



THE Backtracker

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Antique Show Exceeds Expectations

By Shanda Hoover & Sandie Morrison

The 10th annual Kitsap Antique Show once again exceeded organizers' expectations with record-breaking earnings of nearly \$14,000 over the course of the three-day affair held April 1–3 in the President's Hall at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. Net profits (from ticket sales, appraisal fees, and vendor fees) for this, the biggest fundraising event of the year, will be split 50-50 between the Puget Sound Genealogical Society (PSGS) and their partners, the Kitsap Historical Society. PSGS's share this year represents an increase of almost \$3000

over last year's proceeds not including the additional \$400 that was earned from sales at the PSGS booth.

Although attendance was good over Saturday and Sunday, numbering over 900 attendees, the dramatic increase in revenue is largely due to the increase in vendors, made possible by doubling the available sales space on the floor plan from last year. Plans are already in motion to add even more room for vendors at next year's show.

Despite a tremendous effort put forth from planners and volunteers, the Antique Show's "Stroll Down Memory Lane" Preview Party and Silent Auction on Friday night had unexpectedly low attendance, less than half the attendance of the previous year. Although it was a fun evening for those who participated, the Antique Show organizers have decided that they will drop the preview party in 2012 and focus their energies on more profitable endeavors.

One of the most popular features of the Antique Show continues to be the Appraisal Floor. This year there were 10 appraisers on hand to offer their expert opinions on the value of items brought in by attendees. A number of intriguing items were seen this year including a 230-year-old pocket watch that was originally a gift from George Washington; some Chinese ivory snuff bottles; and a cribbage board made from a walrus tusk.



Above: Preview party volunteers Bob & Fran Moyer
At Left: Sandie Morrison greets guest at preview event



It is especially exciting to the Show's organizers that the event has now grown big enough to capture the attention of the local media, including weekly papers such as the *Central Kitsap Reporter* published by Sound Publishing. The *Kitsap Sun* printed three front-page stories on the Antique Show this year putting not only the event but also PSGS and the historical society squarely in the public eye. This is one fundraising event that keeps gaining momentum year after year thanks to the sensational efforts of the volunteers on the Antique Show Committee and all the PSGS members who come out and volunteer at the show. ■

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Executive Board Blotter



Meeting of February 21, 2011

It was brought to the attention of the Board that the budget for program speakers was for the purpose of General Meeting speakers only, not for Education Committee classes. It was pointed out that there were times when it was necessary to bring in speakers that charge a fee for classes. A motion was made to cover travel expenses for the class on April 4th *Researching our Female Ancestors*. **Motion passed.**

A motion was made to have a Wine Tasting and Chocolate fundraising event on September 10, 2011 from 1:00 to 4:00pm at the Olalla Vineyard. **Motion passed. ■**

Available for the first time ever on CD-Rom!

The Puget Sound Genealogical Society presents the complete set, 77 issues, of the society's newsletter, *The Backtracker*, from 1975–1994 in PDF format on CD-Rom.



Only \$10.00

Copies available to purchase at the PSGS Library (2501 SE Mile Hill Dr, Port Orchard) and at the General Meeting at the Sylvan Way Library.

Volunteer and Help Keep Our Library Open

The 19 volunteers who staff our wonderful library dedicate one or two days each month in order to make this resource available to everyone interested in exploring their family history. Our research library is typically open four days a week for five hours each day. Sadly, over the past few months, the library has had several days when it has been unexpectedly closed because no one in the library's pool of volunteers was available.

I invite you to consider becoming a volunteer librarian. No prior library experience is necessary, and one or more one-on-one training sessions will be provided to help you get oriented. While the array of bookshelves looks daunting, the organization of the library's research materials is very straightforward.

Some days as a librarian are fairly quiet while others are busy with members and visitors coming and going all day. By guiding visitors to the resource materials for their state or country of interest, volunteer librarians share in the joy when researchers discover references to long-lost relatives. Maybe your own ancestors can be found in one of the library's numerous family history books.

If you would like to discuss the responsibilities, and benefits, of volunteering as a librarian, contact PSGS's volunteer librarian manager Charlotte at gramapeach@wavecable.com. You will be glad you did!

Mary Ann Wright
PSGS Librarian

Worthy of an Award

Congratulations for putting together one of the best genealogy newsletters I have ever seen. I read it from cover to cover and am saving it for future reference. I hope you win an award!

Michael Brownell
PSGS Member

Letters to the Editor

The Letters to the Editor column is a forum that is open to everyone. Please feel free to share your thoughts and opinions about the Puget Sound Genealogical Society and/or this publication. If you have comments, criticisms, or kudos, email nileddesign@totacc.com.



Bylaws Committee Recommendation—Stronger Leadership for a Bright Future

Building a stronger leadership team that can take PSGS into the future is at the heart of the proposed changes the Bylaws Review Committee presented to the Executive Board at the March meeting. The Bylaws Committee was convened in compliance with Article XII of the existing Bylaws to perform the biannual review of the Bylaws. After several months of hard work and spirited discussion the committee submitted a proposal that included: strengthening the Executive Board by adding all standing committee chairs and other key positions as voting members; designating that the elected officers comprise a newly formed Board of Directors (BOD) responsible for future planning; and organizing the standing committees into four groups (education, communications, research, and finance) to improve coordination.

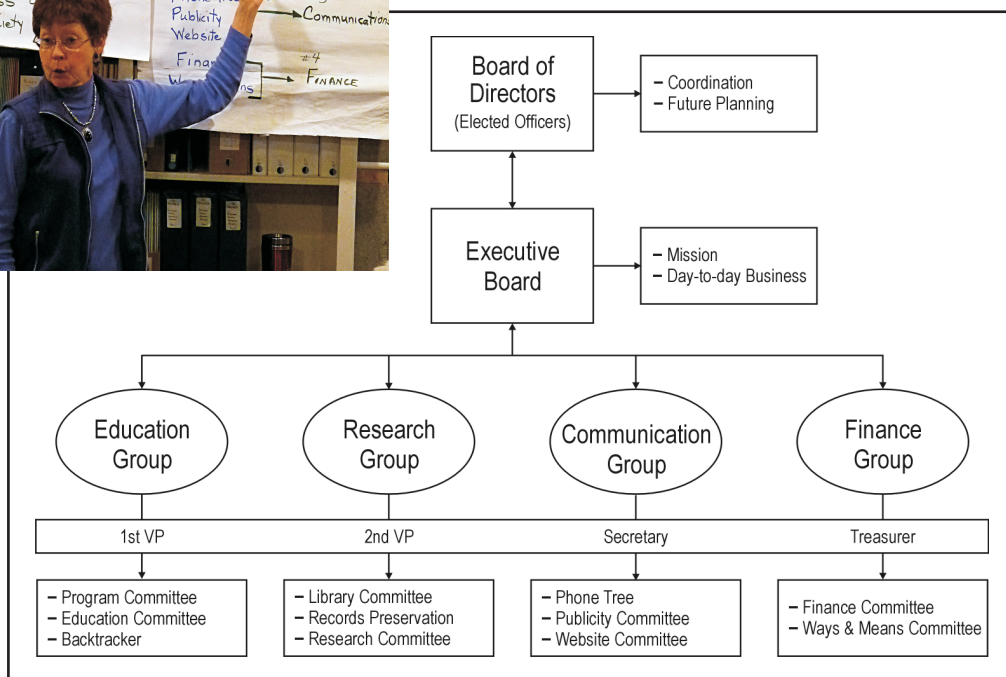
Under the new structure, the Executive Board would be responsible for managing the ongoing business of the society while the BOD (comprised of the President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Treasurer, and Secretary) would meet at least quarterly to discuss long-range plans and policy development. To ensure a system of checks and balances, all BOD recommendations would be presented to and voted on by the Executive Board. These changes, if approved by the general membership, would bring PSGS closer to the structure followed by many successful non-profit organizations.

At the beginning of deliberations, the review committee agreed that their decisions would be guided by four principles: stay true to the society's mission of research and education; look ahead to the society's future needs and growth; give a voting voice to all standing committee chairs and other key positions; and, lastly, improve coordination and communication between elected officers and the committees.

Early on, it became apparent that a new approach was necessary to address the fourth principle of coordination and communication. Currently, despite the best efforts of committees and members to share information and coordinate schedules, there has been no uniform way to keep track of all the major projects and activities. The job is bigger than any one

person. During a brainstorming session, the review committee hit upon the idea of grouping standing committees with similar functions together and assigning an elected officer to serve as a liaison between the committees in each group and the BOD.

Under the committee's proposal the 1st Vice President would be the liaison for the Education Group, comprised of the Program Committee, the Education Committee, and the *Backtracker* Committee; the 2nd Vice President would be the liaison for the Research Group, comprised of the Library Committee, the Records Preservation Committee, and the Research



Clockwise from top: Linda Webb explains proposal to Executive Board; Review Committee's proposed re-organization.

Committee; the Secretary would be liaison for the Communications Group, made up of the Publicity Committee, Website Committee, and the Notification Tree (aka the phone tree); and, finally, the Treasurer would manage the Financial Group, including the Finance Committee and the Ways & Means Committee, forming a link between revenues and expenditures.

The Executive Board has been deliberating and discussing the Review Committee's proposal and is expected to vote at the May Board meeting. If approved, the revised bylaws and standing rules will be made available to the general membership, via email and the PSGS website. Once posted, members will have 30 days to review and comment before a final vote is taken. All members are encouraged to carefully consider the proposed changes and send any comments or concerns to Linda Webb (lcwebb@wavecable.com). ■

Morrison Gives Irish Research Roadmap

By Gail Reynolds

Steven Morrison, member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, presented a special program on "Detours Around Irish Roadblocks & Stone Walls" to an audience of about 25 at the North Bay Lutheran Community Church in Allyn on Saturday, April 16, 2011. The event's organizers, the Belfair Chapter of the Puget Sound Genealogical Society, were pleased with the number of folks who turned out to hear Steven's informative and humor-filled presentation.

Steven's talk revealed that one of the most significant obstacles for Irish researchers is the lack of census records, the result of two tragic occurrences. In 1922, a fire in the Four Courts Building destroyed the 1821, 1831, 1841 and 1851 Census Records. In addition, by order of the government, the records for the 1861, 1871, 1881 and 1891 censuses were destroyed as well.

Without the advantage of census records, researching Irish roots is very challenging; however, Steven shared that in his experience the key to moving Irish research forward is to answer three important questions: 1) where in Ireland did your ancestors live? 2) what was their religion? and 3) when did they emigrate?

Since Irish records are collected by province, county, union, barony, parish, and townland, answering question one will help researchers establish where to search for records. Answering question two will help researchers determine which surviving church records need to be searched for evidence of their ancestors. Finally, answering question three will help researchers pick up the trail of their Irish ancestors in the US Census.

Steven also advised attendees to delve into the history of Ireland and learn how Oliver Cromwell's influence affected the lives of our Irish ancestors and the existence of records.

Steven's prevailing message is "Irish research is a challenge, but a hard life is part of being Irish, so relax and enjoy your journey into your Irish past." ■

Presidential Ponderings Reflections On Our Future

By Linda Webb

Imagine our wonderful book collection housed in a sunny, airy, and open space with windows looking out on a park-like view; add a staff of professionals to help us catalog and repair our treasures, throw in access to a teaching area complete with computers for each participant, an office in which to keep our business records and other critical documents, and the use of large and small meeting rooms. Lastly, stir in a positive attitude of cooperation and trust—all with no financial cost to us. Such is the stuff dreams are made of... only in this case, it could come true for the Puget Sound Genealogical Society.

Over the last couple of months, several of us have been participating in discussions with the Kitsap Regional Library (KRL) regarding a possible partnership between our society and the library. Basically, PSGS would move its collection of genealogical reference books and materials into a secure room at the Sylvan Way branch, making them available to the public for research, and would continue to provide volunteer librarian services to assist patrons. Our function and involvement would be similar to what we currently provide, our collection would be "reference only"



PSGS President Linda Webb

and our books wouldn't leave the library. In fact, they would be as secure (or more so) as they are in our current arrangement, but in a more attractive and centrally located home.

While the benefits of this proposal are all very positive and would certainly put our society more into the public

eye, we still must proceed slowly and with due diligence to ensure not only the preservation of our collection, but that the needs and desires of our members are addressed and protected as well. Many issues must be discussed and addressed. In the coming months Mary Ann Wright, our librarian, and the PSGS officers will be working with the KRL to draft a "Memorandum of Understanding" that would spell out how this partnership would evolve and operate.

Once the draft agreement is completed, I will present the information to the entire membership and accept and consider everyone's feedback before anything is finalized. PSGS has been around a long time and has survived many challenges. We will endeavor to honor and respect all that has gone before while working to move our society forward. One thing is certain—it's turning into a very exciting year for PSGS. ■

Did U Know ?

If your ancestor has a surname, like West, that is also a common word, searching on search engines like Google produces "hits" numbering in the hundreds of thousands. **Did you know** a new search engine at mocavo.com returns results devoted strictly to genealogy sites regardless of your search terms? Websites searched using Mocavo include genealogy message boards, genealogy society webpages, state historical societies, genealogy pages uploaded by individuals, family societies, Find-A-Grave, the Internet Archive (mostly scanned genealogy books from the Allen County Public Library), the Library of Congress, and even more. Best of all, it's free! [www.mocavo.com]

Can't Keep'em Away From the FHL

By Shanda Hoover & Jean Yager

Another year, another eventful PSGS field trip to the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City (SLC), Utah. Twelve of the 14 individuals scheduled to attend the weeklong research outing to SLC arrived at the Salt Lake City Plaza Hotel on February 6, 2011. In addition to organizer Larry Harden, the attendees included: Eric Anderson, Pat Collier, Shanda Hoover, Nancy Ladenberger, Jane McAuliffe, Bob McGinnis, Terry Mettling, Ann Northcutt, Paulette Waggoner, Mary Ann Wright, and Jean Yager. Due to a sudden illness and a family emergency, Bev Nelson and Linda Webb, respectively, were unable to be present. Bev's unforeseen absence prompted Mary Ann and Jean to insist that Ann join them in their room instead of bunking alone. The other roommate pairings were Paulette and Nancy; Pat and Jane; Larry, Terry, and Bob; and husband and wife, Shanda and Eric.

As is the tradition, dinner on the first night was a group event. Ten of the attendees met at the Market Street Grill and enjoyed an evening of camaraderie before the serious business of a week of genealogy research began. The opening night festivities included celebratory libations for everyone except Jean who, unfortunately, was the only one who didn't enjoy a good night's sleep. Although Jean spent her first night sick in the bathroom, she was in the FHL the following day.

During the latter half of the week, the first annual RootsTech Conference began. The event was held at the Salt Palace Convention Center just a block away from the FHL and brought with it an influx of patrons to the FHL. Instead of being an inconvenience this proved to be a serendipitous boon for the PSGS group because the library offered extended hours to accommodate the conference attendees. A number of the group took advantage of the extra hours in the library, researching until the doors were closed, even as late as midnight.

Meanwhile, Bob took time off from his research to participate in the RootsTech Conference and his positive experience inspired some in the group to consider attending in 2012. Shanda and Eric also strayed from the confines of the FHL. They took



Left to Right: Paulette Waggoner, Mary Ann Wright, Jean Yager, Terry Mettling, Larry Harden, & Nancy Ladenberger

an afternoon off and traveled by rental car to nearby Union and Murray City to search for tombstones of Eric's relatives in local cemeteries, but were back in the library after dinner making up for lost time. Near the end of the week, Terry's absence from the library was noticed. Apparently, he wasn't feeling well and he decided to go back to his room and lay down for a few hours. The next time he emerged was at breakfast the next day! No matter the cause, everyone eventually ended up back in the library. It seems nothing can keep a dedicated researcher away from the FHL for too long. ■

Garage Sale Event A Doubleheader

By Shanda Hoover

Thanks to PSGS member Linnie Griffin, the Ways & Means Committee will be spreading its reach in 2011 to include the previously untapped community of Belfair in their annual Garage Sale fundraising efforts. In addition to the very popular garage sale held at the home of Larry Harden on June 3 and 4 in conjunction with the McCormick Woods Community Garage Sale event, this year there will be a second garage sale held at Linnie Griffin's Belfair home on June 17 and 18.

The annual Garage Sale fundraiser is PSGS's second biggest fundraising event of the year. For the past two years PSGS has put on a two-part Garage Sale, and each year the event has garnered more

than \$2700 for the PSGS coffers. To generate this kind of revenue again this year, the Ways & Means Committee needs every member of the society to contribute either by their tax-deductible donation of used goods or by volunteering their time to help organize and work during the sales.

Beginning today, members are asked to start searching for and setting aside gently used items they no longer need and are willing to contribute to the cause. Larry will be accepting garage sale items at his home at 7479 Kells Lane SW in Port Orchard starting May 1 and continuing through June 2. If you are unable to get your donations assembled by then, there is a second opportunity to drop off them off between June 6 and June 16

at Linnie's home on 20 East Judy Lane in Belfair.

In addition to donations, volunteer workers are desperately needed. The work isn't hard, but there is a lot of it. The Ways & Means committee would like to encourage all able-bodied PSGS members to consider donating a few hours of their time to ease the workload and make this year's fundraiser another success.

If you have questions regarding the garage sale or would like to arrange to volunteer, please contact Ways & Means chair, Jeanne Menchenton at (360) 674-2747. Please call Larry at (360) 895-3181 or Linnie at (360) 275-3770 to confirm their availability before you drop off garage sale donations. ■

Mary Ann Wright's

Library Report



New additions to the PSGS Library's collection this quarter range from several research guides to abstracts from genealogical publications. While the first two books *The BCG Genealogical Standards Manual* (GUI 104), published by the Board for Certification of Genealogists, and *Becoming An Accredited Genealogist* (GUI 105), by Karen Clifford, are intended for the professional genealogist they are also useful to amateurs in that they provide guidance for conducting basic research, analyzing evidence, and presenting results in a written summary.

For individuals seeking clues to their ancestors, there are three other new books that may provide the answers. *Surnames listed in the 1790 United States Census* (CEN 058), by American Genealogical Lending Library, is a quick reference for that census year. If you believe you might have Jamestown ancestors, check out *Jamestowne Ancestors, 1607-1699* (VA 100), by Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis. While the Library already contains resources on Jamestown, both in the History section and the Virginia section, this book, written in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the landing at James Towne, contains "a list of all the individuals who can be documented as having lived on [Jamestown] Island between 1607 and 1699, either as landowners or as members of the House of Burgesses or as other officials" as well as maps and drawings of the original settlement, including present day archaeological findings. For those with Irish immigrant ancestors, *Land Owners in Ireland, 1876* (IRE 026), by Genealogical Publishing Co, Inc., may provide the clues you need to establish your ancestor's residency in a particular county and town in Ireland.

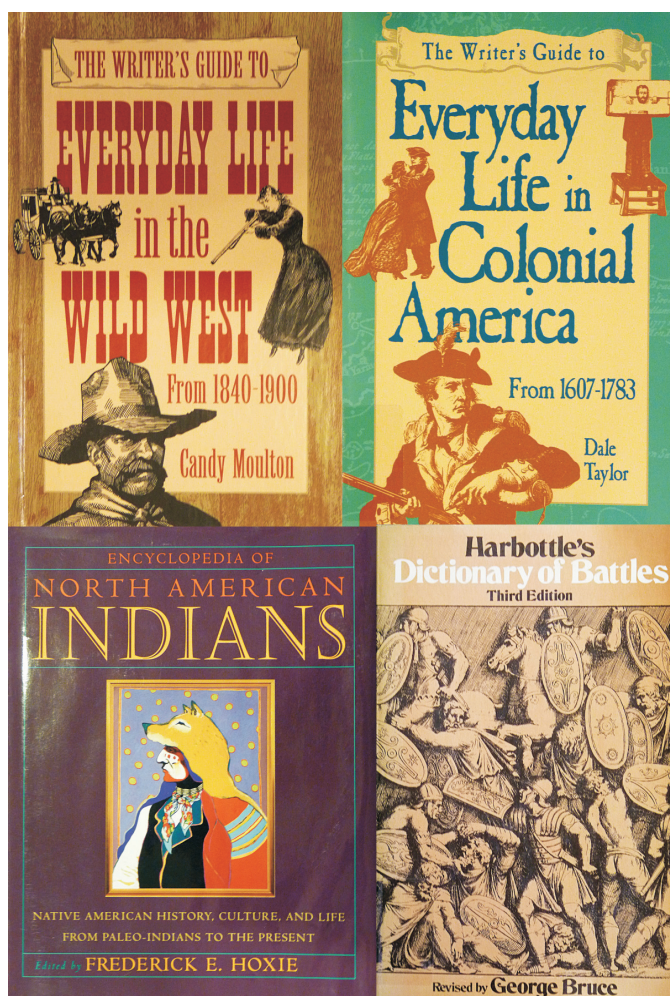
The featured books for this quarter were selected to pro-

vide perspective for a family history writer. Writing about the times in which our ancestors lived and the conditions under which they conducted their daily lives enhance their story. Two books, *The Writer's Guide to Everyday Life in Colonial America from 1607-1783* (HIS 112), by Dale Taylor, and *The Writer's Guide to Everyday Life in the Wild West from 1840-1900* (HIS 113), by Candy Moulton, join a book already in our collection, *Everyday Life During the Civil War, A Guide for Writers, Students and Historians* (HIS 011), by Michael Varhola.

These three resources include maps, historical accounts, and details about the government and war, everyday life, and society.

Several Native American resources were added to our library's collection last quarter and another addition this quarter will prove to be a one-stop resource. *Encyclopedia of North American Indians: Native American History, Culture, and Life from Paleo-Indians to the Present* (IND 051), edited by Frederick E Hoxie, features articles on diverse topics such as reservations, child-rearing, and more contemporary topics, as well as biographies of historical figures and separate articles on more than one hundred major tribes. Many of the contributors to this resource are Native American tribal elders, scholars, writers, and activists who offer a deeper perspective and a more authentic portrait of American Indian life.

Finally, for those whose ancestors were caught up in the tragedy of war *Harbottle's Dictionary of Battles, Third Edition* (HIS 111), revised by George Bruce, offers the key facts of every major battle fought in the world in one resource. Published in 1981, this revised edition includes battles from the Boer Wars to the Arab-Israeli war. ■



FAMILY HISTORY CENTER RESOURCES

Contributed by Kari Trogdon

Who says you need to buy an airline ticket to Salt Lake City to do genealogy research at the Family History Library (FHL)? The FHL has more than 4500 Family History Center (FHC) branches and one of those branches is located right here in East Bremerton. In addition to a staff of friendly volunteers from the LDS church, the amenities found at the center in Bremerton include eight computers, four microfilm readers, a microfiche reader, and a microfilm/fiche scanner to digitize and print images.

The Bremerton FHC has over 4000 microfilm/microfiche items onsite on extended loan from the FHL that are available for viewing at no cost. In addition, since the Bremerton FHC is a branch of the FHL, microfilm/fiche items that are found in the FHL's online catalog (at familysearch.org) can, for a small fee, be rented and delivered for viewing at the FHC. The rental period is for about three weeks and can be extended for an additional fee. (It should be noted that books and CDs cannot be sent to the FHC).

Each of the computers at the FHC has Internet connectivity and access to a number of paid subscription sites including: Ancestry, Footnote, Heritage Quest, World Vital Records, Gonline, 19th Century British Newspapers, Historical Maps, Godfrey Memorial Library, Genealogist.uk, and the Alexander Press Civil War databases. Use of all of these websites is available for free while at the FHC.

The volunteer staff at the center is eager to assist individuals with their genealogy research and, for hard questions that they are not sure how to answer, they can contact the FHL for additional help. In addition, every month (usually at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday) the FHC offers a free genealogy class. Classes are open to all interested parties, but pre-registration is requested. Class topics vary and have included: Swedish Research, German Research, England Research, Land/Court Records, and How to Organize Your Hard Drive.

The Bremerton FHC is found upstairs in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints located at 2225 Perry Avenue, Bremerton. The facility is open to the public from 10:00am to 8:30pm Tuesday and Thursday, 10:00am to 6:00pm on Wednesdays, and from 10:00am to 2:00pm Friday and Saturday. For more information or to pre-register for an upcoming class call (360) 917-0113. ■

WorldCat & ILL Bringing Books Closer To You

WorldCat, the world's "largest bibliographic database," contains information on more than 170 million items owned by 10,000 libraries around the world. Accessing this database is as easy as going to www.worldcat.org and entering a query. With materials including cemetery records, family bibles, historical newspapers, autobiographies, town histories, probate records, and indexes to obituaries, births, marriages, deaths wills, and burial records, WorldCat is an outstanding resource for genealogists. Many of these resources have been digitized and can be viewed and/or downloaded immediately. Searching WorldCat is akin to using any online search engine. Simply enter a term such as a place name, a surname, or the full name of a specific person. Enclosing your search terms in quotation marks, such as "Wilkinson family" will produce the best results.

Search results can be filtered by format or refined by author, year, language, topic, and more. To see a list of libraries that have a particular item, select from the search results list. The record will also show whether the item is available for sale, if there are other related subjects, and if any user reviews have been posted. After reviewing the list of libraries that own the item, you can contact your local library to see if they can order it for you through the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) program.

The ILL program obtains books and other materials from other libraries in the U.S. and Canada (and sometimes other countries). The ILL service is free for library patrons. Books may be ordered online through the local library's website or in-person. Wait times vary but materials usually arrive in 2–4 weeks. On occasion, the book may be sent on loan to your local library but be restricted to in-library use only. See the Kitsap Regional Library's website (www.krl.org) for a link to its FAQs for Interlibrary Loan for more information. ■

Did U Know ?



Having trouble finding out-of-print or limited editions of family history books? **Did you know** that thanks to Google Books those books might be as close as clicking a "download now" button? Google Books (a division of Google since 2004) is a service that partners with lead-

ing libraries, universities, and publishers to digitize millions of books. From the Google Books homepage [books.google.com] conduct a keyword search and review results in the familiar Google results format. For family history research you'll get the best results by searching for surnames or place names. For each title listed, a thumbnail of the book's cover is displayed along with the author's name, publishing date, number of pages, and how the book is available. Format options include *Google eBook* (either as a free download or available for purchase and download at the Google eBook store), *Preview* (a limited selection of pages to view), *Snippet View* (just a few lines that include your search terms), or *No Preview*. Other options include purchasing the book from a reseller or borrowing the book from a library via Interlibrary Loan. If you purchase a book through Google's eBookstore, the book is available to read on your computer, mobile phone, or eReader.

Putting Down Roots

MaryJane's Legacy

By Fran Moyer



In July 2006, I received a letter from a MaryJane Carr, stating that she and I were distant cousins and requesting information from me regarding my maternal grandfather's name. She related that her research on her maiden name, Carr, had taken her over 40 years and had been the most difficult to verify. As a postscript, MaryJane shared that she was now legally blind and had just been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, so could I rush the information to her!

Although I responded promptly with the information that Ira Garfield Carr was my maternal grandfather, I did not hear back from MaryJane. However, her letter inspired me to begin my own research. After tracing my Carr line back to Walter Ker of New Jersey, I hit a brick wall. Since the spelling was different, I was uncertain where to go next, so I left Walter Ker and started looking into my other lines.

In 2010, four years after I received MaryJane's letter, at a Carr reunion and picnic, one of my cousins showed me a copy of the book that MaryJane had just completed and printed. I ordered a copy that day and received it two months later, in October 2010. The first thing I discovered when I opened the Carr section of the book was that I had been on the right track all along; I had simply given up way too easily. MaryJane, on the other hand, had not given up.

In her book, MaryJane explained that her interest in genealogy began in 1966 when she followed her Norwegian roots, the Borresens, back to 1410. For 30 years she struggled to find documentation and all but despaired of finding her Carr line. Then, in 1996, she traveled to Red

Oak, Iowa, in hopes of finding sources. "There, in the small genealogy library was a letter left by Wyn Carr Gleason" with references to Athens County, Ohio. The letter named her grandfather, Rev Hamilton Carr, and three other brothers, including my great-grandfather, Samuel Carr, as sons of Perry Oscar Allen Carr of New Jersey. They came from the New Jersey Kers, which led her to the same Walter Ker that I had found.

After studying the Old Parish Records of the Scottish Presbyterian Church at the Family History Library in Utah, MaryJane flew to Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1999, and went to the Dome Library where, among other documents, she studied the privy council records for that period with a Latin dictionary in her hand.

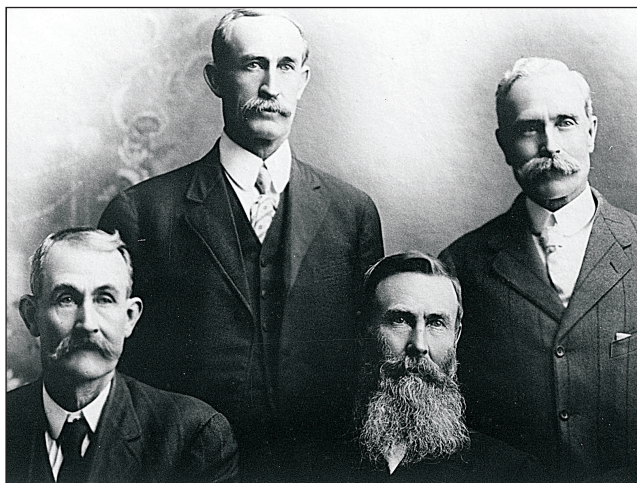
She found that Walter Ker was born in 1656 at Dalsert and baptized in the Mid Calder Church (halfway between Edinburgh and Glasgow). Walter survived the plague of 1666 that wiped out a third of Scotland's population and later became a law clerk. A strict Presbyterian, Walter refused to convert when Oliver Cromwell forced the New Church

of England and its Bible (the King James Bible) onto the Scots, and was imprisoned in Canon Gate Tolbooth Prison. Walter was jailed at least three times for burning the Bible in public and twice for fighting against the Reformists. Finally, he fled Scotland with a wealthy Presbyterian, who paid passage for 200 such "heretics."

Upon arrival in the New Jersey Colony, Walter was indentured to the Governor of the Colony for five years. After his service, he received a new suit of clothes, an axe and 30 acres of land in the colony. Walter subsequently married the governor's daughter, Mary Johnstone, and they had four sons. Walter established the first Presbyterian Church (Old Tennent Church) in Freehold, Monmouth, New Jersey, and he and his wife were eventually buried in the church's graveyard.

I learned that in her final days, MaryJane hired a student from Northwestern to be her eyes and hands as she strove to finish documenting her research before she died. MaryJane passed away in October, 2010, but her 600-page book of verified research will live on to guide and inform others. Her book can be found at the New York Public Library, the Albany State Library, libraries in Chicago, Illinois, Seattle, Washington, Salt Lake City, Utah, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Ipswich, Massachusetts, the Library of Congress, and finally, in that little library in Red Oak, Iowa.

MaryJane showed a tenacity and courage in finding her ancestors that Walter Ker would have recognized and appreciated. Due to their inspirational struggles, I must honor them both by continuing my research. ■



Sons of Perry Oscar Allan Carr (L to R) Samuel, Ira, Hamilton, & John.

Putting Down Roots

Except for Uncle Wibs

By Loraine Magee

My mother Ruth's family had lived in Monmouth County, New Jersey, extending back at least four generations before I was born in 1944. Her mother (my grandmother), Anna Laura Brand, was born and raised, and met and married her husband Alfred August Kellers in 1903 in Monmouth County, and there they raised six children—Anna, Otto, Ruth, Alfred, Laura, and George. I never knew my grandparents, Anna and Alfred; however, I knew all of my mother's siblings—my aunts and uncles—and their families, because they all lived and died in New Jersey. All of them except for the youngest, George Wilbur Kellers, also known as "Uncle Wibs."

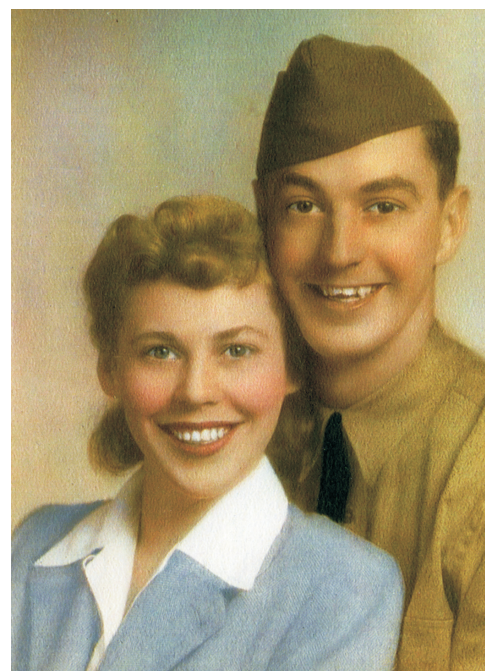
In the late 1940s and throughout the 1950s, it was our family tradition to have Christmas dinner at Uncle Alfred's family home in Wall, New Jersey. At this family gathering my seven cousins and I would sit around and pretend to listen to the long-winded tales of our parents. After the meal and all of the talking the day's festivities culminated with the el-

ders assembling around the telephone table and making their obligatory long-distance call to Nevada to the "never" present Uncle Wibs and his wife Aunt Marjorie.

As a group the Kellers were predisposed to be "homebodies." In my memory, my mother never flew on a plane, rarely traveled beyond New Jersey or New York, and certainly never ventured further west than Pennsylvania and neither did any of her siblings. They were New Jersey born and New Jersey bound with the notable exception of my mysterious Uncle Wibs, whom I never met and knew next to nothing about.

Fast forward to December 2010. While I was working on Ancestry.com I noticed that there was some "member connect" activity on my family tree involving my Keller line. Since activity on my Keller line is a rare occurrence I was prompted to investigate further, which led me to a member-submitted tree that was identical to mine except for the birthplace of my great-grandfather Friederick Keller. The birthplace of

Frieder-ick was of particular interest to me so I emailed the tree's owner and her reply was surprising. She informed me that she had created the tree for her friend, Georgia Kellers, and sent me Georgia's email. At this point all thoughts of Friederick Keller's origins were forgotten—I was on the trail of a



George Kellers and his first wife Gertrude Manning.

new cousin. That's when the fun began.

I sent an introductory message to Georgia and she responded with mild interest and some confusion regarding our relationship. I went on to explain that based on the tree her friend had placed on Ancestry.com she was the daughter of George Kellers, my Uncle Wibs, and that meant we were first cousins. Her next email opened with "Oh wow! Now I get this genealogy stuff." She went on to explain that her father, George, was really a stranger to her. Her mother, Gertrude Manning, had met George in California (where Georgia grew up) and they had married in 1942 during WWII. Georgia was born in 1943 and her parents divorced in 1946 when she was just three years old. After the divorce George had moved to Nevada and she did not see her father again until she was a married adult.

Many emails later I mentioned that I was going to Yachats, Oregon in March for my birthday. Since Georgia's birthday was also in March we agreed to celebrate by meeting in Florence, Oregon. We met in a little mom and pop restaurant right off Highway 101, and my first words to her were, "you look like a Kellers." Georgia is a petite 4' 10" and I stand at 5' 10" (without shoes, of course) so we had some fun with our height difference



Alfred & Anna (Brand) Kellers and their children. Anna (back row), Otto (back row), Ruth, Alfred, George (front row), and Laura (front row).

(Continued on page 12)

Did U Know

Do you often collaborate on projects with others, emailing documents back and forth, endeavoring to keep track of which version is the latest? Or, do you have genealogy files on two (or more) computers and use removable media such as flash drives to keep the files updated? **Did you know** that there is a free service that allows you to create and edit documents or photos on one computer and have those changes automatically saved to all your computers?

The Dropbox service provides users with 2GB of free storage space (for their photos, documents, and videos) on Dropbox's secure website along with software that creates a special folder on your computer(s) and communicates with the Dropbox website to keep your files up-to-date. Files in your Dropbox folders can be easily shared with family or friends by sending them an invite. Users can upgrade their online storage capacity to 100GB for a monthly fee. Dropbox also offers free mobile apps for accessing their service.

Dropbox was founded in 2007 by two MIT students, Drew Houston and Arash Ferdowsi, and currently serves more than 25 million people. Take a tour at dropbox.com.

Notice of New Times for SIGs!!

Don't miss the next meeting of these popular Special Interest Groups!


Ancestry.com **now** at 10:00am
- and -

Family Tree Maker **now** at 12:30pm
Same Day – 2nd Friday of the month

Shanda Hoover, Ancestry SIG Facilitator
(niledesign@totacc.com) -or-

Jeanne Menchenton, FTM SIG Facilitator
(jjmen@wavecable.com)

TOP 10 WEBSITES:


 Many of you will find at some point in your research that you have one or more ancestors who immigrated to the United States from England, Wales, Scotland, or Ireland. Tracing your ancestors from America back across the “big pond” may be one of your brick walls. One of the ways to find a chink in that brick wall is to understand the research landscape by boning up on some “local” history, learning what records are available and where to find them, and perhaps taking a look at language and handwriting. If your ancestors hail from the British Isles, check out these top websites for a roadmap that will get you started.

BRITISH ISLES


 **The BritishIslesGenweb Project** website is a one-stop directory to the GenWeb projects for England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales (as well as the Isle of Man, the Channel Islands, the Caribbean Islands, Falkland Islands, and Gibraltar). The site also provides quick access to DataBoards (aka Bulletin Boards or Forums) under *Queries and Surnames* for all of the same countries where individuals can search and/or post inquiries. [britishislesgenweb.org]

 The focus of the **UK Genealogy Archives** website is to provide free online access to original rare books and documents. Use the links to the featured databases to browse (or search) the exciting selection of digitized parish registers. There are also searchable databases for transcribed marriage, census, and parish records, as well as databases of landowners, biographies, and tradesmen. The site also includes the complete transcription of *The Comprehensive Gazetteer of England & Wales, 1894-5* and *The Comprehensive Gazetteer of Scotland, circa 1841* along with many great maps. [uk-genealogy.org.uk]

 The objective of the **FreeReg** (aka Free Registers) website is to offer free Internet searches for baptism, marriage, and burial records transcribed by volunteers from parish and other registers in England, Wales, and Scotland. Their database currently contains more than 15.5 million records. Follow the *Counties and Parishes* link to learn what is available or being worked on for a specific parish. Most parishes are from the Anglican Church but entries from some non-conformist registers are also included. [www.freereg.org.uk]

 The **UK & Ireland Genealogical Information Service (GENUKI)** website is a virtual reference library of genealogical information relevant to the UK and Ireland. On the *Contents & Search* page there is a top-down flowchart that illustrates the organization of the entire website. From this page researchers can navigate to general genealogy topics, information pertaining to the whole of the UK and Ireland, country-specific pages, and from country pages to more detailed pages on counties, towns, and parishes. [Genuki.org.uk]

ENGLAND

 England's **National Archives** website has much to offer the genealogist. The *Education* page provides easy access to articles and podcasts that will help researchers understand the history of England with over 100 topics from 1066 to the present. From the *Records* page a vast number of in-depth research guides are available to read, print or download for free. Also on the *Records* page is access to DocumentsOnline a searchable database of the Archive's collection of digitized records that are available to download for £3.50 (about \$5.11) each for most documents.

THE BRITISH ISLES

The collection includes military documents, photos, diaries, wills, correspondence, and more. Other features include interactive tutorials such as deciphering old handwriting or Latin, and guidance on writing source citations for documents found at the National Archives. [Nationalarchives.gov.uk]

6 For individuals whose research in England has taken them back earlier than 1600 try **The Medieval English Genealogy** website. This site has numerous guides that provide a roadmap to the kinds of records available from this period of England's history, as well as articles that explain issues such as medieval dating conventions. Of particular interest is a listing of known medieval families that have already been researched. Information pertaining to surname entries varies and can include pedigrees, biographies, coat of arms, source notes, and/or an external link. Among the resources found on the site are the transcripts of the Northamptonshire Tax Assessments from 1301 and an index to the Victoria County History project. [Medievalgenealogy.org.uk]

SCOTLAND

7 The **National Archives of Scotland** (NAS) houses records created by the Scottish government from the 12th century to the present, along with records created by businesses, landed estates, families, courts, churches, and other corporate bodies. The NAS website allows researchers to browse the NAS Catalogue's available records collections, or conduct a targeted search and review detailed abstracts on the search results. Although many of the records at the NAS are being digitized, none are available for online viewing at this time. In addition, the site offers informative guides explaining their 11,652 collections, as well detailed advice on how to prepare for a trip to the NAS. [www.nas.gov.uk]

8 Among the resources available on the **Scottish Archive Network** website is their "Virtual Vault" where researchers can find an assortment of original records (e.g., military, court, property, railway, tax, etc.) that can be viewed online. The "Digital Archives" offers a comprehensive guide to the digital collection of documents on the site. Under "Research Tools" researchers will find a Glossary of archaic Scottish words found in records and phrases as well as a Knowledge Base and a Family History Guide. [www.scan.org.uk]

IRELAND

9 The **Irish Genealogy** website, hosted by Ireland's Department of Tourism, Culture, and Sport, provides a step-by-step guide for researchers exploring their Irish family history. The site offers basic genealogy instruction as well as advice specific to Irish research including: types of records, links to Irish genealogy websites, and how to plan a research trip to Ireland. An exciting feature of this site is the expanding Church Records database; the database is indexed and searchable and includes images of the actual register pages. [irishgenealogy.ie]

10 The **RootsIreland** website, run by the Irish Family History Foundation, has the largest family records database in Ireland with over 18 million records online. Only registered users can search the databases and view the indexes. Registration is free, but there is a 5.00 /record fee to view record details. In addition, the site has concise explanations pertaining to records and sources, discrepancies between civil and church records, and links to religious institutions. [rootsireland.ie]

IN REVIEW

"Who Do You Think You Are" - Genealogy Takes Backseat to Storytelling

Contributed by Fran Moyer

It is rather easy for seasoned genealogists to be critical of the NBC television series "Who Do You Think You Are?" that follows celebrities as they trace their family trees and recently concluded its second, seven-episode season. Critics of the show are quick to comment, "they make it look too easy." After watching the first few episodes my initial reaction was not that favorable. I felt the show focused too much on showing people cry and that it was somewhat exploitive and voyeuristic.

Realistically, however, if the series only showed the reality of the painstaking hours of work, the frequently fruitless searches, and the many dead ends we have all encountered doing our own research, the show would be too boring. So, clearly, the show's producers have chosen to include more than a measure of melodrama to make the show more entertaining and to boost ratings. Notwithstanding this tactic, they have produced many episodes with really riveting stories. All of the shows spend more time telling the stories of the celebrities' ancestors than they spend showing research techniques and genealogical findings. Still, by themselves genealogical findings are not that interesting; it is the stories that make our ancestors, and by extension us, who we are.

So far, the most compelling episode, to me, appeared in the first season. It was the story of Lisa Kudrow's search for her father's long-lost cousin and her quest to find out what happened to her Jewish family who lived in Eastern Europe during World War II. Lisa traveled to Minsk, Belarus to find out what happen-

(Continued on page 12)

Except for Uncle Wibs...

(continued from page 9)

and compared notes about our shared careers as nurses and differing lives. We spent the rest of the day exchanging photos and family information.

I learned from Georgia that my Uncle Wibs (who had died in 1977) had enlisted in the army during WWII and “presumably” that is why George had left the New Jersey family nest. He served in the Pacific theater during the war and afterwards he became a long-haul trucker in the western US. After divorcing Georgia’s mother and moving to Nevada he went on to marry Marjorie Yohn and they had a family of six children—Robert, Connie, Crystal, John, Laura, and William. After 1958, George quit trucking and purchased a working man’s bar called the “Ritz” in Elko, Nevada, which he owned and operated until his death. Although Uncle George has passed away his second wife, Marjorie, and five of their six children are still living.

It’s been rewarding to connect with cousin Georgia and finally learn about my mysterious “missing” uncle. I plan to travel to Elko, Nevada sooner than later to meet Aunt Marjorie (who is now in her 80s) and as many of Uncle Wibs’ other children as possible. Georgia and I continue to exchange emails and hopefully we will meet up again, perhaps when I go to Elko. ■

IN REVIEW...

(continued from page 11)

ed to her great grandmother, Meri Mordejovich, and learned that she was a Holocaust victim who was killed in the village of Ilya. Lisa subsequently traveled to Ilya, where she met a survivor of the Ilya massacre who knew her great-grandmother. When the woman recounted the horror of the events she witnessed, the many lines etched in her face seemed to get deeper. It was intensely moving to see her emotions so vividly.

Taken as a whole, I think “*Who Do You Think You Are*” is good television. The show has done a service for genealogy research in general, and inspires viewers to find out more about their ancestors, their stories and themselves. ■

Introductions...

The Introductions column presents new members who have joined Puget Sound Genealogical Society (PSGS) in the quarter prior to publication. On behalf of PSGS *The Backtracker* welcomes the individuals featured below. Due to time constraints not all new members could be interviewed. If you are a new member and would like to appear in the Introductions column, please email niledesign@totacc.com.



Diane Bertram – Originally a resident of Carson City, Nevada, where she was a police officer, Diane moved to Gig Harbor three years ago to be close to her daughter who lives in Seattle. Diane’s interest in genealogy began at a young age out of her love of history. Even as a young girl she delighted in hearing her relatives talk about the “olden days.” With the help of an aunt she made a chart of names, dates, and world events that helped her to ask the right questions. The surnames she is researching are Love, Weston, Derby and Swanson.

William Caldwell – After his retirement from the Navy, Bill decided that he didn’t want to return to his home state of Ohio and instead elected to settle in Silverdale, Washington, since he had been stationed in the Bremerton area during his navy career. Three years ago Bill received some family information from his brother that sparked his interest in genealogy, which led him to attend one of PSGS’s Introduction to Genealogy classes. Since then he has collected a “lot of stuff.” Currently, he is focusing his research on the surnames of Caldwell and Murray.

Beverly Greene – Beverly is originally from Chehalis, Washington. When her husband retired from the Navy, they relocated in Port Orchard and he went to work in the Bremerton Shipyard. She first began her family search in the 1970s at Marlys Marrs’ house. Now she is getting back into research and says she has forgotten so much. The surnames she is researching are Christler (or Cristler, or Kregler), Garr, Dedrick, Friend, Ward, Miskimens. She has a cousin who is a member of the DAR and hopes to get information from her.

Trish Harrison – Prompted by a job transfer, Trish moved from Florida to east Bremerton several years ago. Originally her family came to Florida by way of Arkansas and Oklahoma. She has been tracing her family roots for ten years and recently found the first ancestor that “crossed the pond.” Trish says the hard part of her research is the lack of family stories. The ladies at the PSGS County Fair booth gave her an interesting tidbit when they asked if she was related to Benjamin Harrison of Bremerton. While there are many similarities, especially since her great great-grandfather was named Benjamin, she has not been able to determine if there is a connection. Her surnames are Harrison, Gattis, Wackerly, Crossno, Jones, and McFarland.

Marian Ross – Marian is a Bremerton native who is currently living in Olalla. She regrets not beginning her family research sooner as everyone she could ask questions of are now gone. However, she recently found some second cousins on Ancestry.com and is enjoying sharing information and pictures with them. Through these “cousin” connections she found the graves of her great-grandparents in Tacoma—a notable achievement since she did not even know her great-grandparents’ names when she began. Her research is centered on the surnames of Haugland of Wisconsin and Norway and Hartl of Bohemia and Minnesota. ■



Side-by-Side

Jackie Horton

Member since 1979

Jacquelyn "Jackie" Horton was born in Crosby, Minnesota and lived there until age 11 when her parents,

George and Myrtle Perkins, moved the family to Bremerton, Washington. In 1955, Jackie married Walter "Jerry" Horton in Bremerton and together they had four children. Over the years Jackie has also lived in Florida, California, Connecticut, Idaho, South Carolina and Virginia.

Q: How did you get started doing genealogy?

A: My grandmother, Violet Bates Valiquet, said her birth certificate was gone because the Dakota County courthouse in Minnesota where she was born had burned down. However, I wrote to the courthouse and received not only her information but also her grandfather's! After that I was hooked. In 1977 we went to Georgia where my husband was born. Researching his family there led to my starting the newsletter "Horton's of the South" and later I became the president of the Hortons of America Society for several years. In addition, I've taken the Brigham Young University courses on family research.

Q: How did you come to join PSGS?

A: After returning from a trip to Georgia, my sister Sandy saw the notice for the PSGS general meeting in the newspaper and asked if I wanted to go. So we went to a meeting and then continued to attend meetings intermittently throughout 1977 and 1978. I eventually joined the society in 1979.

Q: What are your research goals?

A: Lately my goals are trying to find my Perkins line that has always been a problem. I only have my John Perkins traced back to 1817 in Pennsylvania. My other goals are to research my grandchildren's lines. Actually I guess my main goal is to get all my information in order and get everything including pictures onto the computer.

Q: Do you have any surnames or locales of special interest?

A: If I had to pick special interest states it would be Virginia, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. Outside the United States are England, Ireland, France, Germany, Portugal, and Canada.

Q: How have you participated with PSGS?

A: Currently I am the Belfair Chapter representative. In the past I've held offices as President, Vice president, Membership Chair, Seminar Committee Chair, Education Committee Chair, and Librarian (for seven years). I've also been a member of the Cemetery Committee, an instructor for beginning genealogy classes, and the PSGS webmaster. ■



Jean Yager

Member since 2008

Jean was born in Tacoma, Washington, and has lived most of her life in Bremerton. In 1975 Jean married Richard Yager and together they raised three children. During their marriage Richard's Navy career took them to Vallejo and San Diego, California, and Moscow, Idaho. After Richard retired in 1989, they returned to Bremerton where Jean worked for the School District and the Educational Service District before she retired in 2008.

Q: How did you get started doing genealogy?

A: After my paternal grandma passed away in 1994, I was going through a box of papers and came across several articles on John Nance Gardner (Vice President to Franklin D Roosevelt). I asked my dad why grandma had kept them and he told me because she was related to him, though he didn't know how. That's when I discovered the world of genealogy. I still haven't figured out how we're related to John Nance Gardner but I've opened all sorts of doors to other lines.

Q: How did you come to join PSGS?

A: I first joined PSGS around 1997, but since I was working full-time, I didn't have time to get involved. When I left the employment world in 2008, one of the first things I did was rejoin the society so I could pursue my passion for genealogy.

Q: What are your research goals?

A: I'm planning a Jones family reunion in July on my mom's side, so I'd like to find as many relatives to invite as I can. I also want to solve the mystery of an elusive great uncle who disappeared in the early 1900s, figure out where in Germany the Yager's immigrated from, and reopen the John Nance Gardner case.

Q: Do you have any surnames or locales of special interest?

A: My maternal surnames are Applebee, Conover, Curry, Jones, Martin, Spicer, and Stackhouse. On my father's side there is Boring, Cunningham, Curry, Drane, Mannering, Moneyham, and Nance. I'm also researching surnames for my husband's family including Arnold, Barthle, DeBolt, Holsing, Streich, Swanson, and Yager.

Q: How have you participated with PSGS?

A: I was Publicity Chair for two years. Presently, I am the Education Committee Chair and I'm involved on the Library, Program, and Website Committees. I'm also an instructor for several PSGS classes including Beginning Genealogy, Vital Records, and Citing Your Sources; and I've given several presentations at the PSGS general meeting. ■

Milestones

By Paulette Waggoner

We all extend a heartfelt “welcome back” to our own PSGS President, **Linda Webb**, who returned in March after an absence of six weeks, which she spent in Utah caring for her mother after a stroke. We are so fortunate that she is home and able to resume her presidential duties—although 1st VP, **Sandie Morrison** did a great job “pinch hitting” in Linda’s stead.

Birthday celebrations appear to be few since the last *Backtracker*, but a significant one was **Alta Drane’s** 75th birthday. Congratulations, Alta! If you’ve had a milestone birthday recently, there’s no need to be so secretive! Please share the news so members of our society can celebrate your special day.

There continues to be a number of individuals among our ranks on the sick and injured list. Among those who are recuperating or recovered is **John Smith** whose illness last February resulted in a stay in the hospital, but who was back taking his turn as one of our volunteer librarians by the beginning of April.

Also in the news again is **Ken Thornton** who, after a long succession of medical woes, underwent a successful cardiac ablation at his most recent doctor’s visit that is hoped to have solved his troubles. Are you beginning to feel more like your old self, Ken? We wish that you might stay in that healthy state.

Our faithful Recording Secretary, **Ann Northcutt**, had surgery for a torn rotator cuff on Monday, April 4, after working the entire previous weekend at the Antique Show! Would you believe the procedure was done as an outpatient? The surgery has a lengthy recuperation period with weeks of physical therapy, but from what I’ve seen of Ann, she will likely break records for her recovery. Go get ‘em, Ann!

In addition, three of our members have had jarring falls in the last month. **Bill Richardson**, a past PSGS President; **Shanda Hoover**, our *Backtracker* editor

(Continued on page 15)

Gail Reynolds’

BELFAIR BULLETIN

First of all, let me say that our “mini” seminar on April 16th with Steven Morrison was a smashing success! Lots of our PSGS members attended as well as many members of the public who saw the notices in the newspaper. Steven was funny and informative at the same time. We learned that searching Irish records has its challenges, like missing census records due to both a fire in the armory where the records were kept as well as government ordered destruction.

Now let’s go back a month. The speaker for the March meeting was our own Rosemarie Welch. What a great program she gave on the history of New Hampshire and the role the Moulton family played. Her presentation was informative and well organized. Thanks, Rosie!

Our April meeting was a combination of planning and sharing. First, we put the final touches on the plans for the seminar with Steven Morrison. Then, second, was the sharing part, which consisted of members bringing research items to share with the group, as well as family stories and tales of research successes. It was interesting to hear about the successes as well as the brick walls that folks have encountered.

Our next meeting will be held back at the Belfair Library on Tuesday, May 3 at 12:30pm. Elayne Stodola will be talking about the process of applying for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). She will also discuss the research that must be completed in order to qualify.

At our June meeting, Barbara Chesley will present a program on creating a personal timeline. Be sure to bring important dates affecting your family so we can share hands-on examples of our own timelines.

Come one, come all—it should be interesting!

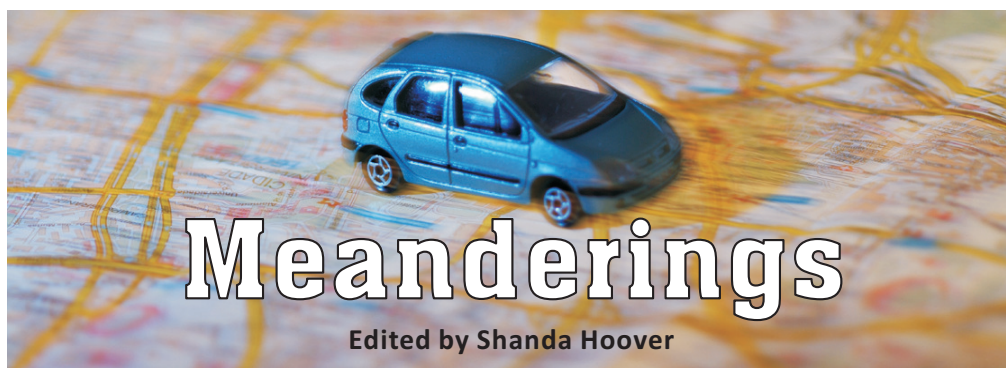
Did U Know



The Library of Congress and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) have established a partnership in a long-term effort to develop an Internet-based, searchable database of U.S. newspapers. The enterprise, called the National Digital Newspaper

Program (NDNP), produces the *Chronicling America* website that provides access to information about newspapers from 1690 to the present, as well as select digitized pages from newspapers published between 1860 and 1922. **Did you know** that there are already over 3 million digitized pages from newspapers in 23 states available to search and freely view at the *Chronicling America* website (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov)?

Since 2005, the NEH has funded grants to state libraries, universities, and historical societies for the contribution of historic newspaper content with the eventual goal of representing every U.S. state and territory. By 2011 these grants are projected to generate more than 4 million digitized pages. This rich digital resource will be permanently maintained at the Library of Congress.



On March 21, while Jean Yager was visiting the library in Fresno, California, she located an obituary for Clifford Ellis Drane (her 2nd cousin, once removed). The obituary indicated that when Clifford passed in 1985 at the age of 67 he was survived by six siblings—four of the siblings were from a second marriage and were 20 some years younger. Although 26 years had passed, Jean's aunt, Linda Langberg, decided to look on Facebook for Clifford's siblings (now in their 70s and 80s) and, lo and behold, she located one of Clifford's sisters living in Texas. From this connection, Jean & Linda learned that there were two more sisters who were living together in a small town in Illinois, just outside of St Louis, Missouri. Since Jean and Linda had already planned a research trip to Missouri they extended their itinerary to include a meet up with their two Drane cousins, Eva Snodgrass and Deloris Smith. The meeting with their "new" cousins provided lots of family information that proved to be helpful on the rest of their research trip.

On April 1, Jean's daughter, Amanda, flew into St Louis and joined Jean and Linda for seven days of genealogical sleuthing. Their first stop was at the State Historical Library at the University of Missouri in Columbia, which houses the State's largest newspaper collection on microfilm. While there, they found 11 obituaries including stories of two murders and one suicide. The next stop was the Kansas State Archives in Topeka, Kansas. Unfortunately, before they had time to find anything a fire alarm went off and they had to evacuate the building. Due to time constraints the group decided to move on to the genealogical library in Fort Scott, Kansas. Although they arrived shortly before closing, the kindly librarian let them stay for two whole hours—time that proved very fruitful. The threesome then journeyed back into Missouri and headed for Springfield where they visited four cemeteries and located tombstones for several relatives. They also discovered the Springfield Library Center, where they spent eight hours investigating the Library's great genealogical collection that included an extensive indexed series of yearly compilations of births, marriages, and obits clipped from the local newspaper and came away with lots of treasures. The final leg of Jean's trip took the group to Oregon and Ripley County in the southeastern part of Missouri where they visited six cemeteries, three libraries and one funeral home. Jean reports that this latest genealogical expedition yielded much more success than she ever expected!

After discovering that her 6th Great Grandfather, Walter Ker, was from Scotland Fran Moyer started to formulate plans for a research trip. In addition to flying to Scotland, Fran thought that it was only logical to first start with investigating her ancestors' lives in New Jersey. So this coming May, Fran and her husband Bob will head off on a family history adventure.

They plan to fly to Pennsylvania and set up "base camp" at the home of Bob's sister and her husband. Then they will rent a car and head to New Jersey, stopping at Monmouth State Park where the Battle of Monmouth, the largest battle of the Revolutionary War, was fought and where the stone house of her Ker ancestors still stands.

From there they will travel to the Old Tennent Church. The church, which was established by William and Walter Tennent, was badly damaged by cannon fire in the Revolutionary War but has been Completely restored. Included in this stop will be a visit to the church's cemetery to find the tombstone of Fran's 6th Great Grandparents, Walter Tennent and his wife Margaret. Once these fun research "chores" are done it is off to Scotland. ■

Milestones...

(continued from page 14)

who tripped while gardening; and this writer, **Paulette Waggoner**, who offers the advice, "don't try to walk if your foot is asleep and tingling." For myself, a trip to Urgent Care confirmed there were no broken bones, just a partially torn ligament. I hope that Bill and Shanda are healed up and have regained the "spring" in their step.

In other news, members **Rosalie** and **Chuck Palmer** who only recently returned home to Port Orchard after a prolonged stay with family in Texas have decided to pull up stakes and move to the Lone Star state to be closer to family. We shall miss seeing their smiling faces at the monthly meetings, classes, and SIGs. Happy trails, Chuck and Rosalie, and keep in touch!

An unforeseen hardship has befallen **IdaMae Swedberg**. Her car recently caught fire leaving her without transportation for the immediate future. Anyone who lives near Lori Linda Court in Port Orchard and can help out by volunteering to take IdaMae to the general meeting in Bremerton, please contact the volunteer librarian.

Finally, we extend our sincere condolences to **Patricia Collier** on the passing of her husband, Captain James Richard "JR" Collier. JR passed on February 21st, just a couple of weeks after Pat had returned from the PSGS research trip to Salt Lake City. Our sympathies also go out to the family of Mary Yoke, a long-time member from Corvallis, Oregon, who recently passed away. ■

CLASSIFIED ADS

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presents

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Olalla Valley Vineyard & Winery

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Cindy Shawley Spore Memorial Library

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(360) 874.8813 • www.pusogensoc.org

!! HELP WANTED !!

Instructors Needed

Education committee seeks volunteers to teach upcoming classes. Interested parties email Jean Yager (jjyager@wavecable.com).

Church & Death Records

Seeking person versed in records/sources that can be used to establish date of death when vital records aren't available.

Wills & Probate Records

Seeking individual who is familiar with the probate process and the different types of estate documents.

HELP WANTED

Field Trip Coordinator!!

Seeking outgoing volunteer to lead outings to research sites and/or seminars. Duties include selecting destinations and coordinating arrangements. A love of camaraderie and discovery is a plus. **No experience necessary.**

Contact Linda Webb at 360-895-3190

HELP WANTED!!!

Volunteers Needed for Two Garage Sales

Workers help sort, arrange & price items on setup days. On sale days workers assist customers, straighten tables & collect money.

Larry's Sale: Jun 3-4, 8a-4p at 7479 Kells Ln SW, Pt Orchard (setup May 31-Jun 2, 9a-3p)

Linnie's Sale: Jun 17-18, 9a-5p at 20 E Judy Ln, Belfair (call for set-up schedule)

Larry/360.895.3181 or Linnie/360.275.3770

DONATIONS NEEDED

Garage Sale items including clothing, books, housewares, furniture, small appliances, toys, etc are urgently sought for upcoming fundraiser. No TVs or electronic equipment. **Items should be clean & in good condition!**

Drop items at:

7479 Kells Ln SW, Pt Orchard – May 1-Jun 2
20 East Judy Lane, Belfair – Jun 4-16

Contact Larry Harden (360-895-3181) or
Linnie Griffin (360-275-3770) for info.

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