

Clark County Genealogical Society Newsletter

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General Meeting

Tuesday, September 27th

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

CCGS Annex - 715 Grand

Writing Oral History

Laurie Mercier will be sharing with us why incorporating oral history in any kind of writing can be compelling and rewarding to families. She will also share examples of the process of collecting, transcribing, and selecting examples for a family history publication. Laurie is currently finishing a book on oral histories of Montana women and is an instructor at WSU. She shares a lot of good information and can inspire us to add those family stories to our own family history. Bring your questions and join us on September 27th.

October 25, 2005 General Meeting, The Civil War with Johnny Reb and Billy Yank

Johnny Reb and Billy Yank (also known as Harold Slavik and Mark Stevens) will be talking about the common soldier of the Civil War: what they ate, what fears they faced, how old they were, what they did for entertainment, the things that killed or disabled them other than battlefield wounds.

What was their life like before, during, and after their time in service? They also will touch on little-known things such as women who fought and what they had to do to do so, blacks who fought for the Confederacy, prisoner of war camps on both sides, and the unique aspects of the war compared to even WWII, as well as Civil War medicine and sanitation, or lack of. Harold and Mark are both very knowledgeable about the political, social, and military aspects of the war. Join us in October for a morning meeting and consider bringing a friend to share this Civil War experience.

Research Trip to the Salt Lake City Family History Library

There are 18 people registered to travel on our research trip. We will leave on Sunday October 9th and return on Sunday October 16th. Hotel reservations have been made at the Carlton Hotel, where we have roomed for many years.

There will be a "Get Acquainted" luncheon on Thursday September 8th, starting at noon, at Clarissa Farnsworths' home at 105 NW 95th Circle, Vancouver. Her phone number is 360-574-2140. Jeanine Bailiffs' phone number is 360-566-9422. Call either of them for more information.

Ready to start a new year?

Research and Preservation will need new volunteers, so consider helping someone else with their genealogy by proofing indexes. Or perhaps you'd enjoy extracting census forms we still have a bit to do. Most of the cemeteries need updating. Larry Dean has about a third of the indexing for the cemetery books we have. Pat and Larry have several workers under them and will need more volunteers. And we will need a team to sort the obituaries and perhaps paste them. So get ready to volunteer some of your time helping us complete projects. Some of our on-going projects are: Vitals in old and new papers, declarations from the secretary of state's office, territory census need to be completed, etc. Do you have a project that we should be doing? Let us know.

Room for Rent:

Our library annex is available for meetings, parties, workshops, etc. If you know a group looking for a place to meet, mention our facility. We have twenty one tables, seating for 100 and a video screen for presentations. Rates are: 1 hour \$10, 2 hours \$15, 4 hours \$25, All day \$50. Contact Anita Roberts at 892-6189 or aroberts@wa-net.com.

Notes from President Diana Cruz

Summer is winding down and Fall will soon make its appearance. CCGS starts a new year and as my husband would say "there is nothing more definite than change." The library has been continuing to update the library catalog and organize the books in the Dewey decimal system and we will have the opportunity for some new classes as well as a return of some of the basic beginner classes. The Fall Seminar is fast approaching, so be sure to put November 5th on your calendar. Ron Bremer, the author of the "Compendium of Historical Sources," will speak on "World of Genealogy" and space will be limited, so sign up early.

Have you put your family history research on the shelf and attended to gardening, enjoying the sun, or vacationing? It is a good time to review and look for those clues to breaking those brick walls in the family tree. I have been fortunate in the last few weeks to have found a distant cousin who has added some information for me, and I have shared some new information with him. We are now exchanging some family pictures.

I want to send a BIG "Thank You" to all who volunteered this past year at CCGS. It is because of all your help that the society continues to grow. If you have not been a volunteer with CCGS and have some time available, we have lots of jobs, big and small, that need some volunteers. Bea Frahm has volunteered to be the membership chair, and we have enjoyed some terrific window displays thanks to Donna McCoy's collections. There is still a need for more librarians, and we would love to help you find a job that fits your available time and talents.

By the time you read this, life members Bill and Charlene Duchie will be on their way to their new home in Mississippi. We will still have contact with them, and they will receive the newsletter at their new address. I greatly appreciate both the energies that they have shared with us the last few years, and a friendship that was started many years ago and has had a chance to grow. Bill and Charlene, I wish you both good health and many years of happiness in your new home.

A Day With The Washington Secretary of State

Jeanine Martinell Bailif

This summer Jane Germann, Dorothy Wear, Diana Cruz, and I went to Bellevue Community College where the Washington State Archives Puget Sound Regional Branch is located. The occasion was to thank Historical Records Project volunteers the many people around the state who are helping to put historical records on line. The project started about two years ago. I myself have typed 600 names and the information on their deaths, 1891-1907, and the Declarations of Naturalization for 1911-1920.

The program included: an introduction by Jerry Handfield, Washington State Archivist, a tour of the Archives, a speech and list of Summer Picks books for 2005 by Jan Walsh, Washington State Librarian, a talk about Historic Newspapers On Line by Marlys Rudeen, Washington State Library, a talk about the Crosby Ledger Project by Roger Easton, a DVD and video conference with Adam Jansen, Washington State Digital Archives in Cheney, a nice luncheon with drawings for prizes, and at the end, presentation of Certificates by the Secretary of State, Sam Reed, thanking the volunteers.

There are Archives in Seattle, Olympia, Cheney, Bellevue, and several other places. You can go on line to read about them at <http://www.archives@bcc.ctc.edu>.

Project directors are grateful for any assistance they can find. If anyone is interested in this project they can contact me at 360-566-9422 or the web address above. You can also see various projects by the Clark County Genealogical Society on our web page at: <http://www.ccg-wa.org> or visit our volunteer-staffed library at 717 Grand Blvd., Vancouver.

*We offer our condolences to the families and friends of members
Rosanne Simmons and Marian Russell,
both of whom died this past summer.*

Clark County Legacy Users Group

Don Finel - CCLUG moderator

Our group continues to meet on the 1st Monday of each month (except for September - see calendar), from 10 o'clock until noon in the CCGS Annex. If you are interested in the Legacy Genealogy database program, or are a current user, please join us at our meetings. They are open to all, beginners and experienced users. Questions and comments from the floor are welcomed. We average about 22 people each month and have room for more to share their experiences of the program with us.

Also, we are working on a new fund raiser for CCGS, offering the new upgraded version of the Family History CD program, which is called Passage Express. I will have CDs for sale after the 1st of September. Having been a beta tester of the program, I can answer many questions about it. If you are interested in sharing photos, a genealogy database, or historical documents, or in making a family cookbook, or in other projects with family and others, this might just be the program to add to your computer. If you wish to view a demo, please stop by the library on any Tuesday afternoon. I am very willing to show it to you there.

Clark County Cemeteries Web Project

Our CCGS webmaster, Patricia Bauer, has begun the construction of a free web site that will feature links to smaller cemeteries around Clark County. Others already volunteering to help with the project are Don Finel and Eileen Abernathy. This site will be patterned somewhat after the recently constructed Fern Prairie Cemetery web page at: www.rootsweb.com/~wafpc/.

The main page will be at: www.rootsweb.com/~wacacem/ It will be called "Clark County Cemeteries" and will contain links to other cemetery sites as they are constructed. The first one under way was that of the old Sifton Cemetery. You can click on the link from the main page to see how several sites look so far. At this time we have volunteers to do the retyping of obituaries as necessary, but need some volunteers willing to go to the Vancouver Public Library to copy obituaries from the microfilmed copies of the newspapers after we have permission from the various papers to use their copyrighted material on the web pages. We have received permission from *The Columbian*.

Online Computer Library Center Conference

Dorothy Wear recently attended the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Western conference held August 11-12 in Portland. The conference was on the importance of digitizing microfilmed and hard copies of newspapers held in various archives. Other information was shared on obtaining grants for their projects. Librarians from all over the United States attended, as did representatives from several universities and the Library of Congress. The Clark County Genealogical Society was invited to take part on a panel to share needs and ideas of genealogist regarding newspaper research and how the OCLC digitizing projects can assist them.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

What does it take to keep CCGS open for business? Dedicated volunteers contributed 12,530 documented hours in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2005. For example, 1,834 hours were contributed by elected officers and board members; 2,664 hours were donated by our library director and her committee; and volunteer librarians were on duty 3,455 hours. If you contributed your time to CCGS but didn't report your hours last year, you can start now for the current fiscal year. Email your hours at the end of each month to Marge Fizzell, volunteer hours chair, mfizzell@earthlink.net, or leave them in her mailbox at the CCGS library.

Don't Forget the Clark County Genealogical Society Fall Seminar: <i>World of Genealogy</i> with Ron Bremer, author of the Compendium of Historical Source on Saturday, November 5, 2005. See the attached registration form - or the one on the CCGS web page. Limited seating!



Clark County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 5249
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President: Diana Cruz
Vice President: Glen Jones
Secretary: Dorothy Wear

Treasurer: Vonda Erickson
Asst. Sec-Treas: Pat Long
Past President: Bill Duchie

<http://www.ccg-s-wa.org>
Library: 717 Grand Blvd
360-750-5688

CCGS Meetings and Programs

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| 12 Sept | CCGS Board meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 am ; All are welcome. |
| 12 Sept | Legacy Family Tree Interest Group, CCGS Library Annex, 12:30-2:30 p.m. |
| 27 Sept | General Meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 7 – 9 p.m. |
| 3 Oct | Legacy Family Tree Interest Group, CCGS Library, 10 a.m. – noon |
| 9-16 Oct. | Research trip to Salt Lake City |
| 19 Oct | Deadline for Oct. Newsletter; e-mail material to gskuech@pacifier.com |
| 25 Oct | General Meeting, CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. - noon. |
| 5 Nov. | Fall Seminar with Ron Bremer, CCGS Library Annex, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. |

General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month (except November) at CCGS Library Annex. Morning meetings: Oct - Feb, 10 a.m. - noon. Evening meetings: Apr-Sept. 7 - 9 p.m. No General Meeting is held in March (Spring Seminar), July, August, or December.

Please help spread the sunshine!

If you know of anyone who should receive a Get Well, Thinking of You, or Sympathy card, please contact Irene Page at 360-835-7642 or pageig@pacifier.com.