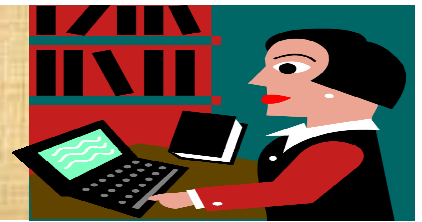




THE BACKTRACKER



A Publication of Puget Sound Genealogical Society

www.pusogensoc.org

January-March, 2017

New Officers & a Holiday Feast



Fran Moyer (r) thanks outgoing 2016 Executive Board members (l-r) Jackie Horton, Jane McAuliffe, Judy Rice and Judy Joaquin.



Ann Northcutt thanks 2016 President Fran Moyer and welcomes Mary Ann Wright as the 2017 President.



Mary Ann introduces Officers (l-r) Sandie Morrison, Ann Northcutt, Terry Mettling & Larry Harden

Kitsap Antique Show 2017

Kitsap  **Save the date!**
February 25-26, 2017
ANTIQUE & VINTAGE SHOW



President's Hall | Kitsap Fairgrounds



Consuelo Udave & Judy Rice who transformed the space into a beautiful & welcoming holiday setting.



Sallie Horne, 2017 Member at Large

More holiday photos on page 6

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Presidential Ponderings

by Mary Ann Wright

Each new year brings with it a new beginning . . . an opportunity to start fresh. Let 2017 be your time to re-examine your genealogy and refocus your research. We are members because we are interested in genealogy and being with others who share our interest, so there's no need for any of us to research alone!

Our Society is proud to offer YOU multiple opportunities for learning and sharing. Here's how we can help—the books and periodicals in our Genealogy Center; the twice-monthly classes; the monthly meeting lectures; the special interest groups; our quarterly publication, *The Backtracker*; and, free access in our Genealogy Center to the online genealogy subscription databases, AmericanAncestors.org and Findmypast.com. Plus, if you volunteer in the Genealogy Center or on one or more of our committees you have the chance to make new friends and share your unique talents and knowledge. We'd love to have you join us!

As we begin this year, I want to express my thanks to all of you for your trust and confidence in selecting me as your president for 2017. Your Executive Board is full of enthusiastic and knowledgeable members of our Society, and I'm counting on their advice and support.

First up next month, on February 25 and 26, we are proud to bring the annual Antique Show to Kitsap County for the 19th year together with our co-sponsor, the Kitsap Historical Society. I encourage you to volunteer to help during the show or just to come and show your support. More information about the show is included on page 1. As our only fundraiser, we count on this event to provide the funds necessary to bring in the many expert and engaging speakers for our classes and lectures. Hope to see you there!

Finally, your Executive Board is here to support you. Please contact any of us if you have any questions or concerns.

Genealogy Center Report

by Mary Ann Wright

Happy New Year! Why not make a resolution this year to spend some time reviewing the books in your Genealogy Center. We have continued to add to the collection throughout this past year, thanks to the generous donations of members and patrons alike, and there's sure to be a treasure that can solve one of your brick walls. For instance, we have acquired several books on Massachusetts for the towns of Williamstown, Fitchburg, Bolton, Lancaster, Northfield, Framingham, Charlestown and more, plus books on Vermont, Virginia, New York, Georgia, Canada, Norway and Scotland. Closer to home, we have the King County Superior Court Naturalizations-Declarations of Intentions, 1854-1889, compiled by Evelyn Roehl who spoke at our program September 28.

A brief statistical report for you: We had 904 visitors during 2016, which averages out to about 75 per month; our volunteer team grew by 8; and the team of 22-29 active volunteers completed 2,631 volunteer hours covering 547 shifts! Six of our volunteers accumulated over 100 volunteer hours this year but no matter how many or how few hours you are able to give to support our Genealogy Center, we appreciate every one of them. Remember, if you would like to learn more or re-activate your volunteer status, please contact me at gcc@pusogensoc.org or Charlotte at gc-vol@pusogensoc.org. We would love to have you join our team.

Finally, be sure to stop by the library to take a look at some recent changes, which include a redesign of the public computer area to provide easier access and more room for the patrons. The print station is now located next to the Service Desk along with the copier. This will make it easier for patrons to get help with either machine. Additionally, the teen area has more space to meet and the sign above the Genealogy Center's door is brighter and more visible from afar. What do you think of these changes? Email me at gcc@pusogensoc.org.

A Family of Twins

by Hope Herron



Born on July 19, 1953, James Kennedy Herron and Shirley Louise Gossett Herron came home from the hospital in Dennison, Ohio with twin sons, John Scott and James Harold Herron. They were named for their maternal and

paternal grandfathers—John and Harold. Waiting at home were 2 young daughters, Carol Sue, aged 3 and Hope L. aged 13 months. As the slightly older sister at 13 months, you could say I had an up close and personal experience growing up with twins. I was so close in size during the early years, people often asked if I was one of triplets. One of the first pictures taken of the twins, was the one you see above with our great grandmother Fannie Beall Crotty Probert, who was 82 years old at the time.



My parents enjoyed dressing them alike as you can see in the picture of us standing at the back of our Wiley's Jeep one summer morning in 1955-56.

As a child, I had heard rumors of other twins in the family, and I began to wonder who they were, where they lived and what their lives were like. But I had to wait

until 2016 when I started genealogy research through Ancestry.com before I actually located some in the family tree.

The earliest ones I've located so far were born in Goochland, Virginia back in 1737, when Exolheath Page and Christian Gorsuch had twins, Jesse and Betty. Their son John Page and his first wife Unity Harris also had a set of twins, named William and Elizabeth in 1758 and with his second wife Edith Cauthon, he outdid himself with a set of triplet boys, named John, Vinson and Leonard in 1762.

In Maryland, Peter Ickes and his wife, Mary Carol Anderson had twin girls in 1790, Mary Elizabeth and Susan Ickes. As the turn of the century came, so did more twins. In 1816, Marcus Herron, my 3rd Great Grandfather and his wife Rachel Page gave birth to John and Mary Ann Herron.

In 1865 in Carroll County, Ohio, George Hazlett and Louisa Gossett Hazlett had twin girls, Clarinda and Clarissa. Clarinda died after the birth of her first child at age 26 and Clarissa became a minister and never married.

On 6 September 1891, John Henry McVay and his wife Hannah Crotty also had twin girls, Alberta Cora and Eudora, conveniently nicknamed Cora and Dora.

On the Gossett side of the family, John Gossett, my 2nd great grandfather and his wife Belinda Almeda Hite had twins on 13 December 1865 in my mother's home town of Uhrichsville, Ohio and named them Laura May and Alonzo Day Gossett. I have included a picture of John holding what appears to be his twins, probably taken when they were about 2 years old.



Great Grandfather William Ellsworth Raymond Russell and his wife, Florence Estelle Watt, gave birth to another set of twins named Bernice and George Russell in 1896.

However, the twin prize should go to the Layport or LePorth side of the family tree. George Layport Sr., an immigrant from France and his wife Nancy McCaslin had two sets of twins, George and Margaret Layport, born in 1772. Then a year later, another set of twins, Maccaslin and John Layport, also born in Washington County, Maryland in 1773. Then in 1799 their son Samuel D. and his wife Margaret had twins, Stephen and Rebecca, followed by triplets in 1800, George, Alexander and Samuel Jr, followed yet again by another set of twins John and Sarah Sally Layport in 1806. They also had 4 other children and just think, they lived 50 years before the invention of the clothes dryer and disposable diapers. (Cont'd page 11)

Recovering Genealogy Treasures: Mary Burnham Sewall baby book

by Di Tarhalla



As a genealogy center volunteer at Kitsap Regional Library, I had the opportunity to meet Lew Noah. He showed me the baby book of **Mary Burnham Sewall** that he bid on in a box along with some pictures at the

Westsound auctions in Belfair. The baby book was loaded with information, such as several pictures, a lock of baby hair, poetry the mother had written and some quotes from Shakespeare. The baby book itself is dated 1885 from the Lee and Shepard publishers of New York.

At one time Noah had started a search with the names located in the baby book before his computer crashed. When he found out how interested I am in finding homes for lost genealogy articles, he left the book with me. I immediately started a tree on Ancestry.com entering the information in search for documents. This trip took me to Westminster, Vermont, where Mary was born on 2 September 1884. The baby book was a gift from her Aunt Ellie according to the inscription. Her family moved on to North Brookfield, Worcester, Massachusetts where I found them on the 1900 census. She is listed as the daughter of John Ladd Sewall and Catherine M. (later to uncover her maiden name as Hartwell). Mary married Harry Spurr Whitbeck on 2 July 1913 in Worcester, Massachusetts. Harry was a jeweler at Tiffany's in New York.

I found a birth record for their first son, William Alfred Whitbeck, born in Mount Washington, Massachusetts 11 June 1914. Mary and Harry's second child Carolyn Sewall was born in 7 August 1918 in Mount Vernon, New York. They were found this time on the 1920 census in Westchester, New York. Their third child, Richard Conner Whitbeck was also born in Mount Vernon, New York on 30 January 1922.

When the depression started, the jewelry business took a down turn and Harry and Mary moved a couple of times. Their fourth child George Sterling was born 24 July 1923 in New Jersey. They were found next on the 1930

census in Stamford, Fairfield, Connecticut. One of the questions on the 1940 census is where were you living in 1935. At this time they were still in Stamford, Fairfield, Connecticut, but the 1940 census shows their current address as Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts and Mary's highest level of education is 4 years of college. With this information I looked for school records.

I obtained additional information found in the One Hundred Year Biographical Directory of Mount Holyoke College 1837-1937, Bulletin Series 30, No. 5, published and compiled by the Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts, which also listed her children and husband along with the years she worked as a teacher. Information from cited source: *Mary Burnham Sewall (Mrs. Harry Spurr Whitbeck) Graduate of Mount Holyoke College in 1906. They lived at 16 Bright St, Northampton, MA in 1937; Mary taught at Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA, 1906-1908; in Washington, DC, 1908-1912 and in Worcester, MA, 1912-1913.*

Starting with the first born son, William Alfred Whitbeck, I found his social security claims application that verified I had the correct person. While looking for additional documents I located a public tree for Mount Washington, Berkshire, Massachusetts and contacted the owner of the tree.

This tree is maintained by the Historian of Mount Washington, Massachusetts, Michele Ann (Patterson) Valenzano who helped me locate the son of William Alfred Whitbeck on Facebook as Oyster Bill. I had done a Facebook search on William Alfred Whitbeck and turned up several possibilities. I had not made the connection to Oyster Bill at all until Michele mentioned it. A Google search followed and, yes, William Alfred Whitbeck lived in Seattle.

After connecting with William Alfred "Oyster Bill" Whitbeck on Facebook, he confirmed Mary Burnham Sewall was his grandmother.

(cont'd page 5)

Sewall Baby Book, (cont'd from page 4)

Bill was very enthusiastic about the baby book. We set a date to meet and the excitement grew in anticipation. I notified Lew Noah and we all met on November 23 at the Genealogy Center, Kitsap Regional Library. My husband Jim

was our photographer. Bill Whitbeck was very appreciative to receive the book and all the extra pictures Lew Noah brought. The additional pictures had no names but Bill knew who they were. Bill sat and talked with Noah and me for about an hour going over the information.

Since the meeting Bill has sent additional information. Harry Spurr Whitbeck died 7 December 1947 in Northampton, Hampshire, Massachusetts. I last found Mary a widow in a Northampton 1954 city directory. Neither Harry nor Mary could be located on FindAGrave.com. Maybe Michele will be able to look for their resting place. Michele also mentioned she was related to Bill on his father's side of the family.

So now thanks to a very thoughtful man, Lew Noah, who rescued a small box of treasures from a Belfair auction and my love and pursuit of genealogy, we have wonderful memories to share with new friends and family.

Good luck to all as we backtrack down the roads that our forbearer's traveled before. From my family to yours ... May we someday meet.



L-R: Di Tarhalla, Bill Whitlock, and Lew Noah

**Introductions & Welcome**

by Carol Caldwell

Kathryn (Katy) Fulton – Katy came to Kitsap County from Florence, Oregon when her husband was called 8 years ago to serve as vicar for St. Antony's Episcopal Church. She became interested in her family history when, at an Irish Festival in Seattle, she heard a talk about DNA tests. That experience led to working with her sister to create a family tree. Next came a search for historical and genealogical groups in the area where she discovered PSGS. In her research Katy discovered some early ancestors such as Thomas Cooper who was friends to local Indians. He was able to warn the settlers in advance of an attack during King Philip's War, although he died from wounds. Sisters of another ancestor Jacob Towne, Sr. were hung for being witches. The surnames Katy is working on are Simmons, Harvey, Towne, Hodges, Senter, Schlund, Snodgrass, Stricker, Lee, Wyatt, Douglass, Delano, and Pixley.

Kit Howard – Kit was born in Nashville, Tennessee, but lived most of her life in the Los Angeles, California area. She moved here to be close to her son and his family after her husband died. She was always interested in genealogy, and finally decided to trace her lineage to see if she qualified as a Daughter of the American Revolution. She joined DAR in September this year. A Google search led her to PSGS. In her research she has found three cousins, one of which traced their common ancestor to the 1600s. The surnames she is working on are Hoover, Annis, Loomis, Kimball, Hill, and Boston.

Elizabeth Nelson – Elizabeth came to us from Ft. Worth, Texas by way of Idaho, desiring to be close to her children and their families. She inherited an interest in family history from her mother's family who traced ancestors back to one of the bishops who translated the King James Bible. Unfortunately, his handwritten copy was destroyed in a house fire some 150 years ago. She discovered PSGS from "two lovely ladies who were in the Genealogy room at the Sylvan Way library." (cont'd on page 16)

A Look Back...

at the past three months of programs presented by PSGS



Oct 26 **"Researching in the Old Northwest"**

presenter: Gary Zimmerman

Gary provided information on three of the states that comprised the Old Northwest—Illinois, Indiana and Ohio—and when they were admitted as states. For research in Ohio, Gary suggested The State Library of Ohio, <https://library.ohio.gov>, and the Ohio History Collection website, <https://www.ohiohistory.org>, which collaborates with the State Archives of Ohio, the Ohio Historical Society and museums and historic sites across Ohio. For Indiana research, visit the Indiana Archives and Record Administration website, <http://www.in.gov/iara>, and digital archives at <http://digitalarchives.in.gov>. The state archives contains land records and records from 92 Indiana counties. A valuable resource is the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The library's website, www.acpl.lib.in.us, as well as its Genealogy Center, www.genealogycenter.org, contain the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) and a surname index, among many other genealogical resources.

Nov 16 **"Directories for Family History Research"**

presenter: Mary Kircher Roddy

The first directories in the United States were published shortly after the end of the Revolutionary War. The number of publications grew through the early 20th century, when city directories were eventually superseded by the more modern telephone book. Published annually, they are a great tool for the genealogist. Make note of all the surnames listed—you might be related! Many directories include advertisements, maps, lists of businesses, etc. Directories are available at Ancestry.com, HeritageQuest Online (available through the library), Archive.org, Donlist.net, books.google.com, linkpendium.com, fold3.com, and, of course, local libraries.





Looking Forward...

at the next three months of programs presented by PSGS

Jan 25 **“How Women’s Name Changes Confound Our Research”** presenter: **Janet Camarata**

Using case studies, Janet will share strategies and techniques for correctly identifying our difficult to find and difficult to understand female ancestors.

Feb 22 **“Growing Up in the American Colonies”** presenter: **Vern Frykholm**

What was happening in the American Colonies prior to the Revolutionary war? See the past through the eyes of George Washington as he describes life in his home state of Virginia.

Mar 22 **“Using Land Records to Break Down Brick Walls”** presenter: **Jerri McCoy**

Learn the difference between State Land States and Federal Land States, plus a couple of outside-the-box ways a land record can be used to resolve difficult genealogical problems.

Schedule of Classes — January through March

Jan 28	Saturday	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Discover Your Family History: an introduction to genealogy Presenter: Claudia Breland
Feb 7	Tuesday	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Searching American Ancestors and Find My Past Presenter: Virginia Majewski
Feb 25	Saturday	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Exploring FamilySearch Presenter: Mary Kathryn Kozy
Mar 7	Tuesday	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Genealogical Proof Standard According to Sherlock Holmes Presenter: Jill Morelli
Mar 25	Saturday	10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	WEBINAR: Researching Ancestors in the Era of Freedom Presenter: Angela Walton-Raji

Unless noted, all classes are held in the Heninger Room, Sylvan Way,
1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton

Contact: educ@pusogensoc.org

Putting Down Roots

The Bushnells of Connecticut

by Vicki Bushnell



They put down roots in a legion of directions, creating America one village at a time.

My 8th gr-grandfather, Henry Rowley, and his wife Sarah (who eloped with him when she was 14) came to America probably in either 1630 or 1632, according to historian Homer Brainerd. According to the History of Scituate, Massachusetts, he was among the first to lay out a village in Scituate in 1633 and thus his name appears on a monument called *The Men of Kent*, which



Vicki Bushnell & monument

commemorates the town founders who came from Kent, England.

"Goodman Rowley" was one of the first members and a deacon in Rev. John Lathrop's church. Henry, his second wife Anne and half the congregation left Scituate in 1639 and accompanied a troubled Lathrop to Barnstable, in Central Cape Cod.

Rowley was constable in 1641, Deputy to the General Court in 1643, and surveyor of highways in 1646, 1647 and 1653. He also served as Freeman in Barnstable and later in Falmouth, also of Cape Cod.

An important connection was made when his son, Moses Rowley married Elizabeth Fuller, as she was the daughter of Captain Matthew Fuller (successor of Miles Standish as commander of the Massachusetts Militia and Surgeon General of the Colony troops) and granddaughter of Edward Fuller, a Mayflower passenger. Moses was a cordwainer, constable, and deputy to the General Court in Barnstable.

Their son, Shubael Rowley, born in 1660 in Barnstable, headed southwest to put down roots in Falmouth and the area now known as Woods Hole, where Captain Fuller had a land grant. All of this was still considered Plymouth Colony.

Meanwhile my husband's 7th great-grandfather, William Bushnell, arrived in America with his brothers

around 1635. They initially settled in Salem, Massachusetts and Long Island, which they disliked. Across Long Island Sound was Guilford, Connecticut, where William's father ("Francis Ye Elder") was a signer to the Guilford Compact and trying to establish a town after purchasing the lands from the Mohicans. Off they went, probably by boat.

In Guilford, the Bushnell family owned adjacent river-front lots a block from the town green. They would have hunted duck and turtles in the West River, and owned a parcel of the salt marsh for growing marsh wheat.

Local historians say that eventually the burial ground where the early Bushnells were buried became a community cow pasture. This tore up the soil, so the headstones were removed. The remains stayed right there in the town green which exists today as a park surrounded by beautiful Colonial homes



The Bushnell brothers lived in Guilford until 1647, when William's brother-in-law, Robert Chapman, asked the Bushnells to come to Old Saybrook. The Saybrook fort

had burned to the ground and carpenters were sorely needed to build housing for the town residents, who were reportedly holed up in a windmill. The Bushnells brought "certificates of orderly living" and were admitted to the township and given land grants in 1650.

This 10 square-mile town took in what is presently the towns of Lyme, Westbrook, Saybrook, Chester, Centerbrook, Essex, and Old Saybrook.

William's brother was paid money and farmland to build the first grist mill on the Oyster River, while William built a homestead on what would become known as "Bushnell's Corner."

(cont'd on page 10)

Putting Down Roots

The Mysterious Maugridge's

by Sharon Hornback



One of my ancestral lines is the Maugridge (Mogridge, Mugridge, etc.) family. They came from Devon, England. The actual Maugridge surname in my direct lineage only lasts a few generations but there are some interesting quirks that stand out.

John Maugridge was born 11 September 1630 in Bradninch Parish, Devon, England to Robert and Dorothea (Lovering) Mogridge. John was my 8x great grandfather. The Village of Bradninch is about eight miles north of the city of Exeter in Devonshire in the southwest of England. John was one of five or six children of this marriage.

John married Mary Milton about 1667. John Maugridge spent his entire life in Bradninch Parish. He and his wife were both buried in St Disen's Churchyard (Church of England), John in 1700 and Mary in 1697. Bradninch was a market town and also known for paper making. Perhaps John was involved in one of these ventures or maybe farming. Something enticed him to stay in the same place his entire life.

John and Mary's children were Jane, Johan, John, William, Mary and Nicholas. However, in the beginning, I was only aware of their daughter Mary Milton Maugridge, because she married into the Boone family (ancestors of Daniel Boone). When you have a famous family there are a lot of historical sources available. Mary and her husband were Quakers, another plus in finding records.

Mary Milton Maugridge married George Boone III on 16 August 1689 in St Disen's Church in Bradninch. Mary and George became my 7th great grandparents. Here the Maugridge surname is lost in my direct line after only three generations. George Boone and his wife Mary were married in the Church of England but later they followed his religion as members of the Society of Friends (Quakers) in Callumpton, Devonshire. This Meeting provided a letter of recommendation to the Society of Friends in America. Why they left for America is uncer-

tain. They may have been dissatisfied with their condition as Quakers in England or were infected by the desire for adventure and travel. On 17 August 1717, with six children, George Boone and his wife left the town of Bradninch and went to Bristol, where they set sail for America. They settled in Pennsylvania.

I then stumbled across Sarah Maugridge who married Edward Drury, a well-to-do Innkeeper from Reading, Pennsylvania. They were my 5x great grandparents. Sarah was the daughter of William and Ann Maugridge, my 6x great grandparents. William's parents were John and Mary Milton Maugridge, my 7x great grandparents.

Something was beginning to look familiar. It took a trip to Salt Lake City where a shopping trip by my friend Jane began to clear things up. Jane shared a 15 generation chart she found at the Deseret Store. The store was out of charts, but I found one on Amazon and soon shared Jane's enthusiasm as I started filling in the names of my family. Things were going along wonderfully until I got to the Maugridge section. All of a sudden my 7x great grandparents on one branch were my 8x great grandparents on another branch. My 6x great grandfather was my 7x great uncle. My 7x great grandmother was my 6x great aunt...I think that's how it goes. Every time I try to sort it out, it gets more confusing. Bottom line, they are all my family and we are all related one way or another and that's what is important.

William Maugridge was born between 1666 and 1673 in Bradninch Parish, Devon, England. He and wife Ann were married in England and later immigrated to Pennsylvania possibly about the same time as his sister, Mary Milton (Maugridge) Boone, which was 1717. William became a prominent citizen in Pennsylvania. William and Ann had six to eight children. My line carries through their daughter Sarah Maugridge (1725-1785).

(cont'd on page 10)

The Mysterious Maugridge's, (cont'd from page 9)

William Maugridge was a member of a group of friends organized by Benjamin Franklin known as the Junto or Leather Apron Club. This select club for mutual improvement was established in 1727. The men debated questions of politics, morals, natural philosophy and discussed business affairs. They were also a charitable organization and created a subscription library consisting of their own books. The club was initially composed of only twelve members. In Franklin's Autobiography, William Maugridge was listed as a cabinet maker (joiner), "a most exquisite mechanic, and a solid, sensible man."



Maugridge Deturk House

The Maugridge-Deturk House in Pennsylvania is an architectural centerpiece of the Daniel Boone Homestead State Historic Site. The house was built on a plan by William

Maugridge as an addition

to a smaller house that may have been constructed for Squire Boone. Sources indicate that William had the ownership of this home transferred to him. Deturk purchased it upon Maugridge's death in 1766.

About 1750, William purchased 158 acres in Berks County from his relative Squire Boone. He had no previous experience as a farmer, but gave it an attempt for four years. In 1754 he applied to his friend Benjamin Franklin, an organizer of the Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire. William borrowed 200 pounds. This money lasted him until 1762 when he once again found himself in need of money. He could not ask Franklin's group to again loan money to a losing cause, but Franklin himself lent Maugridge 258 pounds taking a second mortgage on the farm. William was never able to make a success of the farm and was still in debt at the time of his death in 1766.

The Maugridge surname shows up in only four generations on two branches of my family tree. The way they are entwined, it often seems like many more. These lines morphed into the Boone, Drury, and Willets lines, but those are for another story.

Bushnells of Connecticut, (cont'd from page 8)

This land is still occupied by Bushnell descendants of various names, the Bushnells having married into many of the original families. William received 3,000 acres of land in the will of Joshua Uncas, the Sachem of the Mohican tribe for his friendship and goodwill. He became the Collector of the Town Rate, built the first meeting houses in Saybrook, and was present at the first township meeting in 1655. He died in Old Saybrook in 1683.

Perhaps the best testament to our Bushnells settling Old Saybrook is the 60-acre Bushnell Farm, built in 1678. The house is one of the five oldest buildings still standing in Connecticut. The farm is open to the public each November, featuring characters in period costumes who demonstrate how the Bushnells cooked and baked bread in the huge fireplace, plowed the fields, harvested flax, wove and carded wool.

Our Bushnells joined others leaving Connecticut when jobs were scarce after the Revolutionary War, eventually putting down roots in New York, Missouri, Illinois and Washington.

My Rowleys also moved to Connecticut, early settlers of East Haddam and Colchester and just a few miles from the Saybrook Bushnells. They stayed there for generations before heading to Iowa, Oregon, and Washington.

Where on a dark and stormy night, centuries later, a Bushnell offered a ride to a Rowley descendant and the rest is, of course, history.



The Bushnell Farmhouse

A Family of Twins, (cont'd from page 3)

The most recent set of twins that I know of are 1st cousins named Beverly and Barbara on the Gossett-Russell side of the Herron-Gossett family tree.

As I continue my genealogy research, I'm sure I will find other twins and triplets. As for the birth of twins by my parents, James Kennedy Herron and Shirley Louise Gossett Herron, with a family history of 14 sets of twins and 2 sets of triplets, no one should have been at all surprised when they came home from the hospital with twins!

Clarinda & Clarissa Hazlett



Clarinda & Clarissa Hazlett (twins)

An Unsolved and Unresolved Family Mystery

by Terry Mettling

In 1930, the Walter McKnight family lived in the small town of Deshler in Thayer County, Nebraska. Walter Samuel McKnight and Bessie Maud Richardson were married in 1904 in Rosendale, Andrew County, Missouri when Bessie was 15 years old and Walter was 21. Between 1906 and 1927, the couple had nine children, born where they lived in various places in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri.

Apparently, one night the couple had a terrible argument, or so the story goes. The next day, Bessie left the house to visit someone on the other side of their small town and was never seen again. At one point, the story was that she had run off with a traveling salesman. This was refuted by her father in 1940, shortly before he died. He stated that she did not run off with a traveling salesman and that she was fine.

Shortly after the disappearance, some of the children entered foster care and the youngest was adopted by a local family. Eventually, all the children of the family came back together but none in the family would ever discuss what had happened. Several of the younger members of the family were curious and asked questions but were never answered.

Recently, we came in contact with one of my wife's cousins in that family and she passed on some information that she had been given by her mother. One night, the couple had what was described as a "terrible row" and the next day, Bessie disappeared. No police or missing persons report was ever made that we could find. At some point in time, the family hired a private investigator to look for her and she was in the vicinity of

Kansas City, Missouri. However, by the time any family member could get there, she had disappeared again.

Years later, my wife's aunt thought she had located her in a rest home in California but did not have the means at that time to go there in person. This was the information that was passed on to us just a couple of years ago.

Since the 1940 census was available, I checked there to see what might show up and I located a Bessie M. McKnight, born about 1889 in Missouri, and living in Los Angeles. However, she possibly was married to a different man named McKnight. Could this be her? She might not be who we were looking for, but it is very interesting she has the correct middle initial and is born in the correct year and state. We might never know, but she certainly is a person of interest.

Next, I checked the California death records for a Bessie McKnight and located one who had died in the 1970s while living in a rest home. The same rest home? I honestly don't know, I was never given that information. The information on the death record is not the information that should be there for our Bessie so that couldn't be her...or could it? The only information the rest home would have would be the information that she provided to them when she was there, if she provided much at all.

So, it is possible that is our Bessie but I don't think we'll ever have the answer for sure. There is just too much that is unknown about this whole story to ever think we'll have the exact answers. Until then, it will remain the Family Mystery in my wife's family.



Meanderings

by Gail Reynolds

I finally was able to talk my husband into a trip to the Midwest to do genealogy. However, I had to pepper the places we visited with automobile collections, presidential libraries as well as HIS side of the family research. We started out in Minneapolis, MN and ended in Kansas City, MO. It was quite an adventure but very informative and enlightening.

After our day in Minneapolis at the Mall of America, we headed for Rochester, MN, which is where Larry's maternal grandparents lived and where his father and his siblings were born. At the Olmsted County History Center and Museum we met the nicest people. We were able to locate Rochester High School Annuals with pictures of Larry's uncles. I found it very interesting that in Ronald Reynolds Senior Annual that he was on tunnel (?) patrol 1938-1939. It was also mentioned that in ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades he was self-supporting. Larry's grandfather deserted his wife and four children between 1920-1930. I had no proof that this happened but this fact seems to support the rumor.

Also in the History Center, we found a questionnaire to go with a photo of Ronald as he enlisted in the Army. There was much helpful information on this form like the date and location of his marriage to Mildred McNamara as well as his current job when he applied. Also included was his date of enlistment of 06 January 1940. This was all new information for me to add to my collection on the Reynolds family.

We were able to track down from various censuses some of the houses in which Larry's grandparents and later grandmother lived. Here is a picture of the one that they lived in the longest (1929-1940). It seems to be quite small for an adult and four children to live in.



The next day we went to the Fillmore County History Center and Genealogy Library in Fountain, MN. We were

given a copy of the Sumner Township map and told that just down the road and off of another there is a school and the cemetery is right behind it. YOU CAN'T MISS IT! YOU CAN SEE IT FROM THE ROAD! Three hours later we were sure that the lady giving this advice was crazy as a loon. I finally asked Google for more information and she gave me an aerial view. There was this little blue house we had passed at least a dozen times that had a driveway on this side. Evidently we were to turn into that driveway. On our right was a schoolhouse that had seen better days and had a bell at the top to ring the children to school. This school was the one that Larry's grandparents had both attended in their youth. Since there was nowhere to turn around, we continued up the road, which was surrounded by cornfields and a horse pasture. As we approached the end of the road there was a fenced area. We discovered a lovely, well groomed cemetery right in the middle of nowhere. Larry's great grandparents were buried there.



We then backtracked to a location on the river where Larry's paternal great grandparents lived. Part of the land is bordered by this river so we knew we were at the right spot. How great it was to stand where the great grandparents had actually made their home.

Our next trek was from Rochester, MN to Milwaukee, WI. My second cousin once removed (Linda) lives there. We had a wonderful visit with her and her husband. We also visited some of the houses of my grandparents and great aunts. There is an apartment house where my grandparents' house once stood. I was disappointed that modernization had taken away that memory from me. We drove past Washington High School that my mother attended. I just took a picture of the old part and tried to ignore the new part. My mother and father were high school "sweethearts". (cont'd on page 15)

Side By Side



Deanna Dowell

Member since 1972

I grew up on a farm in North Dakota. In 1962, the family moved to Seattle. My first and only job was with the telephone company. I met my husband, a teacher and coach at West Bremerton, and we married in 1970. We both retired in 1995. Since then we volunteer in many organizations in our community.

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

I started researching my husband's and my family in about 1972. I found a book on genealogy and realized I had better "practice" with my own family.

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

It was 1972 and we met in Marlys Marr's basement. Norwegian and Irish roots were seldom mentioned so I would leave PSGS for a year and order magazines or join hometown genealogy groups, then come back to PSGS when I needed new ideas. I flew to Salt Lake for at least a week every other year for about 15 years. I now want to stay with PSGS. I do love this group.

Q: What are your research goals?

To find my husband's grandfather, Ephraim Dowell's parents in Tennessee or Virginia. In the 1850 Knox Co., TN Federal Census I found, "Elijah Dowell, farmer, age 83 (b) VA, & Ephraim Dowell, age 12 (b) TN". I have researched and have found all kinds of family affiliations....wills, land, vitals, military, newspapers, books, state and federal censuses, etc....but nothing that connects the two men.

Q: Any surnames and localities of special interest?

I have 4 countries to research in Europe –Norway (Egeland & Selnes farms), Austria (Ableidinger and Raddle), Ireland (Dowell, Brown, & Hazelton), and England (Sidney).

Q: How have you contributed to PSGS?

PSGS has taught me so well that I have been able to host a Norwegian seminar from what I learned at PSGS.



Sallie Horne

Member since 2014

I am originally from Waukegan, IL. I moved to Colorado when I was nine years old with my family. I moved here at the age of 23, finished college and became a registered nurse. I have been married for 39 years, and we have two beautiful grown daughters, and one adorable two year old grandson.

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

I started dabbling in genealogy about four years ago. It had always been an interest to me, but I was too busy with kids and work to really do anything about it. My mom and aunt did a lot of digging, and she would tell me about the things she found. I would say I have been seriously doing genealogy for about two years.

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

I found out about PSGS at the Antiques Show. I joined two years ago.

Q: What are your research goals?

To flesh out the research my family has already done on my maternal side, and give it citations. I also want to work on my father's side since no one has done any research on that side except my father, and he died in 1985.

Q: Any surnames and localities of special interest?

I hope to break through a wall I have on my father's side that will connect us with Nicholas Haldeman (Halteman) a Swiss immigrant. Rumor has it we are his descendants, but I can't get any further back than four generations. He was Mennonite and settled in Lancaster County, PA, and since the Mennonite's kept good records, I am hoping I can make the connection.

Q: How have you contributed to PSGS?

Until recently I have just attended meetings and classes as a member. Recently I joined the education and program committees, and was elected as Member-at-Large for 2017.



Gail Reynolds'

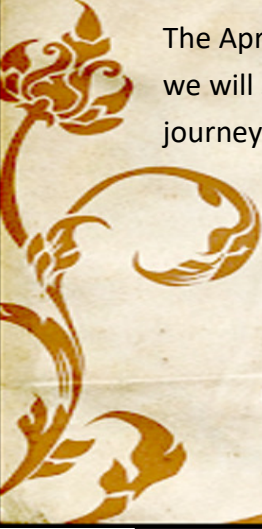
Belfair Bulletin

Hello Everyone — Hope you had a pleasant holiday season! Since we have just finished with months filled with going places, shopping, planning gatherings and friends and family, I am hoping that you will be ready to settle back into the routine of continuing to search for your family roots.

Just to review the last part of the year for the Belfair Chapter, we had only one meeting in the last three months. Our Christmas celebration was in November and we had a gift exchange and a potluck. You would be surprised how innovative our group can be with food. There was such a variety that it was hard to choose what to have for seconds.

As usual, we in Belfair did not have a meeting in either December or January. Our February meeting will be a discussion of problems or brick walls that we have encountered. This will help us prepare for our trip to Salt Lake City in March.

For our March 1st meeting, Judy Joaquin will be our speaker. Her topic is: "Following the migration of one family from Connecticut to Kansas."



The April meeting will be on the first — No Fooling! Since most of us will just be back from Salt Lake City, we will share all the good (or lack thereof) information we gathered to help us on our genealogical journey.

All of our meetings in February through March will be on the first Wednesday of the month and be held in the North Mason Timberland Library in Belfair at 1:00 pm. All are welcome to attend and contribute. Hope to see you there!

Upcoming Genealogy Shows—Save the Date!

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Y
K The 2017 season of *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr* begins January 31 on PBS, starting at 8 p.m. The first episode features Soledad O'Brien, Bill O'Reilly and Bill Maher and how they have been deeply influenced by their Irish roots.

The Ninth season of *Who Do You Think You Are?* will premier on TLC sometime in Spring/Summer 2017. You can sign up for the season Nine fanalert at <http://waitwith.us/who-do-you-think-you-are-season-9-7955/>

Meanderings, (cont'd from page 12)



High School in Milwaukee Gail's parents attended

After visits to automobile collections and presidential libraries, we drove from Springfield, IL to Macomb, IL. Macomb is the home of Larry's maternal grandparents. We were able to find the Genealogy Society there and found City Directories that are in no other location and are not digitized. We found much information about the Nardin side (Larry's grandmother) as well as the Waddill (Waddell) side.

Larry also decided after all this time that his grandfather Frank Waddell had a brother named Arthur. How he failed to mention this earlier (like ever), I found disconcerting. The City Directory of 1910 listed Arthur as proprietor of the Brunswick Billiard and Lunch Rooms on Randolph St. We went looking for this place. Surprisingly, it is now a pool hall named the Ritz. Building is painted black and is a tavern and pool hall at night. Nothing much had changed here.



After our visit to Macomb, we headed to St. Louise, MO. After a brief visit and no more genealogy, we headed home with treasures and a good feeling about everything we visited. The variety of things that we saw and the information we found made our trip well worth the three weeks we spent on the road.

Legend Has It... Grandma's Trail of Tears

by Nancy Churchill

What is it about family legends? They arouse something in us, beguile us, and tempt us like a siren's song. They beckon us closer, whispering enticingly of love, hate, passion, betrayal, adventure, hardship, great personal loss, and great triumphs. Some speak of a family's or an individual's great heroics and sacrifice – and a few even of violence and murder.

But as genealogists, whether professional or amateur, we must ask ourselves some tough questions about these stories that have been handed down: Have they been embellished in some way? If so, how -- and how much? Are they even true? Or are they like so many legends, having both some truth along with much embellishment?

A thorn in the side for many families are the true family histories that contain ugly truths that somehow seem uglier, or at least more embarrassing, for the descendants of famous villains. For instance, I once knew a man who was descended from a member of the infamous James-Younger gang. He painted a pretty picture of these outlaws for his young, uninformed wife; that of a sort of nineteenth-century Robin Hood and his Merry Men, stealing from the rich to give to the poor (makes one

wonder who painted the pretty picture of Robin Hood . . . ah, but that's another story!).

I have only recently begun to dig into my family's history and have thus far heard nothing of outlaw gangs, merry or not. I have however, been thrown a few tantalizing tidbits regarding my one of my great grandmothers. How many "greats" in there, I'm unsure of at this point.

The story goes that she was a Cherokee-Chickasaw woman who was part of the "Trail of Tears"; the forced march by the U.S. government of the Five Tribes of the southeast to west of the Mississippi. Her family settled in Texas. At some point it was discovered that their new land contained oil. Although I don't know all the details yet, I do know that my maternal grandmother, along with several other family members were receiving royalties for the oil pumped from their land, which had been leased to an oil company, as I have pictures of some of the documents.

For now however, I will continue to mine for those elusive gems we call family history.

To be continued....

Introductions, (cont'd from page 5)

An interesting fact she found was that her paternal grandfather, of Irish immigrant stock, was conscripted to serve in the Spanish American War, but went AWOL from boot camp rather than fight. That was not something he would have wished his seven children, including her father and three other sons who served with honor in World War II, to have known about.

Surnames Elizabeth is researching are Crimmins, Tolsdorf, and Barnett.

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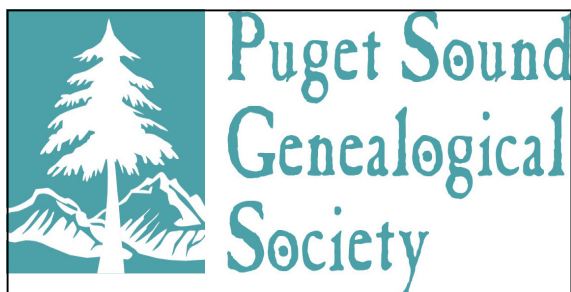


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