

The BACKTRACKER

NEWSLETTER of the
PUGET SOUND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Serving
Kitsap and North Mason Counties

Volume XXVIII, Number 3

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

September 2003

A Message from Our President



Sandie Morrison

Dear Members,

I hope you have had a great summer and had a chance for some research on you family tree.

As we head into the fall months, we have some changes that the Membership approved for P.S.G.S. at the July meeting. The proposed by-law amendments

were accepted and membership fees were in-

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Please Remit Your 2004 Dues By December 31, 2003.

Insert: 2004 Membership Form.

Who Were the Parents of Thomas Magee? by Loraine Magee

When I started my search for my ancestors over three years ago, I found myself without much information since I had known only one grandmother and my parents died long ago. I learned from my brother in New Jersey, Skip Magee, that my paternal grandfather was Thomas Francis Magee (1879 -1920). Skip had my father's (Leroy Francis Magee, 1905-1976) bible with the information that my grandfather was the son of Thomas Magee and Rachael Taggart and was born in Newark, New Jersey.

I attended lectures and classes at Kitsap Computing Seniors (KPS) and PSGS, learning about local resources. I found my way to the National Archives on Sand Point Way in Seattle. Once in the archives I found helpful volunteers who showed me

(Continued on page 55)

The "Lost" Remains from the Bellevue Cemetery W.W. Powell by Pat McGuire

Hopefully this will be a positive reinforcement of how important cemeteries are and will continue to be for family historians. I write this story in the hope that no other researcher finds "lost remains."

My paternal family tree has two branches of Powells (not related that I can determine!) that came to Washington, but none has proven more educational, and yet time-consuming and frustrating

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

Puget Sound Genealogical Society

Meetings

Meetings are held in the Public Meeting Room in the basement of the Washington Mutual Bank at 500 Pacific Avenue in downtown Bremerton 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 to our Business Address: Puget Sound Genealogical Society, Post Office Box 1931, Port Orchard, WA 98366-0805.

Genealogical Research Library

Our library is located at — temporarily closed—. The library is open Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Phone: (360) ———.

Research Policy

Prior to conducting requested 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 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 morrison@nwinet.com
First Vice President:	Cindy Shawley Spore cindys@oz.net
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Treasurer:	Cyril Taylor cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com
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Research:	Ida Mae Swedberg ashton@tscnet.com
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Sunshine:	Madge Norton mnorton@harbornet.com
Ways & Means:	Larry Swan lswan@silverlink.net
Web Page:	Sandie Morris smorris592@earthlink.net

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PSGS Schedules and Notices

PSGS Meeting Schedules and Programs

September 23	Present expert panel with your difficult to solve genealogical problems. The panel consists of Jan Stevenson, Larry Harden, Jackie Horton and Bill Richardson.
October 28	Phyllis Evans will discuss the methods she used to solve adoption research problems.
November 25	Larry Swan will share his experience researching the Scandinavian countries using LDS and Internet resources and his trip to Sweden.
December 2	Our "program" will be our Christmas Social and Annual Auction of handmade items. This is a very fun way to obtain last minute items for gifts and to raise money for PSGS.
January 27, 2004	Those who visited the FHL at SLC will relate their experiences, their wins and their defeats.

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:

October 7, Pam Merrill, owner of Outlook Writing & Design, will speak on how to write for publication. This will be of immense value to those who are planning to write a family history.

November 4, Christmas party and planning session for 2004.

December No meeting is scheduled.

Wanted

Genealogical Articles
Demonstrating the use of maps
and geographical knowledge
in achieving the objectives of
family history research projects.

PSGS Web Page:

www.rootsweb.com/~wapgsdgs/homepage.htm/
Sandie Morris — Website Manager

Important Member Notice!

This is a member participation newsletter.

Your participation as a **writer**

Is necessary for its success.

□□□□□□□□

The *Backtracker* Wants Your
Byline Now.

Belfair Chapter Web Site

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

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.

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.

When You Change Your E-Mail Address

Notify

The *Backtracker* at
cyril_t_taylor@yahoo.com.
Thank you.

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.

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Celebrate & Socialize
Just like your great-grandparents
Have a hoedown!

Ed Evans
Square-Dance Caller

(360) 895-0305 — bigskyed@aol.com

SDM

Birth Annoucement

PSGS member **Debra Scott** gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl, on June 18, 2003. Eben Hollyston Scott arrived at 3:51 a.m. weighing in at 4 lb. 1oz, 17.5 inches long. El-isha Sofia Scott arrived at 4:36 a.m. and weighed 4 lbs. 6 oz. The babies are in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado and are expected to come home within a week or two. They are progressing very well, as is Mom. Grandmother, **JoAnn Housen Scott**, also a member of PSGS, is on hand to assist with care of the twins, perhaps for several months.

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"	\$64.00
Half Page	9" X 3½" 4½" X 7"	32.00
Quarter Page	4½" X 3½" 2¼" X 7"	\$16.00
Eighth Page	3½" X 2¼"	\$8.00

New Ad Rates Effective June 1, 2003.

Ad copy will be printed in black and white.

Contact the newsletter editor at 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.

PSGS' 2004 Salt Lake City Trip

It Is Time Again To Sign Up For
Our Annual Expedition To The
Family History Library
In Salt Lake City.

A block of rooms have been reserved at the
Salt Lake City Plaza Best Western Hotel
from

Sunday, 11 January 2004

to

Sunday, 25 January 2004.

Rooms are \$79 a night for Single/Double.

\$89 a night for three guests.

\$99 a night for four guests.

\$10 for each rollaway bed.

Plus sales tax.

Stay five nights and get the sixth night free.

●●●●●●●●

All those interested in going please contact
Larry Harden at 360-895-3181 or
leharden@charter.net.

I would like to get a firm list of those who plan
to go by the end of October.

Going To Salt Lake City For The First Time? A Few Helpful Hints by Phyllis Wahlquist

Get Organized! How? – What are the blank spaces in your research? Great-grandma Adams maiden name? Uncle Charlie's death place? Make a list of these and prioritize them. Also which families do you want to work on? Choose no more than three. Two major ones and one to fall back on if you get stuck or frustrated on the first two. You may want to take a little information on a collateral line – like Uncle Charlie's wife's family. They may give you some clues to his location and death.

(Continued on page 58)

The Genealogist's Philosophy
 Research your pedigree
 To the depth of time
 Explore every corner of your heritage
 Record every birth, marriage, death
 Trace their migrations
 Study your ancestry's geography
 And chart every detail.
 And when someone out of somewhere
 Claims your hospitality as a cousin
 Requests your help to show them the way
 To their personal past
 You willingly without hesitation
 Share with them
 All the hard won family history lore
 You have arduously accumulated over time
 You do this graciously
 Without hope of reward or a thank you.
 Because we too have been helped
 Along the genealogical road
 And have been assisted over the stone walls
 That have blocked our progress.
 Our assistance is freely given
 We welcome our newfound cousin
 Bearing a family history gift
 All in appreciation of the help
 We too have received along the way
 From countless family history researchers.

To the depth of time

Record every birth, marriage, death

Study your ancestry's geography

And when someone out of somewhere

Requests your help to show them the way

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From countless family history researchers.

Life Insurance Policies
As a source of genealogical data.
From Carol Caldwell
rjcaldwell@bandwagon.net

I found an old life insurance policy on my grandfather and attached to it was a photocopy of the application. The application gave up a great amount of information. It gave date and place of birth, age, height and weight, current address, occupation and place of business, beneficiary information, listing of diseases, operations and other health information. I haven't had a chance to pursue this, but I wonder if such information can be obtained by contacting life insurance companies on old policies. Do such companies archive their files?

From Carol Caldwell

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PSGS Meeting Schedule for 2003
Washington Mutual Savings Bank
Community Room
500 Pacific Avenue
Bremerton

September 23, 2003	- 5:00 to 9:00 pm
October 28, 2003	- 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
November 25, 2003	- 11:00 am to 3:00 pm
December 2, 2003	- 11:00 am to 3:00.m

Community Room

500 Pacific Avenue

Bremerton

September 23, 2003 - 5:00 to 9:00 pm

October 28, 2003 - 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

November 25, 2003 - 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

December 2, 2003 - 11:00 am to 3:00.m

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 Jeanne Menchenton at jjmen@charter.net.

Once PSGS has established a permanent home for the Research Library, a FTM Users Group will 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 may contact me. Jeanne

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All interest parties may contact me. Jeanne

Genealogy Conference

The Silverdale Stake genealogy conference will be held on Saturday, 25 October 2003, at the Silverdale Stake Center on Nels Nelson Road in East Bremerton from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The speaker will be Jim Terry from Legacy. He will be speaking on scanning and saving pictures and documents. Before he worked for Legacy, he worked as a professional photographer in public affairs and journalism. There also will be mini classes in the gym and a contest of family trees and pedigree charts. We are looking for volunteers to help with judging the contest and anyone who can teach a ten to fifteen minute class on easy ways to preserve family history on paper or art form. Those who would like to help can contact Susan Yake by e-mail at yakes36@bigplanet.com.

If you will have an entry or entries for the family tree and pedigree chart contest, please contact Linnie Griffin at (360) 275-3770. . We need to get an estimate of how many entries so that we can set up enough display tables.

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Do you find the articles you read in the *Backtracker* of interest? Do they inspire you in your own genealogical research? Then isn't it possible that the article you will write and submit to your newsletter, the *Backtracker*, would also interest and inspire our readers. Let that thought be the clarion call that encourages you to begin your own family history writing project.

(Continued from page 49) *A Message from Our President*

creased. The Single membership fee was raised from \$15 to \$25 and the Family membership from \$20 to \$40 per year. This will be effective as of January 1, 2004. These increases are necessary to cover to continuing increases in our newsletter as well as paying a monthly rent, etc.

Our Future Planning Committee has found P. S.G.S. a new home at the downtown Bremerton Library located at 612 5th Street. The library is going to be updated and a space made for our research library. We are hoping this will be completed by the end of the summer and we will be able to come out of storage in September or October. One of the advantages to our being located in a library will be being able to use the interlibrary loan system in ordering films and books from across the country. Another advantage is the number of people using the downtown library will give us more exposure to the public than we have had in the past. We will be close for the ferry traffic and researchers coming across the sound. We feel that by our being located in downtown Bremerton we will be in the middle of its continuing growth and development. Our Phone Tree Committee will notify you of developments pertaining to our new home at the library.

One of the changes made at our July meeting was the elimination of an August meeting for P.S. G.S. This will give everyone a break for the summer. We will meet again on September 23rd, 7PM at the Washington Mutual Bank on 5th and Pacific in downtown Bremerton. They have a large meeting room in the basement with a kitchen area for our use. Parking is free after 6PM along the street and there is the Diamond Parking lot across from the library also. Contact one of the Board members if you have any questions.

Your Nominating Committee will present a proposed slate of officers at the September meeting. If you are interested in being active in P.S.G.S and being on the Board, please contact Larry Harden, Larry Swan or Marjorie Menees. Please keep in mind that our society will grow if members step forward and become involved. Are you doing all that you can for your society? It is very rewarding to take an active part in our genealogical society and to make new friends who share a common interest.

Happy researching,

Sandie

(Continued from page 49) *Who Were the Parents of Thomas Magee?*

how to operate the microfilm readers and how to locate the film. Imagine doing genealogy and not knowing how to read microfilm! Using the Soundex Indexing System, I eventually located the Magee/Mcgee family in the 1880 census for Newark, New Jersey.

The family was living in a boarding house with Margaret Taggart listed as the head of the household. Margaret was forty-five years old and had been born in Ireland.

Living with her was Rachael McGee, her daughter, age twenty-four and born in New York, son-in law Thomas McGee, age twenty-four

and born in New York, granddaughter, two year old Mary M., born in New York and grandson six month old Thomas F., born in New Jersey. Some other folks lived in the house apparently not related to the family. The 1880 census asks the birthplace of the parents of the people listed. I now know that both the parents of Thomas and Rachael Magee were born in Ireland, thus giving me my Irish ancestry.

This information was the basis for the rest of my search for the parents of Thomas Magee and the father of Rachael Taggart. Since I had to search all of New York State, I thought it would be impossible to locate these folks and almost gave up before I started. I learned about the famine immigrants from our PSGS library and wondered which of the Magees were the ones who gave birth to Thomas in 1856 someplace in New York. I attended classes conducted by Pat Woods in Tacoma, who is an expert in the Irish in N.Y. She suggested I focus on Brooklyn, New York. I read city directories for Brooklyn from 1848 - 1880 at the Family History Center in Tacoma. I obtained the death certificates for Thomas and Rachael, expecting to solve the parent mystery. The coroner did not bother to list the parents. What a disappointment! I used the Internet to find their gravesites and some helpful people answered my queries. Thomas F. Magee seemed to be buried in Holy Cross Cemetery in Brooklyn, New York with folks I never heard of. They did list his age on the computer as fifty-nine instead of twenty-nine. Since Thomas died on December 25, 1885 and this Thomas



Thomas Francis Magee
(1879 - 1920)
Served in the US Army in 1899
during the Philippine
Insurrection.

(Continued on page 56)

Is Your Contribution to PSGS Tax Deductible?

The question has been asked, "Is my contribution to the Puget Sound Genealogical Society deductible with regard to determining my federal income tax liability?" This essay will address this question.

The Internal Revenue Service state in a letter addressed to the Puget Sound Genealogical Society dated June 8, 1998, " --- we have determined you are exempt from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in section 501(c)(3)."

This letter further states, "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 sections 2055, 2106, and 2522." It also states that, "Contributions deductions are allowable to donors only to the extent that their contributions are gifts, with no consideration received. Ticket purchases and similar payments in conjunction with fundraising events may not necessarily qualify as deductible contributions ---."

Excerpt from the 'Lectric Law Library's
Tips on Tax Deductions for Charitable Contributions:

You can determine the tax-exempt status of an organization either by

contacting the local office of the IRS, or by asking the organization for a copy of its "Letter of Determination."

A "Letter of Determination" is the formal notification an organization receives from the IRS once its tax-exempt status has been approved. Also, IRS Publication 78, Cumulative List of Organizations, is an annual listing of thousands of tax-exempt organizations to which contributions are deductible as charitable donations as defined in section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

To confirm that Puget Sound Genealogy Society has received a "Letter of Determination," access the following web site: www.irs.gov/charities/article/0

The web site for the "Lectric Law Library" is located at: www.lectlaw.com/files/tax13.htm.

PSGS's Employer Identification Number (EIN) is: 23-7450972.

The information and references contained in this article should without a doubt persuade you that it is entirely within your right to deduct your donations to PSGS as a charitable contribution in determining your income tax liability.

Generous Genies

Donors to the PSGS Research Library
Rental Fund.

Lester Schmuck	Marjorie Menees
Cindy Spore	Kay Daniel
Larry Harden	Priscilla Bailey
Carolyn McLaren	JoAnn Scott
David Rugh	Janice Stockton
Gerald Punches	Phyllis Wahlquist
Margaret Lentz	Madelyn Cataldo
Louise Reh	Madge Norton
Clarajane Goux	Robert Sipe
Sandie Morrison	Lorraine Kniert
Cyril Taylor	Elizabeth Cuddy
Kay Wilson	

(Continued from page 55) *Who Were the Parents of Thomas Magee?*

Magee was buried on December 28, 1885, I decided this was my guy despite the wrong age. I did write to all the cemeteries in Brooklyn without any other responses. Rachael Magee committed suicide in 1883 and was buried in Newark, New Jersey. There were no records of who paid for either grave. Last

year on a trip to New Jersey, I did discover that my grandfather and his brother James had been placed in the Newark Protestant Orphans Home in Newark, New Jersey in 1889 by their grandmother, Margaret Taggart. This caused some confusion as their father was apparently buried in a Catholic cemetery. Margaret Taggart then disappeared, as I cannot find any more records of her.

While doing all of this, I was looking for the other lines of my ancestors. I managed to get confused on the age of Thomas and Rachael, both twenty-four in 1880. Therefore they were born in 1856 and would be four (not six) in 1860. After several trips to Sand Point I discovered the little room with the index books to many of the census films. These books list all of the people in the census, along with the city, county, and page number on the film where they are located. No more reading the whole film! Not all censuses are indexed, but now I got lucky. There are seven index books for all of New York State for 1860 and eleven for 1870. I had a list of some Thomas Magee/Mcgees from Ancestry.com and I compared that with the index books and made a list of all Thomas Magee/

(Continued on page 61)

Growing Up On Phinney Bay A Childhood Memory of Wartime Bremerton Part One of Three.

by Joan [Van Houten] Gathings

I was born 29 December 1937 at Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle, Washington to Ernest Eli Van Houten (1906-1993) and Esther Eugenia [Marsh] – (1909-1986). Ernest was the son of Franklin Milo and Stella Oceona [Pendarvis] Van Houten of Mobile, Alabama and Esther was the daughter of Warren Jerome and Georgia Paulina [Adkisson] <Bittick> Marsh of Seattle (moved there from Walla Walla about 1915).

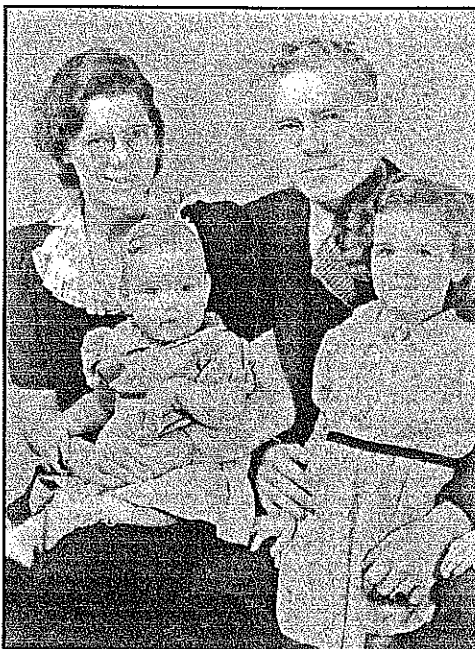
I have few memories of those earliest years. They are more “remembered” from the family stories told and retold through the years. When I was two, we moved to a house in Bremerton on Eleventh and Veneta (presently across from the Jewish Temple). (Myrna called it “Tee Tee’s Two House”.) At age three we moved back to West Seattle, next to Aunt Ann and Uncle Willard (“Go Wor”), a block above California Avenue and a few blocks below Tibbetts Methodist Church. I can recall the “Fire Warden Sirens” and the “blackouts” where we had to turn off the lights and pull down the dark shades. This was the beginning of World War II. I “remember” also, (from stories) when Myrna Ernestine (my only sibling) was born 03 October 1941, I received a rubber doll “Sunbeam” who could ‘drink’ from a bottle, wet, be bathed, and do all other things that Myrna had done for her by Mother. The only “frustration” I had was when Mother breast fed Myrna. I couldn’t feed Sunbeam in the same way. (I kept Sunbeam until my teens when she somehow got left in the sun and “melted”).

At this point, let me interject a note of explanation: We were taught that you never called anyone by their first names unless you knew them before they married. Therefore we had many “aunts”, “uncles”, “Grandma/pa’s” etc. These non-related persons will be identified with quotation marks for the purpose of truly identifying family ties. For some reason, Martha Anderson was just “Martha”.

At age four years, one month (Jan 1942) we moved to Bremerton -- first having a six month stay in Manette (now East Bremerton) on Terrace Avenue

(fourth house up from Perry on the right). Mother would take Daddy down to the Manette bridge where he would then walk to work at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard where he was a Helper. He retired around 1965 as a Quartermaster Shipfitter.

We moved to our “permanent” home on Phinney Bay, July 1942. It is a three-story stucco home with a full basement, full main floor with fake fireplace, a sun porch and an upstairs of three bedrooms and an attic. I recall the polished hardwood floors before we got rugs to cover and protect them. Ilene Anderson was our regular baby-sitter (she was ten and I was five). Ilene had a huge collection of paper dolls and a couple China Tea sets.



*Esther Eugenia [Marsh] and Ernest Eli Van Houten
Myrna Ernestine and Joan Esther*

We’d play “house” with them for hours. She lived down at the corner from us. (At that time there were only the Indians (way above) and Mr. Cartier’s (a French Canadian) log cabin above, and Martha Anderson (we bought the house from her) on the lower side. Owensby’s lived in a house on our upper side between Mr. Cartier and us. Below Martha’s was Mr. Miner and Harvey and “Lizzy” Williams, “Grandpa” Williams, then “Grandma” McCormick’s old house across from Ilene’s. Behind Ilene’s house was a wooden house we used as a playhouse.

Lots of things happened at Ilene’s through the years. They had a (Water) Well House outside and it seems they kept apples in there or in a wood shed nearby. (Knute (“Unca Dute”) was a fisherman

and gone for long periods of time). We always swam at their house since the beach was sandier and had fewer barnacles. Neighborhood Fourth of July Picnics were held there too. We’d all potluck in the yard (side by the Bay). In the evening, we kids lit our sparklers and ladyfinger’s. Some of the women lit the lesser “Cherry Bombs” etc. Then the men would set off the big ones down on the beach under tin cans. Later we’d sing Patriotic songs. Mr. Peabody and Mrs. Corbet (in their 60s to 80s, it seemed) would come everyday and swim in the Bay regardless of the weather. There was a huge tree on the

(Continued on page 58)

(Continued from page 57) *Growing Up On Phinney Bay.*

bank overlooking the Bay. We had a big thick rope with a huge knot we used to swing out and over the water. Once we were down there playing with Ilene and some others. Mother was taking Daddy to the doctor about one of his terrible migraine headaches. He came over to tell us to stay there with Ilene until they returned. Seeing us swinging gave him the idea to try it himself. He started out about halfway up the hill. We tried to tell him you have to start out way up behind the tree and then swing way out and around to land on the other side. He told us: "I was swinging on swings like this long before any of you were even thought of!" He took off from halfway up and went out halfway over the water before coming back directly into the tree and dislocating his shoulder. For once we had enough sense not to comment! At Halloween Mrs. Nichols (mother of Lynn Nichol's - the only other one of my age in the neighborhood) loaded us down with homemade goodies and "Caffern" (Catherine Anderson) would always give us a nickel in addition to an apple.

Mr. Jacques Cartier (pronounced Car-TEER) and his terrier dog, Jerry, lived in a log cabin built "way back when" on a lot, two lots above us. When his house burned (early 50s, I believe), he had several guns and ammunition in the cabin. Daddy and Art Anderson (Martha's son who was by then living in her house below us) went into the cabin to see what they could rescue before the fire got out of control. The ammo caught fire and started "zinging" bullets all over the place. They got out of there fast! Mr. Cartier and Jerry came to our place during the fire. (He must have been in his 70s - 80s at the time.)

For clothing, in winter and fall, I remember long brown cotton stockings and high top brown shoes. I wore overalls when "helping" Daddy outside. One time at "Share and Tell" at Sunday School (First Presbyterian - probably second grade where Mother was pianist) I got up and said, "This is the dress that Mommy got for me at Saint Vincent DePauls." This was a second hand store and Mother went through the floor totally embarrassed! Another time, in May, I stood up for Birthdays. Since my birthday is December, Mother knew something was going to happen. Sure enough: "My Daddy's 83 today." (He was actually 38.)

The house immediately above us was lived in by the Owensbys. There was an older sister Mary and brothers Wayne, Wilbur, Jack and Johnny that I remember. I believe there were others, but I'm not sure. Wilbur was a "meany". He used to tease their donkey and our cats and dogs. (He later grew up to coach Little League in Port Orchard); Jack was "My Guy". We "got married" when I was five and he was

(Continued from page 53) *Going To Salt Lake City.*

How much paper to take? Don't take originals of anything - birth, marriage, death, military, immigration, pictures, etc. The most important information from these is dates and names and these are on the family group sheets of which you may want to make copies. This way you can write notes and corrections without harming the originals. A folder for each family in a briefcase that is easy for you to carry is a must. Some organize by location, too.

Of course you have your *Research Log* so you won't go over the same material you have researched before - film numbers, books, periodicals, maps, family Bibles, etc. To make it easier, have a research log for each surname. Some also keep a *Correspondence Log* - this keeps track of whom you wrote to, when, and what information came from this source.

Should I take a laptop computer? If you are comfortable with inputting information that may have to be edited later, by all means take it. I found it awkward to cart it and a briefcase around. I still wanted to have photocopies of the pertinent information from films and books. There are lockers available for daytime storage.

A digital camera is light and easy to carry and my save you time if the copiers are busy.

The Family History Center now has a great way to pay for your copies without having to have the right change. It works like a phone or gift card. You pay an attendant the amount you think you will need for copies for the week and they give you a card to swipe through a scanner on the copier. This works on any copier or printer in the building. If you need more, the attendant will update the card any time.

Check the Family History Center's web site and print out a list of all material that might be of interest. That way you can go right to work. I found checking my list against my *Research Log* saved me a lot of back tracking and I was able start productively on the first day.

Last but not least - Dr. Bill* will tell you, too -- take breaks. Avoid burn out. De-fog your brain. When you go up to the cafeteria for lunch, walk around an extra block. Enjoy your trip!

*PSGS Member William B. Richardson, MD.

six. Every morning I'd walk him to the "corner" (actually a "Y" in the road) by Ilene's and meet him again there after school. We "married" in our yard under the Juniper Tree (no longer there) by the driveway. Johnny, the baby, was just a tag-along and fun. (Saw him again at my twenty-fifth class reunion -- he graduated a year after -- and he turned out to be quite a handsome fellow.) They moved away in the late 40s -- their house burned, I think.

To be continued.

PSGS Notes

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of member **Roger Goodspeed** who died on August 3rd at Hansville.

Sandie Morrison announces that The Go For It Investment Club has donated a Travel Graph overhead projector to PSGS. It is in a handmade wooden cabinet on wheels for easy transportation. The cabinet lifts up and the projector can then be set on top of it for use. It is in very nice condition and works fine. I will store it at my place until we need it and if we find we do not need it, we can raffle it off or whatever!

The PSGS Research Library vacated the Poulsbo National Guard Armory on July 14th and was laced into storage where it will remain until our tentative new quarters in the downtown Bremerton Public Library is ready to receive it.

Pat Eder won the **Lorraine Kniert** crafted sweater vest which was raffled off at the May 27th membership meeting.

Phyllis Wahlquist, retired Washington Mutual Bank employee, arranged for PSGS to rent at a modest rate the public meeting room in the basement of the Washington Mutual Bank Building at Fifth and Pacific in downtown Bremerton. The meeting room as all the amenities required to conduct our executive board and general membership meetings.

Guess who won the digital camera raffled off at the July membership meeting? None other than **Pat Eder**.

Librarian **Marjorie Menees** has announced she has purchased three Civil War CD's for the library.

Library Coordinator **Loraine Magee** has a volunteer calendar prepared for those who wish to work in our library at its much anticipated reopening.

Lois Roark tells us my summer "will be better if I can just maintain enough good health to get moved into Banner Road. What a mess!" Our hope for you Lois is that you are back in the ranks of active genealogy before too long.

**Now Is The Time To
Renew Your Membership For
2004**

Cindy's Choice Web Sites



www.rootsweb.com/~newbie

If you are new to computers or genealogy please consider joining the GEN-NEWBIE mailing list. For more information, go to www.rootsweb.com/~newbie.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~colcen/>

Germans from Russia in the Dakotas has surnames, studies, plus transcriptions of many miscellaneous Minnesota, N and S Dakota and Alaska Cemeteries.

The following is a list of some Online Library Catalogs. They are easy to search and worth the time of an hour or so to search names and places of interest, especially for the not-so-common names in your genealogy:

Library of Congress:

<http://catalog.loc.gov>

New York Public Library:

www.nypl.org/catalogs/index.html

Harvard University Library:

www.harvard.edu/libraries/

National Library of Canada:

www.nlc-bnc.ca/amicus/index-e.html

British Library (British Isles):

www.bl.uk

Library of Trinity College, Dublin:

www.tcd.ie/library/catalogue

New Zealand:

www.natlib.govt.nz

Australia"

www.nla.gov.au

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

How I Found My Father's Family

Louise Reh

I thoroughly agree with Cyril Taylor's remarks in "No One Wants To Hear You Talk About Genealogy". (See June issue of the Backtracker.) However, I think I have found a way to hold people's attention. I just tell those who are not genealogists that I have an interesting story about finding my father's family, and I can tell it in one minute. Here is how I start:

My father was forty-six years old when I was born. Because he was estranged from his family, I never knew any of them. I did know the names of his parents and my half-brother and that my father had a hotel in the Norfolk, Virginia area. This led me to believe I would have no trouble finding his family. How wrong I was.

When I was in my early 70s, I started searching for his family. I felt I should know the health history of all my grandparents, since that would be part of my history. However, even with my neighbor and one of my daughters helping, four discouraging years of research went nowhere. I was ready to give up, but they wouldn't let me.

Then, out of the blue, our luck changed. I learned a vital piece of information. Even though my Dad had tears in his eyes when someone sang "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny", that wasn't where he was born. He had been born in Prince Edward Island, Canada. On Valentines Day 1996, a packet of information arrived in the mail from the PEI Archives. I had written to them hoping for some record of my grandparents. I never expected to meet people who even knew the family. But that day I learned I had twenty-five first cousins and five of them were still alive. How lucky can you get?

There, that's the whole story in one minute. Surely no one would let me stop there. Wouldn't someone ask about the cousins or my good luck?

Two things happened to change our luck. First, I decided one day, on the spur of the moment, to go up to the LDS Family History Center in Silverdale, where my neighbor Shirley was a volunteer. Second, the director of the FHC was there that day. He told Shirley to have me read two new microfilm reels about Norfolk. After scanning the first reel and a half, I came to a 1902 book entitled "History of Norfolk County, Virginia and Representative Citizens."

There was a section on a Robert W. MacDonald

(my dad's name). Shirley started reading over my shoulder. I hadn't known Dad had opened the first Dairy Lunch in Norfolk and been president of an ice cream company, but it sounded reasonable. Then, we read "born in Canada." My heart sank, but Shirley

whispered, "Keep reading." Next we read "married in Somerville, Massachusetts" and a wife's name. It wasn't the name my mother had remembered and I was sure this was another dead end. Down went my spirits again, but out of the corner of my eye, I saw the name "Atwood Laing." I knew that was my half-brother's name and I shrieked "That's it, that's it." At last, we were on the right track.

Another minute, but I still haven't explained how I knew I had twenty-five cousins.

It was two long months after my exciting day in the FHC before I received a copy of the record of Dad's first marriage and learned that he had been born in Prince Edward Island. It was another month before I received the packet from PEI.

It included pictures of Dad's eight sisters, a biography of his father and a family tree. Laing MacDowell in Ontario had compiled the tree. The name meant nothing to me, but looking at the tree, I realized Laing was my first cousin.

When I was calm enough to telephone, I called Laing. When I introduced myself as the daughter of his Uncle Robert Wesley MacDonald, he shouted into the phone, "You are. Where are you?" I told him where I was and how I found him. He told me his sister also lived in Ontario and we had a cousin living in Prince Edward Island and one in Maine. Most exciting of all, another cousin lived on Vancouver Island, not much more than 100 miles from me. I am an only child, my maternal first cousins had died and now I had a wonderful new family.

Another question someone might ask, "Did you meet the cousins?"

Oh yes! Over the next several months, with my husband or daughters in tow, I made trips to British Columbia, Prince Edward Island, Ontario and Maine and met all five of my new cousins. We looked through family pictures and artifacts, visited people and places and laughed a lot. None of the cousins had known about me, but we all quickly felt as

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*My father,
Robert Wesley MacDonald
About 1895*

(Continued from page 56) Who Were the Parents of Thomas Magee?

Mcgees listed in 1860. Now I organized a research plan. I searched and searched. Thirty-three rolls of film later, I knew every Thomas Magee/Mcgee in New York in 1860. They ranged from babies to seventy-year-old men and were scattered all over the state. Perseverance and organization finally paid off. I found him—Tom Magee, age four, living in New York City with his parents Tom and Ann Magee. The census had listed them as Tom instead of Thomas. This is the only four years old and I felt that I had the right family after two years of searching. Now start the next set of questions. Were Tom and Ann married in New York or Ireland and where in Ireland did they come from? Now I am finally ready to explore Ireland, at least on paper.

Another strange problem is Rachael Taggart. She is not on any census in 1860 or 1870 for New York or New Jersey. She is not in any of the Brooklyn directories. Where was she and what name did she use?

As I was preparing this article for submission, I received an unexpected letter from New York. Two years ago I wrote the Roman Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn asking for help. Now I receive a reply! They sent me a Certificate of Baptism for Thomas Magee, born 21 December 1855 to Michael Magee and Bridget Kearney of Brooklyn, New York. I was dismayed, astounded and confused. I now have two families. I went back to my census records and did not find this family. Michael and Bridget are buried in the same plot at Holy Cross Cemetery as Thomas F. Magee along with a James Magee. I think this is the right family and now I will require another trip to the National Archives for more research. More letters to write and more death records to search. After all this who are the parents of Thomas F. Magee, my great grandfather?

(Continued from page 60) How I Found My Father's Family.

though we had known each other all our lives. Billie, the eldest, told me that she had been concerned about entertaining strangers, but as soon as she saw me she relaxed, she knew I was family.

I have met or talked on the phone to forty-five cousins, of various degrees, and their spouses. Most are descendants of six of my father's eight sisters. Two of his sisters and one of his two brothers had no children. My cousins knew the other brother and his wife Annie had three sons and that he had died in 1918. Finding their descendants involved luck also.

There, that was less than a minute, wouldn't someone want to know what my luck was this time? Here it is.

I found my uncle's family in the 1920 Norfolk

census and learned the names of the boys and that Annie had been born in North Carolina. I thought they might have moved there after Uncle died. The only way I could think to find them was to hope that at least one of the three sons had a "junior."

By now, computers listed telephone numbers on a database and it didn't take me long to find all the Richard W., Claude L., and Peter A. Mc/MacDonalds in the North Carolina section. Armed with long lists I dialed a Claude L. McDonald.

He wasn't home so I talked to his wife. I explained my quest and asked her if her husband's middle name was "Laing." She said, "yes." What! I couldn't believe I had found the family on the first call. Later I talked to her husband and to his cousin and learned they both had deep dimples in their chins, just like my father and my half-brother did.

Maybe someone would have listened long enough to wonder if I found Atwood Laing. After all, if his name hadn't been in the article about my dad, I would not have been sure it was really the right RWM.

Atwood was twenty-four years older than I was, and I didn't think there was much chance of his still being alive. I started looking for his daughter Marcella; I had known about her and had often wondered what she was like.

One of my cousins knew Marcella's married name, the names of her children, and that she had been married in Ohio. Once again the telephone di-



My father's parents; Robert Hamilton McDonald and Dorcas Boundy McDonald with their daughters Flora

(standing) and Bertha, Prince Edward Island, Canada, probably 1901.

rectory came to my aid: I found the number for one of her sons. He put me in touch with Marcella. I was surprised to learn she hadn't known about me. Unfortunately she was ill, and we never met. After Marcella died, her daughter sent me a picture of my dad as a young man. At last I found out what he looked like with hair on the top of his head.

I hope your researching will be as rewarding as mine has been.

The view from View Park is breathtaking. Today as I sit with Al and Mary Stiller on the waterfront at View Park looking to the northeast, I can see the shoreline of West Seattle and the high-rises of downtown Seattle beyond. To the east I see the western



Joseph Alfred Stiller
As a young man.
Studio Photograph.
Berlin, Germany

shore of Vashon Island along Colvos Passage. When Al's father, Joe Stiller, settled in Kitsap County nearly a hundred years ago, there weren't quite so many manmade structures to be seen. But the view was still just as breathtaking.

Joseph Alfred Stiller (b: c.1877, d. 1946) immigrated to the United States about 1899 from near Dresden, Germany.

After spending time in Chicago, Joe moved west to Seattle where he operated his own barbershop. Around this time he married Hedwig Fick (b. unknown, d. 1925). In 1908, Joe found a beautiful waterfront area in Kitsap County just south of Driftwood Cove where Wilson Creek empties into Colvos Passage. He purchased the waterfront parcel for a family farm and he bought two additional timbered parcels further inland. Joe named this area View Park and settled here with Hedwig.

Here on the waterfront farm their son, Alfred Otto Stiller (b. 1923) was born. When another child followed eighteen months later, Joe, at the urging of his neighbors, took Hedwig to the hospital in Seattle for the birth. It was at Seattle's Swedish Hospital that Hedwig tragically died of an infection contracted during childbirth. The child, a son, Walter Gordon Stiller (b. 1925), survived his mother.

Heartbroken and alone, Joe was left with a farm to run and two infant boys to care for. When the local authorities threatened to take the children away from him, Joe desperately wrote to a young woman he knew in Germany asking if she would be willing to come to care for the two small boys. The young woman, Martha Bertha Mann (b. c.1904, d. 1985) who was a maid in the home of Joe's sister in Germany, agreed to the proposition but only if she and Joe were married. Joe readily agreed. Martha, along with her sister,

The Backtracker Editor Comments:

In previous editions of the *Backtracker* I advertised for a PSGS member to volunteer for a genealogical reporter position. I am now pleased to announce that one of our members has stepped forward to accept this position. Her name is Michele Gilles and she shows great promise in the field of genealogical journalism.

The accompanying story, *The Joseph A. Stiller Family of View Park*, is Michele's first journalistic contribution to the pages of our journal. I am confident that you like myself will find her article, an account of an earlier time in a South Kitsap County community, fascinating reading.

Michele is now searching for members of pioneer Kitsap families she can interview with the object of writing their family history. If you know of someone who would be a good candidate for her to interview, please contact Michele Gilles at mmg@telebyte.com.

Cyril

Ida, and her brother, Alfred Mann, made the trip to Kitsap County where she and Joe were married. Martha became the only mother the two boys ever knew.

Joe, Martha and the boys raised most of their own food on the family farm: vegetables, fruit, beef, chickens, and eggs. The hours were long and the work was hard. Crops and orchards were tended and harvested. Chickens and cows were fed, watered and butchered. Salmon were caught and smoked or canned. Eggs were gathered. Wood for the stove and fireplace was chopped. Fences were put up and repaired. In the lean years, especially during the depression era, the only store-bought provisions were sugar, flour and salt.

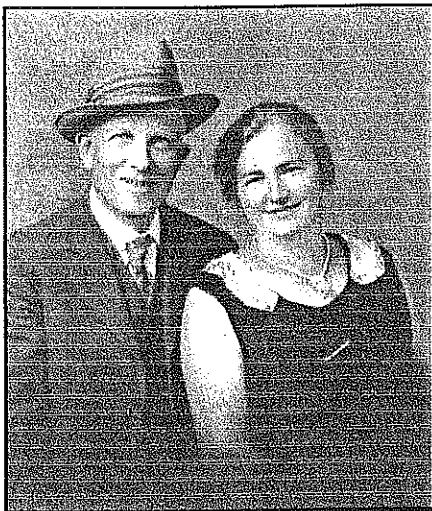
When they grew older, Al and Walter walked two miles along a logging road to go to school. Twelve to fifteen local children attended grades one through six in this one room schoolhouse on Banner Road. Afterwards the boys attended South Kitsap High School where they graduated.

In 1922 the steamer *Virginia V*, one of Puget Sound's "Mosquito Fleet" of privately owned vessels, began providing passenger and freight service between Seattle and Tacoma for the south Kitsap and Vashon Island communities along Colvos Passage. Alfred Mann, Martha's brother, found work as a deckhand on the vessel.

The *Virginia V* not only provided transportation

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(Continued from page 62) The Joseph A. Stiller Family of View Park for the local inhabitants, she also ferried mail, feed grain and other necessities. Located just south of Joe's property, the View Park pier held a post office and a warehouse where the grain was housed for the local farmers to pick up. Joe and his boys would drive a team with a wagon to the pier to pick up the



Joseph Alfred
and
Martha Bertha [Mann] Stiller
Circa 1932

grain to feed their chickens and other livestock. Every Friday, Joe boarded the *Virginia V* to make the weekly delivery of chickens, eggs and other farm produce to his customers in Seattle.

In October of 1934, the *Virginia V* was heavily damaged by high winds during a major storm at Olalla. After

repairs had been made and she returned to service in December of that year, her route was changed and she no longer made the stop at the View Park pier. In 1938 The *Virginia V* would end her sixteen year career of service to the communities along Colvos Passage.

Later Al remembers making the trip with his father to Harper to catch the ferry to Fauntleroy to make the weekly delivery of chickens and eggs to their Seattle customers. At first they made this trip on foot or with a wagon. Later when Al turned sixteen and got his driver's license, Joe bought an old pickup truck which they used to haul the farm produce to the ferry.

Throughout his life, Joe remained passionate about improving his local community. In the late 1930s, he decided the View Park area needed to have electricity. He persuaded his neighbors one by one to sign on so there would be enough families for the electric company to extend service into the area. Joe even provided all of the cedar power poles needed to run the electrical cables along View Park Road from Banner Road to each of the local homesteads. During the summer of 1939, the teenage boys, Al and Walter, were kept busy hauling the poles out of the woods, stripping them of their branches and bark,

clearing the mile and a half of right of way along View Park Road, and digging a hole for each one of the future power poles.

Another local community issue close to Joe's heart was road transportation in the growing south Kitsap area. For many years he used his powers of persuasion in support of an effort to extend View Park Road northward by building a bridge across Wilson Creek, a popular area for logs to be skidded down into Driftwood Cove to be rafted together for the trip to the sawmill. For a variety of reasons this road extension never came to pass. Access to the View Park area via road is still from the south.

During the Second World War, Joe and Martha lived alone on the farm while sons Al and Walter were serving in the military. Al served in the Air Force and Walter in the Navy. Both saw action in the Pacific campaign.

When the war ended Al and Walter both came home to the Seattle area. Al settled in West Seattle and began working for Pan American Airways. On weekends he would take the ferry or his own boat to visit his parents, Joe and Martha, on the waterfront farm. Not long after Al had returned home, Joe walked outside the farmhouse to greet a visiting neighbor and collapsed on the ground.

Within minutes he was dead from a cerebral hemorrhage. Bereft without her husband of twenty-one years and with taxes on waterfront property climbing steadily, Martha finally agreed to Al's suggestion that she move to West Seattle to be closer to her sons. She sold all but about five acres of the waterfront farm, which she transferred to her sons, and then she moved into a home in West Seattle. Martha Mann Stiller died in 1985.



Alfred O. Stiller
Circa 1941
Eighteen years of age.

While Al was stationed in New Mexico before being sent overseas, he met and married a lovely Texan, Fayrene "Fay" V. Cain (b. c.1924, d. 1997) who was working as a theater usher. Together they raised two sons, Edward (b. 1944) and Thomas (b. 1950). In 1984 Al retired from AT&T and decided to move from West Seattle to the View Park farm. He bought Walter's half of the property, built a house and settled in with his wife. At the

(Continued on page 65)

The Library Report

Marjorie Menees, Librarian

A Continuing Saga

Receiving in March a thirty-day notice to vacate the Armory, we began a detailed and seemingly never ending search for a new site scouring areas of Bremerton, Port Orchard, and Poulsbo. We found at least four different locations that we seriously considered. None of them met our needs adequately either because of size or cost.

Having been in a room, rent-free for a number of years and another one for a minimum rental, it was hard to consider today's rental fees. The least expensive spaces were \$1.00 per square foot. Looking at, for example, 1000 square feet that would have been ideal, you can see that would have required \$1000 per month.

We knew it was imperative to come to terms with the fact that free rides are a thing of the past even for non-profit organizations such as ours. And we knew we have come to a point in our growth that to maintain the quality and integrity of PSGS we would have to be willing to meet financial obligations but to do so as economically as possible.

Even with a thirty-day extension at the Armory, we were having trouble. We decided to put our library in storage until we found exactly what could be satisfactory for us, a place in which to settle with some sense of permanency. At that point our trusty moving and packing team arrived on a very warm Friday, 27 June, at 10:00 a.m. to again do their excellent work of boxing, labeling, and preparing everything to be picked up Monday morning for transportation to storage. Team members were Pat Eder, Terry Mettling, Sandie Morrison, Madge Norton, Sue Plummer, Marjie Schultz, Cindy Spore, Larry Swan, Paulette Waggoner, and Marjorie Menees. Loraine Magee and Bruce Ramsey, who had helped on other packing days were unable to be there that day, but were on hold for the day we would be unpacking and setting up. Another missing essential worker who had given us much time and expertise in our first move was Jim Morrison.

Larry and Terry also worked on Monday when the movers came to pick up all of our property. At this time, they had an added chore, to load more books into more boxes because I had forgotten that we had emptied three essential bookcases on our first move. For this they each receive a star for their crown – and Terry will receive another for transport-



Marjorie Menees
PSGS Librarian
Library Packing Day

ing all of our portable bookshelves to Marjie Schultz for storage in her garage.

When after much searching we found available space at the downtown Bremerton branch of the Kitsap Regional Library. After the executive board had checked it out further, we felt that we had arrived at a nearly ideal location with help from the city of Bremerton, owner of the building that is being revamped into a coordinated unit of like interests.

The Regional Library is being downsized to a small area in one wing. We will be located in two rooms that are adjacent to that area. This will be a good working situation since we will be able to have a close tie to the availability of their collection and their web site. We will be close for their patrons to utilize our facilities also. At present we see no meeting area available in this building, but we can continue to meet at the Washington Mutual Bank Meeting Room. There will be, however, space for our project work parties.

On Thursday, 7 August, we met with the city of Bremerton's Facility Supervisor to point out our needs for a smoothly functioning and pleasant facility. There being no objection to any of our requests,
(Continued on page 65)

(Continued from page 63) *The Joseph A. Stiller Family of View Park*
time of Fay's death in 1997, she and Al had been happily married for fifty-two years.

Some time later Al married his second wife, Mary S. Kyle (b. 1921), a delightful woman who is the widow of another early area resident. I'm grateful to Al and Mary for sharing their memories with

me over afternoon tea and for giving me a glimpse of what it was like to live in this South Kitsap Community in years past. Many of the local community issues remain the same to this day: economic uncertainty, population growth, development, and transportation. One other thing also remains the same. As

(Continued on page 68)

(Continued from page 64) *The Library Report.*

we now wait for the OK from the engineering department and for the work to take place.

We will have a regular designated parking space for our duty librarians. The lack of parking for our patrons is one of the problems we are trying to solve.



Pat Eder and Terry Mettling
Library Packing Day

Unless there should be an unexpected disastrous event, we are definitely looking at a new home for the Puget Sound Genealogical Society Research Library -- a home that we feel is the best place possible

at present to serve all of our members as well as Kitsap County. Besides being accessible by car, bus service is also available.

It has been decided that remaining in storage until all is ready for us is our best option since at this point we do not have a time scheduled for completion. Storage will be approximately \$150 a month. The monthly rent for the room at present will be \$500. This is less than the standard amount noted above but we need to face the fact that we must meet this sum every month.

You received in the last *Backtracker* an opportunity to help with the rental fund. I hope that you seriously have considered the fact that as little as a \$5.00 per month pledge would total \$60 a year. With each of our 200 members willing to contribute this, we would have \$12,000 that would meet the total rental requirement for more than a year as well as additional costs.

When you send in your pledge, be sure to mark it for the Rental Fund so that our treasurer will know that you want it for that and not for the book fund, for example! Please note that on page 71 of this edition of the *Backtracker* there is a handy donor form.

The response to the initial Rental Fund contribution request has been gratifying. We wish to express our appreciation for your generosity.

Why Did You Become A Genealogist?

Please share with our *Backtracker* readers the reason why you became a genealogists. Compose a brief essay describing that moment of inspiration or event that caused you too become a family historian.

The Master Genealogist Program

Any One Interested
In Organizing A
TMG User Group
Please contact
Martha Parker
At
parker2005@charter.net

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PSGS has joined the
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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/

(Continued from page 49) *The "Lost" Remains from the Bellevue Cemetery*

ing, than my Great-great-grandfather, William W. Powell (1841 -1924); known as W.W. Powell, the logger.

As a fifth generation Washingtonian, I love to learn and celebrate my family's contributions (small and large) to Washington State. My cemetery search for W.W. began with a request a few years ago when I returned from sixteen years on the East Coast. The request came from my paternal Aunt, Doris Powell Nelson, who remembered going to her Great Grandfather's graveside burial at a Bellevue cemetery in the early 1920's. She wanted to find his grave and I had even thought of putting a special plaque on his grave for being a Washington "Pioneer". My aunt remembered that this cemetery was "way out in the trees in Bellevue; by the old railroad trestle which was close to Wilburton." Since my Aunt knew I loved genealogy and "puzzles", she thought this would be a fun project for me. I am not sure if I have finished the fun part!

My story begins with some historical background on William W. (W.W.) Powell:

W.W. Powell came to Washington Territory from Canada in 1867 (Source: 1900 Bellevue Precinct Census; Enumeration District 59; Sheet 12). He was born c 1841 in Canada. By family stories, he was a logger of, not large but certainly, comfortable means, having a logging camp on Lake Union and in Bellevue.

W.W. Powell married Isabella Grace Bowden (1853-1886) on July 5, 1880; the marriage was performed by David Sires at the Sires residence (Source: Marriage Records of King County Washington, 1853-1884). The Bowden family (from Australia/New Zealand) is a fascinating story for another time!

Adelaide Mary Powell (1883-1966) (Addie; my Great Grandmother) was born to this union in 1883. However, my GG Grandmother Isabella died in 1886 and Addie spent most of her childhood 1887-1896 at Seattle's Holy Names Academy in Seattle as WW Powell's logging business was not an appropriate "home" for a young lady.

The other documentation I found included a

1919 Warranty Deed from the Hewitt Land Company to W.W. Powell for acreage in Bellevue (which apparently is now part of Kelsey Park). But I was having difficulty finding any death or cemetery record for W.W. Powell and questions regarding "Old Bellevue Cemeteries" were not being answered. Until I asked the question on a cemetery web site and found a wonderful fellow genealogy researcher by the name of Carolyn Farnum who provided the clues for my continued research.

With Carolyn's assistance, along with copies of *Seattle Times Eastside* reporter Arlene Bryant's articles and photos provided by the Eastside Heritage Center and data provided by the City of Bellevue, I had some answers on the missing "Bellevue Cemetery".

In the September 1924 *Bellevue Reflector* was the obituary of William Powell, which read:

"William Powell, a resident of the Bellevue District for nearly 40 years, died at the former Powell Ranch, a mile east of Wilburton, on August 23 and was buried in Bellevue Cemetery on August 25. Mr. Powell was 83 years old. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Frank Rogers (note: Adelaide Powell Conway Rogers)."

OK; so there was a Bellevue Cemetery. Where was it?

Excerpts from Arlene Byrant's article in the *Seattle Times Eastside* detail

the rise and demise of the Bellevue Cemetery:

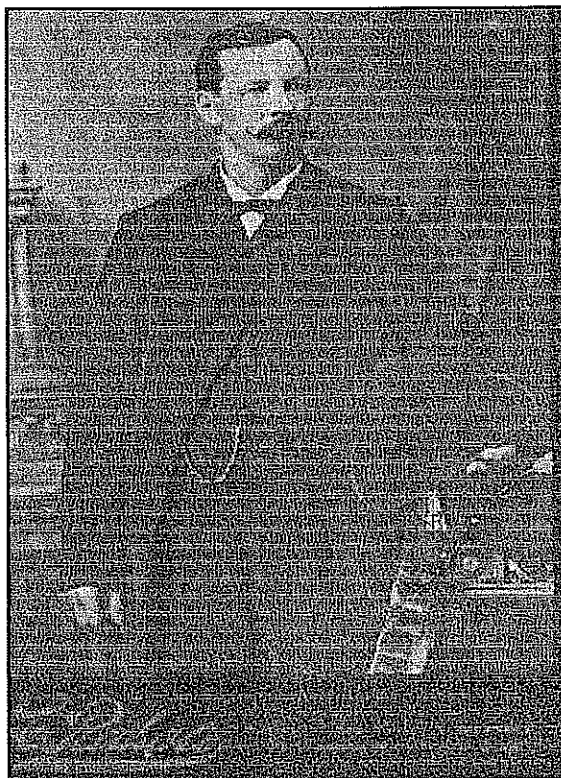
"From the road, you could hardly tell the little cemetery was there.

"The few tombstones still standing lay broken and marred by vandals, the names and dates long since weathered away. The graves had sunk into the hillside, forming depressions four to 10 inches deep... weeds and brush covered them all. There were no signs, no visitors.

"A whole community could grow up around that neglected plot and never even know who was buried there.

"A fast-growing city with its eye on the future could forget the little cemetery ever existed.

"The cemetery did exist. And Bellevue did for-



W. W. Powell

(Continued from page 66) *The "Lost" Remains from the Bellevue Cemetery*

get....the graves were those of East Side pioneers. More than one hundred – maybe 200 – were buried on an acre of hillside north of the intersection of 112th Ave NE and Bellevue-Redmond Road.....By fall of 1970, the remains of 71 bodies had been removed. Another seven were uncovered during construction a few months later....More may still lie under the blacktop.

"Of the 78 bodies re-interred at Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Bellevue, 44 are still unidentified.

"Who are they? Members of the East Side branch of the Seattle Genealogical Society are hoping to find out in the next few months with the help of local residents.....The pioneer cemetery is already lost, said Lois Lemon, project coordinator, but if enough interest and information can be generated Bellevue can still make the most of what remains.

"That includes identifying the 44 unknown pioneers and establishing a commemorative marker at Sunset Hills that identifies the area as a pioneer grave site, name the people buried there, and tells the history of the cemetery.... The Old Bellevue Cemetery, as it was called for decades, began as the private family cemetery of Jesse Boyd Warren, an East Side farmer who buried his daughter on a hillside behind his home in 1900. As the years went by, Warren let friends and neighbors bury there dead as well, until eventually the plot became a community cemetery... A Japanese section developed in one corner with 21 graves identified....migrant Chinese laborers, were also buried on the site, along with farm families whose descendants still live on the East Side.

"There were names like Joseph Williams (Capt. Co I. FOURTH MINN. INF. 1839-1921; John F. Von Rohoen 1868-1926; Augusta Harlow, 1813-1894; Lisa Ellicot, 1892-1909; Eliza Whaley Gicker, 1850-1927; and Issac Bechtel, 1848-1890.

"The names and dates appear on grass-level markers set along four rows in the

northwest corner of the Garden of Rest at Sunset Hills. The tombstones still standing at the time of removal were buried with the remains.

"Several markers, inscribed with the words "Unknown Bellevue Pioneers" each cover the remains of four unidentified persons. The group burial was allowed under a directive issued by King County Superior Court Judge Theodore Turner in 1969.

"Two families with relatives buried in the cemetery objected to the method of re-interment in court and lost. Before any graves were disturbed, advertisements were placed asking other relatives to come forward and claim the remains. Only two families responded."

(Note: My Great Grandmother (Addie) died in 1966, but my Great Aunt Emma Roberta Conway Norris still lived in Maple Valley during the 1960s and 1970s; my Dad, William Edward Powell (1914 -1983) and Aunt, Doris Isabelle Powell Halliday Nelson (1916 -) lived in Seattle as did many of us Powell family members; we were all unaware of any published request concerning the cemetery).

The last surviving Warren daughter had deeded the Warren Ranch property (including the "cemetery") to the Masons and this began the lengthy court case in King County Superior Court by the Masons; who first wanted the

property (112th -116th NE) for an apartment house and a Masonic Temple (an idea ousted by the Bellevue City Council). After the Apartment/Temple idea failed, the Masons then sold the property (having to establish that the Warren Farm did NOT have a legal cemetery) and the property is currently a doctor's office/clinic and parking lot.

What have I learned? I have learned that there are many journalists, devoted genealogists and family researchers that do care about local history. I have learned that each one of us must continue to speak up (and out) about preserving and maintaining our history; including those farm and home "cemeteries". And I did receive some wonderful articles and pictures of the cemetery from the East



(Continued on page 68)

Belfair Bulletin

Jackie Horton, the president of the Horton Family Association, spent a part of July and August attending the Horton Family gathering at Camden, South Carolina. Later she and her son did genealogical research in North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New England. The high spot of her journey was a visit to Deerfield, Franklin County, MA, and the origin of some of her ancestors.

Madi Cataldo will be driving east in July via Mount Rushmore, Niagara Falls and visit with friends in New England before getting into some serious genealogical exploration accompanied by **Linnie Griffin** who will fly east in September. Deerfield is also on their itinerary, which includes Connecticut, Gettysburg, the Amish country, Washington, D.C. and visits to historic Monticello, Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown. They then will head west through the Cumberland Gap with stops at Fort Wayne, Indiana and Branson, Missouri before heading home along the Oregon portion of the Lewis and Clark trail.

Its That Time Again! Its Membership Renewal Time!

The calendar continues to consume dates greedily and before you know it will be 2004. Complete your Membership Form now and submit it and your check to the PSGS Treasurer. Thanks You.

(Continued from page 67) *The "Lost" Remains from the Bellevue Cemetery*

Side Heritage Center. I have learned that Sunset Hills Cemetery has no record of a William or W.W. Powell. So perhaps he is under the blacktop!

What will I do now? I guess I am not sure! I am still at the stage (denial?) where I still cannot believe that, given that there were over 100+ bodies in the Bellevue Cemetery, there are not more people interested in its history --- and demise. Perhaps I have not asked the right people. I believe that I still want to do a plaque to honor W.W. Powell as a Bellevue pioneer; I'm just not sure where that plaque should be placed or even if its placement should matter.

And, as fellow travelers on this rocky genealogy road, I would certainly welcome your thoughts and comments.

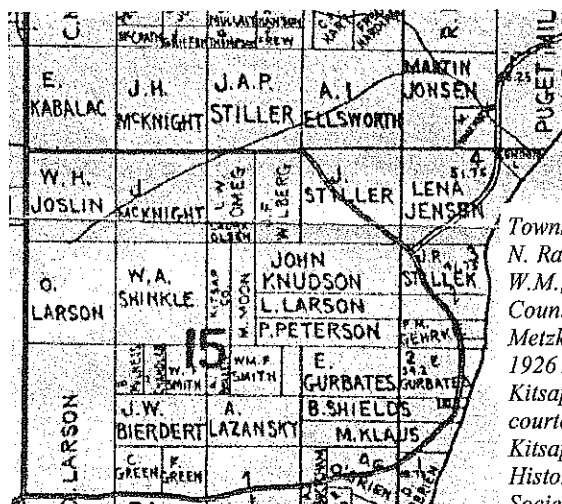
In Memoriam
Roger Dean Goodspeed
Born
March 2, 1932
Missouri Valley, Iowa
Died
August 3, 2003
Hansville, Washington

(Continued from page 65) *The Joseph A. Stiller Family of View Park-
The Joseph A. Stiller Family of View Park*

I sit here with Mary and Al, I can tell you that the view is still truly breathtaking.

References:

- 1) Michele M. Gilles, *Interview with Alfred O. Stiller 15 July 2003. Transcript in possession of the author.*
- 2) 1930 Census of Fragaria Precinct, Kitsap County, Washington, Joseph A. Stiller entry. Joe is listed with his wife Martha and his sons, Al[fred] and Walter.
- 3) 1926 Plat Map of Kitsap County. The plat map shows three parcels owned by J. Stiller or J.A.P. Stiller in south Kitsap County near Fragaria on Colvos Passage.
- 4) The steamer Virginia V, currently moored in Lake Union, has been designated a National Maritime Historic Landmark and is on the National Register of Historic Sites. For more information, visit the Virginia V Foundation website, <http://www.virginiav.org>.



What the *Backtracker* needs is family history articles about the pioneers of the Kitsap Peninsula. If your family pioneered this area, why don't you write about them for us. Don't you too think our newsletter should have articles relevant to our local history?

Members' Surname Interests

Lila E. Williamson, 6893 NE Seabold Church Road,
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110, lila@bainbridge.net.

Rife, Earl Claude. KA, OK, CA, MT. Born 1894?

Herepay Possibly Pennsylvania Dutch.

Jean Ward Grindall, 1600 Crista Shores Lane #218,
Silverdale, WA 98383, gngg40@aol.com.

Grindall, Charles Sangerville, Piscataquis
County ME, Minnesota

Ward, Caleb St. Louis, MO.

Ward, Theodore

Stephanie "Taffy" Satter, : 8996 Utah St. N.E., Bremerton,
WA 98311, shutterbugtaffy@comcast.net.

Younger — MO, OR

Geck - Cheboygan, MICH; Seattle

Galbraith -- PENN, TENN, RE WA

Hong — Norway, WI, WA

McFarland — TENN., ORE, WA

Juve -- Norway, WI, WA

Coshaw -- Oregon

Backtracker News Release.

Cindy Shawley Spore

has been appointed to the position of
Backtracker Proofreader.

Cindy has taken on this important task
in fulfilling our objective to bring you a
quality, readable genealogical journal.

Cindy, your help is appreciated.

Cyril

Preview

Of the December *Backtracker*

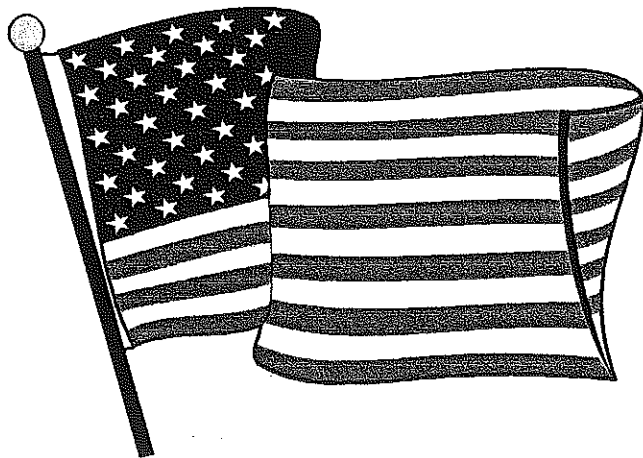
The following articles will appear in the Decem-
ber edition:

The Menchentions of Newfoundland, by Jeanne
Lyman Menchenton.

Growing Up On Phinney Bay, Part II, by Joan
[Van Houten] Gathings.

Mary Ann [Rossiter] Horstman Baker Wilber,
by Stephen M. Lawson.

Joseph Pharoah Galbraith, by Stephanie
"Taffy" Satter



9-11-2001

Will Your Article Be In The *Backtracker's* December Edition?

Now is the time to outline in your mind the article you
have been thinking of writing for a long time. Then get
down to the nitty-gritty of actually putting your
thoughts on paper. It may take a couple of rewrites be-
fore you get the desired perfection, but when your story
finally meets your approval, submit it to the *Back-
tracker*. The editing process is intended to point out to
the writer omissions and places where the writing can
be enhanced to provide our membership a readable
family history story. One that will give us a glimpse
into the lives of those you have been actively research-
ing.

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.**

PSGS

Periodical Exchange Notes

Jackie Horton

Amer. – American-Canadian Gen. 96:29:2 The Age of Majority in Quebec from 1608 to present.

Amer. Ellen Payne Odom Gen Lib Family Tree (Apr/May 2003): Calendar of events, news of Gen. Soc; repository for Scottish clans

Ibid. (Jun/Jul 2003): Calendar of events, news of Gen Soc; repository for Scottish clans.

Amer Family Chronicle 7:5 (May/Jun 2003): Trans-Atlantic Voyage; Picturing your Ancestors' Dwellings; Fraudulent Genealogy; Translation Please!; Heir Tracing; 12 Ways to Find Your Living Kin; Organizing – I've Done My Gen

Ibid. (Jul/Aug 2003) Ellis Island; Genealogy on a Shoestring; Finding Family Through Photos

Amer Heritage Quest 19:2:104 (Mar/Apr 2003): Tax Records; Linking People with Probate and Property Records; Boston Travel and Research; Germanic, Scandinavian, and Jewish Research Amer History Magazine (Jun/Jul 2003): River Steamboats; Conquest of Hawaii; Elizabeth's Secret Service; 1680s A Amer Willow Bend Books Spring Catalog 2003: Decade of French Expansion

CA Orange County GS Journal 39:2 (Nov 2002): Cemetery Records S; Bios of Leading People of the county from early days to present

CA Sequoia Gen. Soc. (April 2003): 1888 Great Register of Tulare Co

Ibid. (May 2003) 1888 Great Register of Tulare Co (cont)

Ibid. (Jun 2003): Great Register 1888, Tulare Co (cont)

FL Lake County The Pastfinder 14:4 (Fall 2002): Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Ibid. 15:2 (Spring 2003): South Lake FL deaths from 1999 to May 2003 (A & B)

IN Tri State Packet 26:3 (Mar-May 2003): Zion United Church of Christ Kane Co, IL Baptisms; Obits of Mount Vernon, IN 1886; Cumberland Pres. Church records Newburgh, IN.

KS Crawford Co. GS The Seeker 33:1 (Jan-Feb-Mar 2003): Crawford County Birth Records 1903 (Fields to Hines), Marriage Book "N" (Brides index), Naturalization Records (Oddonen to Patrich)

KS Jefferson Co Yesteryears (Apr 2003): Marriage Licenses issued in Jefferson co Jul 1937-Dec 1937; Deaths burial loc. Unknown; Jefferson Co Delaware Twp Land Ownership index

KS Topeka Gen Soc Quarterly 33:2 (Apr 2003: Extracts from early Kansas Newspapers; Extracts from Kansas Children's Home (Mar-May 1900)

IL Clay County Gen Soc Roots 15:2 (Summer 2003): Brentlinger Book of Cemeteries; Genealogies of Stanford, Cooper and Elkin families

MA Berkshire Genealogist 24/2 (Spring 2003): Ad-

ams, MA death records 1922-1925; State MA census 1855 Great Barrington

MI Muskegon County Family Tree Talk 30:1 (March 2003): First Reformed Church Funerals

Ibid. 30:2 (Jun 2003): He Froze to Death; Notes from the front

MO S.C.G. Soc, Inc Nwsltr 17:2 (Apr 2003): Death notices from Gorin Argus newspaper various dates; School records 1917 and 1918.

MN Crow Wing County Gen Soc 25:1 (Spring 2003): Nisswa from 1860-1964 Chap. III/II

Ibid. 25:2 (Summer 2003): Private Burials on Homesteads and Farms

MN Otter Tail Co Nwsltr 21:1 (March 2003): Otter Tail townships and villages A-E

NH Rockingham Kinship Kronicle 26:1 (March 2003): Salem NH Cemetery Recs

Ibid. 26:2 (Jun 2003): Salem NH Cem. Recs (cont)

NM The Journal of the NM Gen. Soc 42:1 (Mar 2003): Death Recs from St Johns Baptist Catholic Church 1912-1941; San Jose Church and Ledoux Cem, Mora co, NM; Births, Deaths, Marriages from Albuquerque Daily Citizen 1892 (F-J); Zuni Indian Agency Employees 1905-1906

Ibid. 42:2 (Jun 2003): Death Records from St Johns the Baptist Catholic Church 1912-41; Births, Deaths, Marriages, Divorces from Albuquerque Daily Citizen 1892

OR Willamette Valley Beaver Briefs 35:1 (Winter 2003): Microfilms in the Oregon State Library

OR Bulletin of Gen Forum of Oregon 52:4 (Jun 2003): Early Multnomah Co Lawyers; Heads of Household in AK 1910 born in OR;

Ibid. 35:2 (Spring 2003): Marion co deaths 1921-1930 (Mc, M, N, O)

PA Mercer Co Gen Soc Past Times 23:3 (April 2003): Rev John Conrad Bucher Marriages 1763-1769

SD Lyman-Brule Gen Soc 17:1 (Spring 2003): St Peter's Episcopal Cem

SD Sioux Falls Pioneer Pathfinder 29:2 (April 2003): Minnehaha Co Naturalization Recs

WA Clallam Co Gen Soc 23:1 (Spring 2003): Port Angeles Townsite Sales (Dec 1887- Jan 1888); Nancy Hart, A confederate Guerrilla

WA Olympia Gen Soc Quarterly 29/2 (April 2003): Olympia City Directory 1902-3.

WA The Stillaguamish Star 18:1 (Feb-Mar 2003): Funeral Index up to mid-1940's "W"

Ibid. 18:2 (May-Jun 2003): Funeral Index up to mid 1940's "W"

WA Tacoma-Pierce Co Gen Soc The Researcher 34:3 (Spring 2003): 1909 Census of McKinley School (L-Z); Washington Pioneer Necrologies (Kanavan-Lynch); Ta-

(Continued on page 71)

Common Hardships

Emilie Garcia

I recently received an online newsletter from Petunia Press (Missing Links, Vol.7, No. 52, 31 December) that mentioned a quote from the great biography of John Adams by one of my favorite authors, David McCullough. My husband and I recently bought a copy of this book in one of the antique stores in old town Port Orchard. The quote is from a diary John Adams wrote in around 1755 and appears in Chapter One, page 60 of the biography:

"Let us read and recollect and impress upon our souls the views and ends of our more immediate forefathers, in exchanging their native country for a dreary, inhospitable wilderness.....Recollect their amazing fortitude, their bitter sufferings – the hun-

ger, the nakedness, the cold, which they patiently endured----the severe labors of clearing their grounds, building their houses, raising their provisions, amidst dangers from wild beasts and savage men, before they had time or money or materials for commerce.

"Recollect the civil and religious principles and hopes and expectations which constantly supported and carried them through all hardships with patience and resignation.

"Let us recollect it was liberty, the hope of liberty, for themselves and us and ours, which conquered all discouragements, dangers, and trials."

The hardships mentioned above are universal for all brave souls venturing into formerly unexplored (by Europeans) lands. The above sentiments could have been written as well by any descendant of the Spanish Explorers who in the late 1500's left the comforts of Mexico City and the other established cities and set out to explore the "dreary, inhospitable" wilderness of the Northernmost reaches of Mexico, lands that now comprise the modern states of California, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Texas.

In looking back and reading about the hardships of our earliest ancestors from many parts of the world, we wonder how they survived, but we are thankful that they did and created this new land of freedom for all brave souls from diverse religions and races. God Bless America! Long may she prosper.

(Continued from page 70) PSGS Periodical Exchange Notes.
coma City Light Records (1893-1901)

WA Wenatchee Area Gen Soc Appleland Bulletin
31:2 (Jun 2003): Bridgeport Cem, Douglas Co, WA;
News Reported on Soldiers Jul 1918 from Big Bend Empire Press

WA Yakima Valley GS 35:1 (Mar 2003): Water District Records Dist 3 1947; Yakima Herald 20 Jan 1899; Yakima Daily Republic 7 May 1931; St Elizabeth School of Nursing Alumni 1910-1971

Ibid. 35:2 (Jun 2003): News from the Yakima Herald 1899; Emigrants of 1852

WV Kanawha Valley GS Journal 27/1 (Spring 2003): Marmet Cemetery; Kanawha death records 1860

Ibid. 27:2 (Summer 2003): Marmet Cemetery (cont); Kanawha County Death Records 1861

PSGS Library Rental Fund Donation Form

Puget Sound Genealogy Society Service Fund

P O Box 1931

Port Orchard, Washington 98366-0805

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Phone Number _____ E-Mail Address _____

I wish to pledge/donate the following amount:

\$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$30 _____ \$40 _____ \$50 _____ \$60 _____ Other _____

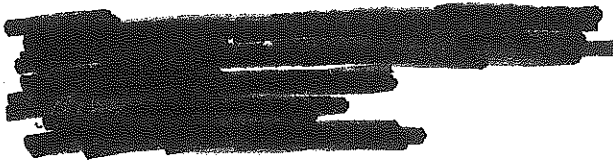
Yes, I wish to donate the above checked amount in full at this time and have enclosed a check to do so.

I wish to donate the above checked amount in _____ increments beginning with date

Signed _____

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“Backcover Reminders”

- ▶ *Backtracker* **Story** deadline for the December edition is November 1st.
- ▶ *Backtracker* **Advertising** copy deadline is November 1st.
- ▶ **Wanted** — Program Speakers — Contact Cindy Shawley Spore.
- ▶ The *Backtracker* needs your byline now. Become a *Backtracker* writer.
- ▶ Now is the time to **renew** your PSGS membership for 2004.