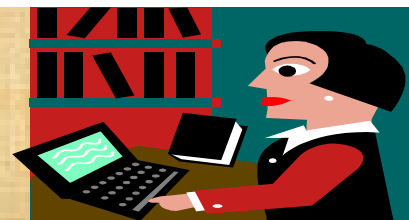




THE BACKTRACKER



A Publication of Puget Sound Genealogical Society www.pusogensoc.org

October thru January 2015



PSGS Seminar Report

"This was a marvelous and wonderful day thanks to the hard work, preparation, organizational skills; finding an engaging speaker that kept me alert throughout all four sessions; door prizes, exhibits, bookstore was a wonderful addition to the day." This was one of many positive comments received regarding the 2014 Seminar held on Saturday, September 27.

The theme "Uncover Your Family Roots" offered four lectures presented by Bret Petersen. There were 81 attendees and nine exhibitors along with the Heritage Quest Bookstore. This seminar could not have happened if it weren't for the dedication of the following committee members: Elisabeth Demmon, Heidi Ginder, Larry Harden, Dorothy Lindquist, Terry Mettling, Sandie Morrison, Ann Northcutt, Beverly Smith, Leah Snider, Paulette Waggoner, Johnny Wilson, Mary Ann Wright. Thank YOU all!!

There were a total of 23 door prizes. This included four DNA kits donated by Alicia Nelson, the daughter of one of our members, Karin Burke. The lucky recipients of these kits were Linda Langberg, Betty Burdyslaw, Janice

Tischmacher and (I neglected to write down the name of the 4th person). The winner for the one-year subscription to World Ancestry went to Linda Langberg and the big raffle item, a Flip-Pal, was won by Barbara Klippert!

The feedback for the individual lectures was encouraging. "Jumping 'the pond' – research in England" had 60% Extremely Helpful, 21% Very Helpful, 14% Helpful, 2% Somewhat Helpful and 3% Not Helpful. One comment in this section was "I'm simply not interested in this subject". And that's okay, not all our ancestors and collateral relatives have connections to England.



Jean Yager and guest speaker Bret Petersen

"Sources for Vital Records Before They Existed" had the following reaction: 56% Extremely Helpful, 32% Very Helpful, 7% Helpful, 3% Somewhat Helpful and 2% Not Helpful.

The third lecture "Using Newspapers in Research: You sNEWS you Lose" was the highest in being Extremely Helpful, 64%. It was Very Helpful to 19%, 13% Helpful, 2% for both Somewhat Helpful and Not Helpful.

(cont'd on page 15)

Table of Contents

A Look Back..... 6	Genealogy Gems .. 3, 10, 11, 15	News.....1, 4, 6, 7, 14
Belfair Bulletin.....14	Introductions 5	Presidential Ponderings 2
Classified Ads16	Looking Forward.....7	Putting Down Roots 8, 9
Did You Know? 5	Meanderings 12	Schedules 7
Genealogy Center Report....2	Milestones.....2	Side by Side13

Presidential Ponderings by Ann Northcutt



First, let me say how proud I am of the PSGS Seminar Committee for a fantastic job on the 2014 Seminar. For those of you who did not attend, you missed out on a fun and educational event.

Jean Yager, as Chair of the Seminar Committee, thank you for all of the hours and hard work that you put forth to make this such a successful event.

If you haven't already, please check out the beautiful display cases in the KRL lobby at Sylvan Way. A HUGE thanks to Consuelo Udave and Karin Burke for putting the display together for Family History Month. It's wonderful!

Fall seems to be a great time to attend a variety of Genealogical Seminars and on October 11th Jean Yager and I will be attending Autumn Quest in Sumner. This Seminar is put on every year by Heritage Quest. Their featured speaker this year will be Lisa Louise Cook. Check out her webpage at www.genealogygems.com.

Planning for next year's Programs and Classes has begun and I think that you will love what the committee has planned! Keep in mind that we are always looking for Teaching Assistants and Teachers. If you are interested, please let Jean Yager know.

Don't forget, if you are interested in joining a DNA SIG (Special Interest Group) please sign up in the Genealogy Center. This SIG is in the planning phase and has not met as yet. Once a date has been set, an e-mail will be sent with meeting time, etc.

Lastly, get out and enjoy the beautiful fall foliage!

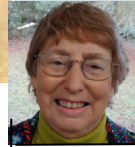
Genealogy Center Report by Mary Ann Wright



October is National Family History Month and the Genealogy Center is ready to help with your family history research. New donations continue to arrive, expanding our offerings in several states. In addition, we have some new research guides on

solving brick walls. If you have Minnesota ancestors, Jackie Horton's recent donation of 40 issues of the Minnesota Genealogical Journal from 1985 to 2013 should be able to help you with your research.

And, of course, the Library edition of Ancestry.com is available either through the library computer or your laptop. Come visit us!



Milestones by Judy Joaquin

It has been a busy quarter at PSGS. The highlight was our conference held on September 27th. When a great location and a terrific speaker are put together the result is a successful conference. Kudos to Jean Yager and her committee for doing a great job.

Another conference enjoyed by those of us who went was the Washington State Genealogical Society's conference in Arlington. I would encourage you to think about next year – it will be held in Yakima.

There are a couple of happy and proud new grandparents in our midst. Congrats to Jean and Richard Yager and Karin and Michael Burke. If there are others we give our congratulations.

Congratulations are also in store for the Howards, who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

We were saddened to hear that Linda Wilson lost her mother this past month. Our sincere condolences go to her and Johnny at this difficult time.

Quite a coincidence, Madge Norton and I were in the hospital the same day. Madge reports she is much better since her pacemaker was inserted. Having my old defibrillator replaced with an upgrade has brought a spring to my steps! We all can be thankful for modern medicine.

It seems our Editor, Fran, is getting back on her feet! Keep up the good work, Fran!

Many of our members have been in and out of the hospital this past quarter. We trust that all are on the mend to continue their genealogical pursuits! They are: Susan Evans, John Smith, Delana Cox, Jeannie Menchenton and Sandi Morrison. If I missed anyone please accept my apology. We want ALL members to be well. See you in 2015!



My Native American Brick Wall

by Carol Caldwell

On June 30, 1906 Congress approved a bill to give reparations to families of Native Americans who were force-marched from the east to Oklahoma on what has become known as the Trail of Tears. The information required by the government on these applications was extensive and a boon to genealogists.

As it happened in many families, I had always heard that there was a Native American somewhere in the mix. Looking for the "Cherokee Princess" (yes, there are none) got me interested in genealogy. Imagine my delight when I discovered my mother's grandfather John Calvin Lewis filled out an application for reparations from the Trail of Tears. This application was a treasure trove of information for me. Listed were names of family members, birth dates, ages, and where they lived.

In June of 1907 my paternal great grandfather John Calvin Lewis completed an application for a "share of money appropriated for the Eastern Cherokee Indians." He listed his wife's, children's, parents' and grandparents' names.



The picture above, L to R - Alvah Lewis, Mary Elizabeth Lewis Coleman, Levah Lewis Brunette, Ira Leslie Lewis (my grandfather).

Also required were birth and death years, where they were born, and whether they were alive in 1851. Unfortunately he didn't know his paternal grandmother's name, the one piece of information I didn't have. But I was excited to have the application because my grandfather, John's son, always claimed one of his grandparents was Native American. And here was the information to prove it.

In the application, John said his Indian name was Wess and listed the same Indian name for his mother, whom I knew to be Elizabeth Hurst. He also stated that he was *"akin to the Wess'es and Bolens back as far as I can remember."*

That gave me two names to research. I could finally put a name to this mysterious Indian relative. However, I hit nothing but dead ends. No Wess or Bolen family in the Cherokee rolls.

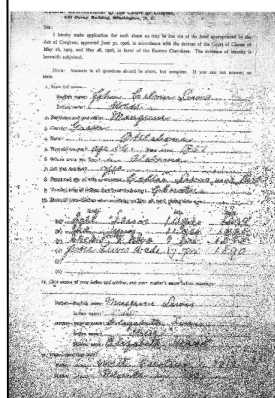
That was exactly what the Commission discovered when they processed John's application.

I searched Cherokee files, Dawes Commission Indexes, and Guion-Miller Index of 1909. I found many Lewises, Wilders, some Hursts, but none of them could I trace back to my Lewis family. And of the Wess and Bolen families, they weren't there. Of course there are genealogy web sites for the Wess and Bolen families, but none connected to Lewis or to Cherokees.

John died a year after submitting the papers, so his wife, Callie Ard Lewis had to explain the missing names to the Commission.

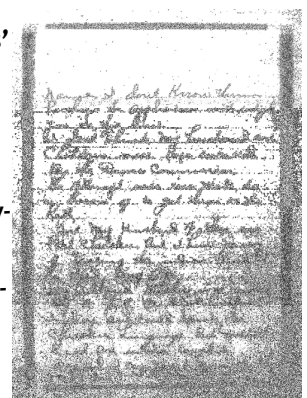
She wrote that his mother *"was born in Fla. Her grandmother was a full blood Indian, part Seminole and part Cherokee. Her Indian name was Wess so I have heard. Elizabeth Lewis and her husband and her grandmother went up to Ga. between 1836 and 1840, where they stayed for quite a while. When the Indians were moved west, quite a number of them refused to go, and she and her people were some of those who stayed."*

(cont'd on page 11)



Callie Ard Lewis' letter to the Commission (L)

John Calvin Lewis' application for Reparations- (R)





National Genealogical Society's Conference by Elisabeth Demmon

I attended the amazing National Genealogical Society's Conference in Richmond, Virginia from May 7-10 with support from the Kitsap Regional Library. The host of this year's conference was the Virginia Genealogical Society. Genealogical and historical societies (especially from the southern USA) had a large presence as did major sponsors such as the Library of Virginia, FamilySearch, and Ancestry.

The conference was held at the Richmond Convention Center and the Marriott Hotel right across the street; lectures were held in both locations. There was a shuttle bus service offered for those staying at other hotels in the city like myself. When I arrived on the first day, I received a NGS Bag, name tag, and the conference syllabus on a flashdrive; this small device contained the handouts for every lecture offered during the conference (over 650 pages in length if printed out).

The entire conference was very well organized. Each day was filled with lectures, meeting people from all over the USA, Canada and Europe, as well as visits to the Exhibit Hall. The exhibit hall was filled with representatives from genealogical companies, societies, schools, businesses, and bookstores. I watched demonstrations of genealogical software, met Maureen Taylor (the Photo Detective), and spent far too much money on books!

Every lecture was designed to help all levels of genealogists; the lecturers were the top names in the field. The seats for the lectures by Elizabeth Shown Mills and Dr. Thomas Jones were filled half an hour before the lecture started; the lecture hall had over 500 people waiting to hear these two distinguished genealogists. We were all crammed in so tight I could not write any notes as I could barely move in my seat.

Some of the lectures that I attended that I found particularly notable were:

- **Collection and Analysis of Data from records of an Emigrant's Country of Origin**
- **Working with Documents: The Importance of Context in Record Analysis**
- **Analysis of Evidence in Land Records and Deeds**
- **Probate Records and Probate Law**
- **Black Sheep Ancestors and their Records**

The conference provided an excellent experience, an amazing view on the wider scope of the field of genealogy, and the wonderful opportunity to meet so many enthusiastic and knowledgeable genealogists.

Next year's conference will be in St. Charles, Missouri from 13-16 May 2015; the sponsor is the St. Louis Genealogical Society. Mark your calendars now; you will not regret it!



Outstanding Member of the Year 2014

Another year has flown by and it's time once again to recognize one of our own! PSGS's Outstanding Member of the Year annual award is presented to that member who has made the most significant contribution by volunteer service and/or innovation to the society over the past year.

The recipient is honored at the December General meeting, AKA the Christmas Party, and his/her name is engraved on a plaque, which is displayed in the Genealogy Center. Voting will take place at the October and November general meetings. Ballots will be available at each meeting, so email voting is not allowed. One vote per person, please!

Past honorees are: Dorothy Lindquist, Marjorie Menees, Sandie Morrison, Larry Harden, Terry Mettling, Shanda Hoover, Jean Yager, Mary Ann Wright, Charlotte Long-Thornton, Ann Northcutt and Fran Moyer. They are not eligible for another award.

Please think back over this past year and identify that person you believe is deserving of this special recognition.



Introductions

by Carol Caldwell

Sheila Crosby: Sheila's grandparents on both sides of her family were early settlers here. She was raised in Gig Harbor and moved to Olalla three years ago. She has always been interested in the history of the area and began family research several years ago. She learned about PSGS through the *Port Orchard Independent*. Sheila discovered that her 3X great grandmother, Mare Matkovich, died in Washington. She never knew that Mare left Croatia/Austria. She is excited about joining and looks forward to the meetings. Sheila is researching Makovich, Smythe, Petersen, Pedersen/Garness, and Bottineau.

Karen Englund: Karen grew up in Roy, WA and moved to this side of the bridge when she was in high school. She now lives in Port Orchard. When she was ten years old, some of her family began genealogy research and she thought it was cool. She has dabbled in family history ever since. Karen learned about PSGS from the *Port Orchard Independent*. Surnames she is looking for are Englund, Luce, Corson, Winnie, Benjamin, Conner, Harmon, and Roberts.

Georgia Gail: Georgia was born in LaGrande, Oregon. She came to Bremerton to raise her son here. She became interested in her family roots when she was a kid listening to her mother talk about her siblings. She learned stories such as her great grandfather coming from Germany dressed as a woman. He also raised horses and sold them to the Tsar of Russia. Georgia learned about PSGS from the library. When she retired she sought out cousins for more information. Next spring she plans a trip to Germany, Poland, and Lithuania. She loves the research and says she feels like she is learning more about herself in the process. Georgia's research focuses on Kubovsky and Doering.

Judy Houle: Judy was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and came to Kitsap County to be near her son and his wife. She was twelve when she started asking a lot of questions about her family history. But it wasn't until her mid twenties that she began writing down the answers and trying to

put puzzle pieces together. Luckily, she was close to a family history center, a library and NARA. Judy learned about PSGS through a friend and met with Elizabeth Demmon. She plans a trip to the east coast to visit family sites. Her surname searches are for Peel, Ward, Taylor, Venable, Houle, and Wedding.

Bobbi Klippert: Bobbi was born in Walla Walla to Washington state pioneers, and has lived here most of her life. She inherited her mother's family history research when her mother died. She supplemented that with looking for her husband's family. Bobbi learned about PSGS from Clarajane Goux and has been to our genealogy library. Family stories she came across included a runaway team in downtown Walla Walla, her grandfather saving his sister from drowning, and a story about the crossing of the Atlantic in 1913. She is looking for the following family names: Munns, Dodson, Goble, Patterson, Dooley, Powers, Klippert, and Kraft.

Mike Spier: Mike comes from Wetumka, Oklahoma originally but moved many times with his circuit minister father. Years later the Army brought Mike to Ft. Lewis and he decided Washington would be his retirement home. His interest in genealogy began with stories his mother told of her family, a family of twelve children. In 1972 the surviving siblings wrote their family memories, which differed greatly from each other. Mike always wanted to find out more. He discovered PSGS while doing on-line research, coming across it in the Kitsap County Library. He is fortunate that his mother is still alive and can help him with research. Surnames he is working on are Cole, Lewis, and Broome.



D
Y
K

Did you know that the index for Scottish valuation rolls from 1875 is available for free search until Dec. 31, 2014? Go to:
www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk

A Look Back...

at the past three months of programs presented by PSGS



July 23 **“Overcoming the Boulders on the Way to the Cemetery”** presenter: **Jerri McCoy**

Jerri’s presentation showed how members of the DAR verified the burial places for each of the 767 DAR Real Daughters, those DAR members whose fathers fought in the American Revolutionary War. She described some of the crazy bumps and boulders they encountered, how they conquered them, and some of the genealogical work involved in tracking all of them down.

August 27 **“House Histories”** presenter: **Midori Okazaki**

Midori, an archivist from the Puget Sound Regional Branch of the Washington State Archives, explained that this branch contains records from King, Pierce, and Kitsap Counties. The real property records for Kitsap are extensive, ranging from Assessment and Tax roles from 1892 to Assessor’s folios dating from 1951. These folios contain data on the characteristics of individual parcels of land and buildings in Kitsap County. Midori reviewed the resources available to help someone uncover the history of a particular house and where to find them. She also distributed a handy Chain of Title worksheet to help searchers track the various buyers and sellers of a piece of property.

Sep 24 **“New Additions to an Old Friend”** presenter: **Sue Karren**

Sue, director of the National Archives in Seattle, highlighted some of the many new records that have been added to the NARA Records Center in Seattle. These records were moved to Seattle after the closing of the Anchorage Records Center over the course of just a few months this summer. Some of those Sue mentioned include Declarations of Intention and Petitions for Naturalization, Homestead files, Army Corps of Engineer projects, and Exxon Valdez oil spill documents.



PSGS Election of 2015 Officers

At the September 24th PSGS general meeting, the Nomination Committee presented a proposed slate of officers for 2015 to the membership. This slate will be voted on at the October 22nd general meeting. Nominations will also be open from the floor.

The proposed slate of officers for 2015 are as follows:

President-Ann Northcutt; 1st Vice President-Karin Burke; 2nd Vice President-Terry Mettling; Treasurer-Larry Harden; Secretary-Jackie Horton; and Member at Large-Judy Joaquin.

The duties for each of these offices are outlined in the Standing Rules of PSGS. This document is available on the Members page of the PSGS website, www.pusogensoc.org. Only the office of President has a two-year term limit.

If you are interested in any of the above leadership positions, or have questions, please contact any member of the Nomination Committee: Sandie Morrison at Morrison_61@msn.com, Fran Moyer at fran-bob@msn.com or Bev Smith at golfinsmiths@yahoo.com.

Installation of new officers for 2015 will be held at our December 3rd Christmas Party.



Looking Forward...

at the next three months of programs presented by PSGS

Oct 22 **"Write Your Own Obituary"** presenter: **Elisabeth Demmon**

This is your chance to ensure your own legacy! Elisabeth Demmon, KRL Library Associate and PSGS member, will teach some of the basics, what should be included, and how to make the obituary lively and memorable.

Nov 19 **"Fold3"** presenter: **Gary Zimmerman**

Gary Zimmerman, president of the Fiske Genealogical Foundation in Seattle, will describe the types of records available from Fold3, how to find documents relevant to your research and how to retrieve copies.

Dec 3 **"The Puget Sound Genealogical Society's Annual Christmas Party"**



Come join your fellow PSGS members for a fun-filled afternoon. A buffet luncheon will be provided. We will recognize outgoing officers for 2014 and welcome new officers for 2015. We will also celebrate the Member of the Year and enjoy many laughs with our famous Yankee exchange of gifts. Please bring a wrapped \$10 gift for the exchange and a non-perishable food item for the food bank.

Where: Silverdale Community Center, Evergreen Room, 9729 Silverdale Way NW **When:** 11:30am to 2:30pm

Schedule of Classes — October through November

Oct 7	Tuesday	10AM-2PM	Gen 102: Using Census Records Presenter: Mary Ann Wright
Oct 25	Saturday	10AM-2PM	Gen 103: Finding Vital Records Presenter: Ann Northcutt
Nov 4	Tuesday	10AM-2PM	Discover Your Ancestor's Stories Presenters: Janet Camarata and Winona Laird

No classes scheduled in December due to the holidays

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

Contact: education.chairperson@pusogensoc.org



Reminder: Annual Salt Lake City Research Trip in 2015

The PSGS annual research trip to the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City is next March! A block of rooms has been reserved for **Sunday, March 15 through Sunday, March 22** at the Salt Lake City Plaza Hotel, next door to the Family History Library. Rooms are \$85 per night for single/double, \$95 for triple; \$105 for quad, plus tax. All attendees are responsible for their own airfare, room costs, and meals.

A room list needs to be provided to the hotel by December 31, 2014. All those interested in going or who would like more information, contact **Larry Harden at: treasurer@pusogensoc.org**.

Putting Down Roots

The Family Gilpin

by Terry Mettling

Part Two



My wife's great grandmother was Sara Elizabeth Gilpin, born 29 October 1866 in Harrison Co., IN and died 16 December 1932 in Savannah, Andrew Co., MO. We had traced her ancestry to John Gilpin (1763-abt1841) and Elizabeth Dacey (abt1770-abt1841). Beyond John I had nothing except that he was supposedly born in the Washington District in Maryland and he married his wife in possibly either Virginia or Maryland. I found a posting on Ancestry.com that John's father might be a Col. George Gilpin.

In Salt Lake City, I rapidly found George Gilpin's will. He died 24 December 1913 in Alexandria when it was part of the District of Columbia. He had been one of the early postmasters in Alexandria and a judge of the Orphan's Court, appointed by Thomas Jefferson. Alas, his will stated "pay my debts and distribute the remainder as the law allows"!

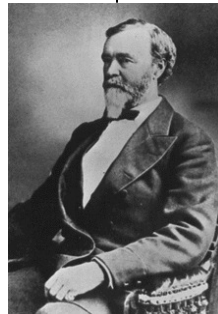
I was later perusing a book on court papers and the several pages of entries that mentioned George Gilpin when I came across an entry that mentioned a land record and referred to 'the widow and heirs of'.

Once the mystery was solved, it was easy to understand that John had gone to Ohio because George had multiple grants of land from his service in the revolution. George was born into a Quaker family, a grandson of Joseph and Hannah Gilpin, the immigrants that I talked about in my previous article. He felt compelled to take up arms during the revolution and was subsequently ousted from the Quakers.

He had been employed as a surveyor and took part in several surveying expeditions in company with George Washington, who, depending on the story, may or may not be a distant cousin. They became great friends and apparently Col. Gilpin was an aide to Gen. Washington during the war. Along the way, the two George's were involved in many things together. They were both directors of the Potomac Company and were fellow Masons. George Gilpin was at the Masonic Lodge when news

reached there of George Washington's death and George Gilpin was selected to be one of the pallbearers.

Of all of Joseph and Hannah Gilpin's children, the two eldest, Hannah and Samuel, were born in England prior to the family migrating to the colonies. Samuel eventually married Jane Parker, the daughter of John Parker and Mary Doe. They settled in Cecil County, in the northeast corner of Maryland.

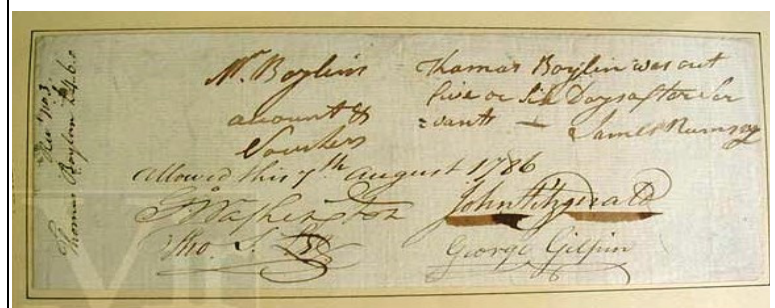


Gov. William
Gilpin

Descendants of this family include Colorado's Territorial Governor William Gilpin. He was sent to school in England where, as a boy, he was a classmate of Gladstone. After returning to the U.S., he attended and graduated from West Point and then set his sights on the west after traveling with John C. Fremont. In 1894, many years after leaving office, he died when he was run over by a horse and buggy. Gilpin County, Colorado is named for him. Henry Dilworth Gilpin, the elder

brother of William, was Attorney General of the United States in 1840-41 under President Martin Van Buren. Other descendants include Charles Gilpin, the three time mayor of Philadelphia and Edward Woodward Gilpin, chief justice of Delaware.

The voucher seen below was issued by the Potomac Company for expenses incurred by Thomas Boylin, who worked for the Potomac River Company. Of course the voucher was also signed by George Washington, who at the time was President of the Potomac Company. The signatures next to Washington's are those of three company Directors - John Fitzgerald, Thomas Sim Lee, and George Gilpin.



Putting Down Roots

John Bean-A Scottish Root at the Beginning by Jeanie Schulze



Bean tartan and
papers

There is a saying that, “All Beans are related.” I’m not so sure—but then again, all Beans go back to the original Clan MacBean in Inverness, Scotland.

My mother’s “Bean” descendants trace their roots to John Bean who was

the first to arrive in the American colonies. His descendants were proud of their Scottish heritage and began the first Bean Reunions in 1875. They still gather in Exeter, New Hampshire to this day.

Over the years the story was told of how John Bean fought against Cromwell, became a prisoner of war, and then was forced to immigrate to the American Colonies. They said he made the voyage in 1660 with his wife Hannah and three children settling in Exeter, New Hampshire where he received a land grant from the King in 1661.

The story goes on to say that John’s wife Hannah died on the voyage and was buried in Exeter. John then married Margaret, the servant who came with them, with whom he had seven more children. Is this true? Well... some of it is and some of it’s not.

As one of my brick walls, I wanted to trace my roots from Scotland and find out why and when John Bean arrived in America. I found my first answer on the Scottish Prisoners of War website documenting the prisoners who were transported by Cromwell to Massachusetts in 1651 and 1652.

The “John and Sara” was the second ship bringing prisoners in slave-like conditions to Boston. A long voyage at that time, many died from disease at sea. John Bean is found on the “cargo” list, arriving in early 1652.

The Captain’s instructions charged him to transfer the prisoners to an agent who would sell them as indentured servants. Born in Inverness in 1634, John was about 17 years when he dropped the “Mac” on the ship’s cargo list. He was sold as an indentured servant to Nicholas

Lissen who owned two lumber mills in Exeter, New Hampshire. John’s indentured service ended two years later, when he married Lissen’s daughter Hannah with whom he had three children.

Exeter was on the edge of the wilderness when John Bean settled there with his family. He received his first land grant from the town of Exeter in 1661 and then acquired nearly 20 acres of additional land, which he cleared and turned into working farms.

In 1677 he took the Oath of Allegiance to become a “freeman” and records show he served in the local militia during the early French and Indian wars. In 1680, John was Pound Keeper—a town officer who retrieved lost or stolen stock. He also signed the New Hampshire Petition in 1692 asking the King for equal privileges with Massachusetts since they were but “four poor towns daily exposed from French and Indian enemies.”

Hannah died in Exeter in 1659 most likely from childbirth. John then married Margaret who was known as Goodwife Bean and helped to establish a church in Exeter. She had seven children and died in 1714. John Bean followed her in 1718. A clever man, John figured out how to bypass a Will by distributing his property to his sons before he died. His son John received his property on the condition that he care for his father until he passed away.

John Bean’s descendants spread out across every state today with several well-known ancestors including Daniel Webster and L.L. Bean. While there are no males carrying the surname Bean in my line’s generation, my sisters and cousin are Beans and so are our children.

We look back to John who came from Scotland against his will about 362 years ago to forge a new life in New Hampshire and created the foundations of our nation.

Tombstone of
John Bean in
Exeter



Why I love Facebook...I Really do!

by Cyndi Baker

I am originally from Connecticut, but being a second generation Italian on my father's side, my roots are no where near as deep as my husband's, whose roots I believe go back to the American Revolution. Most of my digging involves Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Rhode Island. But let's not go there yet.

I had hit a wall on my husband's side trying to find his paternal grandfather's first wife. Her name was Annie R. and she was married to Elkanah Sears Baker. I believed the R stood for her maiden name.

They had a daughter and when that child was three, Annie R. disappeared and his sister raised the daughter. He remarried and was starting a new family. I have to say the guy moved fast.

The family assumed Annie R. died, or why else was Elkanah left with his daughter and his sister cared for her. So I start scouring for an obituary or death certificate for Annie R. Baker. Up went that wall, no matter where I looked. Annie R. was in the wind and the wall got taller. I came to forehead-hitting-on-the-desk time. I had even asked for help on the genealogy sites on Facebook but no results there either.

I was on-line one night on the Connecticut Genealogy site on Facebook and a lady by the name of Sandy was seeking information about the Connecticut Huntley's. The coon dog in me immediately surfaces and off I go to help her.

I was on Ancestry.com/World and she wasn't so that is where I headed. I went to the search card catalog, typed in Huntley and up came a book about the Connecticut Huntley's. The index had a section which listed all the surnames associated with the Huntley's.

Much to my surprise and delight up popped Elkanah Sears Baker. After I stopped whooping, finished a happy dance, and coaxed my animals back into the room, I went to his page. Lo and behold, Elkanah Sears Baker had married Annie "Reeves" Huntley. The R stands for her middle name and the biggest surprise of all is that she had remarried.

You won't find a dead person if they weren't dead. Right?

And that is my tale on why I love Facebook. One good deed deserved another but, sorry to say, I did not find anything new for Sandy. She already had the book and belonged to the Huntley Association. I am happy to say, though, my wall was smashed to smithereens.

Another surprise was in store for me because after I gave the information to Sandy, up popped a cousin by marriage that read the post and recognized the names. I hit the jackpot trying to help someone else.

And that is why I have a love affair with Facebook. I love Facebook. Yup, I really do.

A Christmas Tale

by Vicki Bushnell



It was a white and snowy night. The lights flickered as snow piled heavily on the tree branches, but that didn't dampen the old genealogist's spirits. She turned on her flashlight and bounded up the attic steps. Inside, she spied the ancient box and dragged it down the stairs to the light of the fire. There, by her tree and under the colorful holiday lights, she rubbed her hands together with glee. "As the next in my family line,

this is my legacy!" she cried. "And I'm going to attach them to my family tree tonight!"

Then, heart pounding, she opened the box, sifted through the dusty contents and, tearing at her hair, she howled into the frigid night.

"Oh noooooo", she groaned. *No one had labeled these old photos.* Not even she.

"Their identities are lost to the ages!" she cried. And so dear reader, we advise thee:

Don't let this happen to you - give yourself and your descendants a gift and label your old photos!

2nd Weekend in August—Carr Family Reunion

by Fran Moyer



From bottom left: Ira , Burt, Clyde
Top left: Alvin and Chester Carr

Walter Ker was born July, 1656 in Mid-Lothian Scotland. He lived around Edinburgh most of his brief life in Scotland before he was forced to leave due to his “heretical” views

as a strict Calvinist Presbyterian. It was the time of Cromwell and the beginning of the Church of England. All other religions were outlawed. Walter was tortured, lost an eye and an ear and was given the choice of sailing to the New World or die. He chose to sail.

Walter landed in Monmouth Harbor, New Jersey, in 1685 having sailed in the Henry & Francis with approximately 200 banished for life Scots. He was given a new suit of clothes, an ax and 25 acres of land as payment for the 4 years he was in servitude to pay for the 5 shillings it cost to sail. He and 6 others began the First Presbyterian (originally called the Log Cabin Church) church in the colonies. He married Margaret Johnstone in 1677 and had two sons who survived to adulthood.

Walter lived to be 92 years of age and it is said there are 35,000 descendants to his line.

A few of us (45-70) of the Carr line have met annually the second week of every August. This has been happening for over 35 years. My husband Bob and I have missed

a couple of years, including last year, but made up for it this year.

Four generations of the Carr family, including all eleven first cousins whose grandfather was Ira Carr, shown on the left, attended. They came from San Diego, Portland, Bellingham, Deer Park and suburbs of Seattle and Seabeck.

There were 13 little ones and teens who represented the 4th generation.

One of the nicest things that happened was when I walked in, my sister told me there was another Carr who is a genealogist and wanted to talk to me.

David Carr and his parents Ralph and Joyce joined us that day for the first time. Ralph’s grandfather was Clyde Carr, Ira’s brother.

David walked up to me and said, “gee, it’s nice to meet the Fran Moyer from Ancestry.com!” Obviously he had gone to my family tree on Ancestry. It was a wonderful moment for all of us.

I haven’t included any pictures of this year’s reunion. We were all so busy talking and getting reacquainted no one took a group shot, just individual ones, now and then.

But, pictured below is one of the hats cousin Nancy made for our last reunion, with the Carr name, having several spellings from the past, Ker, Kerr before finally arriving at Carr in 1764.



My Native American Brick Wall, (cont’d from page 3)

The application was rejected because “applicant’s ancestors were not parties to treaties of 1835-36-46, never enrolled with Cherokees.”

What could have been a key to opening doors did not turn out that way.
Was this just another hoax ? After all, my maternal grandfather Ira Lewis was a teller of tall tales. Why should I be surprised if his father did the same thing?
It is still a brick wall, but even as I wrote this story, I realized I had not looked at the previous generation, grandmothers Elizabeth Clyatt and Stella Mills. I also realized a trip to Florida called to me.



Meanderings: Across Time & Sea

by Vicki Bushnell

Peter Jensen was my great-grandfather, my immigrant from Denmark. He came to America in 1884 with seven children, his wife dying from a fall on the boat on the first day at sea. After a brief stop in Illinois they settled in Chappell, Nebraska and Julesburg, Colorado.

My journey of more research of Peter started in Bremerton, in Marlys Marrs' basement. Through census records and a letter writing campaign, begun in the late 1970s, I connected with Peter's granddaughter in Colorado. She provided vital information about where the Jensens had come from; we corresponded many times.

Eventually I put away my research to raise a family. Flash forward to 2004 when I learned this kind woman had passed away. I sent a card to her old address and heard back from her son, a man my age who invited me to Colorado to meet the rest of the family. We took off in our nine-foot camper and travelled the 1300 miles to Sterling for a reunion. From there we went to Julesburg, where I made great friends with the historical society archivist, who held my family history in her head and in photographs, documents, school records and more. I made four trips to Colorado.

One year, vacation was a glorious week in the Courthouse basement searching warrant books for land records. Another year I volunteered at the local historical society, scanning photos for their very first electronic records.

With the help of the Fort Sedgwick Historical Society, a local farmer, and the good folks at the Sedgwick County Assessor's office, I found two homesteads, the post office my grandfather built in 1906, and cemeteries where I found Peter, some of his children, and another branch of my family. Missing was great-grandma Anna, who was buried at sea.

On our fourth trip the Colorado cousin pulled out a very old photo book that contained a young Peter and Anna, Scandinavian men in military uniforms, and women in bustle dresses, all of them probably relatives and all of

them in Denmark pre-1884. I had dates and places, photographs of Peter's homeopathy tools and homesteads, and two speeches written by his granddaughters about the immigrants' life on the windy prairie.

The life of Peter and Anna began to take shape, but it was time to go to Denmark!

I searched the Internet for Mulsmark, the family farm near the Danish-German border, and found a page with aerial photographs of fake rocket batteries installed by Germans occupying Mulsmark during WWII, as well as GPS coordinates. I also discovered it was now a mink farm. I emailed the owner.

Jens Wistoft answered. His father had bought our old farm in 1923. He invited us to spend a day on the farm. Four months later we flew to Copenhagen and took a train across Denmark. We rented a car and set out to find the mysterious farm I had worked so hard to locate on maps in 1979. It became real when we saw the sign "Mulsmark." For me it was such an emotional experience I might as well have seen God.

What I found was a beautiful, green 250 acre farm that takes up both sides of the highway. Branches of my family lived on this farm for 300 years and Wistoft said he has seen documentation of the farm, by name, going back to the 1400s.

We also visited Bov Kirke, the family church to the Jensens since it was built in 1668.

From 2004 to 2014 we'd logged over 20,000 miles, walked four cemeteries, met 26 Jensen relatives, and sat in my family's ancestral home.

The entire 10-year odyssey was hugely successful. I felt as though I had closed a loop somehow, almost as if the past still existed somewhere and Peter and I had crossed paths, him going west and me going east, across time and a sea.

The Bushnells &
Wistofts
The Farm



Side By Side



Member since 1974
Marlys Marrs



Member since 2014
Vicki Bushnell

Marlys was born in Minnesota and came to Bremerton with her parents in 1940. Marlys and Bill Marrs were married in 1958 after Bill had stopped her for a noisy tailpipe and began dating. Marlys worked at the Doctors Clinic in the 1970s and she showed one of the doctors a county history book she had. Marlys and Dr. Drew were both interested in genealogy and began the “Olympic Society” later known as PSGS.

Q: How and when did you get started in genealogy?

When Marlys was 18 she visited an aunt in Iowa. Her aunt gave her a county historical book included some of Marlys’ ancestors. A genealogist was born.

Q: How and when did you come to join PSGS?

Marlys & Dr. Drew and 13 other like-minded individuals started the Olympic Society, later the Puget Sound Genealogical Society, and by 1974 the club’s ranks had grown to 42 members.

Q: What are your research goals?

After years of exhaustive research that had produced a legacy of results, including her book, “The Bice Family History (1800-1987)”, Marlys continues her passion.

Q: Any surnames and localities of special interest?

These were not answered.

Q: How have you contributed to PSGS?

Besides literally forming PSGS, Marlys and her husband moved the growing PSGS into their basement, complete with the many books that had been donated. She organized the first trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Marlys continues her support by volunteering in the GC twice a month. Her earnest desire is that as many folks as possible have the research available to them.

My family has lived in Bremerton since WWI. I was a cake decorator for 30 years – professionally. I recently retired after 20 years at Kitsap County, coordinating environmental education programs and providing outreach, including the Waste Wise Communities newsletter. Now I read, boat, hike and travel. My husband of 41 years and I also own a photography business.

Q: How and when did you get started in genealogy?

I saw the miniseries *Roots* and I was hooked. About the same time James A. Michener’s *Centennial* came out and that was even better because it was rumored to be based on the town of Julesburg, Colorado, which my ancestors founded.

Q: How and when did you come to join PSGS?

It’s hard to remember, but somewhere around 1977 and probably from a flyer at the library or something I saw in the newspaper. We met in Marlys Marrs’ basement in those days. I eventually left to raise a family, but now I’m back.

Q: What are your research goals?

I want photographs of more ancestors. Right now I have a gallery wall that looks pretty good, but there are some missing people. I also have dozens of old photos of ancestors in Denmark that I want to identify.

Q: Any surnames and localities of special interest?

Polleys in New York and Massachusetts, and Dubels in Ireland are the next step. My DNA test shows I have a strong background in Southern Europe and I wish I could find that connection, especially since most of my relatives look very Spanish.

Q: How have you contributed to PSGS?

My first time around I was the membership and outreach person; this time I am on the Backtracker newsletter committee and work in the GC once a month.

Gail Reynolds'

Belfair Bulletin

Hello everyone –

Can it be that this is the last Backtracker of 2014? Yet, it is.

Belfair's chapter meeting in August featured Jim Johnson from Heritage Quest. This meeting was very informative as he reviewed not only how to use Google generally but also specifically for genealogy research. He gave us a list of useful websites as well as some notes on using Google.

In September, we enjoyed having Jerri McCoy back again. This time she didn't talk about the Salem "witches" but about the Pilgrims that became Patriots. This covered many of the people that helped this country grow into the nation it is today. The people discussed were those who eventually came to sign the Declaration of Independence.

Our October meeting was a little different. We all came to hear Barbara Houtenbrink speak about Nantucket but, unfortunately, she was unable to make it. We instead conducted a brief, general discussion about Nantucket and our relatives from there.

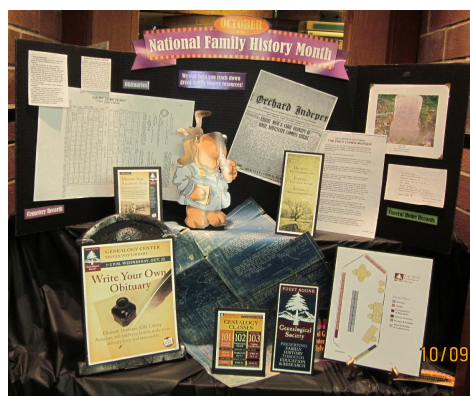
Now, to finish out the year 2014, our next meeting is our Christmas party on November 5th at 12:30 p.m. at the Timberland Library in Belfair. We would love to have all of you attend. If you plan on coming, please bring a potluck item and a \$10-\$15 gift for the exchange. Linnie informed us that there will be a game for which you need to bring three (3) names – at least one woman – of relatives along with their place and date of birth, where they lived during their lifetime and their occupation. She, however, did not disclose any other information about the game.

Belfair Chapter does not have any meetings in the months of December and January. Our first meeting of the new year will be February 4, 2015. Our speaker will be Linda Lind and she will be speaking about the veterans of the War of 1812 who eventually moved to Washington State.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

October is Family History Month!

Members Consuelo Udave and Karin Burke designed these wonderful displays in the Sylvan Way lobby that are guaranteed to inspire us. Be sure to stop by and admire their creative talents!!



PSGS Seminar Report, (cont'd from page 1)

One comment stood out regarding this lecture:
“Bret is an excellent presenter. Would love to have him back for other presentations! Thought I knew newspapers but learned a lot of new info.”

There were some who thought the lecture “Your Head in the Cloud and Your Feet on the Ground” was a bit *mind boggling*, one was *lost a bit* or one was *not computer literate*. However, 60% found it to be Extremely Helpful, 18% Very Helpful, 14% Helpful, 1% Somewhat Helpful and 7% Not Helpful.

“Availability of gen groups, ie Kitsap Historical Society was great...” During the breaks, attendees had the opportunity to visit the variety of exhibitors, including the Association of Professional Genealogists, DAR, Family History Center, Germans from Russia Society, Jewish Genealogical Society, Kitsap County Historical Society and Museum, Kitsap Regional Library, Puget Sound Genealogical Society and Sons of Norway.

“The lunches could have been better; everything else was great!! The snacks were great!!” Most of the attendees received a box lunch (provided by Jaks Catering & Café) and plenty of snacks (especially the Biscotti!)

“Good presentation. Speaker was energetic, enthusiastic and knowledgeable!

"For the most part, it appeared everyone left happy as Jean had the tech guy put on Pharrell Williams’ “Happy” song (the sound track of Despicable Me 2 with the Minions singing it). It was supposed to be playing as they walked out the door....but they sat and watched it!!



Members & guests sharing research



A Good thing to know for faster research—Social Security Codes by State! by Jackie Horton

001-003 New Hampshire (NH)	468-477 Minnesota (MN)
004-007 Maine (ME)	478-485 Iowa (IA)
008-009 Vermont (VT)	486-500 Missouri (MO)
010-034 Massachusetts (MA)	501-502 North Dakota (ND)
035-039 Rhode Island (RI)	503-504 South Dakota (SD)
040-049 Connecticut (CT)	505-508 Nebraska (NB)
050-134 New York (NY)	509-515 Kansas (KS)
135-148 New Jersey (NJ)	516-517 Montana (MT)
159-211 Pennsylvania (PA)	518-519 Idaho (ID)
212-220 Maryland (MD)	520 Wyoming (WY)
223-231 Virginia (VA)	521-524 Colorado (CO)
232* West Virginia (WV)	525 New Mexico (NM)
North Carolina (NC)	526-527 Arizona (AZ)
233-236 West Virginia (WV)	528-529 Utah (UT)
237-246 North Carolina (NC)	530 Nevada (NV)
247-251 South Carolina (SC)	531-539 Washington (WA)
252-260 Georgia (GA)	540-544 Oregon (OR)
261-267 Florida (FL)	545-573 California (CA)
268-302 Ohio (OH)	574 Alaska (AK)
303-317 Indiana (IN)	575-576 Hawaii (HI)
318-361 Illinois (IL)	577-579 District of Columbia (DC)
362-386 Michigan (MI)	580* Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico (PR)
387-399 Wisconsin (WI)	581-584 Puerto Rico (PR)
400-407 Kentucky (KY)	585 New Mexico (NM)
408-415 Tennessee (TN)	
416-424 Alabama (AL)	
425-428 Mississippi (MS)	
429-432 Arkansas (AR)	
433-439 Louisiana (LA)	
440-448 Oklahoma (OK)	
449-467 Texas (TX)	

(cont'd on page 16)

Social Security Codes by State, (cont'd from page 15)

586 Guam, American Samoa, Philippine Islands

587 Mississippi (MS)

589-595 Florida (FL)

596-599 Puerto Rico (PR)

600-601 Arizona (AZ)

602-626 California (CA)

627-645 Texas (TX)

646-647 Utah (UT)

648-649 New Mexico (NM)

654-658 South Carolina (SC)

667-675 Georgia (GA)

680 Nevada (NV)

764-765 Arizona (AZ)

602-626 California (CA)

627-645 Texas (TX)

646-647 Utah (UT)

648-649 New Mexico (NM)

654-658 South Carolina (SC)

667-675 Georgia (GA)

680 Nevada (NV)

700-728 RR Retirement Board
(All States - until July, 1963)

764-765 Arizona (AZ)

Classified Ads

The Education and Programs Committees are looking for YOU!

Come to the meetings (first Monday of each month beginning at 10am) to see how easy it is for you to contribute to the PSGS goal of providing education opportunities to our members.



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