



# THE BACKTRACKER



A Publication of Puget Sound Genealogical Society [www.pusogensoc.org](http://www.pusogensoc.org)

April thru June 2013

## Come One, Come All to the Annual Kitsap County Antique Show

On May 11th and 12th treat your mom, grandmom, stepmom, or anyone you consider a mom to a Mother's Day at the Kitsap Antique Show. But, don't leave dad at home because we have something for him, too! PSGS co-hosts this annual Kitsap County event with our partner, the Kitsap Historical Society.

It is PSGS' only fundraiser during the year. Admission is \$5 per person and worth every cent. This year's show features 55 vendors with all kinds of antiques and collectibles, surely something for everyone.

Ever wonder what that favorite dinner plate mom gave you is worth? Bring it or grandpa's watch or something you picked up at a flea market and have one of our appraisers tell you what it's worth for just \$5 per item.

We also have free lectures for you to enjoy. On Saturday, we have Teresa Stone who will give her presentation on some of her antique linens ... some that are hundreds of years old. She titled her lecture, "Connecting Generations through Vintage Linens." Another Saturday lecture has Matt Graves giving his talk on post WWII Lionel Trains using some from his own large collection. And, finally, we are fortunate to have our own new member, Janthina du Savage, give her lecture on "Mother's Favor-

### KITSAP ANTIQUE SHOW History & Heritage 2013

Entry: \$5  
Appraisal fee:  
\$5 per item  
Parking: Free



Fabulous antique and collectable gifts plus lectures and appraisals of family heirlooms

Kitsap County Fairgrounds  
Mother's Day Weekend, May 11 & 12  
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday  
10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday

Information: [www.antiqueshowkitsap.com](http://www.antiqueshowkitsap.com)

ite Heirlooms ... Infant Clothing" using examples from her own family.

On Sunday, Natalie Bryson will talk about her trips to various parts of the world and the different kinds of teas and their history. In her talk, "Tea, the World's Elixir of Relaxation," she will detail the history of how tea was brought into the colonies.

This is one of the major events in Kitsap County and is held at the President's Hall at the Fairgrounds. Such an event doesn't

happen magically . . . It takes help from everyone! We can use help with vendor set-up on Friday and take-down on Sunday. We also need help to clean up after the vendors leave. If many pitch in to help, it eases the strain on the few who have done this over the years. Think about enlisting older kids or grandkids because some of this is heavy work and most of us are not getting younger! Contact Ann Northcutt at [secretary@pusogensoc.org](mailto:secretary@pusogensoc.org) .

Most importantly, come and enjoy this wonderful event and support PSGS in our fundraiser of the year. We promise you a grand day, no matter what your interest is because we present such a wide variety of interesting, enlightening and fun activities sure to satisfy everyone who comes. See you there!

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As many of you know I am out of town, cemetery hopping my way to Washington, D.C. At the general meeting last November, I did a program on the Library of Congress website. I became so enthusiastic about this library that I decided I needed to see it in person!

I feel I left my Prez duties in good hands....Nyla! I was able to Skype the March general meeting and saw with my own eyes what a great job she did! However, by the time you read this I will have already explored this humungous library and heading back home...expected return date, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

I hope to share more of my adventures in the July edition of the *Backtracker*. I do want to thank Nyla for facilitating two Executive Board meetings and two General membership meetings. She was very willing to take this on, especially since she is a newbie officer.

I also want to thank YOU, the membership, for voting in the revised Bylaws and Standing Rules. This committee spent many hours updating these two documents and deserve a big THANK YOU (Ann, Bob, Dorothy, Jackie, Karin, Linda Webb, Linda Wilson, and Mary Ann)! Keep in mind these documents are reviewed every two years. However, a member has the right to submit an amendment to the Bylaws or Standing Rules to the Executive Board at any time. For more information on the procedure, see the ByLaws, Article XII and Standing Rules, II. Guidelines, C. Changes (on the PSGS website, Members Only page).

Our only fundraiser this year is coming up; it is the **Antique Show** on May 11 and 12. We need YOUR help to make this a success, not only during the fair, but setting up on Thursday May 9th and taking down Sunday afternoon. If you haven't already, please contact Ann Northcutt at [secretary@pusogensoc.org](mailto:secretary@pusogensoc.org). This is a GREAT way to support our Puget Sound Genealogical Society.

I just learned that the Poulsbo Family History Center is having a five hour expo on April 20th and some in our leadership will be "manning" (actually "womaning") a booth there. I hope more of you will be able to attend.

## The Genealogy Center Report

by MaryAnn Wright



Since we moved into our new home at Sylvan Way, the Genealogy Center collection grew by more than 100 new titles, ranging from cemetery and church records to will abstracts and indexes, and from county/town histories to family histories covering at least 15 states and 3 countries.

Because of all these changes to the collection, I have posted an updated database on our PSGS webpage, under the Genealogy Center tab. The database is sorted by type, meaning, for example, all the books with Connecticut in the title are arranged alphabetically together. This is a quick way to find specific localities and follows the same format we used at our library in Port Orchard.

However, there are now two ways to locate books in our Genealogy Center through the Kitsap Regional Library's website. Using the catalog on KRL's website the call number is identified so the item can easily be found in the Genealogy Center. To search only the titles found in the Genealogy Center, follow these steps: Click on the catalog tab along the top of the KRL home-page ([www.krl.org](http://www.krl.org)). The next screen shows three dialog boxes. Below the dialog boxes are the words, More Search Options. Click on those words and at the next screen, under Collections, select Genealogical Center. Then click the Set Search Options, which takes you back to the main catalog search page. At this point enter your search terms. For example, entering the word Kansas brings up 13 results, all located in the Genealogy Center, and all about Kansas. The important part is that the word "Kansas" does not have to be in the title for it to appear on the list. If you want to see all the books on Kansas throughout the library system, or at a particular branch, change the Search Options.

The second way to locate books in the Genealogy Center is to go directly to the Genealogy Collection link on KRL's website. At the home page, click on the Research & Learn tab, then on Genealogy & Obituary Requests. The Genealogy Collection is listed under Special Collections and is the database of all the books in the Genealogy

Center. With multiple ways to sort the list, as well as search options on the right side of the page, finding a resource in the Genealogy Center couldn't be any easier.

Additionally, all of the school yearbooks are physically located in the PSGS office area and are not included in the KRL catalog. A listing of available yearbooks is found on our webpage, under the Records Preservation tab, then under School Records Project. If you are interested in looking through one of the yearbooks, or want a photo or two, contact the school records project chair at: [school\\_records@pusogensoc.org](mailto:school_records@pusogensoc.org).

One final note is directed to researchers looking for their German ancestors who emigrated from Russia. In addition to periodicals and other research material on both Germany and Russia, 88 Black Sea area (Odessa and Bessarabia) census books, published by the Germans from Russia Heritage Society and generously donated by Lorraine Kniert, are catalogued and now available in the Genealogy Center. These census books, along with Karl Stumpp's book, *The emigration from Germany to Russia in the years 1763 to 1862*, and Conrad Keller's 2-volume set, *German Colonies in South Russia, 1804-1904*, provide a complete package of resource material for this area.

The Genealogy Center Committee is currently researching available books for future acquisition that focus on the Western US (Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North and South Dakota, and Wyoming). If you have books on these states, we would love to find a place for them on the GC's shelves!

Additional congratulations go to our Genealogy Center volunteers, who contributed 2838.6 hours during 2012. Annually, a leadership network of 600 nonprofits, foundations, and corporate giving programs calculates an hourly dollar value of volunteer time. The latest value is \$21.79 an hour. This value of volunteer time is based on the average hourly earnings of all production and non-supervisory workers on private payrolls. Using these estimates, our PSGS volunteer hours represent a total dollar value of \$61,854, which is a tangible way of quantifying the enormous value our volunteers provide. Well done!

## Washington State Genealogical Society

### Annual Conference



The 2013 conference will be held Friday - Saturday, **June 28-29, 2013** in Yakima, WA

*"Researching Rare Apples on Your Family Tree"*

Keynote speaker will be Bret Petersen, Board Member Utah Genealogical Society

Graduate National Institute of Genealogical Research

and Member Genealogical Speakers Guild

To register: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs/seminarformpp.htm>



**Ann Northcutt**

Each year WSGS presents **Outstanding Volunteer Awards** to genealogy society members who have given exceptional and consistent support of the goals and operation of their society. PSGS named Ann Northcutt as our representative to receive this award.

Ann has been our secretary for many years. This year she is the chair of the Antique Show, our largest fundraiser, that we co-host with the Kitsap Historical Society. She is also the chair of the school records preservation committee and the chair of the cemetery committee. Ann also coordinated our booth that we shared with the DAR at the Kitsap County Fair last year. In her spare time, Ann teaches classes and also acts as a teaching assistant for others. In other words, whenever there is a need and no one else raises their hand, Ann will step forward.

As a case in point, the day before she was to give her presentation on *Organizing Your Stuff*, along with President Jean Yager, her 5 year old grandson, Kai, fell off a Jungle Jim at his preschool and landed on the cement. He was unconscious for a time and injured his arm. Ann rushed to the hospital in Lake Stevens to be with her daughter and grandson and didn't arrive back in Bremerton until late that night.

She reported for the class the next morning, as scheduled. Fortunately, her part followed Jean's presentation and, because she had not eaten anything since the prior morning, while Jean taught her half of the class, Ann ate a sandwich so she would be ready to give hers. That is dedication above what many would have given and we thank Ann for that and for the myriad other things she does for PSGS.

As for our future genealogist, Kai Inouye, shown in the hospital, has since recovered and is recuperating well. As one can see, he was going to protect that little injured arm from further injury!



### Convention of the Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe, Seattle, WA

**August 9-11, 2013** Double Tree Suites Hotel 16500 Southcenter Parkway



An extensive library and research area at the convention is just the beginning for attendees at this conference. Also available are: wireless Internet access to our various databases; access to hundreds of thousands of names from Poland and Volhynia, extracted from Polish church books, which are not available in any other database; Eastern Volhynian records-1941 to 44 for Marriages and confirmations and birth records; photocopies of St. Petersburg Volhynian church records from 1847-1885; complete Kartei Quassowki collections; Karl Stump 1942 village record lists for some Eastern Volhynian villages; and much more. Help will be available to assist in translation and research.

Register: [https://www.sggee.org/convention/convention\\_news.html](https://www.sggee.org/convention/convention_news.html)



# Meanderings

by Nyla Crawford Walsh



Pam & Dennis Noyes with cousin Nyla Crawford Walsh

Once again I am reminded that it is a small, small world!

Most recently, while Lorrin and I were on a trip to Arizona, it happened again! Lorrin has

hooked up with an RV driver training school and this was the first time that we were to meet the owners and trainers as well as some of the graduates from the school. They come from all over the U.S. We rallied up in the “cactus” just outside of Quartzsite, Arizona. It’s a small, sleepy town in the summer but during the winter all form of RVs converge on the town to have a fun time! I cannot explain what goes on, you would just have to be there to understand. Enough to say it is a carnival/festival atmosphere for several months with millions of people coming and going all the time!

So the story at hand is this. We were the 2<sup>nd</sup> RV to park in our group circle, and the next to come in was a trailer. They parked next to us, a nice couple from California. We introduced ourselves and over the next few days we got acquainted.

As the conversation goes I asked them where they had been traveling recently. “Just came through Salt Lake”... Oh, did you stop at the library? “Well no, we wanted to but we did not have time this time!” So you must be doing your family tree. “Oh, yes I am, and I really enjoy looking for the elusive ones!” I say yep for sure we all have those, like my James Crawford—I can’t find his parents! “Who did you say, James Crawford? My husband has a James Crawford back in the 1700s.” Well, you can see where this is going; we are related and to top that we have been sharing family information on Ancestry for several years! Our families have large encircling arms that reach out and hug us when we least expect it!



# Milestones

by Karin Burke

Looks like summer is just around the corner! Let’s keep telling ourselves that and it just may happen.

In our last publication, we learned of Pat Eder’s sudden return to Washington from Salt Lake City in January. Not long after her return, Ken Eder passed away. Ken was a very fine man and I know he will be truly missed by many people.

By now, member Rosemarie Welch has, hopefully, recovered from her fall that left her unable to walk for quite a while. Carol Caldwell had a scare when her husband’s dental work sent him to the hospital in a coma. She credits her brother-in-law for his quick actions getting him to the hospital. Another one of our members, Mary Anderson, is dealing with her husband’s health issues, too. Unfortunately, it came at the time when they were to move here from Tennessee. She has been traveling back and forth preparing for their eventual relocation. I am sure the stress of all of this is very difficult. I hope they all know we will keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Our President, Jean, is off on travels again with her husband. She even teased us on her way to Disneyland as she reminded us of the March Executive Board meeting. Your Backtracker Editor, Fran, wasn’t hanging around here either. She and her husband were joined by a son for golf in Palm Springs before heading south to San Diego for those granddaughters of theirs.

If you notice a pretty young woman named Eunice on the KPS advertisements on some billboards around Kitsap, you might like to know her connection to PSGS. She is the daughter of member Mike Zeitner. She is Eunice Surti a member of KPS.

Now, a smile of a story! Seems Doug found the Paleo diet and Ann the 30-10 diet to try. Ann has dutifully travelled back and forth to Kent to get the products. Ann is doing great at the weight loss. I heard that Doug lost interest early into the process! Haven’t see him so can’t confirm it. But heard Ann looks great so she must be glad he had this idea.

## A Look Back...

### at the past three months of programs presented by PSGS



**January 23**

**“What’s New In Family Search?”**

**presenter: Carol Johnson**

Our guest Speaker for January was Carol Johnson, Director of the Bremerton Family History Center, who presented a very informative program on Family Tree. Family Tree is a new way to organize and record your genealogy online. It merges the best features and data from [new.FamilySearch.org](http://new.FamilySearch.org) with powerful tools for data accuracy, usability, and collaboration. This new site has a stronger emphasis on sources and allows the genealogical community to collaborate and identify accurate information. Great advancements are being made! Make sure you check it out at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org).

**February 27**

**“Decoding DNA Research”**

**presenter: Mary Kozy**

Mary Kozy presented a most informative and understandable program on DNA. We are at the leading edge of discovery with this great tool for digging up our elusive ancestors. For more information, check out these Internet resources: Mary mentioned that Ancestry.com’s DNA program is still evolving at this time.

International Society of Genetic Genealogy [www.isogg.com](http://www.isogg.com)

DNA Testing Adviser [www.dna-testing-adviser.com](http://www.dna-testing-adviser.com)

FamilyTree DNA [www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com)

Genographic Project [www.genographic.nationalgeographic.com](http://www.genographic.nationalgeographic.com)

Ancestry.com’s DNA testing [ldna.ancestry.com](http://ldna.ancestry.com)

23and Me [www.23andme.com](http://www.23andme.com)

GeneBase blog [www.genebase.com/blog/](http://www.genebase.com/blog/)

Who Do You Think You Are? [www.nbc.com/wdytya/](http://www.nbc.com/wdytya/)

Finding Your Roots [www.pbs.org/wnet/finding-your-roots/](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/finding-your-roots/) - <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/facesofamerica/>

**March 27**

**“Are You Lost in the Cloud?”**

**presenter: Susan Whitford**

Susan Whitford, KRL’s Director of Technology, provided very helpful information on storing your data on a network of remote servers accessed through the Internet—the “cloud.” Using the cloud, you can safely store, retrieve and share your information. She highlighted four popular cloud options: iCloud (<http://www.icloud.com>); Dropbox ([www.dropbox.com](http://www.dropbox.com)); Amazon Cloud Drive (<http://www.amazon.com/gp/feature.html?ie=UTF8&docId=1000796931>) and Google Drive (<https://drive.google.com/start>).

To learn more, check out these references:

“How Cloud Computing Works” <http://computer.howstuffworks.com/cloud-computing/cloud-computing.htm>

“What cloud computing really means” <http://www.infoworld.com/d/cloud-computing/what-cloud-computing-really-means-031>

“Apple leads consumer cloud storage wars” <http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9237792/>

[Apple leads consumer cloud storage wars](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9237792/)

“Great Cloud Storage Services” <http://www.informationweek.com/cloud-computing/software/8-great-cloud-storage-services/240151180>



## Looking Forward...

at the next three months of programs presented by PSGS

**April 24**

**“Chipping Away at Your Brick Walls”**

**presenters: Macomber Research Team**

Linda, Mary Ann, Sandie, Larry

Learn strategies to think outside the box and put aside preconceived conclusions to find your way through that brick wall in your research.

**May 22**

**“ Beg, Borrow, or Steal?”**

**presenters: Larry Harden & Sandy Morrison**

How did your family get their land? What records are available, where are they, and what information can they hold for your genealogical research.

**June 26**

**“Revolutionary Ancestors”**

**presenter: Doug Nelson**

Join Doug and the Washington State Color Guard as they outline the steps necessary to document your lineage with the Sons of the American Revolution

### Schedule of classes – April through June

<b>April 27</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am-2pm</b>	Genealogy 103—Vital Records, Filling in the Blanks Presenter: Linda Webb
<b>May 7th</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10am-2pm</b>	Tips and Tools for Scaling Brick Walls Presenter: Linda Webb
<b>May 25</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am-2pm</b>	Genealogy 101—Beginning Genealogy Presenter: Jean Yager
<b>June 4</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10am-2pm</b>	Finding the Other Half Presenter: Laura Sparr
<b>June 22</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10am-2pm</b>	Genealogy 102—Tracking your family through the U.S. Census Presenter: Linda Webb
<b>July 2</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10am-2pm</b>	Finding Your Families in Colonial America Presenters: Fran Moyer & Elisabeth Demmon

All classes are held in the Heninger Room at the Kitsap Regional Library, 1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton

Contact: [education.chairperson@pusogensoc.org](mailto:education.chairperson@pusogensoc.org)

# Putting Down Roots

By Elisabeth Demmon

## Part Two: Mother Feather Legs and Frontier Life



Orson and Mary Pennock Demmon shown with their 3 daughters, circa 1905

After their marriage in 1876, Orson and Mary P Demmon moved to Wyoming, 37 miles North of Old Fort Laramie where they established a horse and cattle ranch. At the time, this area was full of Plains Indians, soldiers and outlaws.

Mary's closest female neighbor, Charlotte Shephard, also known as "Mother Feather Legs" lived in a structure called a half dugout. Charlotte was

known to house and entertain outlaws in this structure.

In 1876, an outlaw, Dick Davis, also known as "Dangerous Dick" joined Charlotte at this dugout where it was reported that he was supposed to be hunting and trapping but spent most of his time "loafing."

One day in 1879, Mary needed female company so she set off to visit the only woman she knew that lived near her. When she arrived, Mary found the body of "Mother Feather Legs" by a stream, a bucket beside her. "Mother Feather Legs" had been shot dead.

Greed was the suspected motive as the woman was known to have a cache of money. The money was gone and so was Dangerous Dick. When he was found several years later, he confessed to killing Mother Feather Legs for her money and was hung for the murder.

This story of Mother Feather Legs can be found in several books about the wild western frontier. In Dee Brown's "Wondrous Times on the Frontier" Mary is not named but is simply a neighbor who found the body of Mother Feather Legs. In Barbara Fifer's "Bad Boys of the Black Hills...and some Wild Women, Too" Mary is again unidentified but is described as "a respectable homestead lady."

While visiting the Stagecoach Museum in Lusk, Wyoming, I found an article by Russell Thorpe, called "Old Mother Feather Legs Shepherd," in which he states "One day in 1879, Mrs. O. J. Demmon, wife of a ranch man who lived at Silver Springs on the stage road. . ." Mary finally received the dubious honor of being named as the unfortunate neighbor who found the deceased Mother Feather Legs.

Some claim that Mother Feather Legs has the distinction of being the only prostitute in the United States to have a monument built in her honor; the monument, though hard to get to, still stands and is on the tourist map of Lusk, Niobrara County, Wyoming. Her stone, a 3,500 pound pink granite marker, was dedicated in 1964 and unveiled by Russell Thorpe (1877-1967), the same man who wrote the article about this notorious woman. More information on this event can be found in Barbara Fifer's book mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Charlotte "Mother Feather Legs" Shephard's grave and obituary can be seen at [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com).

Mary Cordelia Pennock Demmon died on March 30, 1911 at her home in Lusk, Wyoming at the age of 61. Her obituary, published in the *Lusk Herald*, stated "in her death, Wyoming loses one of the oldest settlers." The obituary also stated that "she had a smile and a good word for everybody and everybody loved her."

Mary's legacy is far more enduring than a stone monument: she had 13 children with her husband Orson (10 sons, 3 daughters, all who lived to adulthood), 28 grandchildren, and numerous descendants that continue to increase as time goes by; one of her great-great-grandchildren is due to be born in April 2013.

# Putting Down Roots

By Larry Harden

## Part One: The Sheets Family Band



My Mother-in-Law, Evelyn Parker (maiden name Sheets) often talked about a Sheets Family Band that traveled up and down the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. Was there any truth to this story or just a family myth? After Evelyn passed away in November 2012, a folder was found amongst her belongings, which evidently she had forgotten about. In this folder was a lot of interesting information on the Sheets Family Band. The following is taken from information in that folder.

Joseph Sheets was a brother of Evelyn's grandfather, John Sheets. Joseph was born in Ripley County, Indiana and grew up in Madison, Jefferson County, Indiana. He married, had a daughter named Elta (1888) and after his wife died he married the widow Josephine (Schad) Schneider in 1891. She had a daughter named Clara (1888). They moved to Columbus, Bartholomew County, Indiana and lived there the rest of their lives. Out of this union came five boys: Albert (1892), Carl (1894), William (1897), George (1899) and Edward (1901).

It is not known exactly when Joseph organized the Sheets Family Band, but it was probably around 1897-98. The band consisted of his wife and children and grew as the family grew. The only non family member was a neighbor boy named Gary Davis who later married Clara.

Besides playing in the band, Joseph wrote all of the music, directed the group and supervised the costuming.

They played for Sunday school picnics, church socials and most of the events in the town of Columbus and eventually became widely known throughout the state of Indiana. Every summer they played, at intervals, on an excursion boat on the Ohio River called the "Show Boat."

A showboat, or show boat, was a form of theater that traveled along the waterways of the United States, especially along the Mississippi and Ohio rivers. It was basically a barge that resembled a long, flat-roofed house, and in order to move down the river, it was pushed by a small tugboat (misleadingly labeled a towboat) that was attached to it. The popular image of a showboat is a large, deluxe, twin-stacked, self-propelled vessel with a huge paddle wheel at the rear. In fact, it would have been impossible to put a steam engine on a show boat since the engine would have had to be placed right in the middle of the auditorium.

The group always returned to their hometown during the winter months, where Joseph was a cabinet maker by trade. However, they seldom returned until after Thanksgiving and went back to the "open road" in April.

In the spring of 1907 they went to Cambridge, Indiana and joined the "Buckskin Ben" Wild West Show. Although not as well known nationally as Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, it was well known throughout the Midwest and eastern United States. Benjamin Stalker, better known as "Buckskin Ben" was born "out west" around 1863. Orphaned at the age of five he was raised by cowboys.

(to be continued)



L to R front row: Edward, Elta, Clara & George..... L to R back row: Bill, Carl, Joseph (father), Gary Davis and Albert



# Introductions

by Carol Caldwell

**Robert Howard** – Robert comes to Kitsap County from Hawaii, after a stint in the Army. He and his wife currently live in Olalla. Robert’s wife, Margaret, joined PSGS several years ago when they saw the booth at the Kitsap County Fair. Now he has joined to search out the mystery of his Howard heritage. He discovered that his grandfather was born more than nine months after his great-grandfather was institutionalized. His great-grandmother was in the household of Prince Hervey in the 1880 census, but back with her husband in the 1900 census. He can’t find her in the 1890 census. So the mystery is...is he a Howard or a Hervey? The surnames he is researching are Howard, Hervey, Cunningham, Thomas, and Neilson.

**Whitney Langworthy** – Whitney was born in Queens, New York and raised on a farm. Not interested in farming, he went to college and then worked for the Ordnance department of GE. He transferred to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, and he and his family settled in Bremerton. Whitney became interested in connecting with family after his first wife died and he took a tour around the country to meet his relatives. He later married Phyllis, and she wanted to know where his ancestors came from. All he knew were tidbits of stories from his grandmother. When Phyllis joined PSGS, she convinced him to join also. He and Phyllis are looking for the Clarks or the Whitneys.

**Dave Reckner** – Dave is originally from Crosby, Divide, North Dakota. He was recruited by Boeing as a sheet metal mechanic, and he eventually retired from Naval

Base, Keyport. He and his wife live in Bremerton. Dave discovered the PSGS Library while using the microfilm reader at the Sylvan Way Library. He has been researching his family for five years. The surnames he’s concentrating on are Reckner, Sloan, Annis, and Johnson.

**Heather Ross** – Heather was born in New Jersey, but moved to Los Angeles as a teenager. After high school she studied in Switzerland, Paris, and Oxford. Her husband’s job at Boeing brought them to Washington and Kitsap County. Heather’s mother and great aunt and uncle were genealogy hobbyists, getting her interested in family research early on. She became a junior member of the DAR and accompanied her mother on research trips. She is also a Genealogy merit badge counselor for the Boy Scouts, and she is currently working on her certification. Heather is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, providing genealogy research services and family tree preparation through her website: [www.Kwardig.com](http://www.Kwardig.com). Among her successes were locating cousins who had been abducted and lost for over 40 years, and finding Lithuanian family members whose last names were all different because of Americanization. She joined PSGS to meet with other genealogists and learn more about local history. Her surname research includes Dutcher, Abbot, Ruseckas, Wilson, Smith, Schoppe, Garnevicus, Wheaton, Turner, Mott, Wolf, Bamber, Proctor, Bradford, Brewster, Gilpin and Disbrow.



**PSGS’ March program presented by Susan Whitford on “Are You Lost in the Cloud” was another SRO for our monthly programs. We have had between 70-80 people attend our monthly meetings. Obviously, PSGS is satisfying the needs of our members and the community.**

**“Organizing Your Stuff” class, taught by Ann Northcutt and Jean Yager, was filled by new and longtime members.**



**On February 18th, Kathy de los Reyes and Fran Moyer gave a short**



**presentation to the Kitsap Computing Seniors on Beginning Genealogy. They were treated to a wonderful buffet luncheon after the Q&A.**

Serial One:

“Pioneer Days in Malmo”

courtesy of



Conclusion

by P.W. Swedberg

Ida Mae Swedberg

“I have stated previously that game was plentiful those days and sometimes scared people. Mrs. John Sandberg was at home alone with the children, she had been baking bread and had it on the table by the window, which had been taken out and the aperture covered with mosquito bar to let the fresh air in and also to keep the mosquitoes out. The bed that she slept in was across the room about 6 feet from the table.

It was night, all was still, she and the children were sound asleep, when something awakened her, she looked toward the window, it was moonlight. And she saw the form of something standing outside tearing the mosquito bar out of the window. It was a black bear standing on its hind feet, he stuck his front paws in on the table, swept up as many loaves of the bread as he could hold in his arms and walked across the clearing into the timber on his hind feet.

Mrs. Sandberg was plenty scared she said. Mostly afraid that the bear was coming on in.

Some days later he came back in the night and enacted the same performance at the same window only he reached over and took a pan of milk which had been left there to cool over night. He took it with both front paws, stood on his hind feet and drank the entire contents of the pan.

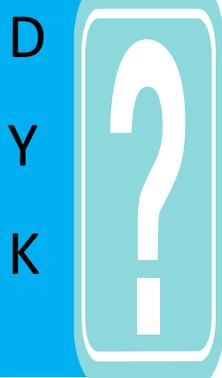
Action was then taken by the neighbors to do something about this bear business. The result was that he was eliminated.

Some years there were numerous bears that came into the hardwood timber along our side of the lake. To

harvest the oak acorns. We got seven of them one fall, sent the hides, in good shape, down to the cities to a hide and fur company and received \$25.00 for the seven nice bear skins. A skin game for sure.”

We were eating breakfast when I looked out toward the lake and there was another (big) animal the likes of which I had never seen, walking by in the lake in about two feet of water. I called attention to what I saw and brother Charley said a “moose.” He grabbed his rifle, went out and shot the animal which fell in a heap out in the water. The next thing was how to get the thing up on shore? Our neighbor, Mr. Marmon, had an ox team so I ran all the way up there and he hitched up, came over and hauled the moose up on dry land. When we were all busy skinning the thing Joe Wakefield came along. He told us it was entirely alright but that it would be well to keep quiet about it since the season on moose was not then open. A couple of weeks later brother Charley was in Aitkin, and walking up the street, someone called to him from the other side of the street, “Hello Charley, I heard you got a moose,” it was the Sheriff, Joe Markham.

Charley said afterwards, “I didn’t know what to say, I was guilty alright, the Sheriff knows all bout it and is coming across the street toward me, maybe its Jail for me right now. “ When the Sheriff came close enough he grabbed Charley’s hand, I am glad you got him, you folks can use some moose meat out there he said with a smile. There was a lot of meat there but none of it went to waste.”



The Library of Congress has announced the publication of a new FREE e-book entitled: “Perspectives on Personal Digital Archiving.” It is a published compilation of selected blog posts published in the LOC online blog, *The Signal*. All of the posts incorporated into the new publication were written by digital information and preservation staff as well as guest bloggers from inside and outside the Library of Congress. According to their website, “This resource can serve as a primer for the digital archive novice, as well as a refresher for those with more experience.”

[Download the pdf eBook.](#)

## Ethics in Genealogy

by Gail Reynolds

This article will most likely ask more questions that it will give answers. We genealogists fight tooth and nail for the information that is “unfindable” or is a brick wall that keeps us from going further in our research than the people still alive know. When we find something that doesn’t make sense and question it and it proves to be true, what do we do with that information?

There was an article in February/March 2013 issue of AARP Magazine that talked about a man whose mother’s dying statement was that his father was really “Uncle Bill.” So how do you think that might change his life or his children’s lives? What would you do if this happened to you? Do you tell your kids, your siblings or just keep it to yourself? Can you keep it to yourself?

A friend of mine from long ago has been researching her husband’s line. Now, he is adopted and didn’t really care about knowing who his natural mother is. My friend even had the adoption papers that were released to her husband. With the information in the adoption papers, she was just recently able to locate his natural mother. Since her husband’s adoptive mother and natural mother were the same age, her husband thought that they both had passed on. Now just last week, she found an obituary for the natural mother. It showed the relatives that survived her and where she died. And that she passed away just a month ago! When she told her husband there was a sense of loss that he had missed his mother by just a month. He asked himself if he would have visited her before she passed and told her that he had a good life and that she had two grandchildren and four great-

grandchildren. Now what is the husband to do? In the obituary, there is no mention of him. So it seems that she didn’t know who or where he was. Does he contact the funeral home? Does he contact the relatives? How would this affect their lives? What would you do?

At the last PSGS meeting, Mary Kozy talked about DNA and finding out your line by using DNA to make sure you are following the right one. She was doing some research on a woman’s family and used her DNA as well as her brother’s DNA. The results showed that they were brother and sister but that they had *different* fathers. What a dilemma – what do you tell this woman? Mary’s solution was to tell the woman and let her decide whether she was going to enlighten her brother. What would you do? What would you base your decision on? How would it affect the rest of your family?

I have a complicated family. My mother and father married and had me and my sister. They divorced and switched spouses with another couple – yes, you read that right! When my mother and stepfather got married, my birth certificate was reissued to show my stepfather as my father. Now, any of my descendants who will be researching my line will not know who my natural father is. What do I do about it? How will this information be passed on? What would you do?

As promised, there were more questions asked than answered. Do you have any similar situations? What have you done? What would you do in each of these situations?

It gives one something to think about.

## Finding Richard: Collateral Line Key to Identification

by Linda Webb

As historians keep reminding us, victors write the history books. So when Henry Tudor killed Richard III August 22, 1485, the Tudor dynasty wrote Richard’s history to reflect him as being evil incarnate. Shakespeare lent a helping hand with his play, *Richard III*.

The Richard III Society, an international organization devoted to researching the life and times of this controversial king, formed in 1924, was convinced that history

had not treated Richard fairly and, over the years, their findings have offered a very different picture of the king.

In 2009, the members agreed to fund the efforts of Philippa Langley, member and screen writer, who was convinced that Richard III was buried on the site of the Greyfriars church, now a parking lot. Three years later, on August 25, 2012, their efforts were rewarded as the

(cont’d on page 15)

# Side By Side



**John Smith**

**Member since 2006**

I was born in Seattle, working in the forestry service and apple orchards before I joined the Air Force and served in WW II, Korea and Vietnam. After I retired from the military I worked at Keyport. My first marriage ended with my wife passing after 35 years and a few years later I married Doris, who is from Port Orchard.

**Q: How did you get started in genealogy?**

I inherited the genealogy my wife was working on and brought all her data onto Family Tree Maker. My 3rd GGrandfather fought in the Revolutionary War and is my namesake.

**Q: How did you come to join PSGS?**

I became aware that I needed more education in genealogy.

**Q: What are your research goals?**

I am looking for my 4th GGrandfather and where they came into this country. I traveled to Vermont and found my 3rd GGrandfather's grave. I have approximately 129 cousins still living in Vermont and I was able to meet 4 of them. Although I have found my 3rd GGrandfather, I have not been able to find his brothers and I am aware he had some or their father.

**Q: Any surnames or locales of special interest?**

Smith, Mastick, Heffron and Michigan, New York, Massachusetts and Canada.

**Q: How have you contributed to PSGS?**

I have submitted articles to the Backtracker, I am a volunteer at our Genealogy Center and I help others find their ancestry.

I am also a founding member of the John Paul Jones chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution and have facilitated getting programs from SAR to give at PSGS.



**Janthina du Savage**

**Member since 2013**

Both of my parents were Marine biologists. In fact, I was named *Janthina* after a beautiful pelagic lavender snail, the *Janthina*. My Dad next went into medicine to study parasites that spend part of their lives in various snails. Consequently, I spent my childhood in Central America and Africa. We moved to D.C. after those adventures.

**Q: How did you get started in genealogy?**

My mother had been filling out little 3x5" cards with memories of her own childhood and the rest of the family did the same. I have found over 1000 of these cards which I immediately added to my computer. I also scanned the family photo albums & transcribed all the letters that my family wrote to family & friends while we were overseas.

**Q: How did you come to join PSGS**

Several of mothers' 3x5" cards lamented the fact that she didn't remember the names of all her Father's siblings [he was 1 out of 14]. This is what brought me to PSGS! The Christmas Party was my first exposure.

**Q: What are your research goals?**

I totally believed EVERYTHING my Grandpa's told me --- I -- ah *now*, have some questions: Was my maternal great-uncle really "scalped by a Flathead Indian in Modoc County? Or was he just a saloon bartender whom she divorced?" What a quandary! How do I find out?

**Q: Any surnames or locales of special interest?**

LaRue 1861 California, Purcell's, Wooster's, Bissell's --- early + 1800's to 2000 California, Adams – Kansas to Indian Territory, Oklahoma, Burch – Missouri, Texas, California

**Q: How have you contributed to PSGS?**

I very carefully come early to every Genealogy class I can. I am a lecturer at our Antique Show in May on antique baby clothing. Hope you come!

## Gail Reynolds' *Belfair Bulletin*

The Belfair chapter had no meeting in Jan so I will start with the February meeting. Those attending were a group of planners so most of the programs for the rest of the year are all set.

The first part of the March meeting was taken by further planning for the May social, which will be held at the Timberland Library in Belfair on May 1<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 p.m. We hope to see you there.

The planning period was followed by a wonderful and informative program by Jim Johnson from Heritage Quest Research Library. Jim talked about the Mayflower and the *many* other early ships to the New World. He also gave us a list of websites that could be used to find passenger lists for these ships as well as the Mayflower.

Our biggest surprise was all the people that attended our meeting – sixteen in total!

Our next meeting is on Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Timberland Library in Belfair at 12:30 p.m. Judy Joaquin will be talking about the book that she created for her family – and also donated a copy to our library. She will tell us, I'm sure, that we can publish our own books, too.

Our group gets spoiled very quickly so please come to the meeting and we will see if we can get sixteen people to attend again. See ya there!

Belfair members with instructor Jim Johnson sitting in the right back



### Article from Fox News by way of GeneaNet Newsletter by Carol Caldwell

An African-American man from South Carolina wanted to find his roots and tribe, so he submitted his DNA for a test. He gave scientists a rude awakening. They concluded that the roots of the human tree date back much further than previously thought.

The South Carolinian's Y chromosome contained a mutation that didn't fit any known Y chromosome tree, even though the tree was based on more than a half-million individuals. "This lineage diverged from previously known Y chromosomes about 338,000 years ago, a time when anatomically modern humans had not yet evolved," said Michael Hammer, an associate professor in the University of Arizona's department of ecology and evolutionary biology. "This pushes back the time the last common Y chromosome ancestor lived by almost 70 percent."

The human Y chromosome – the hereditary factor determining male sex -- is unlike the other human chromosomes in one key way: the majority of it doesn't exchange genetic material with other chromosomes, making it a simple way to trace ancestral relationships.

If two Y chromosomes carry the same mutation, it is because they share a common paternal ancestor at some point in the past. The more mutations that separate two Y chromosomes, the further back in time the common ancestor lived. And the South Carolina man's genes -- obtained by a consumer genetic testing company and given to the National Geographic Genographic Project -- have more than any seen to date.

The fossil record dates back about 200,000 years, Hammer said; this chromosome goes back to an even earlier time. Either interbreeding with Neanderthals or other populations led to the unusual genetic makeup, he said, or humans evolved far earlier than the extant fossil record suggests.

## Finding Richard: His Collateral Line Key to the Identification

by Linda Webb

(cont'd from page 12)

team uncovered the bones, which DNA testing would prove to be those of Richard III.

The bones showed the injuries to the skull were consistent with details described at the time. The skeleton also showed severe scoliosis of the spine, not hunchback, but Richard would have had an elevated right hip and



Skeletal remains of  
Richard III

shoulder and would have had a significant limp.

“Stunned” was the response from Canadian born Michael Ibsen when DNA revealed he was the 17<sup>th</sup> great nephew of the much maligned King Richard III.

Once again, the value of searching collateral lines was proven when the lineage of Richard’s older sister, Anne, provided the link that traced through 15 generations of females to

Joy Brown Ibsen, mother of Michael. The historic discovery of Richard III’s gravesite was announced to the world at a press conference on February 4, 2012, after a sample of mitochondrial DNA “proved beyond a reasonable doubt” according to lead archaeologist Richard Buckley, that the remains found at the site were the king’s, the last English monarch to die in battle.

But the DNA results were only a part of the story. To prove that the scarred and broken skeleton unearthed in a parking lot was that of Richard III, a DNA sample from a direct relative was needed for comparison. Easier said than done when 500 years have passed and Richard III never married and reportedly had no direct descendants. However, he had two sisters, Anne and Margaret, who shared his mitochondrial DNA from their mother, Cecily Neville. Would it be possible to find a living, current day female descendant from one of these sisters who would be willing to provide a DNA sample? Margaret never had children so that left only Anne’s descendants who could provide a sample for the critical comparison.

Fortunately, just such an individual had already been traced by Dr. Ashdown-Hill, historian and member of Society of Genealogists. In 2003, after extensive research, he identified Joy Brown Ibsen, a retired journalist residing in Canada, as a direct descendant of Anne of York. Mrs. Ibsen passed away in 2008, but her son, Michael, provided a DNA sample, which was compared to the bones uncovered in the parking lot. It was a perfect match.

One more task remained before the team could announce their findings to the world. They had to be absolutely sure that the all-female line of descent from Richard’s mother, Cecily Neville, to Michael Ibsen, was rock solid. The job of finding conclusive documentation for the family line fell to Professor Kevin Schurer, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Enterprise for the Leicester University. Using wills, baptism registers, certificates of marriage and births, and even the passenger list for the *SS Mauretania*, which carried Joy Brown Ibsen and her mother, Muriel Brown, to Canada in 1948, Professor Schurer proved an unbroken line of descent and validated the mtDNA for Richard III.

With this exciting find validated by DNA and genealogical documentation, additional research is underway on the House of York, which produced two kings and potentially, millions of descendants. As Doctor Turi King, the geneticist for the project said, “We are all related to Richard III. It is merely a matter of degree.”



Anne of York



Cecily Neville

Michael Ibsen,  
17th GGrand-  
nephew to Anne  
of York, Richard  
III’s sister, stand-  
ing beside the  
King’s recon-  
structed head





Ivy Green Cemetery in Port Orchard is home to one of the original Medal of Honor Recipients from the Civil War. John Nibbe was 17 years old and quartermaster of his ship when it was attacked by confederate soldiers while on the Yazoo River just outside of Vicksburg, Mississippi. While the boilers were exploding, many soldiers dove into the water and were killed by enemy gunfire.

John helped remove wounded shipmates from the line of fire and tried to get the engines started, but failed. He tried to set the ship afire but failed and was captured with a few other union soldiers. Out of a total of 54 men, only three survived the attack.

President Abraham Lincoln awarded John Nibbe the Medal of Honor for his brave actions, June 22, 1865.

John Nibbe died June 15, 1902.

# Classified Ads

## Last Chance!!

This is your time to show your support for PSGS and volunteer just one or two hours at the annual Kitsap Antique Show. Volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs . . . and no experience necessary! See the front page article for all the details. We need you!

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