



The BACKTRACKER

NEWSLETTER of the
PUGET SOUND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

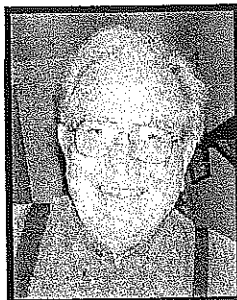
Serving
Kitsap and North Mason Counties

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

Volume XXXIII, Number 4

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

December 2008



In Memorium Lawrence Arthur Swan (Larry)

Born: October 7, 1930
Bremerton, Washington
Died: October 17, 2008
Bremerton, Washington



Terry Mettling

Message from our Vice Chairperson:

I never expected to be writing this column in the foreseeable future, but sometimes things happen. Things happen that we don't expect and things that we certainly can't appreciate. BUT....due to the recent death of our president, I am writing this so it shall be about him:

Larry Swan (1930-2008)

For nearly twenty years, Larry was one of PSGS's movers and doers. In any organization, the brunt of the work is done by a core group of about 10% of that organization. A president of this organization can only serve two consecutive terms and as far as I know, Larry was the only individual to do that twice! He had been one of the volunteer librarians for years in addition to serving on numerous committees and working groups. He also volunteered his time and energy to the Kitsap Historical Society and to the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport. While talking with his wife, Patty, I also found out that he was an avid gardener, raising and tending both bonsai and orchids. Neither of those are plants that are easy to deal with but apparently he made it look easy. For years, he was a tenor in one of the local barbershop quartet organizations in addition to being quite involved in our local community theatre productions.

That seems to be quite a lot for one individual to do but Larry also found time to travel extensively with his wife throughout the world to such places as China, Tibet, Mexico & Sweden. He got to visit his great grandfather's ancestral home in Sweden and brought home two small rocks from there. He thoroughly enjoyed his genealogy research and like every single one of us, he also enjoyed sharing it with others.

With all of that said, I have to add that like

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PSGS Website

The new PSGS website is now ready for you to use. The address is www.pusogensoc.org. (The first two letters of Puget Sound, and the first three letters of Genealogical Society) OR, just click Google and type in Puget Sound Genealogical Society and you will find the link to click. When you see the Home Page of the website, right-click on the mouse and click, "Create shortcut" to put an icon on your screen for easy access.

To see information about upcoming events go to: [www/pusogensoc.org/happenings](http://www.pusogensoc.org/happenings).

Be sure to look at the Events Calendar and click on any of the underlined events for more information. Enjoy your new website!

Cindy Shawley Spore Memorial Library (PSGS)
2501 Mile Hill Dr., Port Orchard, WA 360-874-8813
Tuesday through Saturday 10am – 4pm
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 1931, Port Orchard, WA 98366-0805

Our New web site: www.pusogensoc.org
Belfair Chapter: www.rootsweb.com/~wabgs

Puget Sound Genealogical Society Cindy Shawley Spore Memorial Research Library

2501 S E Mile Hill Drive, Suite A102
Port Orchard, Washington

Tuesday	10:00 am — 3:00 pm
Thursday	10:00 am — 3:00 pm
Friday	10:00 am — 3:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am — 3:00 pm

Marjorie Menees, Librarian
Charlotte Long-Thornton, Library Volunteer Coordinator.

Library Business Address:
P O Box 1931
Port Orchard, Washington 98366-0805

Be Conscious of your
Backtracker Expiration Date.
Don't let your
PSGS
Membership Lapse!

Attention *Backtracker* Readers!
Have you reviewed the
Backcover Reminders?

Belfair Chapter Web Site:
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wabgs>
Jackie Horton — Website Manager

Upcoming *Backtracker* Articles In Future Editions

- *Washington State Veterans Home Cemetery, Retsil, Washington, Index..*
- *Lambert Evans, The Man Who Put the Grape in Grapeview, By Louise Rauschert Sweatt.*
- *How Did World War II Change Our Lives? By Phyllis Searls Wahlquist*

PSGS Web Page:

www.pusogensoc.org
Website Manager — Dorothy Lindquist

The Puget Sound Genealogical Society

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It is time to
Renew your
PSGS Membership for 2009!

PSGS Obituary Index

DOYLE John M.
DOYLE Joseph
DOYLE Maxine
DOYLE Ruth Raphael
DOYLE Thomas M.
DOYLE Worthie
DOYLE Worthie L.
DRACHENBERG Palmer L.
DRAGUM Edward R.
DRAKE Estel (Bunch)
DRAKE Frances Betty (Vokrac)
DRAKE Hattie M.
DRAKE Temple S.
DRAPER Joseph G.
DRAWING Beatrice Evelyn
DREESSEN Agnes (Tutje)
DREHER Martha L.
DRESSLING Alice Viola
DREW Daniel H.
DREW Frederick Edgar Dr.
DREW Robert LeRoy
DRISCOLL Donna J.
DRISCOLL John S. "Jack"
DRISCOLL Margaret Ann
DRISCOLL Thomas
DROGE John J.
DROSCHE Donald Afdahl
DROST Michael
DRUMMOND Brady L.
DRURY Steven Loren Lyon
DRYDEN Vernon W.
DUANE May Emily
DUARTE Jessie
DUBBINS Christie
DUBEK Timothy James
DUBINSKY Olga Frances
DuBOIS Agnes Margaret
DuBOIS Oliver A.
DuBOSE Barbara Ruth
DUCHAIINE Mary Elizabeth C. "Mary Beth"
DUCKENFIELD Derrick
DUCKENFIELD John
DUCKETT Hermie K.
DUCKINFELD Bertha A.
DUCKWILER Mae Heather
DUCKWORTH Donald V.
DUCKWORTH Herman C.
DUCLOS Mary Gale (Middleton)
DUDA Lenoy Alton
DUDLEY Inez M.
DUERDEN Harold J.
DUFF Carlton E.
DUFF Hazel Green
DUFF Karen Ann (Taylor)
DUFFEY Roy L. "Duff"
DUFFY Pauline E.
DUGAN Anne Fikinger
DUGENO Agapito S.
DUGGAN Harold Dean
DUGGAN Iris E.
DUGGER Anita G.
DUGU Alex Michael
DUKE Benjamin H.

DUKE Sara Ruth
DULANEY William Cecil
DUMKE Raymond S. Sr.
DUMMER William George
DUMONT Robert
DUNBAR Lewis J.
DUNBAR Mae J.
DUNCAN Albert S.
DUNCAN Burton E. "Burt"
DUNCAN Elizabeth
DUNCAN Elizabeth M.
DUNCAN Kathleen Cynthia
DUNCAN Merle C.
DUNCAN Rosemarie W.
DUNCAN Rosemary Ann Fitzgerald
DUNFORD Earl Gerard
DUNHAM Alfred M.
DUNHAM Horace C.
DUNKAK Elmer Brettman Jr.
DUNLAP Eugene F.
DUNLAP Jackie Doris
DUNLAP Jay Leonard
DUNLAP Lewis A. Jr.
DUNLAP Luella M.
DUNLAP Marion M.
DUNLAP Vernon R. Sr.
DUNLAP Wayne J.
DUNN Dean E. Sr.
DUNN Gordan
DUNN Ruth Ada (Brown) "Boots"
DUNNING Robert E.
DUNNIVAN James R.
DUNPHY Robert F.
DUPONT Sharron Amy
DuPRAW Earl E.
DURBAN Elizabeth (Collins)
DURBIN Keith Allen
DURENT Kevin R.
DURHAM Daniel W.
DURHAM Gerald R.
DURLAND Frances Mary Lawrence
DURRELL Gordon
DURUPT Mary
DURYEA Harold Raymond
DUTTRY Russell V.
DUVALL E. Gerry
DWYER Otis C.
DYE Geneve W.
DYE Solveig "Sally"
DYER Earl
DYER Lulu Bell
DYER Mildred
DYSART Benjamin B.
DYSON Eva
DYSTE Evelyn D.
EADS Jean P.
EADS Joseph Dewey
EADS Winnifred May
EAGLESON Anna Christina
EAGLETON Ida Bernice
EAKIN Carol Anne (Gorman)
EAKLE Gloria Y.
EARING Edward B. Sr.

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EARLE	Annie I.	EDWARDS	Catherine Carol (Smith)
EARLES	Vern Henry	EDWARDS	Charles Wesley Jr.
EARLY	Carl A. Jr.		"Chuck"
EARTHFIELD	Martin C.	EDWARDS	Dick
EAST	Emerson Andrew "Remy"	EDWARDS	Fay Marie
EASTEP	Nelda Rama Capps	EDWARDS	Hal
EASTMADE	Mildred E.	EDWARDS	Jack Owen
EASTWOOD	Harry B.	EDWARDS	John H. D. "Pooch"
EATON	Gerald Bazil	EDWARDS	Maureen (Stroupe)
EATON	Jerry	EDWARDS	Ronald Gregory
EBERHARD	Ottilia (Biederstedt)	EDWARDS	Ruth DeLany
EBERHARDT	Marie	EDWARDS	William C.
EBERHARTER	Joseph William	EELLS	Clifford Myron
EBERLE	Mathias Mike "Math"	EELLS	Edith Botsford
EBERLINE	Elsie S.	EGAN	EvLyn Mae
EBERSOLE	Carroll T.	EGEBERG	Edward
EBERSOLE	Loren K.	EGELER	Patricia Ann (Turner)
EBEY	Sylvia	EGGEBEEN	John
ECHON	Illuminada "Mameng"	EGGLESTON	Dorothy Marie (Patton)
ECHTERNACH	Ramona P. (Hesselgesser)	EHLERT	Gloria E.
ECKBLUM	Josephine	EHRHART	Joseph
ECKBLUM	Myrtle J.	EHRLER	Edna Alice
ECKHOFF	Loyce La Verne	EHRlich	Bill
ECKLAND	George A.	EICHER	George J.
ECKLAND	Henry	EICHORST	Colleen F. (Brown)
ECKLEY	Gerda (Jahns) Howton		Fosberg
ECKLUND	Erma Lee (Smith) "Rose"	EIDSMOE	Terry Orin
ECKLUND	Hazel P. (Cunningham)	EIFLING	Elmer "Dale"
ECKLUND	Jesse Sydnor	EIGABROADT	Earl
ECKLUND	Sigurd G.	EIGNER	Kiyoko "Katie"
ECKMAN	Alice Evangeline	EIKUM	Jacob
ECKMAN	Lawrence E.	EIKUM	James C.
ECKROAT	George Joseph	EILER	Carl J.
ECKSTROM	Jaqueline "JP"	EILER	Virginia Ann
ECKSTROM	Russell E.	EING	Jack
EDDER	Harry W. Jr. "Bud"	EISENBERG	Virginia May (Burda)
EDDY	Daniel Bruce	EISENBRAUN	Sharon Lynn
EDDY	Stanley Earl	EISENHARDT	Harold W.
EDELBLUTE	Tessie Ellen	EISENHARDT	Helen Ann
EDES	Hope J. (Johnson)	EISENHOWER	Mary Pamela (Thomas)
EDGAR	Kelley L.		"Pam"
EDGLEY	George A.	EISTER	Dorathy
EDMAN	Clarence L.	EJDYS	Leonard E.
EDMAN	Martha Viola	EK	Theodore W.
EDMAN	Matilda	EKLUND	Robert B.
EDMISTON	Florence Lorraine	EKMAN	Beryl Evelyn (Nance)
EDMONDS	Adeline	EKO	Velvet June Bronson
EDMONDS	Eva Charlotte	EKOES	Mary L.
EDMONDS	Herbert	EKROTH	Jo-Anne Garland Larsen
EDMONDSON	David Ray	EKSTEDT	J. O.
EDMONDSON	Marietta (Southern)	EKSTEDT	Oscar L.
EDMONDSON	Ova E.	ELBERT	Charles H.
EDMONDSON	Richard H. "Skipper"	ELDER	Frank S.
EDMONSON	Beverly Jo	ELDER	Gail E. (Longridge)
EDSON	Barbara Jean (Manahan)	ELDER	Jessie Mae
EDSON	Donald S.	ELDREDGE	Florence Nuttall
EDSTROM	Cecil III "Buddy"	ELDRIDGE	Becky Ann

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ELDRIDGE	Hallie G.	ELWELL	Pauline J.
ELDRIDGE	Madge E.	ELWELL	Russell V.
ELDRIDGE	Orpha Jane	ELY	Russell E. "Russ"
ELDUEN	Laura R.	ELZIE	Daniel Ray
ELFENDAHL	Charles W.	EMEKA	Sunday Arlene (Bacon)
ELFENDAHL	Charles W.	EMEL	Anna N.
ELIAS	Lloyd J.	EMEL	Ernest
ELIASEN	Elsa Ingeborg (Haakonsen)	EMEL	Hattie
ELIASON	Alice Nelson	EMEL	John
ELIASON	Brandon	EMERICK	Ilene
ELIASON	Evald "Ames"	EMERSON	Goldie R.
ELIASON	Oscar	EMERSON	Judy
ELIASON	Vinka Hill	EMERSON	Katherine Ruth (Elliott)
ELKINS	Harold O.		"Kay"
ELKINS	John D.	EMERT	Tressa Nelle (Widows)
ELKINS	Laurence E.	EMERY	Charles V.
ELKINS	Mary E. (Rossi)	EMERY	Earl R.
ELKINS	William	EMERY	Glen L.
ELLARD	Pearl-Anne "Lanne"	EMERY	Minona F.
ELLEFSEN	Christian M.	EMERY	Thomas C.
ELLER	E. Robert	EMGE	Phyllis Eloise (Philbrook)
ELLER	Harvey G.	EMMERT	Alice Marie (Harris)
ELLER	Virginia	ENCARNACION	Redentor
ELLETT	Lawrence	ENDELL	Vernon G.
ELLINGBOE	Theodore	ENDER	Rosalind J.
ELLINGSEN	Evelyn Mae	ENDERUD	Jeremiah David
ELLINGSEN	Irving "Brownie"	ENDRESEN	Pauline Harding
ELLINGSEN	Michael Lee	ENDSLEY	Josephine E.
ELLINGSEN	Victor Irving	ENERSEN	Thomas H.
ELLIOTT	Alice Leone	ENGBLOM	Olga
ELLIOTT	Alonzo R.	ENGEBRETSON	Gladys M. (Booth)
ELLIOTT	Billy D.	ENGEBRETSON	Martha Jane (Allgood)
ELLIOTT	Dean Lyle Sr.	ENGEBRETSON	Roy Allen
ELLIOTT	Edgar Charles	ENGEBRETSON	Sherman
ELLIOTT	Lydia Jane Harper	ENGELBERT	Vernon L.
ELLIOTT	Walter D.	ENGELMANN	Sarah Louise
ELLIS	DeWitt D.	ENGELS	Laurel Rae (Jordan)
ELLIS	Hazel V.	ENGLE	Harold G.
ELLIS	Howard H.	ENGLISH	Anita Hawkins
ELLIS	LaRayne H.	ENGLISH	Lloyd B.
ELLIS	Lee	ENGLUND	Ellen
ELLIS	Roy Howard	ENGLUND	Henry
ELLIS	Sherrie Lynn	ENGLUND	Russell O.
ELLIS	Winnie S.	ENGMAN	Joseph "Spud"
ELLISON	Robert F.	ENGSTROM	Hazel
ELLISON	Ronald A. Sr.	ENGSTROM	Hazel B.
ELLS	Colton Dean	ENHELDER	Jack E.
ELLSWORTH	Donald C.	ENQUIST	Alma
ELLWOOD	Susan K. (Zennan) Guy	ENSLOW	Dorothy Harrison
ELMORE	Clara E.	ENTREKIN	William
ELMORE	Dorothy L.	ENTRIKEN	Lorena
ELMORE	Luther	EOFF	James Columbus
ELSER	David Patrick	EPOCH	Wilbert M. "Bill"
ELSWORTH	Thomas Eugene	EPPERLY	Opal A. (DeMoss)
ELVERSON	Jean L.	EPPLE	Arthur August
ELVINS	Richard E.	EPPS	Addie Mae (Pierce)
ELWELL	Charles Joseph	ERDAHL	Donald S.
ELWELL	Lester E.	ERDMAN	Carl R.

In Memorium

Edward Allen Miller, Sr.
Born: January 26, 1933
Gayville, South Dakota
Died, October 14, 2008
Port Orchard, Washington
An avid Genealogist and

Member of the Puget Sound Genealogy Society.

Are you a historian?

You are very likely an avid reader of histories concerning your ancestral origins in Europe and exceedingly fascinated with the detail of your pioneer ancestors who set out on perilous voyages on sailing ships to the new world and the arduous treks of exploration of a little known territory of dense forests and hills seeking a place to stake out a claim for a future home for yourself and your family. If you have done all this, isn't it time to proclaim yourself a genuine family historian! You are now in a position to compose the story of predecessors' adventures. I would like to hear from you and the story about your family's experiences.

The Editor.

(Continued from page 73) Message from our Vice Chairperson:

the rest of us, Larry wasn't perfect by any means. After all, I was one of his roommates in Salt Lake City. Larry Harden and I got to listen to him grumble all evening about researching the wrong family all day long. At times like those, he might get in one of his moods where the polite term for him would be "irascible". I enjoyed my conversations with him whether we were on the same side in an argument or on opposite sides. I learned from him and I'm going to miss him, as are we all. Goodbye Larry, we'll see you on the other side.

Terry Mettling



Lawrence Arthur Swan's Obituary:

Larry was born October 7th, 1930 in Bremerton to Arthur John Swan and Lucille Edith Swan (Schendel). Larry was the first of four and is survived by his brother Ed and Penny Swan, sister Lynn and Erv Hume and sister Louann Morris. Larry enjoyed a close relationship with his mother, father and siblings. Larry lost his mother in 1962 but enjoyed the company of his father until his passing in 1996.

Larry had the great joy to share his life with his beloved wife Patty and his 6 children; son Michael and Marie Helena, son Kevin and Mary Jo, daughter Leslie, son Thomas, son David and Jessica, and

Looking Back Looking Ahead Turning Over a New Leaf

Recently I was elected to serve as your president beginning in January 2009. I am both honored and humbled as I think about the task I have accepted. I am sure that I have a lot to learn but I will try to do my best. There are several things I do know which make me feel good about the year ahead for PSGS.

First, there isn't a greater group of people anywhere who are always willing to help when needed. PSGS depends on the loyal supporters and volunteers who plan, share ideas and work on projects and committees to get the job done.

Second, we have a strong foundation we have inherited from others who have gone before us. For thirty-five years the members of PSGS have worked hard to make it possible for us to enjoy what we have today. They have helped to build an outstanding collection of research materials as well as a strong support team for helping with family history research.

Third, I look forward to the year ahead because now we are the ones who must keep PSGS moving ahead. We bring with us the best of the past into the present and then we will be able to move ahead in new directions. When I first joined PSGS I was very impressed that there was a group known as the "Planning Committee". There were some very good ideas that were discussed – even a "Ten-year Plan". I feel that it is time to revive that committee to discuss where we want to go and how we plan to get there. If there is anything you would like to see happen during the coming year I hope you will let me know. A wise person once said "If you don't know where you want to go, how will you know when you get there?"

Last, I feel good about the year ahead because I know that nothing is impossible when we all work together. In the process of getting the job done we may even break down a few brick walls!

Dorothy Lindquist, PSGS President Elect 2009.



daughter Kjrsten. Larry proved to be an exceptional husband and father, providing a perfect balance of love, affection and support. He helped his family to flourish in their own way, while secure in the knowledge that he was ever ready to lend a supporting hand or sage advice. It is said that the measure of a man is found in how he treated and influenced those around him. Larry was immensely proud of his family and they are a tribute to his success as a family man. Larry's extended family includes his first wife Harriet; mother to Michael, Kevin and Leslie, and

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Larry's Obituary.

his stepmother Kay and her daughters Cathy and Jim Bates and Carla and John Fischer. Larry had numerous nieces and nephews, and although he sometimes mixed up a name or two, he always remembered interesting details or funny stories about each of them and was always ready to visit, entertain, or assist every family member. Larry was the proud grandfather to 4 adorable grandchildren; Anna, daughter to Mike and Marie Helena, and Brennan, Collin and Nicholas, sons to Leslie. Larry delighted in his every interaction with the grandchildren and relished the opportunity to spoil them whenever possible. It might be said that Larry enjoyed being a grandfather even more than being a father, if that were possible. Throughout his life, Larry gave of himself through service to others. He served his country honorably in the U.S. Coast Guard during the Korean conflict and served as a civil servant until his retirement in 1990. Larry was a proud American who strongly supported our troops, our disabled veterans and the American Legion through his contributions and activities. He was an enthusiastic amateur historian who enjoyed the opportunity to learn as well as pass on his knowledge to others. Larry particularly enjoyed Naval history and served as a Docent at the Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, WA for the past 18 years. Ever the diligent and hard worker, Larry still found the time to pursue his education. He often joked that it took him 35 years to finish the job, but he was immensely proud of his several degrees and even managed to graduate with honors. His accomplishment stands as an example and a happy challenge to his grandchildren who are sure to do him proud.

Larry was an active member of the community, both in his hometown of Bremerton and in his many adoptive homes throughout the world. As an avid genealogist, Larry found family throughout the world and zealously tracked every clue that might lead to the discovery of another long lost distant relation. Larry's tireless efforts and research led to the discovery of many relations in South Dakota, Minnesota, Sweden, Norway and Germany. Larry particularly enjoyed conversing with these new found relations and learning about another branch of the family. Whenever a line of investigation led to a dead end, Larry redoubled his efforts in a new direction, secure in the knowledge that new friends and family were ready to be found. His other community activities included his love of performance in the theater and musical arts and his passion for all green growing things. Larry, a talented tenor, performed with the Kitsap Chordsmen, a local Barbershop Chorus for many years. Larry performed with the Bremerton Community Theater since 1971. He performed in his


first play, "It's never too late" in 1971, and his last play in 2006. He particularly enjoyed musicals where he could indulge his love of acting and singing. In recent years, he participated in the theater by serving as the house manager, assisted with set construction, electrical systems and manned the sound booth. When not performing for others, Larry did his best to cultivate and care for his every expanding garden. Always the happy gardener, Larry caught the Bonsai bug shortly after his retirement and spent time every day fiddling with and nurturing his diminutive plants. Although he never tired of his Bonsai collection, he none the less found time to cultivate Orchids; a difficult flower on the best of days, but he made it look easy.

Throughout his life, Larry was an adventurous traveler. Whether backpacking with his sons in the Boy Scouts, or summer car trips across these United States, he never tired of the many sites and wonders of the world and the opportunity to share these with his family. In recent years, Larry and Patty enjoyed trips to Alaska, The Panama Canal, Mexico, China, Tibet, Sweden and Denmark. Whenever possible, he combined his love of travel with his passion for genealogy; performing research and discovering family in obscure locations. One of his greatest adventures included the discovery of his Great Grandfathers family homestead in Sweden where he met his cousin Bjoren and the opportunity to walk remnants of the home site and foundation. Larry once commented that touching this distant part of his history served to expand his view of the world while strengthening his sense of family; or more precisely, "that's just neat!"

Gathering of Remembrance – A Celebration of the Life Of Larry Swan

Please join the Swan family in a celebration of our beloved Larry's life on Sunday, Oct 26. The gathering will be held at The Bridge Center, 2817 Wheaton Way in Bremerton. Friends and well wishers are encouraged to attend between 1-4 PM. We would appreciate your attendance and asks you to share your experiences, stories and photos with the group.

Contributions- those wishing to send flowers or make contributions are requested to make a donation to the Puget Sound Genealogical Society in his name. His Genealogy research was his strongest passion and he would appreciate your support of this worthy cause. Contributions should be sent to Puget Sound Genealogical Society, In Remembrance of Larry Swan, P.O. Box 1931, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Note: Obituary extracted courtesy of the Tuell-McKee online web site. 

THE DASH

By Linda Ellis, Copyright 1998

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend

He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following date with tears,

But he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth..

And now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own; the cars... he house... the cash.

What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard.. Are there things you'd like to change?

For you never know how much time is left. (You could be at "dash mid-range").

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real,

And always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger, and show appreciation more,

And love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile...

Remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So when your eulogy's being read with your life's actions to rehash..

Would you be proud of the things they say about how you spend your dash? □

Courtesy of Phyllis Wahlquist.

The Alaska Gold Rush

By George Edward Ruff

Submitted by Bonnie Robbins Ruff

Note: When I was going through papers belonging to my husband's paternal ancestors, I found this hand-written account by my husband's grandfather, George Edward Ruff (born 1883 in Chicago, died 1967 in California), of the preparations for a trip to the Alaskan gold fields when he was not quite 16 years old. The family he describes in the first paragraph comprises his father Albert Edward Ruff (born 1854 in Scotland to German parents,



Albert Edward Ruff (b 1854) and Nellie Carter Mallory (b 1859).

died 1948 in California), his mother Nellie Carter Mallory (born 1859 in Wisconsin, died 1949 in California), George, brother Arthur E. Ruff (born about 1889 in Chicago, living in Alabama in 1967), sister Eugenia Ruff, (born in Chicago, died about 1916 in Montana), and brother Norman Ruff. Albert and George bought shares in a company that did go to Alaska, and Albert wrote the story of their adventures there. I've made another interesting discovery: my maternal grandfather and his father also went to the Alaska Gold Rush, but as far as I know, neither wrote about it. George's account follows. Note: When I was going through papers belonging to my husband's paternal ancestors, I found this hand-written account by my husband's grandfather, George Edward Ruff (born 1883 in Chicago, died 1967 in California), of the preparations for a trip to the Alaskan gold fields when he

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The Alaska Gold Rush.

was not quite 16 years old. The family he describes in the first paragraph comprises his father Albert Edward Ruff (born 1854 in Scotland to German parents, died 1948 in California), his mother Nellie Carter Mallory (born 1859 in Wisconsin, died 1949 in California), George, brother Arthur E. Ruff (born about 1889 in Chicago, living in Alabama in 1967), sister Eugenia Ruff, (born in Chicago, died about 1916 in Montana), and brother Norman Ruff. Albert and George bought shares in a company that did go to Alaska, and Albert wrote the story of their adventures there. I've made another interesting discovery: my maternal grandfather and his father also went to the Alaska Gold Rush, but as far as I know, neither wrote about it. George's account follows.

The fall of 1898 found a musician's family in Chicago living happily and contentedly in circumstances much better than average—Father, Mother, three boys and a daughter living in a beautiful home on the South Side, made possible by the success of the musician, who at that time was head of a large musical conservatory. His specialty was voice culture and he had made famous many noted artists who



Albert Edward Ruff

never failed to sing his praises.

His great ambition was to gain for his family the financial independence so much desired by all, but his lack of business understanding caused him heavy losses in other ventures he was tempted to go in to.

Always hopeful and confident that some day the real thing would turn up to make him rich brought him home one night radiant with excitement, because on that day the world had been electrified with the report of the great gold strike in Alaska. Newsboys were calling out their Extras and the news of the

fabulous wealth that had been uncovered in the far north, was told about in glaring headlines. Everyone was at fever heat for it seemed from the reports that whole mountains of gold had been discovered and that all there was to do to share in this wealth, was to go up there and get it.

Little wonder then that this musician who was my Father, was beside himself with excitement. This was the one big opportunity he had been dreaming about and his hands fairly shook as he told the news to Mother and the rest of us.

Of course Alaska was a long way off and there seemed no real possibility of a man in his position ever getting up there. But this same obstacle was also in the way of thousands of others who wished that they could go. The days passed and with each succeeding report, the news of other strikes was had, until at seemingly one impulse everyone decided that they must go. And when I say everyone, I mean men in all walks of life—men who had no idea what hardships were, who had never done a stick of manual labor in their lives, but who with the others, had only an insane desire to go and gather up the gold, they had been led to believe, was there for the ones who went there to get it.

My Father could hardly control himself. In his enthusiasm he would say "If there was only some way I could get up there." Mother, being of a more timid nature was worried about him and tried to persuade him to realize that that kind of an adventure was only for the more rugged and experienced men. But soon he heard of companies being organized to go north, and many of his friends told him of their determination to join the stampede.

One day he was asked by a friend of his to go to a meeting of a company that was being formed to go to Alaska, so he willingly consented to join him. Together they went and they took me along too as I was as much excited about it as the rest of them. I at that time was not quite sixteen and had not finished high school. So we sent and found ourselves virtually in the midst of a lot of mad men. Everybody was talking at once and it was only after a great deal of effort, that the leaders were able to quiet things down enough to explain the plans of the organization.

The master mind was a man by the name of Hegeman. He had a son Frank, who had studied mining engineering and was supposed to know what it was all about. We met a great many of them present, which included men in all walks of life—Doctors, lawyers, clergymen, carpenters, painters, mechanics, grocers, bakery men and almost every conceivable trade was represented there. All with the same thought in mind, to go and get their share of the gold.

After several meetings an organization was accomplished and it was to be known as The Alaska Union Gold Mining Co. The company was to be limited to 80, and each of the members was to subscribe \$1000 which would cover their entire share of the

(Continued on page 82)

equipment and supplies intended for the venture. It was decided that we should have provisions enough for one year. That we should take along materials to build a river steamer with which to travel up the Yukon, and that all of this was to be transported on a sailing schooner, which would take it from Seattle to the mouth of the Yukon.

Each member was to furnish their own personal equipment of clothing and etc. and many wild ideas were expressed as to what it would be necessary to wear. The members were hounded by salesmen, who had just the proper things to wear, in their lines. Such things as heavy fur coats, sleeping bags, high leather boots, extra heavy wool underwear, fur gloves etc. were looked over and eagerly bought by the members. Enough clothing to outfit ten men were bought by single individuals and in most cases at most exorbitant prices.

Then came the purchasing of the supplies and other equipment. Flour, bacon, canned goods, beans, sugar and many other non-perishable foods were contracted for. Lumber, machinery, hardware and other things necessary to build the river steamer were bought and everything ordered to be delivered in Seattle the following spring.

It was not until after things were getting fairly under way, that my father decided to join the party and go with them. My Mother was frantic with apprehension as it meant Father giving up his business or intrusting it to the hands of some one else. When he mentioned taking me along, my Mother fairly collapsed, but with his heart set on this great venture there was nothing else for her to do but give in.

Then came the matter of finances. It was to take \$2000 for the two of us, and with a home that was not paid for and not much money in the bank, it was necessary to put other mortgages on the property. That seemed like a small matter however as we thought we were going to a sure thing, and there was scarcely any one who was not borrowing to the limit to go along. Some families were left with barely enough to live on and no thought was given to it, as we were all so sure that within a short time we would come back with fortunes.

So the winter passed with meeting after meeting, everyone impatient with the slowly passing months that had to go by before we could take off. Many differences of opinion arose during this period and at times it looked as if the company would break up in a row, but due to the excellent leadership of the Hegemans it was finally pulled through and everything was in readiness about March 1st in 1899.

Then came the great question of what the actual date of leaving would be. Everybody wanted to go first of course and it was all the leaders could do to hold them back. The schooner, Beulah by name was chartered to leave Seattle about April 1st, so it seemed inadvisable to have the whole party there until that time. Of course there was work to be done prior to that and some of us had to be there to receive and care for the

supplies that were arriving. After many heated arguments were had, it was decided that twelve of us should go about a month in advance, and I was selected to join the advance guard. Another young man slightly older than myself was also selected. His name was Clarence Harvey and his Father, also a member of the company had practically forced him to go, because he wanted to break up a love affair that Clarence had with a certain young lady in Chicago. Clarence was sort of a feminine type of man and quite upset over the fact that he was being separated from his sweet heart. He fought being taken away, but his Father insisted, so along he came.

On the night of our departure, there were great crowds down to the train to see us off. Members of the company who were not leaving then came down with their friends and families. Our own families were there—many with misgivings and many with tears in their eyes for the loved ones that were leaving. On the whole though the occasion was one of happiness as everyone was so sure that this was the beginning of a venture that would bring us untold wealth. There were songs of happiness, mingled with tears of sadness, and as the train pulled out, an ever living picture was planted in my heart of the look of anguish expressed in my Mother's face. She was brave however and held back the tears, although I know she was fearful of what was to happen to her oldest son, scarcely sixteen. Had she really known what was to happen to me in the months to follow, I am sure she never could have lived through it.

Another sad parting was that of Clarence and the girl friend. She just wasn't going to let him go and they had to be literally torn away from each other or he would never have gotten on the train. My Father was to come on later, so I was off at last alone, on the first great adventure of my life.

Our transportation from Chicago to Seattle did not include de lux traveling accommodations. The economies were very evidently starting here. A three day trip in a chair car, and not the latest type either. The chairs did tilt back however, but it was my hard luck to be seated next to a very repulsive type of gentleman. With the lights in the car slightly dimmed I was finally able to get to sleep the first night, only to be awakened by my companion who had worked himself over close to me and was performing a snoring whistle in my ear. Needless to say I did not sleep much more that night, so picked myself another seat the next day.

But the inconveniences of this kind of travel were soon forgotten in the excitement of me actually being on our way. The next two days passed quickly as we passed through country that none of us had seen before. The vast prairies of The Dakotas and Montana were soon followed by the wonderful timber lands of Idaho and Washington and when we at last arrived in Seattle and smelled the salt air of Puget Sound, our blood fairly tingled with excitement. ■

Members' Surname Interests

Marjorie Brazier, 4950 S. W. Phipps Way, Port Orchard, WA.lama58@msn.com.

Greer Hughes Phelan Snowden

Brazier Kennedy Clayton Cash

Ora M. Franke, P O Box 286, Suquamish, WA 98342.

oblate-sphereroid42@hotmail.com.

Jewett Vermont Pre 1950

Johnson Vermont Pre 1980

Davis Washington Pre 1980

Barbara Merriman, P O Box 4794, South Colby, WA

98384-0794, jim_barb2@msn.com

Grice 1800's Georgia, South Carolina

Malone 1800's Georgia

Smutting 1800's Czechoslovakia

Denemark 1800's Czechoslovakia

Hutar/Huttar 1800's Czechoslovakia

Jarolim/Jarolin 1800's Czechoslovakia

Honig/Hoenig 1800's Germany

Leppert 1800's Lambsheim, Germany

early 1900's Ohio

Hazel E. Thornton, 14717 Kestrel Place NE, Poulsbo, WA

98370, hazelt@wavecable.com

Leise 1744 Present, WA, MN, IL, WV, MD

Buckley Lancashire, ENG, 1795 Present

Mercer 1820, 1890 MI

Tattersall 1813—1900 Lancashire ENG

Smith 1793—1955 Wiltshire ENG, DE, WI

Harrington 1810-1880 VT, NY, MI

Frith Warwickshire, Lancashire, ENG

Stilson 1800 - 1900 CT, NY, MN

Elected Officers for 2009

At the October general meeting of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society this slate of officers were presented by the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Loraine Magee. The officers for the coming year were elected as follows:

Dorothy Lindquist — President.

Phyllis Wahlquist — First Vice President and Chair of the Program Committee.

Elayne Stodola — Second Vice President and Membership Chairman.

Barbara Chesley — Treasurer.

Karin Burke — Recording Secretary.

Madge Norton — Corresponding Secretary.

The new officers will be installed at the PSGS membership meeting on December 10th and will begin their terms of service on January 1st, 2009.

PSGS Schedule of Classes 2009

- 4- 18 January Salt Lake City Research Trip
- 02 February How to Make a Memory Album
- 21 February Beginning Genealogy
- 02 March How to Print Old Pictures for
Memory Album
- 06 April Internet Genealogy
- 04 May Church Records
- 16 May Beginning Genealogy
- 01 June Solving Brick Walls — A
Roundtable
- 06 July Courthouse Records I — Land
Records
- 03 August Courthouse Records II —
Probate and Wills
- 15 August Beginning Genealogy
- 12 September Personal Web Page
- 05 October Census Records
- 02 November Using Ancestry.com
- 21 November Beginning Genealogy
- 07 December Citing Your Sources

If your family were an early settlers
in the West Sound,
write about them for the *Backtracker*.
Don't you too think
our newsletter should publish
articles relevant to
our local history?

What the *Backtracker* needs is family history
articles about the pioneers of the
Kitsap Peninsula.

Attention Members

When remitting membership renewals and
rental fund donations, please send mail to:
Puget Sound Genealogical Society
Attn: Treasurer
P O Box 1931
Port Orchard, Washington 98366-0805

*Genealogy, the science
and study of family descent.
Webster.*

The Backtracker
The Genealogical Newsletter
For and By the PSGS Membership

PSGS 35-Year Timeline

1972

A small group of people met at the Doctors' Clinic in Bremerton to discuss their genealogical research.

May 2, 1973

At this meeting it was decided to organize a club and elect officers. Protem President Marlys Marrs and Vice-President Jim Hanf served until a slate of officers were elected in October. Some of the people who helped to organize this group were: Dr. Frederick Drew, Dr. William Richardson, Naomi Morris, Jackie Smalley, Betty Eckman, Marie Barth and Marlys Marrs.

November 1973

Meeting held at Sheridan Park. Jim Hanf was President, Naomi Morris was Vice-President and Donna Jean Bruce was Secretary Treasurer. During this year Bylaws were established, goals were written and plans were begun for a genealogical library. The main goals were (1) education, (2) Sharing information, and (3) promoting genealogy.

November 1974

One year later a library was started and the group had adopted the name, "Olympic Genealogical Society, Graecia Briten Chapter". There were 42 members. The group began abstracting historical records such as mortuary and cemetery records, vital records, census records, wills and probates as well as lists of mayors.

May 1975

Meeting held at the Great Northwest Building in Bremerton. Members selected the new name of "Puget Sound Genealogical Society". Also, at this time, *Family Backtracking*, (renamed *The Backtracker*) was chosen the name for the society's newsletter. They began publishing the records they had been abstracting. The same year, Arthur Fiske, who had been so helpful in getting our society established was awarded lifetime member status. Over the years our society has grown and so has the library. Different meeting places have been used and the library has moved from place to place, even in members' homes.

1976

The group had grown to 62 members and genealogy classes were started for members.

1995

Givens Community Center became a home for our library.

March 2003

Our library had a brief home at the Poulsbo Armory.

March 2004

Library was relocated to its present location at the East Port Orchard Center, 2501 Mile Hill Drive, Suite A-102 in Port Orchard.

November 2008

Membership has grown from slightly over 20 members in 1973 to almost 200 members at the present time.

(This information is based on "A History of PSGS" written by Marlys Marrs.)

HO, HO, HO!

PSGS Celebrates 35 Years!

December 10, 2008

12:00 - 3pm

Gateway Center, Bremerton

Come join fellow members for an afternoon of fun.

Bring a wrapped gift for a fun game of gift exchanging and enjoy the great lunch provided by the Board.

Outgoing Officers will be honored and the new Board will be introduced.

A few select items will be on display for an auction conducted by 'Santa'. Scrapbooks from the past

on PSGS events will be on display and Past Presidents will join us to tell of the beginnings of PSGS. Please bring a donation for the Helpline Food Bank.

www.bremertonhistory.com

Official Web Site of the

Perry Publishing

P O Box 417

Thompson Falls, Montana 59873

pargeter@blackfoot.net

Fredi listed our

PSGS web site as a link

Thanks Fredi!

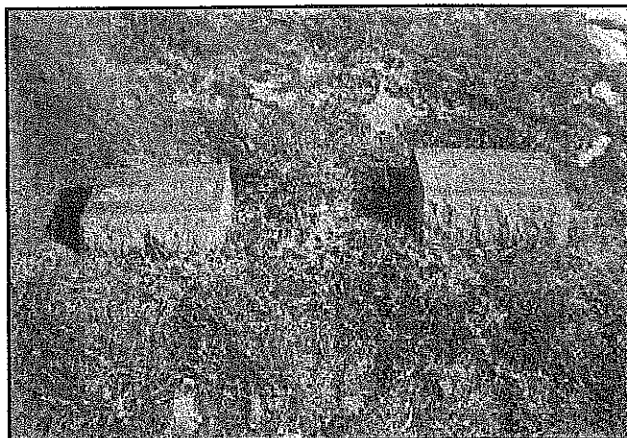
White Spaces.

Greetings to the readers of the *Backtracker*. From time to time the editor has white space not yet filled with genealogical material. These unoccupied spaces may be your fault. Why do you ask? Vacant spaces require writer to take the time to compose an article about some aspect of their family history. Why don't you take the time to create a story about those who preceded you on the pioneer trail I challenge you to write for our newsletter.

Thank you, the editor.

Finding the Smith Family By JoAnn Housen Scott-Smith

When Larry and I married, I determined to get him hooked on genealogy. But that has not been the case. He enjoys learning about his family history, goes on fact finding trips with me, and even haunts graveyards, but he's really not enthralled in the details of gathering the data or organizing it. So that left it up to me to start uncovering the facts about the Smith family. Being such a common name, I was a little reluctant to get started, so when I learned that his Uncle Carl Smith, b. 1916, was having a Mormon friend do some research, I decided to wait a bit and see what turned up. The waiting took about a year and I was disappointed in the results as most of the information consisted of pedigree charts and was information that Uncle Carl had already shared with me. Now it was my



*Gravestones of Charles and Sophia Smith at
St. Mary's Church, Storm Lake, Iowa.*

turn to dig in.

Where to start? I gathered up what information Uncle Carl had given me; his parents and grandparents names, names of siblings, aunts and uncles, places they had lived in, and whatever pieces of family lore I could amass and I updated my Family TreeMaker database whenever I visited members of the family. I searched the U.S. Census records using the Kitsap Regional Library, www.krl.org website, but the only records I could find were Uncle Carl's parents in White, South Dakota in 1910. The little bit of new information gleaned was that Frank Smith (1871-1930), Uncle Carl's father, had been born in Illinois; however, searching for "our" Smith's in Illinois was like the proverbial needle in a haystack. The worksheet that Uncle Carl had received from his Mormon friend included the name and e-mail address of a genealogist in South Da-

Important PSGS Deadline Dates

□ □ □ □ □

March 2009 *Backtracker*:

Article Submission date: February 1st

June 2009 *Backtracker*:

Article Submission date: May 1st

September 2009 *Backtracker*:

Article Submission date: August 1st

December 2009 *Backtracker*:

Article Submission date: November 1st

I want to express my appreciation to our PSGS Members who have written or plan to write genealogical articles for our *Backtracker* newsletter.

Sincerely, Your Editor.

□ □ □ □ □

kota, so I decided to contact her for more information. She was able to take a trip to the local library and found microfilm of newspapers that included obituary announcements for Anna (Nelson) Smith (1887-1946) and Charles Smith (1845-1921). Anna Smith was Uncle Carl's mother and Charles Smith was his grandfather. I learned that Charles had died in Storm Lake, Iowa, and had been born in Downer's Grove, IL. With this new information I was able to find Charles and his wife Sophia (Fender) (1846-1928) in the U.S. Census for Iowa for the years 1920, 1910, and 1880. I also had enough information to send for both Charles' and Sophia's death certificates. Now knowing where Charles had died, I began looking for cemeteries that might have some information. I tried several websites which gave e-

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Susan's Select Web Sites

In case you didn't get by the library to look at the window in November, let me tell you about the family tree that was on display beside pictures of six generations of my Ross family. It was drawn by a cousin of my great-grandfather between 1915 and early 1918. I was able to date it because it lists my three older aunts by name and then one twig is labeled "Boy." Another is marked "Another coming soon." "Boy" is my father, born in February 1915, and his next sister was born in April 1918. So, there's the approximate date of this heirloom.

Sadly, I couldn't find a picture of my grown sons, so I used one taken about 1968. They won't be up here to see the picture on display, so I'm safe.

In preparing a family group sheet for my great-great-grandparents, John and Eliza English, I realized that their oldest daughter married a Ross (another family line). George Washington Ross isn't in my direct line, but he could be a cousin to my great-great-grandfather. At any rate, they died in Lebanon, Oregon.

Just a reminder - don't forget the genealogy society where your ancestors lived and may be buried. At the time I realized all this, we were planning to visit a friend in Lebanon. So, we spent our last morning there walking the pioneer cemetery, with no luck. A letter to the genealogy society brought a helpful reply that they are buried in another cemetery there along with more information about the family. Now, I'm looking for a link to my Ross line. Next step is to go over that family tree with a magnifying glass - the writing is pretty small.

From the Gen-Events newsletter at Rootsweb - A new database has gone up on the GGG website: <http://www.GermanGenealogyGroup.com>. This database contains an index to the naturalization records listed below that were issued in Richmond County (Staten Island).

Petitions: years = 1898-1903, 1907-1959

Declarations: years = 1906-1953, 1957

Military: years = 1918, 1919, 1921-1924

Intentions: years = 1883 - 1898

German Genealogy Group provides research tips, sample newsletter, church/vital records databases, translating assistance, mentoring, newsletter, lending library, and Links to Long Island Irish, Italian, Jewish, Puerto Rican-Hispanic websites, NYC death records 1891-1948 for \$15 per year. <http://www.germangenealogygroup.com/>

Looking for an old map? Cyril provided this link to a subscription site to obtain prints - historicmapworks.com. Look for specials.

Looking for information about towns, even those which do not exist any longer? Try www.epodunk.com. If the search doesn't turn up anything under "Communities," try looking for a cemetery by that name; I found them for Emigrant, Pray, and Chico, MT.

Confederate ancestor? Can't find the grave? Try www.scv.org/graves/. Or, if you are aware of the grave of a Civil War veteran, either side, it can be reported using the form at www.suvcw.org/ftp/gravform.pdf.

Another website dealing with Civil War graves - www.pobonline.com/CDA/Archives/BNP_GUID_9-5-2006_A_1000000000000095036.

And, if you enjoy visiting historical sites, www.civilwartraveler.com will lead you to Civil War sites in 28 states.

The January 2009 issue of *Family Tree Magazine* has a detailed article on using Google. Check it out at www.familytreemagazine.com. You'll also find links to the other articles in this issue and in past issues.

Need help and can't travel right now? Try Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness, www.raogk.com. Kind volunteers will help you at minimal (if any) cost. Seems like we just got the 1930 census, and now they're talking about the release of 1940 (April 1, 2012). To see what was included, visit www.1930census.com/1940_census.php. Volunteers are needed to help convert addresses into enumeration districts - see www.steve-morse.org/census/1940instructions.htm.

Since we're a Navy community, explore <http://bluejacket.com>. Are you familiar with *Prologue Magazine*? It's a publication of NARA; back issues can be accessed online at <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/>. □

(Continued from page 85)

Finding the Smith Family.

mail addresses for points of contact and finally found one that had been in existence long enough to be of help. The person I contacted gave me some phone numbers to try, which led me to St. Mary's Catholic Church Cemetery, where this nice man told me that both Charles and Sophia were buried there and had been members of the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic), which meant that undoubtedly Charles had served in the military during the Civil War. He graciously bought a disposable camera and took pictures of the gravestones on a wet, snowy day, mailing me the whole camera.

Still waiting for the death certificates to arrive, I continued to search the internet and found that Illinois has a wonderful website for genealogical research; www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/archives.html. There I was able to find record of Charles and Sophia's wedding, his military service in the Civil War, and records of a George Smith buying land in 1842. The website provided the ability to send for copies of those records and also provided a way to contact local genealogists for more help. I had browsed the 1850 census records and found a George and Helena Smith with a five year old son named Charles in Downer's Grove, DuPage County, IL, but was unwilling to believe it could be the correct family since the names are so common. So I sent a \$20 donation to the DuPage County Genealogical Society with my request for information. My goal was to find the parents of both Charles and

(Continued on page 88)

PSGS Potpourri by Loraine Magee

I am writing this column after talking with Patti Swan and learning of Larry Swan's death. Larry was the only PSGS member to serve as president twice, for two years each time. He has been the recording secretary, and first vice president.

Larry was a friend, a genealogist, a librarian, a shelf-builder, and a painter for PSGS. When he wasn't helping at the Keyport Navy Museum or performing in a play, he was always available to help at seminars, yard sales, and chocolate fest. When I was president, Larry filled in for me when I needed surgery. Together we dealt with and solved some of the problems facing PSGS. I shall miss Larry's presence and his calm manner when I was troubled. He readily listened to my concerns and he even advised my grandson.

Larry Swan, you will be missed and thank you for being you, a friendly, helpful, kind, and wonderful presence in my life and the lives of other PSGS members.

The good news reads like an ad for Ancestry.com. In 2007, Charlotte Long Thornton put a request for information on Carl Olaf Eld and Anna Charlotta Lindstrom Eld on Ancestry. On August 28 of this year, Charlotte received an email from a cousin Elaine. After exchanging emails, Charlotte invited Elaine and Roger Helpfrey to visit as they had a trip planned to the Northwest already. On September 4, 2008, Elaine, Roger and Charlotte met for the first time. They exchanged information on the Elds. Elaine's grandfather was Oscar Eld, the oldest son of Carl and Anna. Oscar was the brother to Charlotte's grandmother. These folks immigrated from Sweden through Boston and settled in Minnesota and North Dakota. Uncle Oscar had 13 children with his wife Sophia and several other children through other relationships. Several of these children had 10-14 children each. And they went forth and multiplied. And then Charlotte and Elaine met through the wonders of the Internet.

Sandie Morrison was conducting a search for John Oakes on ancestry and came across a family tree with Oakes in Virginia. Sandie's mother, Janelle Oakes was born in Missouri. The Oakes line goes back to England by way of Virginia. Sandie asked permission from the family tree owner and was granted immediate access. She found over 400 photos & vital records, many pertained to Sandie's line, giving her lots of work to sort out all of the information.

Sandie has also learned of a family reunion in Wisconsin on her great, great grandfather William Warner's line. Tombstones are being posted online, some including the Warners.

The New York and New Jersey SIG will meet on the following dates: January 31, March 28 And May 30. All Meetings are from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Charlotte Long Thornton is the new library coordinator.

As past president, Terry Mettling is now on the audit and nomination committee. □

Your Antique
Photographs will look
Great
On Our Photo. Page

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 this ideal.

If you have knocked down an
insurmountable Genealogical barrier
during the course
of your family history research,
we want you to tell the *Backtracker*
all about your success.

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

Don't Let Your
PSGS Membership
Lapse!

Important!
PSGS Member Written Articles
Required for future editions
Of the *Backtracker*.
Contact Your Editor.

(Continued from page 86)

Finding the Smith Family.

Sophia, none of which were listed on the two death certificates. It wasn't long before I received an e-mail from a lady named Dorothy Bryson. We corresponded for several weeks while she looked in local archives for any information on the Smith family. I finally received a copy of Charles and Sophia's wedding certificate via the Illinois archives, which gave me the name of the Priest who had married them. With that information Dorothy was able to contact the Catholic Diocese and found the name of the church where he had presided. One weekend Dorothy and her husband made a trip into town to the local library where they found microfilm of old church records. There was the transcript of the marriage records from Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church, which included the union of Sophia Fender and Charles Smith, and provided the names of both sets of parents. I now know that the George and Helena Smith whom I'd found in the 1850 census is the correct family and I have since found Sophia's family in the 1860, 1870 and 1880 census records.

What did I/we learn from all this? Uncle Carl and Larry have thought all this time that they were of German extraction, and in fact maybe that's true. But the census records that I've found proclaim their ancestry as French and the 1880 census for the Smith and Fender families say they were actually from Alsace, a small country that was traded back and forth between France and Germany for many centuries, depending on who won the latest war. I've added a whole generation to the Smith and Fender family genealogy, including many aunts and uncles. I learned that both families migrated from France/Alsace during the early 1840's, before Charles and Sophia were born although both had siblings born in France. Most importantly, I learned there are a lot of nice people out there who love genealogy as much as I do. I've met, via the internet and telephone, people who were willing to brave the winter elements, to take time out of their own busy lives to help unravel the

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

Belfair Bulletin by DeLana Cox

As the year of 2008 comes to close it is time to think of 2009. What we will be doing in our Genealogy research for next year. We are looking for a lot of success and new finds. We had a very successful seminar in September with Barbara Hovorka of Portland Oregon. The Belfair group was able to give PSGS \$ 350.00 after our expenses for their use. We want to Thank all who attended and helped.

On November 6th we had our Potluck and meeting for election of Officers and planning for next year's meeting programs.

They are as follows:

President: Madi Cataldo

Vice President: Judy Joaquin

Treasurer: Linnie Griffin

Belfair Reporter: DeLana Cox

Our Meetings will be :

No meetings for December 2008 or January 2009

February 3: Planning committee Meeting which will be "Local History"

March 3: To be announced later.

April 7: Speaker Karen Hass from Humanities program on The Foss Family.

May 5: Connie Bailey of Olympia, subject not confirmed yet.

We have one of our very active members Jan Stevenson now residing at a care center. She would love to have cards from the group:

The Address is:

Jan Stevenson

c/o Haven

180 E Wheelwright Street

Allyn, Wa. 98524

Happy New Year to you all from the Belfair Group.
DeLana

Would you be interested
in organizing
A North Kitsap Chapter of the
Puget Sound Genealogical
Society?
If so, contact our President!

The Library Report Marjorie Menees

The death of our President Larry Swan has left an empty place in this library – one that will never be filled in just the way he graced it. In all the years that we were in existence from Givens to the present East Port Orchard Center, he was an active part of its operation and welfare.

Remember the section of the Givens Senior Center that held our bookshelves and desk? We stretched around the room under the windows, along the side wall, and finally across the center space. Under the windows toward the wall by the hall entrance door, were three big filing cabinets. From there toward the outside door and the wall by the entrance, we had we had some low book shelves. On the hall entrance wall there were three big cupboards that held the microfiche reader and the microfilm reader in front of which we had the gray two piece curved desk that had to be shoved against the back when we were not open so that other activities could have room.... (Remember how it sometimes got shoved out and messed up? By the night cribbage players, we whispered) ..

The bookshelves and cupboards all had doors that were locked --- each with a tiny padlock during the not open times.... Remember the procedure for those doors? When the librarian arrived on library days (of which there were two), the key to the Senior Center door was picked up at the main office, and also the key for the filing cabinets. The librarian would open the hall door, then open the big padlocks that held the steel bars across the drawers of the file cabinets and then pull the bars out to stand in a corner until lock up time. In the top drawer of the filing cabinet in our little yellow metal box were the keys - each of which unlocked a padlock on a bookshelf --- this was an interesting job to be sure the right key was used for each lock --- until we had the wonderful purchase of padlocks that opened with ONE key..... At the end of each day these steps were done in reverse.

When all was open, the librarian then took out folders and help-brochures and sign up sheets and placed them on a table in front of the desk. Then we were ready for business. One of our special services was to order rolls of census microfilm from Heritage Quest. These could be checked out by members to take to the Kitsap County Library where there was a microfilm machine that would print out portions to be saved. Of course, this was in the Olden Days -- before computers with all the programs and access to records via the Internet....

We were open from 10:00 to 4:00 on Mondays and Fridays with volunteer librarians. Among the faithful was Larry. In fact, when we had folk exclaiming if we would just have a night open for research all would be wonderful, Larry volunteered to take that. For an entire summer he stayed keeping the library open one night weekly until 9:00 p.m. During that time, no one came to work. No wonder when night openings have been suggested for our present schedule, he opposed that idea!

On Wednesdays, we had our general meetings there: spring and summer nights; fall and winter, days.

For some special meetings or if the Senior Center room was being used for something else, we met in the big assembly room down the hall... We had tables at the entrance door with the door prizes and other items. Cyril Taylor, our Treasurer, was usually nearby in case of being needed before the meeting. Lorraine Kniert had rolled down the big metal serving tray and the coffee pot and the water container and was stationed over by the sink and food counters with hot coffee, tea, along with goodies for sustenance. The President (one of whom was Larry -- also Bill Richardson, Cindy Spore, Larry Harden, and Sandie Morrison) and other officers as needed would be sitting at the librarian's desk in front of the attending members who were settled on the folding chairs in the rows placed before them.

Remember how rather cozy and nice that was? And almost free too. But we were growing constantly, library-wise.. and so when we were no longer given that space by the Seniors, even though we grumbled and growled and felt put upon, we really were expanding beyond it. Today our library (books, films, and other equipment) would never fit there -- in fact, I would say that we would not even fit in that nice big Senior Center Room..

We made one other move before we came here, - a short stay in Poulsbo - during both of which Larry was a regular helper and also a volunteer librarian. Over these years Larry continued to be concerned about the welfare and use of the library. He donated materials as well as time, advice, and care. He was available to help with the growth from the microfilm and the microfiche to our extended electronic department.

A while ago, he and those of us concerned were wondering what to do about the books we have been unable to log in or shelve due to lack of space. We considered squeezing shelving in behind one of the big doors to the book room and we talked of the miscellaneous materials' bin in the foyer. We thought that might do. Now, coming to the end of this year we are adding that other needed set of shelves to accommodate our book supply. Don Lindquist has made it to take the place of the shelf that stood across from the entrance to the foyer.

It will hold the books that have been on the shelves to the left of the entrance door to the big book room. These will include the following categories of books: Instructions, Guides, Catalogs, and Compendia. It seems as if this section will be fitting for this area where those who are new and or/visiting can browse generally and comfortably as they sit in that comfortable chair over by the lamp and window.

Larry and I entered PSGS about the same time -- he to more than one term as President and I to the Librarian's niche. So we worked together a lot and chatted a lot about our family researching and about the library. Thus I know how deeply he felt about this library and that is why it is appropriate that our main book room should be called, instead of the big book room: "The Larry Swan Book Room."

I like that and I am sure you all do too. □

PSGS Periodical Exchange Notes Madge Norton

AMER Genealogical Helper (Sept/Oct) Figuring Dates; The Art of an Oral Interview; The Best British Commonwealth Genie Sites on the Internet

AMER American-Canadian Genealogist 34:2&3 Where Did Your Canadian Ancestors Emigrate; The Acadian Newsletter

AMER Family Chronicle (Oct 2008) What Was the Militia; Non-Conformist Records in W. Europe; Civilian Conservation Corps Records; DAR Library, Wash. DC

AMER Internet Genealogy (Sept 2008) 50 Websites You Might be Missing; School Records Online

Ibid: (Nov 2008) Remarkable Russian Resources; Finding Your Gold Rush Ancestors; Civil War Maps Online

CA Sequoia Gen Soc Inc 35:6 (Aug 2008) Death Certif. from Porterville City Hall cont.

Ibid: 35:7 (Sept 2008) Old Newspaper Extracts; Death Certif. cont.

Ibid: 35:8 (Oct 2008) Old Newspaper Ext. cont; Death Certif. cont.

FL A Journal of NW Florida Gen Soc of Okaloosa Co 30:7 (Spring/Summer 2008) Walton Co Padgett Cemetery; Burlesons of NW FL

IL The Genie's View LaSalle Co Gen Soc (Jul/Aug 2008) Old Newspaper Articles

IN The Tri-State Packet Tri-State Gen Soc 32:1 (Sept 2008) Locust Hill Cemetery; Vandenburg Co Deaths 1840-1855

KS Topeka Gen Soc Quarterly 38:3 (Jul 2008) Extracts from Early KS Newspapers-Shawnee Co

KS The Seeker Crawford Co Gen Soc of SE KS 35:3 (Jul-Sep 2008) Crawford Co Death Records 1910; Marriages 1902-03; Civil War Vets of SE KS

MA Berkshire Genealogist 29:3 (Summer 2008) Berkshire Militia Units; State Census of MA 1855; Vital Rec for Town of Lee 1909-10

MD Reflections of the Past Frederick Co Gen Soc Newsletter 22:5 (Oct 2008) Criminal Case Files of the US Circuit Court for the Dist. of MD 1795-1860

MN Heir Mail Crow Wing Gen Soc 30:3 (Fall 2008) Perry Lake Twsp 1913 Plat Book; Alien Reg Allen Twsp-Brainerd cont.

MN Otter Tail Gen Soc Newsletter 26:3 (Sep 2008) Articles from Fergus Falls Weekly Journal 1883; Early Otter Tail Marriages

MO SGS Soc Newsletter Scotland Co Gen Soc 22:4 (Oct 2008) School Days Lists of Students in Various Schools 1921-68

NM The Journal of the NM Gen Soc 47:3 (Sep 2008) Marriage Records 1914-1927 St. Josephs' Apache Mission Church, Mescalero, Otero Co, NM; Sam Wortley of Lincoln Co; San Felipe Mission Burial Records

OH Tuscarawas Pioneer Footprints Tuscarawas Co Gen

Soc 36:3 (Jul/Aug/ Sep 2008) Old Newspaper Articles; 1870-1890 Obits

NM New Mexico Genealogist 47:2 (June 2008) Burial Records-St. Josephs' Apache Mission Church; New Mexicans in the Spanish-Am War

OH Tuscarawas Pioneer Footprints 36:2 (Apr-June 2008) County Court Records of Petitions Vol 7 & 8; Obituaries Ohio Democrat

OR Beaver Briefs Willamette Valley Gen. Soc. 40:2 (Spring 2008) OSP Inmate Register; Marion Co Applications for Soldiers Home

OR The Bulletin of The Gen. Forum of OR 57:4 (June 2008) Indians in the OR Census

PA Past Times Mercer Co Gen Soc 28:4 (May 2008) 125 Years Ago; Immigrants to PA, 1727-1808

SD Lyman-Brule Gen Soc 22:2 (Apr 2008) John & Mary Deal Story; Presho Post 1909-10

TX The Explorer Texana/Gen. Dept San Antonio Public Lib. 14:1 & 2 (2008) Newspapers in the Texana/Gen Dept; Fiesia Chronology

VA Kindred Spirits Prince William Co Gen Soc 26:3 (May 2008) Roschill Cemetery Burials

WA Stillaguamish Valley Gen Soc 21:2 (Mar/ Apr 2008) 1930 Census

Ibid. 21:3 (May/June 2008) 1930 Census cont.

WA Yakima Valley Gen Soc 40:2 (June 2008) Ahtanum School, Yakima cont; Cradle Roll Enrollment Cards-First Christian Bible School cont; Legal Notices 1889; Delinquent Tax Sale 1889

WA Appleland Bulletin 36:2 (June 2008) Cashmere City Cemetery cont; Manson High School 1927 Graduates (pictures)

WA Tri-City Gen Soc Bulletin 28:2 (Jul 2008) Index of Photographs, May thru Aug 1963 Newsletter, Hanford Project

WA The Researcher Tacoma-Pierce Co Gen Soc 39 (Summer 2008) Willard School Dist. 1909 Census; Directory of Puget Sound Navy Yard 1944; WW II Memorial Monument (names); Roster of United Spanish War Veterans 1942

WV The Journal Kanawa Valley Gen Soc 32:2 (Summer 2008) Graceland Memorial Park cont, Kanawa Co Death Records 1881; Early Kanawa Co Marriages 1794-1826



No doubt about it.

You are a genuine genealogist!

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to this truth concerning yourself,
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your word processor and write an article

For the *Backtracker* telling us the reason why
you became a Family Historian.

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by our readers.

McKinneys of Missouri -- Wending their Way West to Washington By Estelle Foster

These McKinneys are the family of James Cornelius McKinney and his wife, Bena Ellen Bridges. They were married May 4, 1894 in Aldrich, Polk County, Missouri. Lived mostly in Aldrich, also a small, nearby village called Phenix, where there was a marble quarry, in which James (Buck) was employed as a day worker. They made big gardens in the summer, had a cow, and some chickens. Results from these efforts kept the family fed, and Buck's quarry work paid the rent and bought the few essentials of living. Their family is as follows:

Lucy May McKinney, born September 29, 1895.
Onie Pearl McKinney, born April 28, 1897.
Ura George McKinney, born July 9, 1899.
James W. McKinney, born August 24, 1901.
Walter Doss McKinney, born August 23, 1903.
Edna G. McKinney, born February 18, 1905.
Herbert A. McKinney, born February 17, 1907.
Homer F. (Chuck) McKinney, born 1909.
Gladys Lucille McKinney, born January 11, 1912.

The children were kept busy with farm chores, household chores, and older ones looking after the younger ones while father James C. (Buck) was away at work and mother Bena was cooking, doing laundry, and the many other tasks related to caring for a family of eleven persons. Most of them got a few years of school, learning some of the basics of reading and writing and a little arithmetic. Usually the boys left school after about the third or fourth grade, while most of the girls made it through sixth grade at least. After that their presence was required at home to help with work and child care. Sometimes the older boys were "hired out" to provide a little extra cash to the household income. Usually they would be paid "in trade" -- a couple of chickens for a days work, or perhaps some much needed handed down clothing.

As soon as possible, the older children left the home, the boys to seek their livelihood elsewhere, and the girls to marry. Lucy was married at 16 to Fay Brown, had two children, and then divorced him May 11th, 1916. She married again to C.W. McKenzie, on 18 May 1916. In 1917 she left Phenix with her brother George (Ura) and her two children, headed West for Washington State. They made their way to Skagit County, where George decided to stay. Lucy stayed for a short time, while her third child was born on 25 February 1918. She then moved on to Seattle, where she found living quarters for herself and her children, and work she could do for a small income. She stayed there for about two years, until she met Oscar Foster, whom she married on May 17, 1920. He had a home in Belfair, Mason County, where they went to live. Together they had five children, in addition to the three Lucy had brought with her. The family lived in the Mason

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PSGS Research Library Rental Fund Donor Form
Will Be Found On Page 95

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PSGS Sunshine Committee.
If any member knows of another member who is in the hospital or ill at home, please notify Madge Norton (mnorton@harbornet.com) 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

County area for the rest of Lucy and Oscar's lives.

George stayed in the Skagit County area, also raising a large family.

James W. and his wife Myrtle Ward traveled to the Chelan area about 1928, with Myrtle's sons Virgil and William Moyer from her first marriage, and hers and Jim's daughter Virginia. Myrtle's brother Charles Ward was with them, as well. They settled on property in Lakeside, Chelan County, and planted a small orchard. Jim also worked in the Bee-bee Orchards which was a large commercial operation.

Walter (Doss) McKinney traveled West at the same time, but did not stay in Washington State. He chose to go to California since there were reports of a lot of job opportunities in large construction work. He quickly advanced from regular laborer to Fore-

(Continued on page 92)

(Continued from page 91) *The McKinneys of Missouri.*

man at job sites where dams and power houses were being built. Although having had little schooling, he was good with mathematics and was able to estimate quantities of materials, labor requirements, and costs. He always had an assistant who wrote out all the estimates for him. He was occupied in these pursuits for many years, eventually moving to a life of quiet retirement in Paradise, California, in a house he had built for himself and his wife, Mary.

Edna married a man named Ernest Cooksey and they went to California to live and raise their family. Ernest was a derrick operator in the oil fields of Fresno

County. Their children were Marjorie, George, and Doff. Edna and Ernest lived there all their lives.

Herbert (Herb) was in the Army during WWI, and then went to Skagit County area in Washington, where his brother George was established. Herb lived in a small settlement near Concrete, since he had decided he had enough of large numbers of people, cities, and such. He married, but never had any children. He spent the rest of his days in the area he had chosen.

Homer (Chuck) went West to Chelan with his mother, father and sister, to take advantage of work that was offered in the orchard business. He married Dorothy Wells and they lived in Chelan Falls, raising one son. Chuck and Dorothy lived there all the days of their lives, but their son, after finishing his education, made his home in the Seattle.

Gladys, the youngest, went West with her parents and her brother, settling with them in Chelan Falls. They lived in a house on the property owned by Jim and Myrtle McKinney. They worked in the orchards and in the packing houses during harvest time. The pay was quite good and the standard of living was improved from the days in Missouri. Gladys eventually married a man named Jesse Meade. They went to Oregon where they raised their family of two boys and one girl. This was their home to the end of their days.

James C. (Buck) and Bena went to Belfair, where they lived for a time near their daughter Lucy and her family. Buck earned income as a day laborer, as well as recycling copper and other metals for whatever money they would bring. They stayed in Belfair during WWII, in a small house close to Union River, where they could have a garden and the fishing was good in the river. Bena became ill in the Spring of 1945, and on May 22nd she died and was buried in Bremerton cemetery. Buck

NEW Second Saturday Film Series

The monthly Film Series is held on the Second Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m. It starts in September and continues through July. The current series, "*The Genealogist's Video Research Guide*", has very helpful information about how to do family research.

Linda and Johnny Wilson have agreed to co-chair the Second Saturday Film Series. The date was changed from Friday to make the films more accessible for those who work.

For a complete list of topics in the first video, see below.

There is a sign-up form in the library for reservation.

December 13 – "Obscure Sources" -

Dr George Schweitzer will show how to find information in unusual places.

January 10 – "Compiled Sources"

February 14 - "Passenger Lists and Passports"

March 14 - "Naturalization Records"

April 11 - "Federal Land Records and National Archives Maps"

RESEARCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES

May 9 - Part I - "Civil Registration"

June 13 - Part II – "Parish Registers"

July 11 - Part III – "Census and Probate Records"

August NO FILM -

lived on, staying one place and then another with various family members or friends. He eventually settled in with his daughter Lucy, remaining there until illness forced him to a care facility in Tacoma. He died there on 3 April, 1956, and was buried in Bremerton beside his wife of 51 years.

Buck and Bena's descendants are many and have scattered to many places of the world. It would require a lifetime of writing, much like James Michener's book "Hawaii" to outline all their lives. This small accounting of the James C. McKinney Westward travels will have to do for now.

PSGS Calendar

December 2008

- Dec 1 – 10-2 “Citing Your Sources” with Madge Norton
 Dec 2 – Belfair Chapter – **No Meeting**
 Dec 4 – **No** Cemetery Committee meeting
 Dec 5 – 2-4 pm - Ancestry.com SIG
 Dec 8 – 10 am Obituary Project
 10 am Educational Committee
 Dec 10 – 12-3 pm – **PSGS Monthly Meeting – Annual Holiday Party & Auction & 35th PSGS Anniversary Celebration & Gift Exchange** (double check time)
 Dec 13 – 1 pm - 2nd Saturday Film, “Obscure Sources”
 Dec. 15 – 10 am – Ways & Means Committee
 11:30 am – Exec. Board & Committee
 Dec. 16 – 10:00 a.m. Cemetery Committee.
 Dec 17 – 10 am – Canada SIG
 Dec 22 – **NO** Family Tree Maker SIG
NO Legacy SIG
 Dec. 24 – Dec. 28 Library closed for Christmas Holidays
 Dec. 26 – No State Day.

January 2009

- Jan 1 – Library closed – No Cemetery Comm. meeting
 Jan 4-18 – Salt Lake City Research Trip
 Jan 5 – **No Class**
 Jan 6 – Belfair Chapter – **No Meeting**
 Jan 9 – 2-4 pm – Ancestry.com SIG
 Jan 10 – 1 pm – 2nd Saturday film, “Compiled Sources”
 Jan 12 – 10am – Obituary Project and Vital Records
 10 am – Education Committee
 Jan 19 – 10 am – Ways & Means Committee
 11:30 am – Exec. Board & Committee Chairs
 Jan 21 – 10 am – Canada SIG
 Jan 22 – 10 am – VA, W.VA, & NC SIG
 Jan 23 – 11 am State Day, TBA*
 Jan 26 – 10 am – Family Tree Maker SIG
 1 pm – Legacy SIG
 Jan 28 – 12:30 pm PSGS Monthly Meeting at Gateway Center, 6th & Montgomery, Bremerton
 Speakers: Salt Lake City Participants, “Discoveries and Frustrations”

February 2009

- Feb 2 – 10-2 - Class: How to Make a Memory Photo Album
 Feb 3 – 12:30 p.m. Belfair Chapter Meeting*
 Feb 5 – 10 am - Cemetery Committee
 Feb 6 – 2-4 pm - Ancestry.com SIG
 Feb 9 – 10 am Obituary Project & Records Preserve
 10 am Educational Committee
 Feb 10 – 10 am – Historical Records Committee at 9093 Glenwood Rd., Port Orchard
 Feb 14 – 1 pm – 2nd Saturday Film Series – “Passenger Lists and Passports”
 Feb 16 – 10 am – Ways & Means Committee
 11:30 am – Exec. Board & Comm. Chairs
 Feb 21 – 10-2 – Class: “Genealogy 101”
 Feb 23 – 10 am – Family Tree Maker SIG
 1 pm – Legacy SIG
 Feb 25 – 12:30-3 pm - PSGS Monthly Meeting at Gateway Center, 6th & Montgomery, Bremerton. Program.
 Feb 27 – 11 am – State days - TBA
 To be announced. Call the PSGS library.

March 2009

- Mar 2 – 10-2 – Class: “Restoring Old Photos and Printing for Memory Album”
 Mar 3 – 12:30 – Belfair Chapter Meeting*
 Mar 5 – 10 am – Cemetery Committee
 Mar 6 – 2-4 pm – Ancestry.com SIG
 Mar 9 – 10 am – Obits Project & Records Preserve
 10 am – Education Committee
 Mar 10 – 10 am – Historical Records Comm. at 9093 Glenwood Rd., Port Orchard
 Mar 14 – 1 pm – 2nd Saturday Film Series, “Naturalization Records”
 Mar 16 – 10 am – Ways & Means Committee
 11:30 am – Exec. Board & Comm. Chairs
 Mar 23 – 11 am – Family Tree Maker SIG
 1 pm – Legacy SIG
 Mar 25 – 12:30 pm – PSGS Monthly Meeting – 6th and Montgomery, Bremerton – Program: Harry McConnell.
 Mar 26 – 10 am – VA, West VA, & NC SIG
 Mar 27 – 11 am – State days - TBA
 *For location and program check Belfair website

Puget Sound Genealogical Society Executive Board

Meetings

Meetings are held at **The Gateway Center, Sixth and Montgomery, Bremerton** on the fourth Wednesday 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 1:00 to 3:00 P. M. from January through November.

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 12:30 P.M. in the Belfair Community Baptist Church - Library, 23300 N. E. State Highway 3, Belfair, Washington

Membership Fees

Single membership is \$25 and family membership is \$40 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 at our Business Address: Puget Sound Genealogical Society, Post Office Box 1931, Port Orchard, WA 98366-0805.

The Cindy Shawley Spore Memorial Research Library:

Our library is located at **2501 S E Mile Hill Drive, Suite A102, Port Orchard, Washington**. The library is open Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Phone: (360) 874-8813.

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 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.

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Puget Sound Genealogical Society 2009 Membership Application Form

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“Backtracker Backcover Reminders”

- ▶ *Backtracker* Story deadline for the March 2009 edition is February 1st.
- ▶ Wanted — Program Speakers — Contact Phyllis Wahlquist.
- ▶ Enjoy the pride of authorship. Write an article for the *Backtracker*.
- ▶ Please contact Charlotte Long Thornton if you are interested in becoming a volunteer librarian.
- ▶ Advise Paulette Waggoner of changes in PSGS Calendars.
- ▶ Please notify PSGS when you change your mailing address.
- ▶ Please notify PSGS when you change your email address.