

# The BACKTRACKER

NEWSLETTER of the  
PUGET SOUND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Serving  
Kitsap and North Mason Counties

Volume XXVIII, Number 1

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

March 2003

## A Message from Our President



Sandie Morrison

The Puget Sound Genealogical Society is being forced to close its doors as of March 31, 2003.

On November 25, 2002, the Kitsap Board of Commissioners passed Resolution # 197-2002. This resolution granted the Friends of Givens Senior Center the right to say who has the use of the Senior Center at Givens Community Center.

ter.

On December 16, 2002, the Friends of Givens

*(Continued on page 14)*

## Editorial

After nine years of occupying the south half of the Givens Senior Center, a period of progress and expansion, it came as a startling surprise to learn that we were no longer to enjoy the use of that space. We always felt comfortable meeting in this room and it will be greatly missed.

Our resources grew immensely over the years requiring the addition of several storage cabinets. Our crew of volunteer spent countless hours huddled around the worktables laboring on a multitude of projects that were beneficial to our membership as well as all family historians. And there was the constant comings and goings on library days of researchers delving into their own personal histories. Also there were our volunteer librarians bursting with enthusiasm for their avocation and they did their utmost to instill that spirit into both the advanced and beginning researchers they assisted. There can be no measure of what was accomplished during these halcyon days. Now that era has been ended abruptly.

We have now passed through that period of progress and the future at this time looks dismal. We have no prospects for premises where we can either gather or access our research library. The near future appears shrouded in fog and our vision of the future is dimmed. It is only natural that we are very anxious about the future of our society. But let me assure you that our membership and leadership will persevere during this time of difficulty. The Puget Sound Genealogical Society has the vitality to overcome this period of uncertainty. Our problems are solvable and will be solved.

The key that will provide a solution to our long-term objective of acquiring permanent quarters for our library and meetings lies in a yet to be awakened inspiration of one of you. Let us all think about our mutual predicament and its potential solutions. Don't hesitate to contact our president, Sandie Morrison, with your ideas. From one of your ideas will be the answer for which we are searching and from it ultimate victory.

## Contents

Great Grandpa Did Not Swim to America	4
Genealoging on the Eastern Seaboard	5
Settling the Mesilla Valley in Southern New Mexico	6
How Did I Get Here?	7
Saga of the Unknown Burial Site	8
Genealogical Irony	10
My Search for Joseph Smith	11
Memoirs of Benjamin Murk Slanger	12
PSGS Notes	15
Cindy's Choice Web Sites — Belfair Bulletin	15
Tracing My Danzig Mennonite Ancestry	16
Why Did I Become A Genealogist? PSGS Research Library Annual Report	17
The PSGS 2003 FHC, Salt Lake City Trip	18
Guidelines for <i>Backtracker</i> Writers	19
Member Surname Interests	20, 21
Pat Eder's Exchange Notes	22
Our Heritage Is Anything But Normal!	23
<i>Myra Vanderpool Gormley Seminar — May 3, 2003.</i>	14

**The PSGS Research Library Will Be Closed  
For Research During the Month of March  
And Will Remain Closed Until Further Notice**

**PSGS' New Address:  
P. O. Box 1931  
Port Orchard, WA 98366-0805**

## Puget Sound Genealogical Society

### Meetings

Meetings are held at the \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting locations to be designated at a later date \_\_\_\_\_, 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, P. O. Box 1931, Port Orchard, WA 98366-0805.

### Genealogical Research Library

Our library is located \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Temporarily closed \_\_\_\_\_. 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 First 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 [cyril\\_t\\_taylor@yahoo.com](mailto:cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com) 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>
First Vice President:	Cindy Shawley Spore <a href="mailto:cindy@oz.net">cindy@oz.net</a>
Second Vice President:	Sandy Watson <a href="mailto:jimwatson@worldnet.att.net">jimwatson@worldnet.att.net</a>
Treasurer:	Cyril Taylor <a href="mailto:cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com">cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com</a>
Recording Secretary:	Paulette Waggoner <a href="mailto:waggoner@web-o.net">waggoner@web-o.net</a>
Correspondence:	Madge Norton <a href="mailto:mnorton@harbornet.com">mnorton@harbornet.com</a>
Librarian:	Marjorie Menees <a href="mailto:menees@net.nw-com">menees@net.nw-com</a>
Newsletter Editor:	Cyril Taylor <a href="mailto:cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com">cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com</a>

## Standing and Special Committees

Audit:	Larry Swan <a href="mailto:lswan@silverlink.net">lswan@silverlink.net</a>
Education:	Bill Richardson <a href="mailto:wmbrich@aol.com">wmbrich@aol.com</a>
Field Trips:	Phyllis Wahlquist <a href="mailto:pjw@telebyte.net">pjw@telebyte.net</a>
Library Coordinator	Loraine Magee <a href="mailto:imageel@charter.net">imageel@charter.net</a>
Nominations:	Sandie Morrison <a href="mailto:morrison@nwinet.com">morrison@nwinet.com</a>
Phone Tree:	Paulette Waggoner <a href="mailto:waggoner@web-o.net">waggoner@web-o.net</a>
Publications:	Larry Harden <a href="mailto:leharden@charter.net">leharden@charter.net</a>
Publicity:	Pat Eder <a href="mailto:keder32@msn.com">keder32@msn.com</a>
Refreshments:	Lorraine Kniert <a href="mailto:lkniert@net-nw.com">lkniert@net-nw.com</a>
Research:	Ida Mae Swedberg <a href="mailto:aston@sinclair.net">aston@sinclair.net</a>
Salt Lake City Trip:	Larry Harden <a href="mailto:leharden@charter.net">leharden@charter.net</a>
Sunshine:	Madge Norton <a href="mailto:mnorton@harbornet.com">mnorton@harbornet.com</a>
Ways & Means:	Larry Swan <a href="mailto:lswan@silverlink.net">lswan@silverlink.net</a>
Web Page:	Sandie Morris <a href="mailto:smorris592@earthlink.net">smorris592@earthlink.net</a>

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

Copyright 2003  
All Rights Reserved

# PSGS Schedules and Notices

## PSGS Meeting Schedules and Programs

- March 25th** Marlys Marrs will discuss Land Records and Maps.
- April 22nd** Bill Richardson will be discussing death certificates. He will define the obsolete terms used by physicians with regard to cause of death.

## Important Member Notice

**You should have renewed your Membership by now for the year 2003.**

Look at your address label for your membership status. The number "02" indicates that you have not paid your 2003 dues and need to renew at this time.

Don't let your membership lapse.

If you have not renewed by

**April 30th**

Your name will be removed from the membership rolls.

## Belfair Chapter Meeting Schedules and Programs

Meeting Place: Belfair Community Baptist Church Library, 23300 N E State Highway 3, Belfair.  
Time: 12:30—2:30 PM:

- April 1** — VCR on The 1900 House will be shown.
- May 6** — Perhaps a speaker--more information to follow.
- June 3** — Trip to Seattle Genealogical Library.

## Belfair Chapter Web Site

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

## Wanted Genealogical Reporter

Only PSGS Members Qualify.

This position requires a person with an inquisitive mind, a gregarious personality and a creative imagination. Their task will be to identify elderly individuals residing on the Kitsap Peninsula with interesting histories and interview them for articles to be published in the *Backtracker*.

Applicants please contact the editor.

## Remember!

This is a member participation newsletter.

Your participation as a writer

Is necessary for its success.

□□□□□□□□

The *Backtracker* Wants Your

Byline Now.

## Back Issues of the *Backtracker* 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## PSGS Sunshine Committee.

If any member knows of another member who is in the hospital or ill at home, please notify Madge Norton or any officer so that a "get well" card from PSGS can be sent. Also, please notify Madge 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.

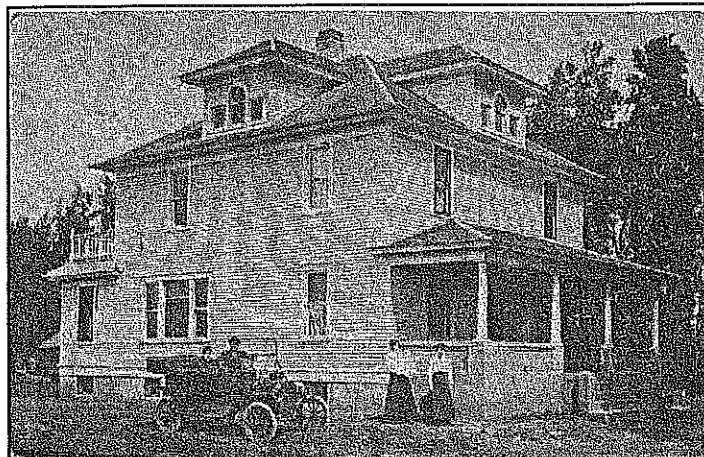
## Great Grandpa Did Not Swim To America After All!

Sandie Morrison

My main goal in research this year at the Family Search Library in Salt Lake City was to find the ship that my great grandfather, Kornelius Hansen, came to New York on in 1876.

To prepare for this research I went to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) on the Internet. I wanted to see what the library holdings were in Salt Lake for passenger lists coming into New York Harbor for 1876. I did a place search for New York, New York; Emigration and Immigration; Passenger lists of vessels arriving at New York, 1820-1897, film

#0175761. This was the one that looked most promising to me. I knew from previous research that Kornelius and his family left Troms, Norway on July 20 and that it took two days to reach Hull, England. From Hull it took one or two days, with connections, to travel by train overland to Liverpool. This put the travel time so far at four days maximum.



*Great-grandfather Kornelius Hansen Valor (1850-1918) standing on the porch of the home he built in Polk County, Minnesota in 1912. My Grandfather Rudolph Brunn Valor (1891-1934) is sitting in driver's seat of the car.*

When I first arrived at the library in Salt Lake City I tried searching these passenger lists with no luck. In fact, I got sea sick from the moving action of the film as I scrolled across the pages. So I

moved on to other research. The days before we were to leave for home, I thought I might as well look at that film again. I started looking at ships that sailed from Liverpool to New York and I noticed that some of the entries show how many days the crossing took. The average was 10 days. So now I am looking at a traveling time of 14 days, which puts the ship into New York harbor on about August 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup>. The ship *Germanic* arrived in New York Harbor on

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1876. Passenger number 284 was Korne-  
(Continued on page 17)

### French Translations

Free Estimates  
&  
Affordable Rates  
Handwritten Records Welcome  
L. S. Tietge  
E-890 Trails End Drive  
Belfair, WA 98528  
[shinyambition@hotmail.com](mailto:shinyambition@hotmail.com)

### Lost

A very old letter was found in the Givens Community Center parking lot. It was addressed to:

**J. H. Smith, Riverside Avenue,  
Spokane, Washington.**

The owner should contact: Madge Norton at  
[mnorton@harboret.com](mailto:mnorton@harboret.com) or 360-876-3980.

## McGuire & Associates

### Income Tax Preparation & Consulting

Corporate, Individual, Small Business,  
Farmers, Real Estate

Joseph F. McGuire III  
MS – Taxation  
MBA – Management  
Enrolled Agent

e-mail: [mcguireandassociates@charter.net](mailto:mcguireandassociates@charter.net)

Phone: (360) 871-2180  
Fax: (815) 425-4152

8222 E. Caraway Road  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

The trip was a wonderful experience for me, in part because I was able to see so many things that I had never seen before, but also because I had the opportunity to do genealogical research in so many great places. I am also privileged to have met each and every one of the individuals who took this trip. I am so fortunate to have had the opportunity to travel with such a great group of people. And to think that (almost) all had the same passion for genealogy and history that I do! That was just the icing on the cake.

Not long ago I returned from my two-week genealogical research trip to libraries and archives in New Jersey, New York City, Pennsylvania, and Washington, D.C. Actually, I spent the equivalent of only one-week doing research and sightseeing; the second week's-worth of time was required for undergoing security procedures at various airports, libraries, archives, historical societies, museums, and government facilities.

These security procedures included the following: x-raying of baggage and all personal items; the use of metal-detection devices for items carried on my person; "wand"-type inspections of my person for the detection of explosive devices; transporting personal items to and from designated storage lockers throughout the day; repeated presentation of my identification at several points during the day even while using a single facility; numerous visual inspec-

tions of all items brought into any facility during a visit (on both entry and exit); sign-in sheets; sign-out sheets; registration forms; mandatory creation and subsequent presentation of photo identification cards (required for several different entities); mandatory "escort" by security personnel to various locations; and finally constant monitoring of my activities by numerous security personnel.

Now that I am past my security rant, I can tell you that I had a great time on a trip jam-packed with research opportunities, with a number of not-to-be-missed sightseeing opportunities thrown in for good measure (After all, even genealogists sometimes tire of learning about their ancestors). I was able to see New York City; the Statue of Liberty; Ellis Island; the Liberty Bell; the Amish Country (Lancaster, PA); Gettysburg; the Library of Congress; the Capitol Building; the DAR Library, Arlington Cemetery, and lots, lots more.

New York City was definitely a high point of the trip as far as being on the soil of ancestors on my father's side. At the same time I saw Penn and Grand Central Stations; Madison Square Garden; Times Square; Broadway; the Empire State Building; The Trump Tower; The Chrysler Building; the World Trade Center site (Ground Zero); historic churches including St. Paul's, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Trinity, and the church ministered for many years by Norman Vincent Peale; Battery Park; the Staten Island Ferry; Central Park; Soho; Tribeca; Chinatown; and Little Italy. I saw a fabulous Broadway show, "Beauty and the Beast", had lunch in Little Italy, bought souvenirs from street vendors, and watched the antics of street performers. What a blast! I can't wait to go back.

Genealogically speaking, I made less progress than I had hoped for, but being able to make copies of the probates of wills of my New York ancestors on my father's side -- a great-great-grandfather, Daniel Devlin, about 1817-1867, and a great-great-great-grandfather, Luke Corrigan, about 1795-1853. These provided me with various family names and relatives previously not known. This information gained of their respective families may lead to further genealogical research.

I also became aquatinted with Ancestry Plus which was available at the Library of Congress (also, the Mason County Library System has subscribed to it). From a short period using it I was able to trace the Civil War record of my great-grandfather on my mother's side.

I would be remiss in not giving credit to Kerrylea Stipes, one of my Fiske Library Tour companions, for a bit of plagiarizing from one of her mid-October emails. Thanks, Kerrylea.

### Backtracker Advertising Rates

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 that may be interested in advertising in our newsletter? Inform them about our great newsletter rates. Our advertising rates are:

Ad Size	Dimension (Approximate)	Cost (One Time Only)
Full Page	9" X 7"	\$40.00
Half Page	9" X 3½" 4½" X 7"	\$20.00
Quarter Page	4½" X 3½" 2¼" X 7"	\$10.00
Eighth Page	3½" X 2¼"	\$5.00

Ad copy will be printed in black and white.

Contact the newsletter editor at [cyril\\_t\\_taylor@yahoo.com](mailto:cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com) 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 first day of the month previous to publication. Please make checks payable to PSGS and send them to PSGS *Backtracker* Advertising, P. O. Box 1931, Port Orchard, WA 98366-0805.

Ask the editor for front-page ad quotes.

## Settling the Mesilla Valley in Southern New Mexico The Big Bad Wolf – Part III

by Emilie Garcia

In the Internet I found a series of articles written in the 1930's under the auspices of the WPA, who sent writers to interview and record the life histories of citizens throughout the country. One who was interviewed in 1937 was a Provencio relative living in the Mesilla Valley. The writer described him as having an innate refinement and courtesy, that she had called on him at his "Spanish Mission home". He was born in 1872 and his father had been one of the original settlers. The settlers moved around the Valley from time to time, building homes on higher ground where the unbridled Rio Grande had forced them. They continued to plant their crops on the lower land, but they didn't take chances living there, for they never knew when the river was going to rise and flood them out. He described the Rio Grande as the "big bad wolf" in their lives: "The Elephant Butte Dam [completed early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century] was a God-send, Señora. Before the dam came there was no way to control it [the river]; it was never still; always rushing, rising and overflowing---sometimes we would go to beg hoping to rest after a hard day's work---only to be awakened by the lap, lap of water at our doors, sometimes around our beds. It had a voice, señora, that we grew to hate—a voice that struck terror to our hearts and souls; it was there in the rising river, increasing in volume as the water rose, submerging our land, stealing our seed, quite often our homes, leaving us nothing---nothing. The newcomers can't begin to realize the hardships of the early pioneers".

He went on to describe having to go from place to place in rowboats or ferries pulled across the flooded lands by horses on the other side. He also would assist people across the Rio Grande by swimming and leading their horses or teams. He would also have to link his own herd of horses together with rope and

swim across to lead them. I know my own grandmother's coffin was loaded on a boat to get to mass and burial in 1913. He also described the hardships: "the land was all bosque [bows-keh] (forest) and no ditches of any kind. We worked from early morning till dark, days, weeks, months, cutting down trees, clearing the ground, building our homes, plowing, planting and fighting the Rio Grande---we didn't have any schools---I used to hire out to other farmers and work all day for fifty cents".

He spoke of being the only original landowner left of the Refugio colony. I know that my grandfather's five sisters sold their shares because their husbands were not farmers. They became merchants or wage earners in mines, mills, smelters, railroads, factories, etc. He also said that often if someone couldn't pay their annual debt to the grocer, etc, the merchant or bank would take some of their acreage in payment. One American storeowner extracted two pounds of seed for every one he lent out, or if the borrower couldn't pay in kind or cash, he would take some of their acreage. Later, succeeding generations, tired of the "big bad wolf" and other hardships, their shares of tillable land diminished by debt and divisions among siblings, left for the mines in Silver City or Arizona or work in various trades in El Paso, Texas or in Southern and Northern California. As a child in New Mexico, I was not as happy as I was later. The Depression and the War had taken its toll on families who were land poor as happened all over this nation. I loved the gorgeous sunrises and

(Continued on page 7)



*My mother's father, Jose Marquez, on his horse El Suspiro (The Sigh), 1914. Jose sports a pistol in its holster and El Suspiro sports a bow on his halter. A few years later, Jose and El Suspiro went to neighboring ranches and villages to raise money for a school in the community.*



*My grandmother Emilia Nañez Marquez at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. On her lap is my Uncle Vicente Marquez. Standing is my mother Luisa Marquez Olague.*

sunsets, the fields and mesas, the cottonwood trees, but I didn't like the heat, and I still don't. I used to sit by the side of the highway going through the Mesilla Valley, and my sister and I would shout out

*This is the story of one of the Smith families and their descendents as handed down through the years. I give a lot of credit to my Grand Uncle John Southwell b.1879 in Wenona, IL, d.1976 in Raton, NM. He was a great writer, historian and communicator. My first cousin, (three times removed) Elizabeth D. (Smith) Lawrence, of Grafton VT. (b. 1826-about 1910) for keeping the Smith family informed by her letter of 1902. To my mother, Margaret (Cleland) Smith, b.1906 in Sherrard, IL, d.1986 in Port Orchard, WA for delving into genealogy, and getting everything in print. And to my wife Helen M. (Sexton) Smith, b.1920 in Anitiers, OK, d.1992 in Port Orchard, WA, for carrying on the records of my late mother. Special recognition to my Grand aunt Pearl C. Cook, b. 1888 in Indiana, d.1971 in Chicago IL, past President of Daughters of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Department of Illinois, who prompted my wife to get involved in genealogy.*

**First Generation** -- 1700's to 1758. My Fourth Great Grandfather, John Smith and two brothers left England for Boston in the early 1700's. John and wife (unknown) settled in Needham, Suffolk County, and MA. They had three children. The first Elizabeth, the second Mary and third and final, my Third Great Grandfather, John.

**Second Generation** -- 1758 to 1838. My Third Great Grandfather, John Smith, b. 1758 in Needham, MA (suburb of Boston) d. 1838 in Grafton, Windham County, VT. He was the Soldier, the Patriot. In 1775 at the age of 17 he enlisted in Capt. Samuel Kilton's Co., of Col. Paferson's Regiment of the 1st Massachusetts Line for the Battle of Bunker Hill. In June 1776 he re-enlisted for 12 months in Capt. Stows Artillery Co., under Major Bigalow, for the battle of Saratoga. In 1779 he enlisted again for 9 months in Lt. Lillie's Co., of

Col. Thomas Nixon's Regiment of the 6th Massachusetts. During this enlistment it is believed he served at Ft Tyconderoga, after which he served at West Point until he was mustered out in May of 1780. In November of 1780 he married Sarah Mastick, in Needham, MA and shortly thereafter they moved to Grafton, Vermont. They raised nine children in Grafton. One of these was my Second Great Grandfather Joseph M. Smith (From case file #WI9374, National Archives 13 Feb 2002), (Pension #1096 granted by Act of Congress 18 Apr 1818).

**Third Generation** -- 1792 to 1879. **Moving Southwest** to Syracuse, NY, my Second Great Grandfather Joseph M. Smith, and b. 1792 in Grafton, VT d. 1879 in Byron, Kent County, MI. He married Phoebe A. McCreedie b. about 1795 in Connecticut, d. about 1879. They had one child, my Great Grandfather, Martin.

**Fourth Generation** -- 1835 to 1904. **Moving West** to Grand Rapids, MI, my Great Grandfather Martin B. Smith, b.1835 in Syracuse, Onondaga County, NY, d. 1924 in Raton, Colfax County, NM, was married to Bridget E. Heffron (Heffernan), b.1852 in Portland, Ontario, Canada, d. 1924 in Raton, NM. They had six children all born in Grand Rapids; one of these was my Grandfather Robert E. Smith.

**Fifth Generation** -- 1882 to 1943. **Moving West** to Chicago, IL. The whole family moved to Chicago in the early 1900's. My Grandfather Robert E. Smith, b.1882 in Grand Rapids, Kent County, MI, d.1943 in Chicago, Cook County, IL. He married Coral E. Glazier b.1885 in Indiana, d.1978 in Seattle, King County, WA. They had one son, (my father) George R. Smith. Grandfather divorced and at this point the family split-up and my grandmother took my father with her to Seattle. My father did not stay long in Seattle. He returned to Chicago and went to school there and later returned to school in Seattle. When he was twelve years old, his stepfather took him on a horse and wagon trip from Seattle to Portland, Burns, Oregon and on to Idaho where they had a land grant in progress.

**Moving West** to Raton, NM. After my grandfather and grandmother divorced, my grandfather moved to Raton, NM near his sister and brother-in-law the Southwells. He married again to Olivia H. Smith b.1890 in Lynn, NM d.1921 in Raton Colfax County. They had two girls. Opal and Glenna. After high school in Seattle, my father moved to New Mexico

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 6) *Settling the Mesilla Valley.*

which of the new pastel-colored autos we were going to own some day. My ancestors would be rolling over in their graves if they could see how the dreams of two little Spanish-Indian girls came true and then some. They call New Mexico "The Land of Enchantment", but even my mother said that California was the "Land of Enchantment" maybe meaning that there were opportunities in California that didn't exist at the time in New Mexico. However, now, my relatives who never left New Mexico enjoy the same standard of living as we do. They succeeded despite the "big bad wolf" and other hardships.

Next: *The Mesilla Valley Today*

Picture it, 1909 and somewhere in the corn fields of Adams County Nebraska, a thirty-nine year old woman, too young to die but worn out over the hardships of bearing fourteen children among the hardships of farm life and the grief of losing another young child, is buried. Then in 1914, the husband dies and thirteen children are left orphaned.

With only one of the children being over the age of seventeen, the rest of the family is split up. The youngest four are sent to an orphanage and the rest of farmed out to relatives to spend the rest of their childhood in the capacity of an indentured servant. This was a common practice among families who had more mouths to feed than food or money but still felt a strong sense of taking care of family members.

Growing up in these circumstances, left few family heirlooms and photos and the then common attitude of "you don't need to know that" or the "you leave the dead buried," makes the hunt for ancestors that much harder. Survival became the main focus of their lives rather than worrying about keeping track of ancestors and their heirlooms.

Given these circumstances, I began my search

for the ancestors about five years ago. Armed with only the names of my grandparents and their siblings, I at least knew that my trail started in Adams and Clay Counties, Nebraska. Fortunately, before she died and before the advent of computers and the Internet, my Dad's sister, Muriel MaGahan, had started the search on my Dad's side so there was a little bit more information. One of the first things I noticed between my Dad's side and my Mom's side was that they had more information that would make my quest on his side easier.

I decided to start and focus primarily on my Mom's side. Even though there was little information beyond my grandparents and their siblings, I felt for a budding genealogist that it would be easier to track them down than trying to figure out the Jansen/Janssen/Johnson name thing! For the first two years, I somewhat spun my wheels in a variety of circles, nothing was showing up at the family history centers, not to mention I really was confused on how to really dig through all those files. Eventually with the help of my cousin Marlene, I began to build my database in earnest.

It wasn't until I was able to go back to Nebraska in 1998 that my search really began to pick up speed. With only a week to search through all the resources available to me and only just paper files to work with, I began at the mecca of Adams County searching, the Adams County Historical Society (ACHS). Located in the Hastings Museum, the Historical Society also harbors the Genealogy Society's holdings. Talk about a one stop research site! The full time employee, Catherine Renschler, not only is a walking encyclopedia of county knowledge, it turns out she is a cousin (she is related on my Mom's side and is way out there on the branch but still tied in). My quest suddenly became easier with her assistance.

I was able to locate obituaries on my great grandparents, Thomas George Stoetzel and Mary Elizabeth Herz, which showed that they were buried at St Joseph's in Logan. Running out of time, I was not able to really physically locate them but I did have an armful of information to go through when I got back home. Traditionally once you get home with all that information, you end up with that many more questions and empty holes to fill and I was no exception to the rule! Here is what I knew:

Thomas George Stoetzel, (1859, Peru, LaSalle County, Illinois, died 1914 Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska), son of Englebort Stoetzel (1817, Wal-sperdorf, Germany, died 1885, Peru, LaSalle County, Illinois), and Katherina Weigant, (born 1832, Lindach, Barvaria, died 1887 Assumption, Adams

*(Continued on page 9)*

*(Continued from page 7)*

*How Did I Get Here?*

where he could be close to a Smith).

**Sixth Generation** -- 1901 to Present. **Moving West** to Seattle, my father George R. Smith, b. 1901 in Chicago, Cook County, IL d. 1967 in Port Orchard, Kitsap County, WA went to work in Albuquerque, NM as machinist for the Santa-Fe Railroad. During this time he met my mother, Margaret (Cleland) Smith, b. 1906 in Sherrard, IL, d. 1986 in Port Orchard, WA. She was of Raton, NM and in October they were married and spent their honeymoon in Santa Fe, NM. They had three boys, Robert E. Smith, b.1924 in Albuquerque, NM, d. 1971 in Lompoc, CA. The railroad moved my father to San Bernardino, CA where my brother George L. Smith was born in 1927, d. 2000 in Olympia, WA and was buried in Port Orchard. The railroad laid my father off and it was difficult to find a job in the depression. He headed to Seattle where his mother was. I (John William Smith) was born in Seattle in 1929. After many short and odd jobs, my father went to work for the Bremerton Navy Yard in 1935. We moved from 5208 W Genesee Street in West Seattle (on the bluff above Alki Point) to Port Orchard in 1937. All we three of us boys graduated from South Kitsap High School.

Thus ends the story of Smith Family migration from Massachusetts to Washington State.



(Continued from page 8) *Saga of the Unknown Burial Site.*  
County, Nebraska).

In 1886, he married Mary Elizabeth Herz, (1870, Mankato, Minnesota (this ended up being North Mankato in Nicolet County which is across the river from Mankato, Blue Earth County.) She died 1909, Roseland, Adams County Nebraska.

They had fourteen children: Englebert August, Thomas Wendell, John Martin, Henry John, Englebert Mathias Matthew, Cecilia Ann, William Wilhelm Wendell, Francis Barbara (my grandmother), Thomas Patrick, Caroline Christina, Hildegard Angelia, Sylvester John, George Zephrian, and Angeline Evangeline.

Despite driving around the county looking for St Joseph's, we were not able to find the cemetery and church. We didn't have any luck when asking around either. It was as if the place existed only on paper. I joked with everyone saying that it was probably out in the middle of a cornfield. Within the next six months after we left Hastings, the ACHS began to walking through all known cemeteries and recording the graves in earnest.

It wasn't until this trip back there in June 2002

that the mystery of St Joseph's began to unravel. This time there was some information on the church and cemetery that contained ten confirmed and marked graves, although none were my great grandparents. The church and cemetery was located in the Logan Township section south of Holstein. We drove out to the little town of Holstein and stopped at the Post Office to ask for directions to Logan, (thinking it was a tiny village, which turned out to be a wrong assumption). That turned out to be another lucky break as the original site was located on the land currently owned by the Postmistress. It appears that in 1956 the church was moved from it original location south of town into town and was no longer a church. The original site was further outside of town than I thought (no wonder we never found it!) Now we had a general idea of where it was, five miles south of town and one east. Sure enough, going out there down a gravel road between corn fields, about 300 feet off the roadway was a fence that appeared to be overgrown somewhat with grass, bushes and small trees. We spotted a grave stone peeking over the top of the fence line. Excitement began to build but



*Prairie Desolation*

*When the church building was moved to Holstein, the cemetery became an island, surrounded by cultivated fields. St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery is in the NW quarter, section 22, Logan Township, south of Holstein, Adams County Nebraska.*

quickly turned to disappointment. There were only ten graves that were marked and sure enough none were the ones I was looking for. However, three of the marked graves belonged to the Stoetzel-Zubrod clan who is related. Disappointed, we returned to Hastings. The next day, I talked with Catherine and she explained how they determined who is buried where and what proof they needed to add someone to the list. She also explained that there had been a recent attempt by the Church to move the existing graves at Logan into Roseland. Luckily for me that move was disapproved. Now there was an added sense of urgency to my search. Once more my cousin and I went out to the cemetery. Again, walking through it, I knew they were there and if the goose bumps and hair-raising on my arms were any indication, I felt that I had somewhat of an idea about where they were but no proof. Family stories indicated that there was at least one headstone but there was not any indication of one there now.

It became my mission to find those graves and also find out more about this church since information was limited and it was not a high priority for anyone. I found out that for a grave to be moved its

location had to be known for sure and it was not cheap. It costs around \$1000 per grave. If the attempted move was successful, the only graves to be moved would be the ten marked ones. I knew my relatives were buried there even if there was no indication. I was determined not to let them be forgotten.

In the History of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, 1887-1987, I

found a half page of information regarding the Logan church. The Catholics living in the Logan Precinct began having Holy Mass in 1897. Nepomuck and Elizabeth Gentert donated a five-acre tract of land and a church was built on the site with the first services held in March 1904. There were fifteen families living in the area that attended these services. It is a little known fact that the original Church built in 1904 was destroyed by fire in 1920 and is not the building moved as is commonly thought. In 1921 a second church was built and it was then moved in 1956 to the town of Holstein. The half page article lists the priests who ministered to this small church and very little additional information. There was no

(Continued on page 10)

## Genealogical Irony

Larry Swan

First of all, let me draw *my* distinction between a Genealogist and a Family Historian. To me a Genealogist is one who provides or assists in providing information for the compilation of a family history. The Genealogist can be a paid professional or a willing volunteer. The Family Historian collects information on his or her own related individuals. They are both involved in Genealogy, but I think there should be a distinction.

The Family Historian is told from the start to interview existing family members as a foundation for their project. All well and good if you are old enough to appreciate the ramifications of this step. A problem arises when you have put off your history project until your later years. Most of us can relate to this dilemma. How many thirteen year olds do you know that would have the foresight to collect valuable information from a great-grandmother?

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Continued from page 9)* *Saga of the Unknown Burial Site.*  
mention of the cemetery.

At least now I had something to go on. This article and two lists (one done in 1970 and the other in 1982) of graves was all the information that was in the ACHS folder. Next, I went to the courthouse to find out the plat listings for the land and was told initially that the site was on private property. That the owners were not under any obligations to maintain the cemetery and could do anything they wanted which may have accounted for the attempted move. Catherine became concerned over the ownership of the land since there are no legal considerations or protections if the graves are on private property. This was my first exposure to the confusing world of plats and I was winging it on asking questions. I went back and this time was told that they had read the plat wrong and that the land still belongs to the Diocese but was surrounded by private property. A bonus find while perusing the plat books was locating the Stoetzel farm that was just south of the church in the next section.

I went to the Catholic Church in Roseland after tracking down which church may have had the records. I explained what information I was seeking and why and was basically met with a cold shoulder. I was told that the records were not at the church but at the home of one of the parishioners and since he was a farmer he wouldn't be home or available. I was also cited the privacy policy for parishioners, even though dead people have no privacy rights. Ticked off but more determined than ever I continued my quest.

My cousin and I went to see our cousins, Iola and Dorothy Kramer whom I had never met. Dorothy and Iola are connected via the Zubrod-Stoetzel line and the marked graves of their three family members are at Logan. I mentioned that we had been out to the cemetery and saw the graves belonging to her family and that we were trying to find out where our relatives were. She went into the bedroom and came back with a sheet of paper with cemetery layout. Both my cousin and I just stared at this piece of

paper stunned. Here were additional proofs that not only were our relatives there, but where they were. Sure enough they were right where my goose bumps and hair-raising told me there were! Thomas George and his wife Mary, in addition to their son Thomas Wendell who died in 1903 after falling onto a pitch fork, and possibly another son, Thomas Patrick who was shot to death in 1909. To add to this, a trip to a local funeral home on another matter, lead to the discovery that another sibling of the Stoetzel clan, George, was also buried there in 1952.

According to additional information sent by my cousin, the cemetery is laid out so that there are four graves per 12 X 11-foot lots. These lots were sold for \$6 per lot or \$2 for a single gravesite. Alleyways ran north and south and are wide enough for a common grass mower to make one round. I am guessing that that would be roughly two feet. According to the plat records, the original site was 20 rods (330 feet) by 40 rods (660 feet). Now the cemetery tract is 50 by 107 feet with a 10-foot access way from the roadway. It is unclear to me if the original footage included the church or just the cemetery. At some point, the current fence line has been moved in so the cemetery is now much smaller than it was originally. There are two known graves of infants according to my information that are on/outside the present fence line. One is the infant daughter of Thomas and is probably Caroline who died at the age of one. I was able to talk with the parishioner who goes out a few times a year and mows the grass. He told me that he has been trying to get permission to take the fence down and clean up around it. Presently there is concern that if the fence is allowed to come down that that will mark the beginning of the end for the existence of this site. It is not uncommon that once a fence is taken down, it is often not put back up and the farmers just continue to encroach on the land until in the end there is nothing but farm land.

My quest for additional information has not ended as I am determine to put together a more complete history of this little church and it's cemetery that played such an important role in my family life.

## My Search for Joseph Smith

Margaret Lentz

I think that every genealogist has found in their research a John Smith, Tom Jones, Edward Brown etc. with not another clue to define that ancestor from hundreds of other people by the same name.

My problem was a great-great-grandfather named Joseph Smith. My great-grandfather was Solomon Simon Smith, quite distinctive. His death certificate gave his father as Joseph Smith. The legal stamp obscured his mother's name. According to the certificate Joseph was born in Ireland, his wife in Scotland.

I took Solomon's death certificate to the Scotland desk at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. The attendant was sure the mother's last name was Tenney. Through a distant cousin I obtained a photocopy of a page from her mother's family record book. It gave Joseph Smith's birthday as 28 March 1811, County Tyrone, Ireland. Also listed was a James Smith with no birth date and a grandfather Joseph Williamson. Maybe he was Joseph's maternal grandfather?

With so little information available I didn't put much effort into finding Joseph. It seemed impossi-

ble. From time to time over maybe twenty years I would enter Joseph's name into the IGI, never finding a match. About three years ago while killing time at the local LDS library I idly typed in Joseph's name. To my amazement up came a Joseph Smith, wife's maiden name Aurilla Tenney. The record

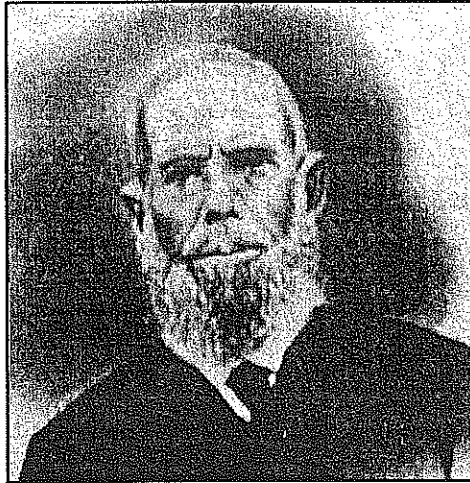
listed eight children, the first being Solomon Simon with the correct birth date of my great-grandfather. The submitter was a woman from California. I immediately wrote to her and she informed me that Joseph was not in her direct line so she had purged him from her records. She did give me the name and address of a Donald Smith in Michigan that she thought was from Joseph's line.

When I wrote to Donald I found he was descended from Reuben Smith, b. 1858, a younger brother of my Solomon.

Thanks to Donald I now have a picture of Joseph, a death certifi-

cate for both him and his wife Aurilla and a fairly complete descendency chart as well as an annual invitation to a family reunion in Michigan. I hope someday to attend.

I guess the moral is never give up even when it seems impossible



*My great-great-grandfather Joseph Smith.*

### Jamestowne Society Great Northwest Company

The Jamestowne Society is organizing a "company" for the Great Northwest. Membership is based on documentation of ancestry at Jamestowne during the period 1607—1699.

For further information please contact Ardyth Hatcher Schaumburg, Organizing Governor, 536 N. 7th Avenue, Sequim, WA 98382. Telephone 360-683-7762. Cellular Phone 360-670-6339.

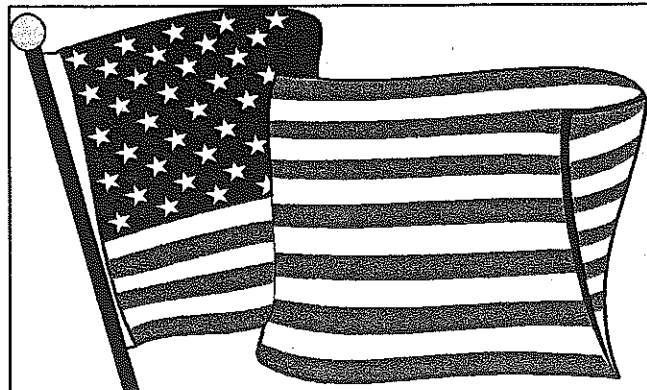
*(Continued from page 10) Genealogical Irony*

My lack of foresight has caused me untold hours of frustrating, fruitless research. I have traced my Swedish branch back to the early 1700's and both of my German branches back family and origins of "Grandma Brinkworth" as we knew her continue to elude me in spite of inputs from other family members. That the same wonderful records in the LDS Library that gave me such great insight to my Swedish heritage cannot cough up one iota of information on Grandma Brinkworth.

### Legacy User Group

The Legacy Group meets on the last Monday of each month except June and July. We meet to discuss problems that may arise when using Legacy Family Tree. Also we have informal instructions on use of various parts of the program.

If you have any questions concerning the Legacy User Group, please contact Lynn Ramey at [lnr1438@earthlink.net](mailto:lnr1438@earthlink.net)



9-11-2001

2-1-2003

## Memoirs of Benjamin Murk Slanger

### Mother Says No to a Sleigh Ride

In 1902 Mother and her sister went to Big Timber to locate in a Dutch settlement that was run by a Dutch preacher. When they got there, they were warned by the hotel clerk and every other citizen they talked to in Big Timber to watch out as the preacher was a crook. Dad came a few days later and after learning of the preacher's reputation, he rented a house for my mother, my sister, my aunt and her, I think, three children. I was born a few weeks later. It was in the middle of winter but Dad and my uncle took off looking for a place to set up ranching. They bought an "eighty", five miles southwest of Great Falls, just south of where the airport is now. They rented a room or shack at Great Falls where they batched and walked the five miles morning and night out to the eighty, starting to build a two-story house. They had hotcakes for breakfast and as they were cheap, they also had them for lunch, which was carried to the building site. By noon the morning cooked hotcakes would be frozen and they didn't want to take time to warm them up over a campfire, so the house was built on ice cold hotcakes. I have always thought that was why the house was so cold.

My uncle was a good carpenter and Dad could drive nails and use a saw. They had the house far enough along so we could move into it about the first of April. I was three weeks old when we moved. We lived there until the spring of 1909. I can remember three outstanding horse events in those early years.

The first was in the winter of 1904-1905. Dad had gone to work in the Sand Coulee coal mines about 20 miles east of Great Falls, too far in those days to commute. One cold afternoon Mother was trying to thaw out the frozen pump to be able to pump water for the livestock and my sister and I were all bundled up and sliding down a ten foot snow bank. A man driving a beautiful bay horse hitched to a bright red sleigh, known as a cutter, drove in. He asked Mother if she didn't get lonesome and wouldn't she like to go for a sleigh ride. I thought she was the dumbest woman I knew when she said no she wasn't lonesome and no she didn't want to go for a ride. I would have given anything to have had a ride in the little red cutter behind that beautiful fast-trotting bay horse, but man didn't ask me if I was lonesome.

He made a couple more trips but when Mother told him her niece stayed with her at night, he stopped coming. It wasn't so about the niece and I wondered why my mother told him that. I wouldn't remember what the man looked like a week after he quit coming, but even after sixty-six years I can tell you what that beautiful horse looked like even to the star and the two stockinged hind legs.

*Introduction by Joyce Slanger Liston: These short stories are from the memoirs of Benjamin Murk Slanger. My Uncle Ben was born on March 17, 1903 in Big Timber, Montana. His parents were Holland Dutch (his mother immigrated to the United States about 1880 and his father approximately 1891). They were married March 28, 1900 in Whitsboro, New York. They moved to Montana after their marriage ceremony. Ben went to the Montana State University at Bozeman, Montana and graduated with a degree in agriculture. He taught vocational agriculture at Big Timber High School for twelve years and than was employed by the U.S. Department of Interior in the Soil Conservation Service as an agent. He headed the agencies for SCS at Baker, Ennis and Dillon, Montana. Following his retirement from the SCS he became a full time cattle rancher near Dillon. During his years in farming and ranching he raised, trained and showed registered quarter horses. He was highly regarded as a successful quarter horse breeder.*



### Horses in My Life

I was born with an interest in and love for horses. Mother and I used to visit a neighbor who had a calendar with a picture of a harnessed bay work team drinking from a trough in a farmyard. The neighbor must have been something of a horse lover herself as she had names for the horses, Tom and Jerry. I spent all my time, when at her house, gazing at that calendar. At the end of the year, she gave me the picture and I kept and played with it for years.

The first Christmas presents that I remember was an iron horse hitched to an English iron hack. The hack got broken in a year or two, but the horse, which I named Flossie, I kept and played with for seven years. Another neighbor had a three-legged wooden rocking horse. His children had outgrown it so they gave it to me. Dad whittled out another leg and glued the rockers back on. In my imagination this old wooden rocking horse and I made a good many miles together the summer I was recovering from polio.

We had a horse-minded ranch hand who stayed with us a couple of winters. His hobby was carving out miniature wooden horses. This was in the old freight-wagon days. With some of the hired man's wooden horses, Flossie, homemade toy wagons, and using baling wire and store string I had several jerk-line freight teams as well as homemade farm implements I hitched horses to. I also had many stick horses and even used marbles and rocks for my

*(Continued on page 13)*

(Continued from page 12) *Memoirs of Benjamin Murk Slanger*  
freight teams.

One of our neighbors had two grown sons whom I thought a lot of mostly because they were good horsemen. They kept good horses which were stabled day and night. These horses were the best cared for ranch horses I ever knew and were also top work or driving horses when put to work. One of these men, Jay, rode ditch one summer, having some twenty miles to ride each day. This took a string of three to four saddle horses. Of course I had to copy my ideal and ride ditch also and diverted a small stream of water out of Spring Coulee, a stream running by our buildings. By breaking the necks out of bottles to use for head gates and running lateral ditches from the diversion ditch I had quite an irrigation project which had to be ridden every morning. For my string of saddle horses I had two broomstick horses and one made of cardboard which I called Baldy.

I can't remember when I couldn't draw a picture of a horse if I needed or wanted one. There will be more about Baldy later, but this year Jay had borrowed a real Baldy from Dad to ride ditch. This was a four year old gray with a blazed face that was a single-footer. Dad had bought him to work with another gray gelding, a half-brother. However, Baldy was a

stampeder whether in harness or under saddle; he would grab a bit and take off. For a number of years Jay was about the only one who could handle him. My cardboard horse, which was large enough to hold between my legs, was as near like Baldy as I could draw. It was good enough so that my family recognized the likeness. I would hold Baldy between my legs and take a gait that I considered a single-foot and ride the ditch with Baldy every third day.

The following incident proves kids will be kids. I came back from ditch riding one morning and my older sister wanted to borrow Baldy to ride. Even then, in those make believe days, I was pretty particular about who rode my horses and how they were ridden. I finally consented to let her ride the pasteboard horse, giving her special instructions that he was a single-footer and he was to be ridden on that gait and not to lope him as I had already ridden him twenty miles on my ditch line. She promised faithfully to ride only on a single-foot and took off. She single-footed herself around the yard a time or two, then took off behind the granary where I couldn't see her. This looked suspicious to me so I sneaked around the corner to take a peak. There was my sister astride Baldy galloping herself around at full speed. It was only a cardboard horse but to me it was real and when I said not to gallop, I meant not to gallop. Sis was a year older than I was and I was crippled but I sure took the horse away and beat hell out of her. In later life as long as we were together on the ranch she remembered this working over, I think, as she followed instructions when riding a real horse.

*Note: These short stories excerpted from the Memoirs of Benjamin Murk Slanger are excellent examples of what each of us is capable of accomplishing in our own family history writing. Editor.*

## McGuire & Associates

Income Tax Preparation & Consulting

Joseph F. McGuire III, EA, MST, MBA  
Corporate, Individual, Small Business,  
Farmers, Real estate

- o IRS Notices
- o Return Preparation
- o Tax Planning
  
- o Audit
- o E-file
- o Penalty Abatement

e-mail: mcguireandassociates@charter.net

Phone: (360) 871-2180  
Fax: (815) 425-4152

8222 E. Caraway Road  
Port Orchard, WA 98366

### Have You Renewed Your Membership?

All Unpaid Memberships  
Lapse on April 30th

Look at your address label for your membership status. The number "02" indicates that you have not paid your 2003 dues and you need to renew at this time.

### FAMILY TREE MAKER USERS GROUP

All members of PSGS who use Family Tree Maker Genealogy software and would be interested participating in the formation of a Family Tree Maker Users Group, please contact me at (360) 275 4990 or at morrison@nwinet.com.

Once PSGS has established a permanent meeting place, a FTM Users Group would meet once a month to discuss all aspects of the FTM program operations, the solving of data entry problems and assist in answering your questions.

All interest parties please contact me.

Sandie

Puget Sound Genealogical Society  
 Invites You to a Day with  
**Myra Vanderpool Gormley CG**  
 Saturday, May 3, 2003  
 Registration 8:00 a.m.  
 Program 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Silverdale Way, NW  
 Silverdale, Washington

**The Registration Fees:**

PSGS Members	\$20.00
Non-member	\$25.00
Late registration free after April 15	\$ 5.00
Raffle tickets for pocket PC	\$ 1.00 ea.
Lunch	\$ 5.25

Please make checks payable to: PSGS and mail them to:  
 Cindy Shawley Spore, 3621 SE Salmonberry Road, Port Orchard, WA  
 98366-1427, ATTN: Gorley Seminar  
 Address your registration questions to: cindys@oz.net.

**Program Topics**

1. Before Ellis Island: Pre-1820, 1820-18992, USA & Canada.
2. You Just Think You've Looked Everywhere for Your Ancestors— Looking beyond the usual sources.
3. Submit queries for Myra with your registration or email them to Cindy Spore at cindys@oz.net.

**Myra Vanderpool**

**Gormley** is a syndicated columnist and feature writer for the Los Angeles Times Syndicate. Additionally, she writes articles on the subject of genealogy for *Colonial Homes* magazine. She is the co-editor of *Missing Links* and



RootsWeb Review, two weekly e-zine genealogy newsletters.

A certified genealogist, she has written three books: *Prima's Official Companion to Family Tree Maker*, *Family Diseases: Are You at Risk?* and *Cherokee Connections*. In her spare time she searches for her own elusive ancestors. 2001

(Continued from page 1) *A Message from Our President.*  
 Senior Center informed PSGS that they had until the end of March 2003 to vacate room #110.

As of the end of January this year, your PSGS Planning Committee has been working diligently to find a new location for our research library. On January 27<sup>th</sup> Sandy Watson, Marjorie Menees, Susan Evans and Loraine Magee addressed the Kitsap Board of Commissioners stating our case.

PSGS is a non-profit organization that offers educational and cultural benefits to residents of the County. We do not charge people for the use of our library and it is available for all that are interested in researching their family history. There are among our membership a large number of senior citizens on fixed incomes.

We cannot afford to pay a rent such as a retail space would require. We are looking for a room in a county operated building, one that does not demand a high overhead.

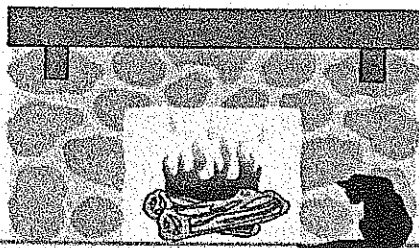
Commissioner Endresen stated that genealogy is her passion and this was encouraging to our members. She also said that the Commissioners would discuss our request for a Resolution sponsoring PSGS. Commissioner Angel, whose district the Givens Center is located, was

absent from the meeting recovering from surgery. We are hoping she will concur with the other two Commissioners and assist PSGS in finding new quarters for our research library. At this time we are hoping to hear from the Commissioners in the next week or two.

Meanwhile we must make plans for the next few months. We will have our regular February and March meetings at the Givens Community Center. The research library will be closed for the month of March as we start the packing process. Margie Schultz has kindly offered her RV storage garage for temporary storage of our research library if needed. There will not be access to our library while it is in storage.

If you are able to assist in the packing and moving of our library starting on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, please contact one of the PSGS Board members to obtain information on dates and times. We will need all members working on this project in order to make this move, be it to a new home or to storage.

At this time we do not have a location for our April meeting. The phone tree committee will contact members regarding a date and time when decided. Please plan to attend the March meeting for updates on our progress. This is a trying time for PSGS but with all of us working together and by letting the community know of our situation. I am confident we will find a new home for PSGS.



*Custom* HEARTH

- + Gas Stoves
- + Gas Logs

- + Pellet Stoves
- + Hearth Pads

- + Wood Stoves
- + Oak Mantels

**Patty Swan**

(360) 779-1331  
 B.I. (206) 842-6811  
 Fax (360) 779-4210

18657 State Hwy. 305, Poulsbo, WA 98370

# PSGS Notes

Ed and Susan Evans will be hosting the Lindekugel family reunion at Colorado Springs in July. All those who bear or descended from a Lindekugel are invited to attend. The *Lindekugel Roundup* promises to be a great gathering.

Sandy Watson is now our PSGS membership chairperson.

Our Web Page Manager, Sandie Morris, has placed the following *Backtracker* articles on the PSGS Web Page: *Tech Notes*, Sept 2002, by Kathy de Los Rayes; *Tech Notes*, Dec 2002, by Kathy de Los Rayes; *The Oñate Trail* by Emilie Garcia; *Settling The Mesilla Valley In Southern New Mexico Part I*, by Emilia Garcia; *Settling The Mesilla Valley In Southern New Mexico Part II* by, Emilia Garcia; *Research Trip Tips*, by Mariys Marrs; *Letters from Laura*, by Priscilla Bailey; *Where Did They Go?*, by Joan Gathings; *Kitsap County Bibliography*, by Fredi Perry; *The Bessie (Whelan) Slanger Diary*, by Joyce (Slanger) Liston; *Getting Interested in Genealogy*, by Ida Mae Swedberg; *Cousins by the Dozens*, by Larry Swan; *Why Did I Become A Genealogist?*, by Lorraine Hauger Kniert; *One for the Goose Bump File*, by Phyllis Wahlquist; *True Confessions*, by Susan Selders Evens; *The McPhersons of Colby*, by Mary Alice (McPherson) Yoke; *This Business of Genealogy*, by Wes Koentz; *History of Puget Sound Genealogical Society*, by Mariys Shipley Marrs.

Sandie Morrison brought back a nugget from the Salt Lake City genealogical gold fields. She found her great-grandfather on a passenger list coming into New York Harbor from Norway in 1876.

Larry Harden was awarded the Annual Outstanding Member Award at the December Holiday Auction. This award was well deserved by Larry. He has given freely of his time and energy to PSGS. He has overseen the Obits project this past year that was finally completed under his guidance. He is a dedicated member of PSGS and a true genealogist. He has spent countless hours in research fulfilling people's queries on their ancestors. He set up the trip to Salt Lake for our group, making reservations and coordinating everyone's agenda for the trip. Larry has shown outstanding concern for the well being of PSGS and sets an example for us all.

Have you renewed your membership?

# Cindy's Choice Web Sites

Cindy Shawley Spore

[www.library.wisc.edu/etext/ravenstein/](http://www.library.wisc.edu/etext/ravenstein/)

This is for towns in Germany in 1883.

[www.gendex.com/gendex/](http://www.gendex.com/gendex/)

This is an old one, but good.

[www.cpcug.org/user/jlacombe/mark.html](http://www.cpcug.org/user/jlacombe/mark.html)

A Barrel of Genealogy Links. Ida Mae Swedberg shared this with us. Lots of stuff here.

[www.censusdiggins.com/freebies.html](http://www.censusdiggins.com/freebies.html)

This is a fun one - freebies.

[www.slcl.lib.mo.us](http://www.slcl.lib.mo.us)

The National Genealogical Society's large collection can be used by Interlibrary loan from the St. Louis County Library in Missouri.

Thanks to the Scotland County Missouri Genealogical Society for some of these sites.

# Belfair Bulletin

PSGS' Belfair Chapter held their Christmas potluck in November at the home of Nadine Tiede. The Chapter members shared tasty food, good friends, and had wonderful time. During a quick business meeting Madelyn Cataldo and Estelle Foster were elected co-presidents for 2003. Everyone participated in planning programs for the coming year.

Our guest speaker at our July meeting will be Charlotte Cabbie. Her topic will be on organizing and preparing for genealogical research.

Estelle Foster's father's line is French Canadian. Fortunately she has a working knowledge of the language and has had many successes researching his Quebec ancestry. Estelle also has done much research in Sweden on her husband's family. While on a visit to that country she was pleased to meet members of his family. Since then she has hosted to members at her home in Belfair.

Madi Cataldo's research and expertise has been primarily in three regions. The New England of her origins, that of her father's Nova Scotia and his ancestral home of England and Wales. The third area of interest is the Italy of her husband's derivation.

## Tracing My Danzig Mennonite Ancestry

Madge Norton

Periodically Grandma would state she was descended from Nobility. When her great grandfather came to this country they sent him on a family ship. I was quite young when I decided this was all unlikely. An Illinois farm wife?

About 1978 my aunt, the family picture and old letter custodian, offered it all to me. I'd seen it all years before, but wasn't impressed then. Now I couldn't wait to get my hands on them.

The pictures were unlabeled except for one. On the back was the name of the photographer and in German script

was written:  
Jacob Gustav v  
[on] Niessen, geb.  
5 Feb 1811

Danzig. I realized this was my third great grandfather and with proof of his birth date! Getting the letters and documents translated proved to be a bigger problem. A German friend looked at them but they were written in the old script. She told me one looked like a will and seemed to mention ships. The documents' red seals impressed her. The envelopes had a special insignia on their back. It had already occurred to me that the average person in Danzig in the 1840 to 1865 era didn't use stationary embossed with their name!

I finally found a professional who could read them. The letters were as modern as today. One written in 1856 was the father scolding son Jacob on everything. "You don't write often enough." "What have you done with the money I sent you?" "Why don't you own more than one business?" "Write

about your family and not about the American president which I can read every day in the newspaper"!

There was a copy of the will of the father, Arend von Niessen, who died July 21, 1865 in Danzig. He had part interest in five ships that were listed by name. There was a kernel of truth in the family tradition? He left a substantial amount of money to the Mennonite Community and it's pastor. That sent me racing to the Family History Center to order the Mennonite films from Danzig. They were a treasure trove. The third frame on the first roll of the Flemish

Mennonite Church of Danzig showed Jacob's birth record. It took me nearly two years to sort out the family back to 1715.

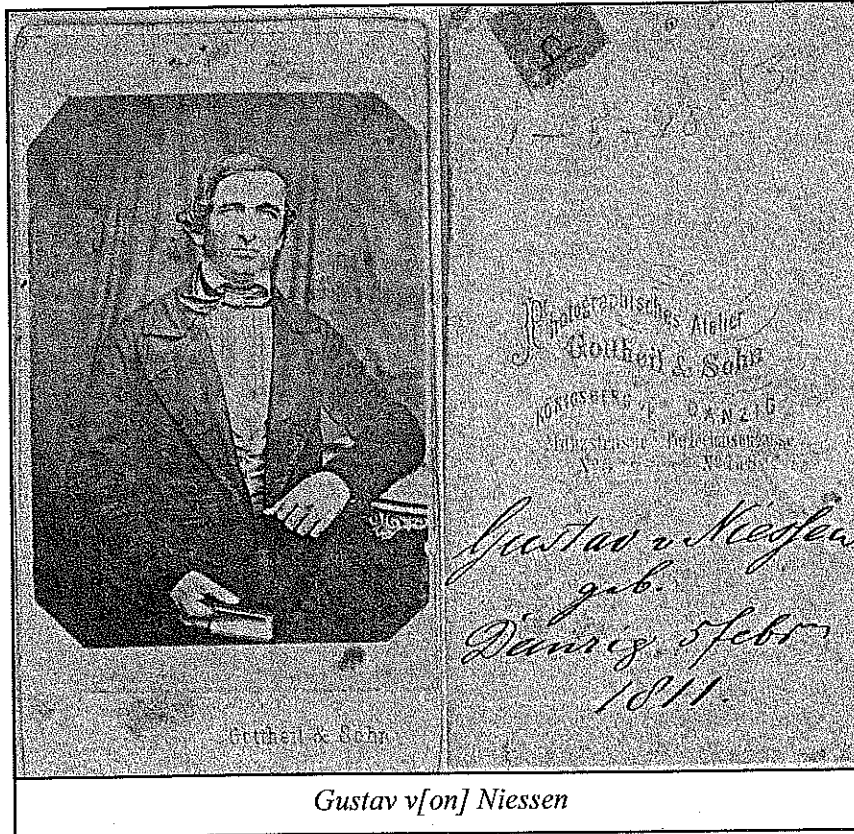
There was much intermarriage and the records were very detailed, but very readable. One early branch went to Russia. The records in early 1700's were in Dutch.

Earlier than 1700 the records are not really legible. Because Jacob died before the settlement of father's estate was complete, there were many more letters. What about the family tradition of

being descended from nobility? Apparently not true! They certainly were wealthy though.

On a trip through Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1998 we stopped at the Mennonite Historical Library. I found a book on Danzig that had reproductions of paintings of two of my ancestors. There was a picture of the old Flemish Mennonite Church in Danzig that was destroyed in WW II.

I Certainly found more on my von Niessen line than I ever expected.



Gustav v[on] Niessen

### Important Tax Information!

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.**



## Why Did I Become A Genealogist?

Estelle Foster

Actually, for most of my adult life up until 1980, I had thought about trying to find out something about my father's people, and perhaps a few facts about my husband's ancestors. Never did anything productive about it, though, until one day in 1980 one of my granddaughters (fourth grader at the time) asked her mother "Where did our people come from?" Apparently something had been discussed at school that prompted her thinking along these lines. I was asked for information, and had little to offer, but my usual response to questions of which I know nothing is to say that I don't know but will see what I can find out. The next problem was where to start? What do I do? Noticing an announcement of the Belfair Genealogy meeting, it seemed that might be the best place to learn the beginning steps of family research.

What a wonderful experience to listen to the people who already had done much work and were very generous in sharing their experiences, giving me helpful hints about what to do first, and including me

in their upcoming trip to the Archives in Seattle. At the Archives I was fortunate in finding my father's people in the 1900 Connecticut census. There were other helpful bits of information available, as well, which really "fired" my enthusiasm to proceed even more diligently.

My "gene" friends then explained about the Family History Library at Salt Lake City, and since I had friends there who had asked me to visit, I made my first trip there in 1982. That was a real revelation. The assistants there made it possible for me to learn how to use the facility effectively, which led to the opening of the research road that I have traveled with such resounding success all the years since. There have been many trips to SLC since, with the gene groups, and many happy discoveries. My ancestor books continue to grow, and I have now followed the lines into the descendants of my husband's people who live in Sweden. And that's another story!

## PSGS Research Library Annual Report

Marjorie Menees

During 2002, our library was open ninety-six days during which time those signed in as duty librarians were Ed Miller, Karen Watson, Madge Norton, Lorraine Kniert, Susan Evans, Larry Swan, Phyllis Evans, Jo Harrah, Marjie Schultz, Larry Harden, Sandy Watson, Lorraine Magee, Ida Mae Swedburg, Pat Eder, Linda Thompson, Phyllis Wahlquist, Jeanne Menchenton, and Betty Cuddy.

Volunteers for October, November, and December State days were Jeanne Menchenton, Terry Mettling, Larry Swan, Betty Cuddy, Madge Norton, Shirle Hamrick, Susan Evans, and Bobby Kennedy. Our library could not function if it were not for the above dedicated folk. We owe them many thank-yous. Almost all of them worked more than just one day.

Susan Evans topped everyone with twenty-one days donated while Lorraine Kniert gave twenty and Larry Swan, fifteen. These three have also spent time working on our "Weeding" program cutting, printing, sorting, and assembling pertinent pages from periodicals into volumes easily used for researching. We are close to having the Washington State periodicals completed with two or three remaining sets that are begging for attention and are waiting for volunteers.

During the past year we have logged into the library 180 additions of which there were eight CD sets, four new periodical subscriptions, and 168 books. How many of these have you taken time to peruse and enjoy?

Since at the time of this writing we are contemplating being closed in March for relocation, you may want to check first before planning to come in.

I do feel terribly sad and worried about the closure of our library. I was thinking of how much we would be missing without our library operation. It has been the one

*(Continued on page 20)*

*(Continued from page 4) Great Grandpa Did Not Swim To America After All!*

lius Hansen, my g grandfather! Hello Grandpa! With him were listed his wife Marit, her mother Marit Erikson and the two children, Marie and Hans.

After making copies of the pages showing the duration of the voyage, name of the ship and my great-grandfather's name, I went in search of a photo of the ship. In a book titled "*Ships Of Our Ancestors*," by Michael J Anuta, I found two photos of the ship *S.S. Germanic*. One in full sail and one with information on the steamship's maiden voyage in May of 1875 and that it won the transatlantic "Blue Ribbon" six months before my great-grandfather sailed on it. It gave me a good feeling to know that my ancestors came to America on a relatively 'modern' ship.

To sum up my story of research efforts I must say to you "don't give up." You must hang in there with your search, take a break if you must but come

## So You Have Become A Genealogist!

Tell the *Backtracker* readers why you became a family historian. Describe in a brief essay that moment of inspiration that caused you to be come an avid genealogist.

## The PSGS 2003 FHC, Salt Lake City Trip

If you haven't done research in Salt Lake City at the Family History Library, you really should give thought to joining your fellow PSGS members in 2004. Some degree of success was met by all. The library is huge with a wealth of books, microfilms, fiches, informative short classes, helpful elders and sisters, and a knowledgeable staff to assist if they are unable. The surrounding mountains are spectacular. The city is clean--malls and theatres are nearby--there is a superb cafeteria to buy lunches and ingredients for dinner.

Our five-star instructor was **Larry Harden** who was found one afternoon instructing **Phyllis Evans**

on the use of the [www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org) web site. Soon both **Pat Eder** and **Paulette Waggoner** were peering over his shoulder. He patiently explained how to navigate the site while chiding us for the fact we hadn't read our *Back-tracker* thoroughly because the December 2002 issue had a short article on that site by him. You do need your Kitsap County Library card number to take advantage of the databases that have genealogy information and census indexes for 1870 and 1910.

**Phyllis Evans:** Located a great-great-grandmother after she had left home with one child and left some children with their father. Traced one family line to the Atlantic coast. Next year she is going to research that line in Europe at the FHL. She also joined **Sandie Morrison's** sister-in-law, Pat, on the peace march in Salt Lake City. (Unfortunately, the press did not consider her presence worthy enough to photograph and include in the local paper.)

**Sue Plummer:** Didn't find a lot, but learned from classes and the very good people at the information desk. Got German/English translation list from class that helped with a Hein Family translation.

**Terry Mettling:** Found his Pomeranian ancestor's marriage certificate and had it translated by a gentleman at the information desk, who happened to

## Paulette Waggoner and Sue Plummer

be a professor at BYU that taught genealogy. He asked for a copy of the marriage certificate to give to one of his students as a project for research (about 50 hours). In May he will send Terry a copy of what that student finds. On the last Saturday Terry found one of his lines that he traced quickly back three generations. Terry might be labeled the luckiest of all the 2003 PSGS trip members--being at the right desk at the right time. How many of us will get 50 hours of free research? Also, he acquired email addresses of two people doing research along the same lines as he, and they've already exchanged information.

Yes, he is lucky!



Left to right — Front row: Paulette Waggoner, Mary Yoke, JoAnn Scott, Phyllis Wahlquist, Dorothy Adams. Middle row: Barbara Chesley, Madeline Olson, Sandie Morris, Sue Plummer, Phyllis Evans, Pat Eder. Back row: Cindy Spore, Terry Mettling, Larry Harden, Larry Swan, Lois Roark, Joyce Liston. Not present: Sandie and Jim Morriso, Cheryl Bartholomew and Sharon Newell and her husband

### Joyce Liston:

Found her Montana family and then decided to try Germany on floor B1 at the FHL. She walked around that floor and it scared her so badly with all its foreign languages that she went back upstairs. Joyce also perused several census films from beginning

to end--one family at a time. She is looking forward to going back next year.

**Barbara Chesley:** Found 1637 land grant for her family, spent most of the time in Sweden. Found great-grand-mother "Johanna Carlsdotter" under her maiden name after she was married, also found her brothers, sisters and their parents.

**Joann Scott:** Started out with the shotgun approach for both her own and her husband's lines. Then centered in on one family in Finland because of the amount of information she found, and thus, documented them back to 1630.

**Larry Harden:** Helped a lot of people with their problems. Found nothing earthshaking for himself, but worked on his wife's family. Disproved a lot of stuff that wasn't correct.

**Larry Swan:** He figured he had worked too hard on his Norwegian grandmother last year so this year he worked on his children's mother's line. He got stuck in Poland, but found them in Missouri. The last Friday morning in the Joseph Smith building he

(Continued on page 19)

## Guidelines for *Backtracker* Writers

Cyril Taylor

As stated prominently in the *Backtracker*, it is our policy to publish family history articles written almost exclusively by PSGS members. It is our desire to encourage our membership to relate their family history stories of every type for inclusion in our newsletter.

It came to mind that it might be of benefit to writers regardless of their experience to establish guidelines for them. Guidelines that will provide broad perimeters and not steer you towards a specific writing method, but to furnish you with standards with regard to style. I must admit the guidelines formulated are incomplete. It is assumed that from time to time additional elements of style will be added.

What kind of articles do we wish to see cross the editor's desk? It is quite obvious that we wish to publish articles on all aspects of family history research. The range of possibilities is endless. Just allow your imagination to point you where it may. As editor I am hesitant to suggest writing on specific subjects because ultimately it is you the writer who must be creative in selecting your writing theme.

More often or not you will say that you don't have anything to write about, but just when you have anchored that negative thought firmly in your mind your conscience will inspire you with a great story idea. When this happens I urge to immediately begin the writing process. Inspirations are always correct and should not be denied.

Another fallacy is, "I just don't have any writing skills." It is my opinion that everyone has writing ability and unique writing styles. The hardest part is that first word and then that first sentence and then that first paragraph. But with each subsequent word it becomes easier. Then you know that you have hurdled the "writer's block" and you are sprinting for the finish line and victory. The best ways to become a writer is by writing. It becomes easier with experience or as they say, practice makes perfect.

Even famous writers rely on their editors to give them advice and to critique their efforts. The editor fills an important roll in the literary field. I want you to know that you too can depend on your *Backtracker* editor to be right there beside you to give you all the help you may need to bring out a finely polished finished article. Never hesitate in the fear that your composition is not good enough. Let your editor make that objective judgment.

### The *Backtracker* Style

- If you refer to a person, use their name. Grandfather is not enough. It should read Grandfather Tom Jones. "My husband and I," should read "My husband Tom and I." You never see the name Anonymous in a pedigree!
- If you report an event such as birth, marriage or death, in-

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 18) *The PSGS 2003 FHC, Salt Lake City Trip.* found a family book on the Penningtons and Owings, which put the Owings back to 1640 in Maryland.

**Cindy Spore:** Also assisted others in finding things, including people not even with PSGS. She cleaned up some things from other years. Looked for Moulds in England. A couple of years ago she had done her sister's husband's family for her niece, so this year she traced the family to Slovakia requiring reading Latin and Hungarian. Their name in Slovakia was Hardony. She hired a researcher to do the Fantz family and he got them back to early 1700. She thinks that is far enough.

**Sandie Morris:** Found information for her son-in-law back to his great-grandfather in North Dakota and Indiana. She also found her great-grandfather and his eldest son in North Dakota.

**Marilyn Olsen:** Found lots related to her husband's lines. Now she need to write England and Italy (Palermo) for further information.

**Paulette Waggoner:** Traced her daughter-in-law's grandparents back from Berwyn, Cook County, IL to the Czech Republic. She painstakingly traced a Joseph Herman with the help of a FHL staff person who specializes in the Czechoslovakian area. Now she has information to sell on Ebay—she found the wrong Herman. On the last Friday she traced Frank Herman back from Ellis Island, found his ship, and his hometown in Bavaria. She also found sources for much of her earlier research.

**Phyllis Wahlquist:** Thinks her husband's grandfather must have swum the Atlantic, as she can not find him on any passenger list. She did find her Woodin family and confirmed her great great-grandmother's siblings.

**Dorothy Adams:** Was unsuccessful with her research on a Greek ancestor, but she was able to visit with a local person who came to the library and gave her some tips to follow in the future.

**Pat Eder:** Found the marriage licenses of her two half-brothers from the mid 1940's in Montgomery County, PA. She didn't grow up with them, and is still looking for their descendants. She also got back to her son-in-law's great-great-grandparents in Gage County, NE including their marriage certificate.

**Sandie Morrison:** Finding her great-grandfather's name, Kornelius Hansen, on the ship *SS Germanic* passenger list coming into New York Harbor on August 5th, 1876. With him were his wife, mother-in-law, and two babies. Also found a Guardianship packet from a courthouse in North Carolina on film for her great-great-grandfather, Lemuel Oakes Sandie and Jim Morriso, Cheryl Bartholomew and Sharon Newell and her husband, showing all the papers and listing his wife and all of his children. It gives the guardians expenses for caring for the children including schooling and clothing. There was so much information she burned it all to a CD.

**Jim Morrison:** Found a list of all heads of households for the townland of Barnashray, Sligo County, Ireland. In it was his great-grandfather, George Reed. Jim is still looking for the elusive Morrison clan.

### Earn Money for PSGS

PSGS has joined the  
Legacy Affiliate Program.

Go to our web site:  
[www.rootsweb.com/~wapgsdgs/homepage.htm/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~wapgsdgs/homepage.htm/)  
Click on: "Important Links"

Click on: Legacy

**PSGS will earn a 15%**

Commission on your Online Purchases.

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

# Member Surname Interests

Gerald N. Punches, 3742 SW Galway Court, Port Orchard, WA 98367, punches3742@aol.com.

**Punches** 1880's MI,  
**Pontius** 1738 USA  
**Cornell** 1800's IN, CO  
**Stoner** 1800's IA, MO  
**Mayo** 1840 MT, MI, ME  
**See** 1800's NY, MI  
**Study** 1800's IN, IA, NE  
**Proud** 1900 MA, VT

Elaine A. Frigone, P O Box 485, Allyn, WA 98524, gefrigone@aol.com.

**Metton** GA, TX, WA 1700-2003  
**Frigon** CAN, USA, Aust 1660-2003  
**Dionne** CAN, USA, 1660-2003.  
**Saindon** CAN, USA 1660-2003  
**Bartel** Germ, KS, OR 1700-1900  
**Nickel** Germ, KS, OR 1700 1900  
**Salmon** Germ. IL 1865-2003  
**Anderson** Swed, CA, OR, WA 1700-2003

Barbara Chesley, 486 NE Conifer Drive, Bremerton, WA 98311, bchesley@foxinternet.com.

**Chittick** NS, Canada 1880's  
**Dowll, Dowell** NS, Canada 1880's  
**Lindell** Sweden 1880  
**Lindquist** Swedem 1800

Donald T. Winter, 3344 S E Cedar Court, Port Orchard, WA 98366, dandmwinter@charter.net.

**Roach** ID, MN, Everett 1916  
**Scribner** ID, MN, Everett 1916

Robert Mueller, 2785 SE Converse Circle, Port Orchard, WA 98366-1143, mulear@aol.com.

**Mueller** MO, NJ  
**Brinkman** MO  
**Petering** MO  
**Fitzsimmons** MO  
**McSpadden/McSpaden** TN, MO

Carol Lowrie, P O Box 1324, Port Orchard, WA 98366.

**Richard** Quebec, WA early 1800

**Borgman**  
**Mooberg**  
**Lowrie/Lowrey**

Pat Stone, 191 Lakeland Way, Allyn, WA 98524, patrabbit@charter.net.

**Stott** Canada, MT  
**Kelly** Canada, MT  
**Culbertson** Canada, MT  
**Powell** Bremerton  
**Jessup** Bremerton  
**Ganty**

Norm & Evelyn Flickinger, P O Box 758, Belfair, WA 98528, flicks@hctc.com.

**Cash** ID, IN, KY, VA  
**Crim** IA, VA  
**Harper** OR, WA, MO  
**Flickinger** IN, OH, Germany  
**Geske** MN, Geramy  
**Provoncher** MI, Quebec

Debra Scott, P O Box 1, Timnath, CO 80547, prov-erb31@hotmail.com.

**Scott** OH before 1850  
**Van Arsdale** NJ before 1850  
**Quick** NJ before 1850  
**Housen** Ohio before 1850

(Continued from page 19) Guidelines for Backtracker Writers

clude name, date and locality of event.

(Continued from page 17) *Library Report*  
 organization that has bound the Society members in a common cause and bonded us together in friendship. Is it possible we will no longer have a library research facility available? There will be no beginner one on one classes headed by our experienced genealogists, no educational video classes conducted by a knowledgeable member, no library usage or library training classes by our librarian, no days for specialized research like the State Days, no work parties to produce compendia of local genealogical history, no expansion of materials either through purchase or donations. All these services without charge to either to the members or the public. Seminars and other charged functions may also be missing. And the question remains; will our web site and our *Backtracker* newsletter fade away? But I also feel that somehow all this travail will leave us better off than we think we are now. That somehow we will land on our feet on firmer ground.

- Rather than use g-g-grandfather or 2g-grandfather, use great-great-grandfather. Rather than use a long string of "greats," for example, use fifth-great-grandfather.
- In order to orient the reader chronologically with reference to an individual record their name this way: Jane Doe (1787-1818).
- Geographic orientation is an important aspect of genealogical writing. Always indicate the name of the locality of an event including governmental jurisdictions. For example, Port Orchard, Kitsap County, Washington.
- Use (!) and (?) singly and never ever in multiples. It only takes one to exclaim or pose a question.
- When referring to a woman's maiden name place it in brackets as follows: Jane [Roe] Smith.
- There are some schools of thought that in genealogical writings one should emphasize surnames in capital letters, for example, SMITH. I am of the school of thought that they should always be expressed in lower case letters and this is reflected in my editing. Lower case surnames is the *Backtracker* standard.
- It is the policy of the *Backtracker* not to publish birth dates of living individual. If the circumstance requires that you refer to a living person's birth date, just indicate the birth year in parentheses like (1923).
- Numbers are in most cases are to be written in full as follows "three brothers" or "twenty-seven acres." Numbers greater than ninety-nine can be expressed numerically such as "he took out a 160 acre homestead."
- Titles of publications and names of ships should be written in Italics.
- Excerpts from written sources should be enclosed within quote marks. The writer of the quoted material must be given full credit by name. Dictionary definitions should be placed in quotations.
- Internet is a proper noun and should be capitalized.

# Member Surname Interests

Mary-Jane Cater, P O Box 571, Port Orchard, WA 98366, edmjccater@yahoo.com.

**Mosher** Eastern CAN1850-1900  
**Junger** Eastern WA & IA  
**Boyle** IRE 1850-1910

Emilie Garcia, 7138 Killeen Place SW, Port Orchard, WA 98367, meefy@msn.com.

**Olagüe** MEX 1700's to 1910  
**Marquez** MEX 1600's to 1900  
**Espalin** NM 1860 to 1920  
**Garcia** MEX 1850 to 1910  
**Provencio** MEX 1700's to 1800's  
**Ortigoza** MEX 1800's to 1920  
**Bejarano** MEX 1800's to 1920  
**Reveles** MEX 1700's to 1910

Shirle W. Hamrick, 10794 Hampton Ave. N W, Silverdale, WA 98383, hamemcsss@charter.net..

**Hamrick** **Curtis** All surnames in  
**Estep** **Gregory** either Virginia  
**Ward** **Bailey** or West Virginia  
**Hevener** **Dodrill** All years

Lawrence E. Harden 1294 SW Station Circle, Port Orchard, WA 98367, leharden@charter.net.

**Lorentson** Sweden—NY 1870-1940  
**Trulson** Sweden—NY 1870-1940  
**Jones** PA—Long Island, NY 1870-1930  
**Morrison** PA—MO—KS—OK 1845-1910  
**Tagart** PA—OK 1870-1930  
**Montgomery** PA—IL—MO—IAOK 1818-1930  
**Throne** PA—OK 1870=1920  
**Fry/Frey** PA 1840-1900

Barbara Maudlin, 17204 Olympic View Road NW, Silverdale, WA 98383, bmaudlin@charter.net.

**Stuart** KY, TEN, AK 1750-1910  
**Camak** IRE, SC, ALA 1765-1850  
**Pullen** NC, SC, GA, AK 1700-1870  
**Pettigrew** IRE, SC, TEN, AK 1750  
**Willson** PA, OH, GA, AK 1800-1920  
**Hammons** NC, GA 1710-1870  
**Bryant** MA, IA, CA 1650-1920  
**Ryan** IRE, SC, AL 1765-1920

Pat McGuire, 8222 E. Caraway Road, Port Orchard, WA 98366, joeatmcguire@charter.net.

**Bowden** Australia, Whatcom County, WA  
**Powell** CAN, WA Territory  
**McGuire** IRE, NJ  
**Irwin** PA, KS, WA  
**Hileman** GER-Palatine, PA, WA  
**Walsh** IRE, NJ

Donald Weedon, 1741 NE 11th Avenue, Oak Harbor, WA 98277.

**Weedin/Weeden** **Keil**  
**Kirkpatrick** **McClellan**  
**Fauber**

Sharon Mehler, 9000 Utah Street N E, Bremerton, WA 98311, mehlersm2@attbi.com.

**Thompson** Rolling Bay, WA  
**Rodal** Rolling Bay, WA.

Marjorie Menees, 3262 Beach Drive East, Port Orchard, WA 98366-8116, menees@netnw.com.

**Cleveland** New England 1630's to 2002  
**Dean** New England 1630's to 2002  
**Lyman** New England 1630's to 2002  
**Codding** New England 1630's to 2002  
**Ferris** New England 1630's to 2002  
**Morse** New England 1630's to 2002  
**William** TN, IL, MO 1789-2002  
**Millican** TN, IL, MO 1789-2002

Sharon and Clint Newell, 3255 Almira Drive, Bremerton, WA 98310, candnewell@attbi.com.

**Schoming/Schaming** France, IL  
**Stone** CT  
**Snape** ENG, IL  
**Eichler** Czech Rep, PA  
**Higginson** IRE, CT  
**Jacobs** NY  
**Newell** IRE, Ontario  
**Harrison** IRE, Ontario

Marilyn J. Roberts, 10011 W. Belfair Valley Road, Bremerton, WA 98312-9751, mickimjr@aol.com.

**McNutt** IA 1880  
**Bradley** IA 1880  
**Bell** IA 1880  
**Lent**  
**Allgood**

Stephanie Satter, 8996 Utah St. NE, Bremerton, WA 98311, tarah200@attbi.com

**Younger** MO, OR, WA 1840's—1900's  
**Galbraith** TN, OR, WA 1700—1900's  
**Geck** MI, WA 1850's—1900  
**Juve** Norway, WI, WA 1800's—1950  
**Hong** Norway, WI, WA 1800's—1950

John W. Smith, 1750 W. Sunnfjord Lane, Apt. G203, Bremerton, WA 98312, johns31909@msn.com.

**Smith** MA 1758  
**Mastick** MA 1758  
**Glazier** IN, NY, IL 1880  
**Morris** IN, NY, IL 1880  
**McCreechie** NY 1800  
**Cleland** Scotland, NM 1840

Martha Smith, 4351 NE Totem Place, Bremerton, WA 98311, can8junii@attbi.com.

**Saunders** New Brunswick, CAN, NJ  
**Hicks** New Brunswick, CAN, NY  
**Belyea** New Brunswick, CAN, NY

Lorri & Nyla Walsh, PO Box 3807, Silverdale, WA 98383, lnwalsh@nwinet.com.

**Walsh** **Crawford**  
**Batess** **Buss**

Doris Beck Watson, 1620 Nipsic Place, Bremerton, WA 98310-5009, dwatson@oz.net.

**Beck** Bainbridge Island  
**Lund** Island/Skagit Counties  
**Tabbutt** Bainbridge Island/Bremerton  
**Hanson(sen)** IA, MN  
**Allen** ME  
**Rideout** NH, ME

# Pat Eder's Exchange Notes

Amer Ancestry 20:6 (Nov/Dec 2002): DNA testing – the future of genealogy; myths in your family tree; digital photography; searching the British census; French-Canadian research.

Ibid. 21:1 (Jan/Feb 2003): research in the mid-Atlantic states; proving family lore on the high seas; ship wrecks on the Great Lakes; ten family history resolutions for 2003.

Amer Ellen Payne Odum Genealogy Library “Family Tree” 11:6 (Dec 2002/Jan 2003): tracing multiple blood lines-red, white and black; listing of reunions, meetings and educational opportunities.

Amer Everton's Family History Magazine 56:6 (Nov/Dec 2002): keeping a journal for your children; Dean GILMORE story; great gadgets for family history scrapbooking; connecting to the Internet.

Ibid. 57:1 (Jan/Feb 2003): census records information; historical profile of the Afro-American historical and genealogical society; info for your trip to Salt Lake City family history library; using Microsoft PowerPoint; scanning guidelines.

Amer Family Chronicle 7:3 (Jan/Feb 2003): history of orphanages in Canada and U.S., ten ways to jump start your research; molecular genetics – paternal DNA; importing GEDCOM files.

Amer Heritage Quest 18:6 Issue 102 (Nov/Dec 2002): political biographies; adoption research; bounty land records; N.Y. city research facilities; genealogy software updates-Family Tree Maker; using the IGI for finding immigrant origins; German research; research in the Netherlands.

Amer History Magazine 4:2 (Jan 2003): the 1810's decade; medieval bookmaking; Hudson Bay adventurers; Russia's occupation of Alaska; Boer War.

CA Sequoia GS “Newsletter” 29:9 (Nov 2002): Great register Tulare Co 1888, ongoing.

FL Okaloosa Co GS “Journal of NW Florida” 26:85 (Spr 2002): Walton Co cemeteries – Paxton cemetery, ongoing; Santa Rosa Co marriages 1916.

FL So Lake Co GS “The Pastfinder” 14:3 (Sum 2002): Klez virus-how to protect your PC.

Ibid. 14:4 (Fall 2002): signers of the Declaration of Independence.

IL Clay Co GS “Clay Roots” 14:4 (Win 2002): AUSBROOK family; RALEY, REILEY, RILEY, etc., early settlers of Clay Co; Milan school 1940 students; Cpl. CLEVELAND, WWI hero; MCKNELLY, CARTER and RUSSELL-SEGESER families; minutes of Barnhill Post No. 162, GAR 1914-16; Zenia high school students 1919.

IL Schuyler Co GS “The Schuylerite” 31:3 (Fall 2002): local news items 1887; marriage licenses Dec. 1859; deaths 1858-59.

Ibid. 31:4 (Win 2002): local news items; roll of teachers 1862; obituaries from Schuyler Citizen 1858-59.

IN Tri-State GS “Tri-State Packet” 26:1 (Sept/Oct/Nov

2002): Zion United Church of Christ, Kane Co, IL, baptisms 1887; CARLISLE autobiography written during the Civil War; death records in Evansville Journal 1881; Vanderburg Co, IN, 1900 census index – German Twp, ongoing; records of Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Newburgh, IN, 1850's.

KS Jefferson Co GS “Yester Years” (Oct 2002): Jefferson Co school teachers 1898-1899; marriage licenses issued in 1937; list of voters and tax payers 1899; deaths reported but burial location is not known; births 1936; Plum Grove cemetery lot ownership; Douglas Co marriage licenses of Jefferson Co residents 1864-1939

MD Frederick Co GS “Newsletter” (Dec 2002): 30<sup>th</sup> reunion Washington Co high school class of 1925; United Brethren cemetery, Thurmont, MD 1967.

MA Berkshire Co GS “Berkshire Genealogist” 23:4 (Fall 2002): CHAPIN, ROOT, KRUSZYNA, GOODRICH and TAYLOR ancestor charts; graduates of Adams, MA high school 1871-1927, ongoing; members of First Congregational church, North Adams, MA 1873-1911; state census of MA, Great Barrington 1855, ongoing.

MN Otter Tail Co GS “Newsletter” 20:3 (Sept 2002): Pine Lake Twp history and cemetery records.

MT Dawson Co GS “The Tree Branch” 11:3 (Oct 2002): Dawson Co death notices May-Aug 2002.

MO Scotland Co GS “Newsletter” 17:1 (Jan 2003): NGS library has moved to St. Louis Co library with inter-library loans available-catalogue online; news items from 1903 and 1920; merchants statements 1979-80; school students listed 1917-18; death notices from Memphis Democrat, various years from 1925 to 1974.

OH Tuscarawas Co GS “Tuscarawas Pioneer Footprints” 30:5 (Sept/Oct 2002): church deeds, ongoing; Liberty graveyard burials; county court record of petitions, Vol. 3.

Ibid. 30:6 (Nov/Dec 2002): Vol. 29 surname index.

OR Genealogical Forum of Oregon “Bulletin” 52:2 (Dec 2002): Multnomah Co lawyer biographies 1910; Portland Blue Book directory 1890; travels of Dr. E. WHITE, excerpt written in 1850; Linnton, OR history; Civil War veterans who were residents of OR, ongoing.

OR Genealogical Forum of Oregon “Forum Insider” 14:4 (Nov 2002): extensive list of new library additions.

OR Willamette Valley GS “Beaver Briefs” 34:4 (Fall 2002): Marion Co deaths 1921-1930, part 4.

PA Mercer Co GS “Past Times” 22:7 (Nov 2002): news items from 125 years ago, Rev. BUCHER marriages 1763-1769; Mercer Co Civil War veterans.

Ibid. news items from 125 years ago; marriages by Rev. BUCHER, ongoing.

WA Clark Co GS “Trail Breakers” 29:1 (Fall 2002): news from Vancouver Independent 1877: Vancouver post, (Continued on page 23)

## Our Heritage Is Anything But Normal! Whatever That Is? Phyllis Searls Wahlquist

Dateline: -

*Dudley, Massachusetts, April 5, 1764 to wit: to Joseph Healey one of the Constables of Dudley Greeting In his Majesties Name you are Required to warn Ebeneze Searls & Hannah Searls his wife so called to Depart the Town of Dudley forthwith they being Stagling persons and Residing in said Dudley at the House of Ebenezer Griggses and you are also required to make Return of this warrant and your Doings thereon to us the Subscribers as soon as may be. given under our hands and seal at Dudley afforsaid this 5 Day of April 1764.persuant to the within written I have made Dilligent Search for the with named Ebenezer Searls and he is not to be found I have warned the within Named Hannah Searls to Depart our of Dudley forthsith*

*Joseph Healey Constable*

Note: The spelling and punctuation are faithful to original document. The term stagling was not to be found in any dictionary. The closest was stagger-

ling - drunk and disorderly. Ah so! We all have some skeletons in our closets.

*Descriptions of land and roads before the days of experienced surveyors:*

Dateline: November 22, 1769

*A Road laid out by the Selectmen of Dudley beginning at the NW of Col. Thos Cheaneys lane and thence to a black oak about NW from thence westerly to heep of Stones from thence northerly to a pitch pine tree...The road is now trod to the corner of the wall of Col. Cheaneys farm that Abijah Sarls now lives upon which is to the Charlton line. said road to be two rods wide and laid out on the SW sid of the said bounds.*

*by Ebenezer Bacon  
Jacob Chamberlain Selectmen  
John Curtis*

From the Vital Records of Rockingham, Vermont and Records of the First Church of Rockingham, Vermont 1773 to 1839:

Dateline: November 3, 1787 -

*Whereas, Complaint has been made to us that (names of six families) Are all come to live in sd Town of Rockingham and not having gained a legal settlement therein & may be likely to become chargeable to sd Town of Rockingham. These are therefore, by the Authority of the State of Vermont to Command you immediately on sight hereof to warn all the above named persons to leave sd Town of Rockingham immediately.....*

Note: The inhospitable custom of "Warning out of town" which prevailed in Vermont and New Hampshire was in conformity with the state law, and was intended to prevent new comers from obtaining a settlement and possibly becoming a charge upon the town. As the law was applied to all new comers alike, it did not constitute any reflection upon their character. A "warning out" was not effective later than a year after the arrival and as an entry was always made on the town records, these entries are often serviceable in fixing the date of the arrival of a family in town.

Dateline: July 5, 1799.

*This may certify to whom it may concern that Abjiah Searles is of and doth belong to the Universalist Society in Rockingham and contributes to the support of the same. - Solomon Wright, Moderator*

Those filing certificates with Rockingham Town Clerk of religious preference avoided assisting in support of the Town Church. A tax-supported church was still in force even though the border with Canada had been determined in 1792/3.

(Continued from page 22) Pat Eder's Exchange Notes.

office news and editorials 1945; Old City cemetery, Vancouver, updated volume, part 1.

WA Grant Co GS "Big Bend Register" 23:3 (Dec 2002): 1920 census Grant Co; naturalizations index; PING pedigree.

WA Jefferson Co GS "Newsletter" 19:1 (Win 2002-03): Chemicum tax list 1867.

WA So King Co GS "So King News" 18:3 (Nov/Dec 2002): King Co school census, Vashon Island 1942 and 1905, ongoing.

WA Stillaguamish Valley GS "Stillaguamish Star" 16:2 (Nov/Dec 2002): SVGS funeral index up to mid 1940's, ongoing.

WA Tacoma-Pierce Co GS "The Researcher" 34:1 (Fall 2002): Mann school census, Tacoma 1909; Daily Ledger news 1887; WA pioneer necrologies HADLOCK through HYSON; probates of Pierce Co, ongoing.

WA Tri-City GS "Bulletin" 42:3 (Nov 2002): index to WWI draft registrations in Benton Co, ongoing; Benton Co obituaries database.

WA Washington State GS "Newsletter" 18:6 (Nov/Dec 2002): regional reports of WA societies; calendar of events.

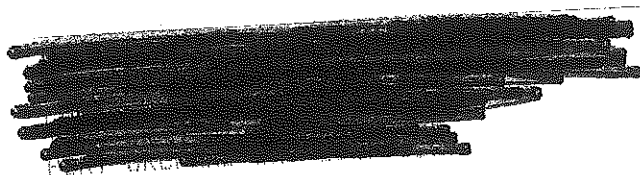
WA Wenatchee Area GS "Appleland Bulletin" 30:4 (Dec 2002): index of veterans burials Chelan and Douglas Co; Highland cemetery, Douglas Co, ongoing; Appledale school, Douglas Co student body 1912; KIEHN family.

WV Kanawha Valley GS "Journal" 26:3 (Fall 2002): MEHALCO, WANDLING, TALBERT and SPURLOCK ancestor charts; Marmet, WV cemetery, ongoing; Kanawha Co deaths 1858.

Ibid. 26:4 (Win 2002): Marmet cemetery, ongoing; Kanawha death records 1858-59; VESCO and HUDNALL ancestor charts.

*The Backtracker*  
Puget Sound Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 1931  
Port Orchard, WA 98366-0805

NON-PROFIT  
ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
René's  
Mailings, Inc.



**“Backcover Reminders”**

- ▶ Please renew your PSGS membership now, if you have not yet done so.
- ▶ *Backtracker* Deadline for the June edition is May 1st.
- ▶ *Backtracker* Advertising copy deadline is May 1st.
- ▶ Wanted — Program Speakers — Contact Cindy Shawley Spore.
- ▶ Myra Vanderpool Gormley Seminar — Saturday, May 3, 2003.
- ▶ The *Backtracker* wants articles written by **YOU**.