



THE BACKTRACKER



A Publication of Puget Sound Genealogical Society

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ANTIQUE SHOW FEBRUARY 22 AND 23, 2020

I took a look back {as genealogists are prone to do} at some articles about the Kitsap Antique Show. I learned that the idea was conceived in 2000 by Sandie Morrison. Our organization owes a lot to those first organizers. For a more complete story, check out the January 2016 issue of the Backtracker.

The Antique Show brings about \$5,000 to our organization each year. It can't be done without the work of board members from Puget Sound Genealogical Society and Kitsap County Historical Society. But the heart and soul of the event depends on **YOU**, the volunteers that help pull it off. We will be setting up on Friday, February 21 from 8-4 or so. The show is Saturday, February 22 from 9-5 and Sunday, February 23 from 9-4.

This year, we have some of our favorite vendors returning, some new vendors and some great appraisers. We have also added some raffle drawings and a speaker presentation on Saturday and Sunday. I hope to see you at the show, either working or enjoying.

Peg Powell, Antique Show Chair



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Presidential Ponderings

by Jean Yager

Happy 2020!!

For the last six years, at our monthly general meetings (Jan through Nov), we have been having 50/50 drawings. The purpose of doing this was to encourage you to stay for the business meeting and to donate half of the income to a local organization or contribute to a national genealogical project. Alta Drane sold tickets for \$1.00 for a chance to win back half of the collection. At the end of the meeting, Alta would draw the winning ticket. The average amount won was \$30.00. The other half would then be set aside until the end of the year. In November, the Executive Board voted to match the funds and decide what organization would receive it. In 2014 (the first year), we collected \$300, PSGS than matched that amount and donated \$600 to the Federation of Genealogical Societies to help “Preserve the Pensions”, a project to digitize the War of 1812 Pension Files. If you’re interested in knowing more about this, check out their website: <https://fgs.org/community/preserve-the-pensions/>. For years 2015 – 2018 we donated to Kitsap Com-

(cont’d on page 3)

Genealogy Center Report

by Elisabeth Demmon

The collection in the Genealogy Center continues to grow at a modest pace with the addition of several donations over the past couple of months. When materials are donated by individuals or from another genealogy society/library, there is a process involved to get the items on the shelves. I first check all materials for condition; if an item needs repair, Ingrid, our very talented and dedicated volunteer mender ensures that the book is meticulously refurbished and ready for the shelves. The item is then sent to the library’s Collection and Technical Services Department for cataloguing so the item can be found by researchers once it has been added to the shelves. As you might imagine, this process takes time.

When donations are added to the shelves, some shifting is usually required to make room for the new materials. The next

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PSGS NEW OFFICERS FOR 2020



Welcome to our new PSGS officers for 2020. From left to right: Lisa Treiberg, Member at Large; Larry Harden, Treasurer; Sharon Overman, Secre-

tary; Terry Mettling, 2nd Vice President; Heidi Ginder, 1st Vice President; and Jean Yager, President. Thank you for your service to PSGS.

Presidential Ponderings (cont'd from page 2)

munity Resources (a non-profit social services agency) in the amounts of \$660, \$724, \$674 and \$677, respectively. Check out their website at <https://www.kcr.org/> for more information on this organization. This year we decided to donate \$670 to The Coffee Oasis, a non-profit organization that exists to change the world for homeless youth. There are several of these cafes throughout Kitsap County and the proceeds support the Oasis Youth Programs. For more information about The Coffee Oasis, go to <https://thecoffeeoasis.com/>. At the next general meeting, Alta will be selling tickets, so buy as many chances as you like, knowing that half of your dollar is going to a worthy cause. If there is an organization you would like the Board to consider at the end of this year, please let one of the officers know.

Genealogy Center Report (cont'd from page 2)

project will be the shifting in the Family Histories section (929.2) as these shelves are so tightly packed, there is currently no room for the donations waiting to be added to the shelves. I hope to complete this shifting project by the end of January. If you have any ancestors with the surnames of ABELL; (John & Roger ALLING); BURT; CLAIRBORNE; JORDAN; (Thomas) POWELL; (Andrew) TAYLOR; TRAGO/TREGO; UNDERHILL, or have POCAHONTAS in your ancestry, I encourage you to visit the GC to see the progress of the project. I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Sincerely,
Elisabeth Demmon, Kitsap Regional Library's Liaison to the PSGS.

Using your Library Card

by Gwen Detweiler

Do you have a library card? I hope so. It is yet another tool to help you in your genealogy research in a variety of ways. Of course, you use it to check out books. You can find books on basic genealogy research to researching specific areas. Or books on the location of where your ancestors lived. Or on the history of the time period for your ancestors to add more depth and knowledge to your family story. And of course, our Genealogy Center at Sylvan Way has books to help your research but these do not check out. But, KRL may have a copy in their system that you can check out.

Your library card can offer you so much more! I will be talking about Kitsap Regional Library since that is our local library system. KRL has several databases. You can access many, but not all, of these from home if you have a library card. KRL has Ancestry-Library Edition-which you have to use in the library. But there are several other genealogy websites you can access from home, like Heritage Quest. And KRL has grouped them together to make it easier for you. Once you're on their webpage (www.krl.org), click on the research tab and then click on Genealogy. You will find several options on that page including us! Be sure and click on the box labeled Genealogy because it has links to several more resources.

Be sure and look at some of the other options KRL has under research. You may find additional resources to help you. For example, they have databases on U.S. History or World History.

Another way to use your library card is to obtain library cards from other library systems. KRL has a reciprocal agreement with many of the surrounding library systems. Why do want to do this? Because it gives you more options. Libraries do not all carry the same databases. So, if KRL doesn't have it, King County, or Seattle Public may have it. You can get more information about this by visiting KRL and selecting "Get a Card" (<https://www.krl.org/cards>). Visit the

websites of some of the surrounding library systems and see what databases they may have. Look for a Research tab or Online Resources. Many have grouped together their genealogy information. And they may have books in their catalog that you want to use but KRL doesn't have them. This leads to the next bit of information.

Another use for you library card is Interlibrary Loans. You've found the title of a book that may have information you need for your family research. But KRL doesn't have it in their collection. This happens frequently with older out of print books. You can put in a request for KRL to borrow it from another library. Under the **Read & Watch & Listen** tab, select **Purchase Suggestions + Interlibrary Loans**. If it's available from another library to borrow, they will send out a request to that library. These books often have a limited checkout time-dependent on the loaning library. Sometimes they are "Only Use in the Library" so you can't take the book home; you need to do your reading and research in the library. I've gotten several books this way, many from academic libraries



CEMETERY BLESSINGS FOUND IN FINLAND

by Melody Knight

Some people may see cemeteries as a scary or sad place. However, I do not; I have found them to be a true blessing.

While doing Finnish research, tombstones or headstones took on a positive meaning. They became places where I could find information—like real names, places and dates. While in Finland they became places where I could honor my ancestors by planting flowers or bringing cut flowers. I left a heart-shaped stone on many of my relatives' graves as a way of symbolically leaving my heart there in Finland. I had time (sometimes with cousins) to spend in reflection or prayer and to thank them for making it possible for me to be born!

The church cemetery in Kuortane is on the Western side of Finland in the Southern Ostrobothnia area.

Being able to worship in the old Kuortane church, which was built in the 1600s, was a spiritual experience I will never forget! I thought of my great grandfather, Juho Esanpoika Vainionpaa Toivola, who was so involved in the church (as a church sexton or carpenter), and still coating the roof of this church with tar at age 70. I thought of Juho, his wife Sanna and all of their children (and maybe even

their ancestors before them). I visualized them sitting in the pews, singing, and taking part in the services. As I worshiped and heard familiar tunes, and was able to miraculously sing in the Finnish language, I had to wipe away the tears that started flowing down my cheeks.



Juho age 75



Kuortane Church (pictured above) was opened in 1777 by Architect Antti Hakola. (Incidentally, Juho said he was sitting on the metal rooster as he was applying the tar!)

Church records have filled in many details for me, also. Another DNA cousin found the church records for Sanna's family. They had to leave the house, called Maentausta, shortly after she was born in 1858. They were living in a multi-generational home. Apparently that was a breeding ground for some communicable disease. The pastor had written that a communicable disease took the lives of her fraternal grandparents, many of her siblings, and her uncle in that year and sometime later when again another disease hit. What a bittersweet time that must have been with her birth and their deaths!

Also looking at the church records I found out that Sanna and Juho had lost at least 4 children: their first child, son Rinari, only lived two days; their twin daughters Maria and Susanna lived three days and eight days respectively. I think their son Heikki died at two years old. Maybe losing so many children, the

(cont'd on page 6)

CEMETERY BLESSINGS FOUND IN FINLAND
by Melody Knight (cont'd from page 5)

sadness of losing them, the lean times (of poor nutrition, little food and no money for medicine), had caused her to be in poor health. It tells me more about her. I understand her more, since I've also lost a child, which has a profound effect on you!

Obituaries also became a blessing when a DNA cousin sent me the obituaries for my great grandparents, Aku Asikainen and Anna Greta Tolonen. They lived on the Eastern side of Finland in the Iisalmi area. Before that I only knew that Aku

looked like a very calm, thoughtful, sweet person, from his picture. And I guessed that Anna had had a difficult life from that same picture. I really wished I could meet them and talk to them. These obituaries were so beautifully written that they



Aku & Anna

brought me to tears! The English translations for the two obituaries follow.

*Deeply missing, but with a hope of reunion, we let you know that my dear husband and the gentle father of the children **AUGUST ASIKAINEN** died with faith to his Savior in Akula in Koukinjoki on Sunday 20th November, at 9:30 a.m. Aged 78 years 10 months and 10 days; Missing him other than*

myself are 3 sons in America and 1 daughter with her family in Finland and several relatives and friends.

Anna Asikainen (formerly Tolonen)

I am safe under His wings and storms of night will not trouble me because He took me as His child. He brought me glorified rest. I am protected, I am safe. Blessed wings cover me. My soul can hand over all the worries to the Lord.

*With deep sorrow I am letting you know that our dear mother and foster mother, widow **Anna Reeta Asikainen (formerly Tolonen)** died peacefully at her home in Akula in Koukunjoki on 19th May, 1928 after having lived 76 years 7 months 24 days. Left with sorrow myself with my family, 3 sons in America, 1 sister, foster daughters, grandchildren, etc. relatives and friends.*

Ida Vartio (formerly Asikainen)

Thank you Mom, for all your trouble!

Your memory will remain!

So, as you can see, I found out that they were deeply religious, loving, hard-working Christian people! I also found out that Anna was a foster mother, but that is a story for another time.

So don't think of cemeteries, obituaries, and death records with sadness. Think of them as a blessing that tell us more about the people that came before us and about the times they lived in!

Reminder, your 2020 PSGS dues are due now. Dues are \$15 per person or \$20 per family in the same household. Membership forms are found in the GC at the library or on the members page at our website at pusogensoc.org. Thank you for your support.



Diane Howell Evans

Side by Side



Richard T. Evans

I joined PSGS in June of this year shortly after retiring from Federal Service in DC and moving to Kitsap County. I am excited about learning all I can about genealogy and researching my family tree. I look forward every month to all the lectures and classes available to residents of Kitsap County. The information I have received thus far has been truly exciting but also overwhelming.

I grew up hearing about 5 Howell brothers that emigrated from Wales to the US and somehow made their way from the East Coast to the Midwest. I heard about ancestors participating in the Underground Railroad and other ancestors marrying into the Iroquois tribe. All hearsay and now I am ready to dig my heels in and separate fact from fiction!

I am interested in pursuing the surnames of Howell and Caldwell. One hitch is my mother was adopted and my recent 23andMe results showed over 1000 relatives with surnames and resident states and countries totally mind-boggling! They must be relatives of my mother. I found my mother in the 1930 census when she was 2 years old and it describes her relationship as the adopted daughter of the Caldwell family. So begins the hunt!

I only have two older living relatives from the Howell side of the family and I am hoping when I see them later this year I can obtain information about my parents, grandparents and great grandparents. I do have a cousin who has explored the Howell family tree but I am not sure if the results are documented with copies of public records as I have learned to do in the several classes I have taken so far. I hope to meet up with the cousin next summer.

I have no known relatives on the Caldwell side of the family but next summer I hope to travel to the

(Cont'd on page 8)

I joined PSGS in June of this year shortly after retiring from DOD Federal Service in VA and moving to Kitsap County. My membership is the other half of the family membership with my wife, Diane. So I am along for the ride!

Diane keeps me informed with information she has learned from her classes and lectures at the Kitsap County libraries. I did accompany her to the recent Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society conference for the 'Beginning Genealogy' lecture by Janet O'Connor Camarata. I found it very interesting and informative.

I do have a cousin in Mississippi whom has done some research on my mother's side of the family – Stribling – and a road trip planned later this year to see cousins from both sides of my family will hopefully provide a starting point for more research on my family history.

All older relatives are long gone and it is now left to me and my cousins to document our family tree. As Janet O'Connor Camarata pointed out we need to find an interested person within our sons and daughters or our grandchildren to protect and carry on the family research and documentation for future generations.

How did we end up in Kitsap County? Well, after much research across the USA eliminating those places with forest fires, mud slides, tornadoes, hurricanes, flooding and possible volcanic activity, I narrowed it down to WA and anywhere west of Seattle. The Pacific Ocean provides moderate weather temperatures and the Olympic Mountains act as a barrier against any Pacific storms coming inland – thus the Kitsap Peninsula. Discovered a fantastic piece of

(Cont'd on page 8)

Using Your Library Card

by Gwen Detweiler (cont'd from page 4)

to help in my research. (cont'd on page 8)

Sometimes a library won't allow an interlibrary loan. But you know there is some information in a book they have. You could request that they copy pages for you if you have that information. This will sometimes cost some money but they will usually let you know up front. Every library is different. KRL has a **Genealogy Request Form** that you can fill out to request this. ([https://www.krl.org/genealogy-request-](https://www.krl.org/genealogy-request-form)

[form](#))

I've mainly talked about online resources that libraries offer and using your library card. But on site they also have many options, too. Besides books, they may have older copies of newspapers, or microfilm. Library staff can be very helpful in answering your questions. Take full advantage of all the resources available to you through your library card.

Side by Side – Diane Howell Evans (cont'd from page 7)

small farming community in Michigan and see what I can find as I remember locations from my childhood. Hopefully, since it is a small community, I can find local residents with some knowledge of the family and any offspring that I can contact.

How did we end up in Kitsap County? My husband did lots of research on WA and narrowed the best place to live as the Kitsap Peninsula. Research on the web for land available narrowed the results down to Kitsap and Mason Counties. The very last place we looked at on one of our exploratory trips out here was Seabeck. It was a rainy and dreary day when the real estate agent drove us out to

look at the property for sale. My husband is great at visualizing the current environment and the outcome of his future plans and he was able to see the potential. I trusted him and our life here has been amazing – no more traffic like DC (unless of course we travel east to Seattle), no neighboring houses on top of us, and plenty of tasks to keep us active!

I am looking forward to learning more about PSGS and becoming more involved in your community activities and volunteering at the Genealogy Center.

Side by Side — Richard T. Evans (cont'd from page 7)

property in Seabeck and built our dream retirement home. Now every awesome beautiful day is spent on land improvement and landscaping.

I look forward to learning more about PSGS and working with Diane to assist in any way we can.

2019 PSGS Christmas Party

Thursday, December 5, 2019 was the date of our Annual PSGS Christmas Party. It was a potluck luncheon with lots of great food. I think we all ate too much. After the luncheon, new officers for 2020 were installed. Following that was the much anti-

pated Yankee Gift Exchange. If you were not able to attend this year, please plan on coming in 2020. It is great fun for all! Hope you enjoy a few pictures from the event. Also see another picture on page 11.



Jean Balter tells Santa who is on the naughty list



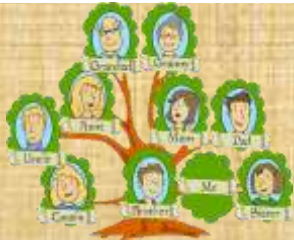
Larry Harden checks out his Yankee Gift Exchange win



Peg Powell gets a candy cane from Santa



More Yankee Gift Exchange pictures. Hazel Thornton, Janet Ravenkamp, and Jean Bray unwrap their treasures.



MY FAVORITE ANCESTOR — by Andrea Arnold

FLORA ALMA McINTIRE WYMAN

My great grandmother, Flora Alma McIntire Wyman, had a long and interesting life. It was not a life of excitement or adventure but was one of varied and absorbing interests. She was born in 1865 in a log house on a newly cleared farm in what was then the wilderness of northern Maine. The place later became the town of Perham in Aroostook County.

Daily life in those days was hard, but communities were tight knit and neighbors helped neighbors. Everyone worked all day, with very little time for play. There was housework, washing, sweeping, bed making, cooking, making butter, vegetable gardening, food storage, sewing, knitting and patchwork, feeding the animals, fetching water, clearing the land, and building homes and farm buildings.

I've learned that social and cultural interests were not lacking in this frontier area in Aroostook County. In addition to meetings of the neighbors for worship there were Sunday afternoon gatherings for music when everyone, adults and children alike, sang the songs which were current then. Flora, or Allie as she was called then, learned to sing by note almost as soon as she could talk. In her home there was music of her father's violin as well as the singing of both of her parents. Allie learned to read early and enjoyed reading her father's books and the magazines he subscribed to.

Also, in those days schools in rural communities were held for a few weeks usually during summer and winter, but between these terms there were many weeks without any school. Allie attended school in Perham whenever there was one, and later went to

school in the nearby towns. Between terms, her father supervised her studying. In the ungraded schools which she attended children could hear what was being taught to the more advanced classes and so made more rapid progress themselves. When she was fourteen, Allie taught her first term of school and later attended a year of high school in a nearby district. Although her formal education stopped when she was 18, she continued to study one subject or another all of her life.



Flora Alma McIntire Wyman

In 1886, she married Windsor Wyman, who had been a student at the Newton Theological Institution, near Boston. My great grandfather Windsor became a Baptist Minister, serving the parishes in the towns of Winchendon and Abington in Massachusetts. During a time when he did not have his own parish, Windsor took a part time job selling nursery stock. He soon started a business, the Bay State Nursery, and by 1894 the business was growing rapidly and he decided to leave the ministry and spend

all of his time in the nursery business.

In addition to caring for her home and family, and after she was no longer involved with her husband's parish or serving on the New England Baptist Missionary Board, Allie found time to study stenography and typing in order to help Windsor at the nursery. She learned to identify plants and knew their botanical names so she could help out on that side of the business as well. She was a birdwatcher, and passed her

(Cont'd on page 11)

MY FAVORITE ANCESTOR —**FLORA ALMA McINTIRE WYMAN** by Andrea Arnold (Cont'd from page 10)

love of nature on to her granddaughter, my mother. Later on, to assist her husband during business trips to Europe, she learned French and Esperanto.

How do I know all of these things about my great grandmother Flora "Allie" Wyman, who passed away in 1954? Because she spent significant time during her life researching and documenting her family's genealogy as well as writing her own childhood history. In her written prologue to 'My Childhood in the Great Forest' dated July 1, 1930, she writes "Today - not later - I must in good faith begin what I promised (daughter) Florence some years back that I would do, write some little account of my early life in Aroostook." That is, she refers to it as a promise and sternly holds me to the idea of fulfilling it as such. Perhaps she is right. I admit that once, when recalling some of the scenes and happenings of my childhood I remarked that I would like to write out some of them - they were so different from the scenes with which my own children were familiar.

This booklet about life on the Maine frontier isn't the only genealogical treasure my great grandmother left for future generations. After many years



Flora Alma McIntire Wyman in her later years

of research conducted in Boston and in the small towns of New England, she compiled a study called "A Typical New England Ancestry". In this well organized book, she has documented her various family lines and trees. Many family members have enjoyed bringing out a copy of the book and showing various family connections, including those to Mayflower passengers and a Salem witch.

As all genealogists can appreciate, it certainly lightens the task of additional research when you have a 'road map' based on earlier work. What I've learned too is that while we may think that no one in the future would be interested in our stories, it's just not true when you consider the years between generations and what we are writing now will be appreciated by so many generations in the future. I appreciate these gifts from my great grandmother Flora Alma McIntire Wyman, and intend to continue her legacy in my own research and documentation of new family stories.

Dec 5, 2019
Christmas Party... Everyone is ready and waiting for the buffet line to open.



A Look Back...

at the past three months of programs presented by PSGS



Oct 23, 2019: Jill Morelli

Unraveling Family Myths Using the Principles of Logic

Jill shared five basic case studies of the most common family myths: undocumented myths of our own making, extraordinary military service, relationship to someone famous, Native American, and freeform story. We learned to use logic to prove or disprove these family stories. Give it the test, including asking questions is it acceptable, is it relevant, are there grounds (is there evidence). Timelines also help when finding if something is acceptable. Don't be too quick to throw a myth away. Part of it may be true.

Nov 20, 2019: Vern Frykholm and Jane Ritchey

George and Martha Washington: The Early Years

Once again PSGS hosted Vern Frykholm in character as George Washington. This time, we had a bonus. Jane Ritchey accompanied him as Martha Washington. We were taken back in time to their lives learning how they met, which one was considered the greater catch (Martha brought 17,500 acres & 300 slaves from her 1st marriage and George was of a lower class but was a hero of French & Indian war, a good horseman, and handsome), and what was it like for them as George went from military career to president. George and Martha never had children of their own, but Martha did bring some children to the marriage that George adopted.



George and Martha Washington (aka Vern Frykholm and Jane Ritchey) wore period costumes to keep in character for our program.



December 5, 2019

PSGS Christmas Party

All those who attended the party had a super time. We were glad that everyone was able to come and enjoy themselves. Great food and awesome time with member and friends. Thank you all for coming. Be sure and check out the pictures on pages 9 and 11.



Looking Forward...

at the next three months of programs presented by PSGS

- Jan 22, 2020** **Getting to Know the PSGS Genealogy Center** with Sharon Hornback
 Learn what is available in the Genealogy Center to further your research and help you write your family history. What books, programs, and other sources are there for you to use.
- Feb 26, 2020** **Hacks for Reading Foreign Books & Newspapers** with Mary Kircher Roddy
 A new lecture will be presented *Fraktur und Fremdwörter**: Hacks for Reading Foreign Books & Newspapers (*foreign words). Learn to “crack the code” with new tools.
- Mar 25, 2020** **Myths, Legends and Lies: The Dangers of Family History Research**
 With Michael Lee Stills
 Can you handle the truth? But before you jump in, have you ever asked yourself if you’re fully prepared for what you might discover? Together we will be opening closets to expose skeletons, peeking under the lid of Pandora’s Box, and shining light on the ethical dilemmas you may encounter in the quest to find your missing ancestors. They may have good reasons why they’re hiding from you.

Schedule of Classes — January & February 2020

- Sat, Jan 25** **Google Earth** Presenter: Joleen Aitchison
 Learning basics of Google Earth and how it can help you find locations where your ancestors lived. This hands-on class is limited to 16.
- Sat, Feb 4** **Military Records for Genealogy Research** Presenter: Megan Churchwell
 Uncover your Sailor’s story through military records! Military records can provide valuable information about a veteran’s service. In addition to the veteran’s service record itself, learn about related records held by government archives including ships’ deck logs, pension records, unit histories, and more.
- Tues, Mar 3** **Evernote: The Genealogist’s Best Friend** Presenter: Janet O’Connor Camarata
 This is a hands-on class with a limit of 16. Registration is required.
- Discovering Your Ancestors Series IV “Deep Dive”** Presenter: Janet O’Conner Camarata
- Sat, Mar 7** **Class 1 — Ancestry.com**
- Sat, Mar 28** **Class 2 — Family Search.org: Indexed, Un-Indexed, and Foreign Records**

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

Contact: educ@pusogensoc.org or call 360-475-9172 to register

Judy Joaquin's

Belfair Bulletin

By the time this is read the holidays will be over and we will have begun a new decade. I trust that 2020 will be a productive and blessed year for you all.

Linnie Griffin, one of the founders of the Belfair Chapter of PSGS in the 1980s, sadly passed away in November. We will miss her leadership abilities as well as her knowledge of genealogy. She was adamant about sharing her findings with others. We extend our deepest sympathies to her family.

As usual we had our Christmas party early-it was a fun time with good food, laughs and of course talk about genealogy. There was a gift exchange as well.

The Belfair chapter does not meet in December or January. We are looking forward to having a speaker in February. Steve Morrison, a well-known Olympia speaker, will present a talk on the "Quakers". We will meet at the Belfair Timberland Library on February 5 at 1:00 PM. All members and visitors are welcome.

There is still time to plan a trip to Salt Lake City with the PSGS group. We will be there March 22-29. Please contact Larry Harden for the particulars. It is a fun time as well as productive.

As I close I want to wish you all a Happy New Year! On with research and more findings!

Judy

Bob Howard's

South Kitsap's Happenings

Again our meetings were primarily brick wall research.

During the October meeting the subject of the "Bernie boxes" came and the newer members questioned what we were taking about. These are about 5 big boxes of old ancestry research the late Bernie Koontz's family gave to PSGS. These boxes are full of pre computer ancestry research and photographs that we as a society don't know what to do with. Perhaps the subject should be brought up to the whole PSGS membership again. Some success was found for potential avenues of search for Quay's wall. Little headway was made with Nell's wall however.

The PSGS Christmas Party subject came up. Heidi asked if some of us could help with set up and we all were happy to help.

Beverly reported on her recent visit to Roslyn, Washington. This town was a coal mining community for supplying coal to the railroads. Among the places of interest there was the cemetery. Most of the miners were immigrants from all over Europe. The cemetery is divided into different sections for each of the ethnicities employed there. Like the rest of the US at the time Roslyn flourished, the different groups had a lot of animosity towards the others.

Heidi discussed her recent visit to the N.W. Colonial Festival near Sequim. George and Martha Washington were there.

Many avenues were tried trying to solve one of Beverly's brick walls but that brick wall remains.

Our meetings usually are about solving (or attempting to) Brick Walls. Heidi leads the discussion as we all look into other roads to solve problems.

We did not meet in December as that was the day of the PSGS Christmas Celebration. Will report on our January meeting in the next newsletter.

Our next meeting will be February 6 at the Church Of Christ, Carr Rd. Port Orchard at 9:30 a.m.

Submitted by Bob Howard



March 2020 Salt Lake City Trip

Mark your calendars for March 22 to March 29, 2020 to take part in the Salt Lake City Trip. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel at Temple Square. Standard Room rates are \$95 a night for single/double and \$102 a night for triple/quad. Deluxe room rates are \$105 a night for single/double and \$112 a night for triple/quad. Taxes are additional.

If you are interested, contact Larry Harden prior to January 31, 2020 at treas@pusogensoc.org.

GC Volunteer Winner



Gwen Detweiler & Sharon Hornback

Congratulations to Gwen Detweiler, the winner of our latest book drawing for GC Volunteers. She won a copy of Mobile Genealogy by Lisa Louise Cooke. Want to find

out more about the GC Volunteer contests? Contact Sharon at gcc@pusogensoc.org. We are always looking for more volunteers to keep the GC open to the public.



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