and that he had married a niece of the husband of one of his sisters. This sister also never had any children, so there were no descendants. They both lived in the Fresno California area. On a trip to Reno the previous year I went through Sacramento and stopped off and at the state library to look up death dates in the California Death Index. I then obtained obituaries from the newspaper microfilm on file there. I found the death date and obituary for John Hardin who died in 1959 at the age of 93. Survivors were his widow Wilda and a stepson Gary Kane both of Fresno. I could not find his wife anywhere in the death index and was wondering if maybe she had remarried or had moved and died in another state. On my 1988 trip I again stopped at the state library in Sacramento to look up some additional information. California updates their death index yearly (or at least they did then)

and is usually about two years behind so in 1988 they had the microfiche for 1986. I found the death date for John's widow, Wilda Hardin, as she hadn't died until March of 1986. What I hadn't known was that she was about twenty-seven years younger than John and was 94 when she died. Her obituary listed a son Gary Kane who was still living in Fresno.



Job & Sarah Hardin

On our return home from Phoenix we stopped in Fresno and went to the cemetery and took some grave-stone pictures. As we were getting ready to leave I happened to think that I should try to contact this Gary Kane. I looked him up in the phone book but he wasn't listed. Maybe he had moved? So we were getting ready to hit the freeway when for some reason I thought, "Wait a minute, why not go to a public library and see if he is in a city directory." Sure enough, he was in the current city directory. With his address and a map we set out to locate his house. As we pulled up to his house and was parking out front; a man was coming out the front door. I got out of the car and introduced myself. Yes, he was Gary Kane and his mother had been married to John

Hardin. He was just getting ready to leave but invited us into the house and we talked for awhile and then he pulled out a picture album. Of course, like all old pictures there were no names or dates. He had just come back from a family reunion in Linneus, Missouri, which is where my great-great-grandparents (Job & Sarah Hardin) lived and are buried. He had had the picture album at the reunion and was wondering if I recognized anyone. I didn't see anyone that looked familiar until I came upon one picture. I had one group picture with my great-great-grandparents in it and when I saw this picture I said "Hey! That's a picture of my great-great-grandmother and father." The picture had been taken in a studio in Linneus, Missouri. We looked at the copy of the group picture I had and agreed that sure enough that was them. I told him I would pay him to have a copy of the picture made and he took the pic-

(Continued on page 42)

## Why Did You Become A Genealogist?

Write for inclusion in the *Backtracker* in your own words a short essay telling us what inspired you to become a family historian.

By the time you read this issue I will be on the road doing whatever it is that I do on the road.

My trip will start with a one-day layover at the genealogy Mecca in Salt Lake City. I figure I will be able to find the bathrooms and copiers in that time-frame. Due to time restraints, I am planning on just getting acquainted with everything and maybe do some lookups.

On June 1st I will be attending a seminar in Hastings, Nebraska on Ostfriesland genealogy. I will be sharing the information I have learned at one of the upcoming meetings, so stay turned!

I will be thinking of all you who will be attending the seminar at Port Angeles on the 21st to hear Shirley Reimer. If you are doing German research, be sure to buy her book. It will be one of the best things you do. There is a ton of information that is excellent for researching in Germany and in the U. S. as well. Another one of those neat little goodies you will probably be able to get is the German Card for genealogical research. This little wallet size



laminated card is put out by the Sacramento German Genealogy Society and has general basic vocabulary and symbols you will find very helpful. It also has a soundex guide and some basic resources. On the flip side you will notice a neat sample of the writing you will find while researching German records. You can get more information from their web site. To supplement all the information we all will be gaining over the month of June, let's talk about German genealogy web sites.

For Ostfriesland (that is in the Northwest of Germany), one of the best web sites is the Ostfriesland mailing list web site. You can find it at [www.summitsoftware.com/ostfriesen](http://www.summitsoftware.com/ostfriesen).

This is a great site so surf there. By joining the mailing list as well, you can get a lot of help and learn a lot. This is a list that I belong to and can vouch for how great it is.

Many of the towns in Germany have their own web sites as well. Some are in

English and some are not. All you do is type in www. The name of the town you are looking for, followed by a "de." As you are probably aware of that all countries with the exception of the U.S., end their web address with a two-letter abbreviation of the country. Germany is .de. For example, if I want to check on Remels Germany I would type in [www.remels.de](http://www.remels.de). Even if you can't read German you can get a feel for what the ancestral homeland looks like. A lot of the area looks a lot like here. Of course I am not sure why most ended up in the Midwest since it doesn't look at all like Germany.

If you are interested in collecting a social history of your family to supplement the data you gather, there are a couple of interesting web sites involving cooking. One is the Amish cooking site at [www.theamishcook.com](http://www.theamishcook.com). If you are looking for a specific cookbook, try [www.ecookbook.com](http://www.ecookbook.com). There are many more out there as well.

*To be continued in the next issue. Happy surfing!*

*(Continued from page 41)* Don't Disregard the Step-Relatives. ture out of the album and handed it to me and said, "Here, you can have it, they're no relation to me." And that is how I came up with a picture of my great-great-grandparents. I could have not gone to the library and looked for his address or could have arrived at his house about three minutes too late. We would have missed Gary Kane and would have been on the road homeward and probably never would have met him and never would have found the picture. Sometimes you just have to get lucky. You will agree that this story has a bit of the goose bump element in it. Even though Gary is not related to me, he willingly shared with me a family heirloom that I value greatly.

It is important that you not overlook tracking down your step-relations. Searching for them may reward you substantially as it did in my case.

### Wanted! Library Patrons

The Largest Genealogical Research Library West of Puget Sound Seeks Dedicated Amateur Family History Researchers To Utilize the Valuable Resources of Our Research Facility  
Open: Mondays and Fridays, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Puget Sound Genealogical Society Research Library**  
1026 Sidney Avenue, Suite 110, Port Orchard, Washington 98366  
(360) 874-8813

*"An unread book gathering dust on a shelf is knowledge wasted."*

## The Bessie [Whelan] Slanger Diary

*Continued from the March 2002 Edition of the Backtrucker.*

March 23 Tried to sew but my boy gets into too much mischief—Joe went in to get the final papers filled out for the compensation

March 24 Well Mary Wyatt gave birth to a baby girl—Joe of course is a little disappointed.

March 26 Went to see the *Dionne Quintuplets* in *The Country Doctor*. The babies are surely little angels. Went to see Mary—she is quite well. Left Gary at Katherines while we went to the show. Joe got the check and treated Dr. Klien to a pint of snops (sic).

March 28 Joe & Joe Wyatt went out for the evening—I cared for the kids Mary Joe, Emma Mae, Joyce Mac and Gary Edwin. Some "Quakes" today. Anything to make the day right.

March 29 Well a couple of tired men this morning—but no "hangovers." Went up to Mary Wyatt. She was surely sore about the men going out and I got bawled out for letting them go.

March 31 Well March is going out like a lion plenty of snow the past week.

April 1 April fool on you—I fooled Joe after he fooled me—Joe is working again down on a construction gang at the Fort. He is going to try to get steady work on the purchase and hire—They are rebuilding and fixing up what the quakes tore down.

April 2 Well he got what he wanted, he's working at the Fort for the Federation. I washed with the machine today, shucks; things didn't come as clean as I would have liked. I cleaned up the house. Last night Gary had an earache all night. What a night. Joe got up and fixed his own lunch and breakfast.

April 3 Washed after bathed the kids. Mary came out of the Hospital today. They had supper with us. They surely think their baby is just it, thinking of calling her Beverly Jane, a cute name. They left early and took Emma Mae home too. It's 11 o'clock so will go to bed for a good nite.

April 4 Went to town for Groceries, stopped at Scotts, undecided to go to dance. Well had supper and now its 9:30 so to bed. We're getting

## Notes by: Joyce [Slanger] Liston

awfully good.

April 5 Washed today and took care of Mary Ann. Scotts bought a new Dodge. Mrs. Klonick came over for a while and washed dishes and did up Joe's lunch. The car is out of whack.

April 6 Went to; town today – got some groceries – and went up to see Waterlands – Joyce is invited out to an Easter party on Saturday. She's thrilled.

April 8 Jack Lay came tried to sell me some eggs from the Gallitin valley. I think I ought to patronize the Helena valley. Listened to the radio all evening.

April 11 Went to town and got Groceries today – and had supper at Waterlands – then went to a dance – Ouch my bunion.

April 12 Easter Sunday. Went to town. Gary hurt his eye and had to go to the Doctor. Went trying out cars, and had supper at Aunt Catherines.

April 13 Tried to get my work done but my bunion is so sore. Joe went into town to make a deal on a car. Gary's eye seems OK again.

April 14 Went to the fort to mail packages and letters. Went to town for a car but they had already sold it. Mother came with her new husband. They're stopping at Aunt Catherines. He seems to be pretty good.

April 15 Tried to sew today. Gary was so fretful I didn't get much done. Simpson's came to call. Then Harry Vanderite and another fellow came from Idaho and stayed for the night.

April 16 Got Joe off to work and then the other two off for Great Falls.

April 17 Put in a few radishes and carrots and beets. I hope they grow. I hope it rains. It's quite hot and it's getting dusty.

April 18 Went to town with Klonicks this afternoon. Joe was working at Miracles & Dr. Wiley – after he was through we went down town and got Groceries. Joyce got some shoes and I got a waffle iron with my ten bucks. Thanks to Wyatts I finally got my waffle iron.

April 19 Gary so fretful I'm just about crazy – it must be his teeth. Gary was a little better by the time he got cooled off. My it was hot today.

April 20 Gary was so good I got my washing done and most of my ironing. Joe got some fertilizer on the garden and I wish it would rain lots.

April 21 A distributor of tower publications came. I bought some books on religion. This fellow seemed so sensible, I could really talk to him about.

*(Continued on page 44)*

### Back Issues of the *Backtrucker* And *Family Backtracking* For Sale

Cost Per Issue — \$5.00 US Postage Paid.

When back issues are not available,  
photocopies of original will be substituted.

PSGS Web Page — [www.rootsweb.com/~wapgsdgs/homepage.htm/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~wapgsdgs/homepage.htm/)

(Continued from page 43) *The Bessie [Whelan] Slanger Diary.*

April 22 Made Joyce two nightgowns – and washed some things. Went to the Jesters this evening. Patsy's pony fell with her and hurt her so she's layed up for week. We had a beer and crackers and cheese. Came home late. Power was shut off at 11 PM and didn't come on until 4 AM. Caused by a fire at Jefferson.

*Note: No entries until May 9<sup>th</sup>.*

May 9 Well I've certainly fell down on the job of keeping a diary. We've been gardening, sewing, working in town cleaning house and have had company. Hi and Bert were here the other day. My, so sweet a baby is Hi's and Bert. Went to town to buy Mother day gift and groceries. I got myself a nut cutter.

*Note: Hi and Bert had had a baby girl that spring.*

May 10 Mother's Day. I don't know what Joe's mother may be doing but I want both the mothers to be so happy. My mother is working too hard. I got her an earthenware pie plate with a server and Joe's mother I am sending a white purse. It is hard to know what to send her because I don't know what she needs. I've been sending hose to her but I tried to change for this time.

May 11 Well I bandaged Mrs. Klonicks hand. She surely tore it up on a barbed wire fence. I went over to Klonicks for awhile and her hand is better. I borrowed some magazines.

May 12 Joycee is sick – it may be her finger she had crushed the other night. I called the Dr. I may have him out to look her over.

May 13 Joyce is still ill. High fever. Mrs. Klonick cooked her dinner over here. She couldn't cook it at home has the paperhanger was working in the kitchen. I mangled today and nursed Joycee. I feel so tired and nervous. The kids worry me so when they get sick. I always think I'm going to lose them.

May 14 Joyce is still sick. Joe and I were going to a show but won't as we will stay with Joyce. Tried to sew a little today. Terribly hot.

May 15 Leon and Mary Dove came over to see us. We had beer and cheese and crackers – cake and pop. What a mixture. Rather cold.

*Note: This is the last entry until July Fourth.*

July 4 Went to Joe's folks. Went to a dance.

July 5 Went on a picnic and home again.

August 30 Haven't been doing much writing. We have bought a car. Joycees tonsils are finally out. Gary still has his spells.

*Note: The car they bought was a Chevrolet.*

September 1 Canned peaches. Went to the Simpson's for the evening.

September 2 Went to town to get school things for Joycee. Made jelly this evening.

September 3 A song I like.

"When the moon begins to beam, I'll have a rendezvous a rendezvous with a dream.  
Dawn beside a rippling stream My heart will lead me to a rendezvous with a dream  
And when you say that you love me and hold so tight

Tho I know that you love me you'll fade away with the light and when at last my dream comes true

I'll have a rendezvous a rendezvous with you."

September 4 Planning to go to the Cabin over the weekend. Canned peaches. I surely like my pressure cooker.

September 5 At Cabin. Well after much rushing and work we finally got to the cabin. Had supper and now to bed.

September 6 Fixed chimney all day and ate. A few loads of wood and to bed.

September 7 Sawed a supply of wood for hunting season and came home. Had a bath in Katherine's bathtub and honest to goodness bath.

*Note: The cabin referred to was located in Lincoln, Montana up a road with bad ruts. The folks and Catherine and Lawrence jointly owned it. Every November the families went up to hunt for deer and elk, which was their supply of meat for the next six months. In the summer it was used for fishing. It was one room and blankets were dropped from the ceiling for privacy at night. No indoor plumbing and all the water had to be hauled up an embankment from the creek below. This is the last entry in this dairy until October 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

October 3 Went to town and bought things for Joycees Halloween and birthday gifts. Her birthday come on Nov. 1.

October 4 Went looking for wood, but didn't find any. Stopped at Waterlands. They have gone to California on a trip. So to home.

October 5 Cleaned up dirty house today. Joe made a hole in the chimney so we can change the bedroom into the kitchen. The present kitchen is so dark during the day and I have to burn the light. The bedroom is so light I have to pull the shade.

October 6 Tried to get Joycees jumper dress finished today but it's much too big for her even after shrinking it.

October 7 Spent the day washing and cleaning the house. Baked. More lay offs for the men at the Fort. Don't know if that means Joe or not. I hope not. School census was taken today. Joycees school is not finished yet. She wants to start school so bad. *This the last entry in the diary ---*

*Note: The school mentioned here was the Kessler School in Kenwood, which is another suburb of Helena. The original school had been destroyed in the earthquake so it had to be rebuilt new. It had grades one through six. This was the year Joyce would be in the first grade.*

*This concludes The Bessie [Whelan] Slanger Diary.*

*Limited to eight surnames per issue.*

Bonnie Boyer, 1921 N Callow, Bremerton, WA 98312, gramgbg@aol.com.

**Pierson** OK MT 1890 present.

**Kennedy** OK MT 1890 present.

**Henningsen** Denmark MN 1800 present.  
Kathy De Los Reyes, 8137 Kaster Drive N E,  
Bremerton, WA 98311, kwajkat@silverlink.  
net. **Stoetzel Stromer Rickel Weigant**

**Huston Boltjes Johnson (Janseen/  
Jannsen)**

Neb OH IL Germany

Margo Delgado, 770 S W Taft Blvd., Port Orchard, WA 98367, mjinadel@yahoo.com.

**Nelson** ENG 1650's ME 1650-1876 CA 1876 present.

**Murphy** CA 1850's (El Dorado Co.)

**McNeely** KY 1820's MO til 1880's IA 1860's also

**Chauvet** FR til 1825 LA 1825-1851 CA 1851

**Paepke** GER til 1855 IL 1855 to present

**Winterscheid** GER til 1845 IL 1845 to present

**Glafka** GER til 1867 IL 1867 to present

**Nash** ENG til 1637 CT 1637-1660's MA 1660-1780's  
NY 1780-1820's IL 1810 to present

Molly Egly, 4904 88th Avenue CT W, University Place, WA, sw637bmc@aol.com.

**Shannon** Ontario Canada - County Antrim IRE

**Gilmore** Chenango Co, NY **Lincoln**

**Cutler** Dutchess Co., NY **Doane**

**Hanks** IL **Shoaff** IL **Oliver** Orange NY

Phyllis Eveans, P O Box 1101, Poulsbo, WA 98370, bushevans@aol.com.

**Sweet** NS Canada MI WA 1850 to present

**German** PA MI to present

**Evans** SC 1880 to present

**Simmons** TX-WA 1850 to present

**Brown** OH WA 1850 to present

**Shedd** GA SC WA 1850 to present

**Hampton** NC WA 1800 to present.

Bobby Kennedy, P O Box 158, Olalla, WA 98359, k. bobby2531@charter.net.

**Kennedy** Carter Co OK 1900 1910-1920

**Browder** Fannin Co. TX 1850

**Elliott** Cooke Co. TX 1870, 1900

Jean Lenihan, 1550 N E Seasons Lane, Silverdale, WA 98383, jelenihan@aol.com.

**Lenihan Moore Butler** All New England & Ireland.  
Carol Lowrie, P O Box 1324, Port Orchard, WA 98366, dlowrie@ix.netcom.com.

**Richard Hoehn Eliason Burkehart Bradford  
Coté Svard (Sword) Bergman**  
Edward Miller, 2100 Yukon Harbor Rd. S E, Port Orchard, WA 98366, eddawn7@att.net.

**Miller/Mueller** SD NEB, WI 1860—1880

**Dvorak** SD 1860—1880

**Helkt** NEB 1870

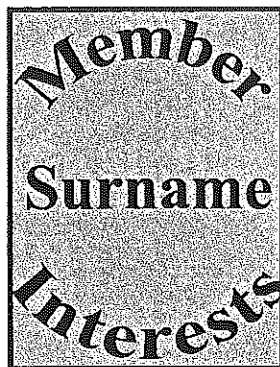
Don and Betty Nees, 1992 Advantage Avenue, Port Orchard, WA 98366, dmnees@charter.net.

**Nees Morris Marvin Orwig**

**Damron Myers Pearson Binning**

Linda Olson, 3059 Opdal Road E, Port Orchard, WA 98366, info@olsongasket.com.

**Dill** Bremerton 1895-1970



**Mottner** Manette 1925 to present  
Sue Plummer, 2135 Opdal Road E., Port Orchard, WA 98366, sue321@tscnet.com.

**Hein Wilkinson Ash Cole  
Hemstreet Plummer Myers Hooks  
Calloway Simmons**

Bruce Ramsey, 24437 Mt. Washington View Lane N W, Poulsbo, WA 98370, bruceramsey@attbi.com.

**Ramsey Taggard Steppe** CA WA MO IL

**Daniel Harkness Russell** CA WA MO IL

JoAnn Scott, 2425 Yukon Harbor Road, Port Orchard, WA 98366 hg\_scott@hotmail.com.

**Scott Sanders Irwin Quick**

John Smith, 1750 W. Sunn Fjord, Apt G203, Bremerton, WA 98312, johns31909@msn.com.

**Smith** NM 1924, IL 1900, MI 1850, NYS 1830, VT 1838, MA 1738

**Glazier/Morris** IL 1900 NY 1880

**Heffron (Heffernan)** NM 1920, PA 1900, CAN 1850, IRE 1836

**McCreddie** MI 1870 CT 1800

**Cleland** NM 1925 IA 1890 SCTL 19840

**McGinnis Brown Wood**

Linda Smyth, 1350 N W Crestview Ct., Silverdale, WA 98383, lindasmyth@yahoo.com.

**Duncan** VA NC TN KY MO WA 1670-2001

**Hughes** VA NC SC KY MO 1700-1940's

**Goodell/Goodale** ENG MA CT NH NY KS ID WA

**Casey** SC GA IL ID WA 1790-1958

**Meador** VA TN IL MO 1600's—1920's

**Bradshaw** MO 1863-1896

**Hawkins** NH NY KS 1810-1914

**Jimerson** KY TN IL ID 1830-1913

Alice Tice, 7195 E Polk Avenue, Port Orchard, WA.

**Tice Maurer**

Marian Turgeon, 12501 Olympe View Road N W, Silverdale, WA. 98383, mturgeon@telebyte.com.

**Willoughby**

Anita Schiffner, 4540 The Cedars, Bremerton, WA 98312, agjcs@msn.com.

**Lippy Knutson Harrison**

**Sams Larson Hoit**

**Klinefelter**

Patricia Powell McGuire, 8222 E. Caraway Road, Port Orchard, WA 98366, joepatmcguire@charter.net.

**Irwin** Olalla, Burley 1900-1920

**Powell** Seattle 1880 to present.

**Hileman** PA—Tacoma 1700's to 1920-30

Jacquelyn F. Horton, 7151 N W Bogard Road, Silverdale, WA 98383, jfhort@aol.com.

**Horton** Any and all

**Perkins** PA, MD, DE, WI, IA, MN 1800-1900's

**Ide** VT, MN, 1900, back

**Bates** Saratoga, Renselaer County, NY 1800 back

**Babcock** Saratoga, Renselaer County, NY 1800 back

**Windham** GA, SC, NC, VA 1850 back

**Bird** NC 1750-1850

**Turnage** NC 1750-1850



# Pat Eder's Exchange Notes

Amer Ancestry 20:2 (Mar/Apr 2002): finding people in the unindexed 1930 census; sharing the research load with family members; Australian research; Boolean searches on the Internet; the value of scholarly journals; curing the computer virus.

Ibid. 20:3 (May/Jun 2002): what wedding photos can tell you; searching for U.S. marriage records; Catholic marriage records; researching the makers of a friendship quilt back 150 years; seven steps for writing family history.

Amer Ellen Payne Odom Genealogy Library "Family Tree" 12:2 (Apr/May 2002): repository for Scottish clan archival and genealogical information; events calendar; book reviews; family reunions; an excerpt from "The Pre-Revolutionary War Experience" (striving for independence).

Amer Everton's Family History 56:2 (Mar/Apr 2002): joys and pitfalls of an academic life-about Linda SCHELE who studied the Maya civilization; uncovering women's lives; tracing female Native American ancestors; tracing female ancestors; researching British ancestors, part II; 150 websites about women.

Amer Family Chronicle (May/June 2002): tracing female ancestors; maximizing your results from the Ellis Island database; oral history interviewing techniques; 40 ways to document a death; genealogy websites worth surfing.

Amer Family History (Mar/Apr 2002): researching Civil War confederate records; reasons for surname changes, researching WW II veterans; examining health problems of our ancestors; genealogy websites of value; English and Welsh vital records.

Amer Heritage Quest 18:2 Issue 98 (Mar/Apr 2002): the enumerators temporarily employed for the 1930 census; 1910 census-the beginnings of 20<sup>th</sup> century research; backing up the facts with the census; finding elusive ancestors in the 1920 census; analyzing the 1920 records and troubleshooting; soundex codes tips; adoption research; using city directories with the census; resurgence of patriotic music; immigration sources and strategies; Jews in eastern European censuses.

Ibid. 18:3 Issue 99 (May/Jun 2002): planning and preparing for a genealogy trip/vacation; genealogy vacation-a myth or reality; diary of a genealogy trip to Portland, OR; cemetery research; using newspapers; research online.

Amer History Magazine (Apr/May 2002): timeline 50 BC to 1 BC; development of anesthesia; history of skyscrapers; Geronimo, a famous Native American; New York society in 1860; Quantrill's raiders.

Amer New England Ancestors 3:2 (Spr 2002): ancestors on the move - migrations out of New England; NY state research through family history centers; family heirlooms as artifacts; research services at NEHGS; research articles on website New England Ancestors.org.

Amer New England H and G Register Vol 156, Whole No. 621 (Jan 2002): BISBEE/BAILEY family of VT, NY and WI; THROOP/HIBBARD family of CT; Anne STRATTON family; applications to Home for Aged Colored Women in Boston 1860-87, ongoing.

CA Sequoia GS "Newsletter" 29:1 (Mar 2002): Great Register 1888 Tulare Co, ongoing. Ibid. 29:2 (Apr 2002):

Great Register 1888 Tulare Co, ongoing.

FL Okaloosa Co GS "Journal of NW Florida" 25:82 (Spr 2002): Santa Rosa Co marriages 1914; Walton Co county officials 1827-1923; Gum Creek cemetery, Walton Co.

IL Clay Co GS "Clay Roots" 14:1 (Spr 2002): descendants of Josiah BLAIR; Clay Co area in 1765; HUTCHENS family; Orlando SCHOOLEY and John AUSBROOK of the IL volunteer infantry 1861; TOLBERT family; teachers and graduates of Clay Co schools 1915-16.

IL Clay Co GS "Newsletter" 9:4 (May 2002): Ingham high school students and teachers 1903-04.

IL Logan Co GS "Logan Roots and Branches" 24:1 (Win 2002): Chestnut school, Chestnut, IL 1889-1922; news items from Lincoln Herald 1879.

IL Peoria Co GS "Prairie Roots" 29:2 and 3 (Win 2001 and Spr 2002): baptisms 1868-70, Trinity Lutheran church, Peoria; William COLBURN Civil War letters; Lincoln school students and picture, 1885, 1889; local news items 1868.

IN Tri-State GS "25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary issue" 25:3 (Mar 2002): computerized genealogy; 1900 census index Armstrong Twp, Vanderburg Co, IN; Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Newburgh, IN records; Evansville Journal death records 1881.

IA Boone Co GS 20:1 (Mar 2002): Boone Co High School seniors 1959; Pleasant Hill school PTA and student pictures with names 1923.

KS Crawford Co GS "The Seeker" 32:1 (Jan/Feb/Mar 2002): Crawford Co marriages 1899, ongoing; index to birth records 1902; naturalizations, surname "K".

KS Jefferson Co H.S. "Yesteryears" (Apr 2002): old settlers of Jefferson Co; marriage licenses July 1936-Dec 1936; Jefferson twp officers and residents directory 1899; Valley Falls flood of 1914; grade school graduates 1906; some deaths reported 1863-1935, ongoing.

KS Topeka GS "Quarterly" 32:1 (Jan 2002): Topeka funeral homes; extracts from early KS newspapers from Washington, Marshall, Osage and Shawnee Counties various years; cemeteries in northeast KS 1906; Westminster Presbyterian church, Shawnee Co.

Ibid. 32:2 (Apr 2002): Pottawomie tragedy-the John BROWN story of 1856 appearing in Daily Capital in 1879; extracts from early KS newspapers, Osage Co 1918, cemetery listings in NE KS; Westminster Presbyterian Church, ongoing.

MD Frederick Co GS "Newsletter" (Apr 2002): United Brethren cemetery, Thurmont, MD, burials 1913-1921.

Ibid. 2001 Newsletter Index.

MA Berkshire Co GS "Berkshire Genealogist" 23:1 (Win 2002): members of Congregational Church of Monterey, MA 1779-1900; graduates of Adams, MA high school 1871-1921; Miss Rhoda Root's school, Pittsfield, MA 1805; Cheshire, MA 1876 map and residents; cumu-

(Continued on page 47)



(Continued from page 46)

lative index of Peru, MA 1790-1920, ongoing; ancestor tables of WATSON, KOPAN, ALLBEE/SMITH.

MN Otter Tail Co GS "Newsletter" 20:1 (Mar 2002): CLITHERALL Twp landowners 1884, census surnames 1880 and cemetery records; Otter Tail Co naturalization index 1924.

MO Scotland Co GS "Newsletter" 16:2 (Apr 2002): school census 1916; recent obits from Memphis Democrat 1998; merchants' statements 1955, 1970, 1971 and 1973.

MI Muskegon Co GS "Family Tree Talk" 29:1 (Mar 2002): the Black Book- includes names of veterans of wars from Civil to WWII; descendants of Thomas HUME and Margaret BANKS; news items from Muskegon Daily Chronicle 1901, 1903.

MT Dawson Co GS "Tree Branch" 11:1 (Feb 2002): Library of Congress is looking for audio, video, letters, diaries and photos of WWI, WWII, Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf war memories of veterans; Dawson Co deaths 2001; WESTLUND ancestors.

NM New Mexico GS "New Mexico Genealogist" 41:1 (Mar 2002): 1806 census of Bernalillo; reluctant Americans, part II-a new rebellion begins; selected Santa Cruz marriages 1750-99, ongoing; Rosebud cemetery, Harding Co; Jicarilla (Apache) agency, Rio Arriba Co, issues for sheep 1923 (serves as a census).

NM New Mexico GS "Genealogical Resources in New Mexico," 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2002, 100 pages. Looks to be an excellent resource.

OH Tuscarawas Co GS "Tuscarawas Pioneer Footprints" 30:1 (Jan/Feb 2002): early church deeds; marriage licenses Aug 1856 to Aug. 1863; MILLER family reunion 1892.

*Ibid.* 30:2 (Mar/Apr 2002): marriage licenses 1856-1863, ongoing; SCHLAFLY 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 1890; early church deeds, ongoing.

OR Genealogical Forum of Oregon "Bulletin" 51:3 (Mar 2002): list of upcoming family reunions in OR; residents of Sellwood, Fulton and MT Tabor, 1885, from Portland city directory; Civil War veterans who were residents of Oregon; pioneer necrology June 1922 to May 1923; Judge Matthew P. DEADY in OR history.

OR Willamette Valley GS "Beaver Briefs" 34:1 (Win 2002): Marion Co death index 1921-30, part I.

PA Mercer Co GS "Past Times" 22:1 (Feb 2002): donation land sales 1812, ongoing; news items from 125 years ago; BURGESS pedigree.

*Ibid.* 22:2 (Mar 2002): news items from 125 years ago; letters in Mercer Post office July 1827; WALDORF/McCONNELL pedigree.

*Ibid.* 22:3 (Apr 2002): WELTZLEN pedigree; news items from 125 years ago.

SD Lyman-Brule GS "Newsletter" 16:2 (Apr 2002): Lyman Co births, deaths and marriages 1906-1913; news items 1924 and 1949.

SD Sioux Valley GS "Pioneer Pathfinder" 26:2 (Apr 2002): McGINNIS/PETERSON group sheet; Minnehaha Co marriages 1893-94; a history of So Dakota century farms index; current obits of folks 100 years or older.

TX San Antonio Public Library, Texana Genealogy "The Explorer" 7:4 (2002): news items Bexar Co, 1875; Bexar Co commissioners' minutes, 1854.

WA Clallam Co GS "Bulletin" 22:1 (Spr 2002): locating enumeration districts in Clallam Co for 1930 census; Port Angeles town site sales 1885.

WA Clark Co GS "Directory 2002."

WA Grant Co GS "Big Bend Register" 23:1 (Mar 2002): 1920 census Grant Co; history of Ephrata high school 1909-1935, ongoing; Stratford, WA cemetery index, ongoing; GORDON pedigree; Richard STEVENS history 1978.

WA Jefferson Co GS "Newsletter" 18:2 (Spr 2002): Port Townsend bicycle licenses issued 1899 and 1900, ongoing.

WA Kitsap Co H. S. "Kitsap Historian" (May/Jun 2002): A. B. Wyckoff, founding father of PSNS in 1891 - a temporary exhibit opens May 18.

WA Olympia GS "Quarterly" 28:2 (Apr 2002): ROUTLEDGE pedigree; marriages, Thurston Co 1888-91; Civil War diary of Alfred VAN SLYKE.

WA So King Co GS "So King News" 17:5 (Mar/Apr 2002): King Co school censuses-Vashon Island school districts 1902, 1905.

*Ibid.* 17:6 (May/Jun 2001): King Co school censuses-Vashon Island school districts 1902, 1905, ongoing.

WA Stillaguamish Valley GS "Stillaguamish Star" 15:4 (Mar/Apr 2002): SVGS funeral index up to mid 1940's, ongoing.

WA Tacoma-Pierce Co GS "The Researcher" 33:2 (Win 2002): Logan School, Tacoma, 1909 census; news items from Daily Ledger, Tacoma 1887; using deeds in your research; WA pioneer necrologies DADD through DYE; probates of Pierce Co, ongoing; houses of worship, Tacoma 1900.

*Ibid.* 33:3 (Spr 2002): Mann School census 1909, surnames A-D; taxes and the records generated; WA pioneer necrologies EAGAN through FURTH; news items from Daily Ledger, Tacoma 1887; using the 1880 U.S. census CD; probates of Pierce Co, ongoing; Lincoln high school class of 1923.

WA Tri-City GS "Bulletin" serving Benton and Franklin Cos. 42:1 (Mar 2002): WWI draft registrations; Benton Co obits; history of tri-cities area (Richland, Kennewick and Pasco); pedigree for BROOKS, HASKELL, bio of George JANSEN.

WA Washington State GS "Newsletter" 18:2 (Mar/Apr 2002): income tax records for the civil war years; calendar of events in the state.

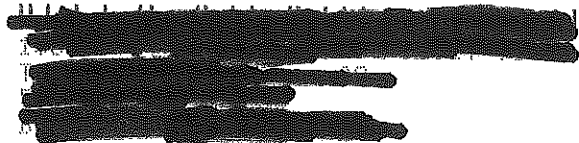
WA Wenatchee Area GS "Appleland Bulletin" 30:1 (Mar 2002): Chelan Co death index 1889-1907; history of Entiat in 1914; Badger Mountain cemetery, East Wenatchee; Chuwaukeem cemetery, Chelan Co; descendants of Wilhelmos SHOFF.

WA Yakima Valley GS 34:1 (Mar 2002): request for pardon of Charles McGonigle, ongoing; BONAWITZ ahnentafel; news items from Kittitas Localizer 1890 and Yakima Herald 1899 AND 1941; St Elizabeth school of nursing alumni 1910-1971, ongoing.

WV Kanawha Valley GS "Journal" 26:1 (Spr 2002): ancestor charts for CONNER, BARRY, BAXTER; Marmet cemetery, Marmet, WV; Kanawha Co death records 1856.

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### **“Backcover Reminders”**

- ▶ *Backtracker* Deadline for the September edition is August 15th, 2002.
- ▶ *Backtracker* Advertising copy deadline is July, 30th.
- ▶ Wanted — Program Speakers — Contact Larry Swan.
- ▶ Video Friday on the fourth Friday at 1:00 PM at the PSGS Research Library.
- ▶ The Ways & Means Committee needs your fund raising ideas.
- ▶ The *Backtracker* wants PSGS member written genealogical articles.