



TPCGS NEWSLETTER

April 2011

Vol. V, No. 4

MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS SCHEDULE

- 2 May 2011 TPCGS Board Meeting. All members welcome. Tacoma Historical Society**
(Tacoma Historical Society is at 3712 S. Cedar, across from the Goodwill store parking lot)
- 10 May 2011 "Finding them is only part of the trouble". Myra Gormley Bates Technical College**
Pre-meeting topic **Irish Genealogy** with Pat Wood
- 29 Aug 2011 TPCGS Board Meeting. All members welcome. Tacoma Historical Society**
- 13 Sep 2011 Summer adventures in family research. Members' tales and travels Bates Technical College**
Pre-meeting topic "Where are We Going as a Society?"

RELATIVES IN THE CIVIL WAR

by Warren Fisk, TPCGS President

As I write this message it is April 12, 2011. It has been 150 years since the start of the Civil War. A war in which about 3.8 million Americans fought and approximately 625,000 died. These are staggering numbers to me. Even with these numbers, it was individuals that fought and died in the war to determine the fate of the nation and slavery.

It was only a few years ago that I discovered that my children had at least three relatives that fought in the Civil War, two from the North and one from the South. I had no clue until I started looking for potential soldiers. I first found that my wife's great-great grandfather, Frederick Kent, was Canadian and not only a soldier in the Civil War but was a regular soldier in the Second US Artillery before, during, and after the war. Later I discovered that my great-great grandfather, Thomas Morgan, was a volunteer with the First Wisconsin Infantry. The third family member, William Burton, I discovered going through family letters and papers. He was in the Third Tennessee Infantry and was captured and later died in a prison at Camp Douglas, Chicago.

What I have subsequently discovered is that these people were not just numbers or even soldiers, but people who were part of families, who had lives before and, except one, had lives after the war.

Have you done the research to find if there are Civil War veterans in your family? Have you discovered at least part of the story of their lives? Soldiers who fought in the war ranged in age from pre-teens to the elderly. They were black, white, and many nationalities. If you had a relative that lived in the North or South during the time of the Civil War, you may have at least one who fought in the war.

There are many resources available to help you. The best place to start is to communicate with your relatives and search through family information and photos for clues. Once you have a list of possibilities the next stop would be to go to Cyndi's List (Cyndislist.com/cw.htm) and continue your search.

For those who have already discovered their Civil War veterans, now is the time to go back and continue to find out more about them. We all have the opportunity to turn numbers into real people. I hope your search will be as rewarding as mine.

Interesting and informative items found while scanning recent exchange quarterlies

—Compiled by the editor

From “Genetics for French-Canadian Genealogists,” *Je Me Souviens*, Autumn 2010, p. 62

An interesting aside regarding the effects of genes on people is revealed in the height of men in France. About 50 years ago, some French scientist noted that French males were on average about two inches shorter than other European males. When they looked back through records they found the height difference had held true for 135 years. The answer was intriguing in its simplicity—Napoleon. As Emperor of France, he instituted the first modern military draft in an attempt to bring all of Europe into his empire. All French men served in his armies, and his shock troops who went into battle were Grenadiers. All the men in these units had to be at least six feet tall, and suffered the heaviest battle losses. After almost 18 years of constant warfare, the variation in height for Frenchmen, and tall Frenchmen left to reproduce and leave offspring, was almost completely eliminated. The reduction in the height of the French stems from selective loss of tall men in the population.

—Richard Provost, Ph.D.

“Oregon Asylum Cremains,” *Willamette Valley Genealogical Society Newsletter*, March 2011, p. 4

On January 28, 2001, the Oregon State hospital released the following information:

The Oregon State Hospital is the custodian of the cremated remains of approximately 3,500 people who died while living at Oregon State Hospital, Oregon State Tuberculosis Hospital, Mid-Columbia Hospital, Dammasch State Hospital, Oregon State Penitentiary, and Fairview Training Center between 1914 and the 1970s. These cremains were never claimed. The hospital hopes to change that and unite the cremains with family members. To that end, the hospital has posted this list of names of the people whose cremated remains are in its possession. Hospital officials urge anyone who thinks he or she may have a family member who passed away at one of these institutions to review the list. As soon as the connection can be confirmed, the hospital will make arrangements for the cremains to be sent to the family. The list of names and more information is at

<http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/mentalhealth/osh/cremains.shtml>

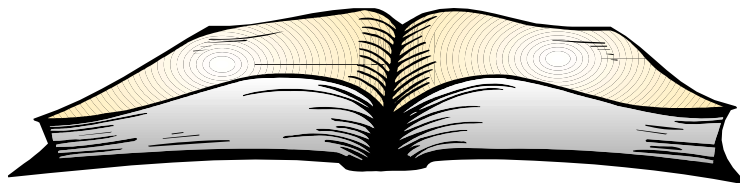
“Women’s Clubs,” excerpt in *The Sounder*, V. 24, #4, 2010, p. 136,

from *The History of Snohomish County, Washington*, Vol. 1, published in 1926.

Among the chief organizations of women in the city [Everett] are two known as Chapters Q and AL of the Washington State Chapter of the P. E. O. Sisterhood. There are approximately 40,000 members in the United States. . . .

The organization stands for growth along the lines of culture, philanthropy and education. Both chapters contribute toward the educational fund of the Sisterhood which was established in 1909. Since that date a fund of \$350,000 has been loaned to aid in securing higher education for girls. More than 1,200 girls have been thus assisted. In order to receive aid the girl must have a high school education or its equivalent.

(My grandmother belonged to a PEO chapter in the Yakima Valley, along with her two sisters. Nobody knew what the initials meant. My grandfather stated that they stood for “Pa Eats Out” because that is what he did when Grandma went to a PEO meeting. I read this item in *The Sounder* with great pleasure and sent up a cheer for my grandmother and great-aunts for their support of education for young women in an era when that was rare.)



FAMILY LINE RESEARCH

Researched and Compiled by
Gretchen Collins Campbell

Obituary look ups and family line research have been keeping me busy these last few weeks. There is always an obituary to find and hopefully it is interesting.

Here are some of the families I have researched: Nelford **Hollingsworth**, Dora **Sipe**, Agnes Groose **Martin**; Brenda **Munro**; Joanne **Rogers**; Mary Jane & Charles **Sears**; Thomas **Coles**; Thelma **Lumm**; Carl & Dick **Dakin**; Philip **Schlarb**; George Henry **Miller**; Calvin **Springer**; Delbert **Denison**; Donald **Hamilton**; Edward **Smart**; Floyd **Grogan**; Joseph A. **Olszewski**; Katherine **Hines**; Senila Antilla **Ates**; Harry **Deininger**; Jane **Shabin**; Randall & Alice **Kenyon**; Harris M., William R. & Lucille York; Mary Cecilia & John Marion **Steele**; Adam, Emma & Caroline **Goetz**; Lillian **Wright**; Erik & Mary **Nervik**; Emma **Houseman**; Jean **Kohler**; Flora **Smith**; Italia **Carlson**; Etta May **Wright**; Nettie **Hill**; Therese, Albert & Frank **Baumgartner**; Alberta, Anna & Earl **Sherman**; Lola, Louis, Cecil & Fannie **Dumond** and Liberatus & Justine **Ferderer**. If any of these names fall in your family tree, please let me know and I will put you in touch with your "cousin."

Now, obituary look ups are not the most exciting research to do. Most of them look the same – name and age of person; date of death; a list of survivors; an occupation; the organizations the deceased belonged to and the date and place of the funeral. So, when I was asked for my article for the Newsletter I thought back on the many people who had died and excitement did not bound off the pages. After all, what more is there to say about a man who died at age 65 after 46 years as a painter's assistant in the ship yards?

Today I struck pay dirt when I found Col. John Marion Steele who died in October 1896. He was only 53 years old and a well known business man in Tacoma. He came to Tacoma in 1883 from Wichita, Kansas. He was in the real estate business with various partners. In 1891 he was the Vice President of the Fox Island Clay Works as well as working with real estate.

When Col. Steele was 18 years old, he went to war as a lieutenant in the famous Bucktail regiment of the Pennsylvania infantry. He carried many scars of his rough war years – a bullet in the cheek that was never able to be removed; in another battle a bursting shell nearly killed him and a remnant of it remained in his skull; and in another battle the enemy's cavalry charged, slashing young Steele's raised right hand and he was cut so badly that he was never able to use his hand again. He left the army as a Colonel – thus his name.

He moved west, first to Wichita where he made and lost a fortune and then to Tacoma. He was a business man and a politician. He was one of the 306 Kansas electors who stood for Grant on every ballot for president in 1880. He served as a member of the Tacoma city council in 1888-90 and had served as a territorial representative in the last Washington Territorial Legislature.

Charity was part of his daily life but he always endeavored to remain anonymous. The local Poultry dealers loved him at holiday time. There was nothing Col. Steele enjoyed more than finding fifty or a hundred poor families and surprising them with a "fat turkey and other Christmas goodies."

Col. Steele's memory lives in Tacoma even today. Steele Street in the North end carries his name.

Remember researching our forbearers can be fun – you never know what you will learn!!

Gretchen Collins Campbell
Vice President for Family Line Research

TPCGS Programs

6:00 to 7:00 pm pre-meeting topic. 7:00 to 9:00 pm meeting and program

10 May 2011 "Finding them is only part of the trouble" presented by Myra Gormley
Pre-meeting topic Irish Genealogy with Pat Wood

No meetings over the summer months. Get out there and find those ancestors!

See you Tuesday, September 13, 2011



BROWSING PERIODICALS . . .

by Elaine Workman

Publications exchanged with or subscribed to by the Society are available in the Northwest Room of the Tacoma Public Library, and may be found by a call number or hanging file designator (HF). Due to limitations of shelf space, some periodicals are stored in the Basement Stacks. If you provide the library staff with the call number, they will retrieve the journals for you. Just ask.

INTERNATIONAL / NATIONAL

American Spirit (DAR, Washington DC) Vol. 145.1 January/February 2011: Nashville; the Library Company of Philadelphia; Battle of King's Mountain; SCHUYLER-HAMILTON house; medicine in colonial America; Phillis WHEATLEY's journey to greatness. (HF)

American Spirit (DAR, Washington DC) Vol. 145.2 March/April 2011; revolution in upstate New York the birthplace of women's rights; words of solace early American women's letters; spy heroes women in revolutionary espionage; the long fight for married women's property rights; Kauai's GULICK-ROWELL house; Margaret COCHRAN CORBIN establishing the true identity of an American military heroine. (HF)

AROUND THE U.S.A.

CA Redwood Researcher (Redwood) Vol. 43.3 February 2011: Loleta index to 1912 precinct register; Humboldt County dead from influenza and pneumonia from Aug 1918 to Apr 1919; *The Arcata Union* September 30, 1938 cont'd; index of women from Klamath County marriages; Humboldt County burials 1905-1947; court proceedings after death in Klamath County; ancestors of Stanley Hubert COX and Lawrence S. H. ALKERN; children delivered by Mary D. GOFF. (929.1/R248R)

FL Buried Treasures (Central Florida Gen. Soc., Orlando) Vol.42.4 October-December 2010: Wiley POST first to fly solo around the world; suicidal drowning of Samuel GORE; John BARNEY 1780-1847 of VT and OH; Harold Giles HOFFMAN 1896-1954 of NJ; Jacob VAN BIBBER; donating genealogical material; memories of growing up in Orlando; 1927 Orlando high school graduating class. (929.1/B916B)

KS Kansas Kin (Riley Valley Gen. Soc., Manhattan) Vol. 49.1 February 2011: the Andrew NOLL and Juliana FESSLER NOLL family 1854 settlers in Louisville township Pottawatomie County, Kansas; pedigree of Robert Glen ALLEN; the great Mississippi flood of 1927; 100 years ago-*The Wamego Reporter* May 19, 1910; early 1600 subjugation of Ireland by England; our ancestor's dental care; land patents, bounty land warrants and Wyandott Indian reserve floats. (929.1/K133K)

KS Topeka Gen. Soc. Quarterly Vol.41.1 January 2011: the *Topeka Daily Capital* November 29-December 2, 1903 cont'd; the *Bern Gazette*, September 22-November 24, 1906; Shawnee County farm directory 1963 cont'd; the Connecticut Kansas Colony letters of Charles B. LINES; Topeka 150 years ago; heads of household 1860 Topeka. (929.1/T621T)

OK Oklahoma Gen. Soc. Quarterly (Oklahoma City) Vol. 55.4 2010: OGS 2010 third place story contest winner; obits from *The Elk City News* February 26, 1993; post cards written by WWI soldier Roy BRADSHAW; Anadarko HS yearbook 1920 list of students; newspaper clippings. (929.3766/OK4O)

OR Bulletin (Gen. Forum of OR, Portland) Vol. 60.3 March 2011: finding Jewish ancestors; Jewish surnames and given names; the Jewish community of old south Portland; Temple Beth Israel; decoding Jewish gravestones; Moses SELLER: Oregon crockery merchant; unraveling a 1942 Yiddish poem; researching Josephine County; extracts of Masonic proceedings KEYS-ZEWEL cont'd.(929.1/G286B)

WA Bulletin (Yakima Valley Gen. Soc., Yakima) Vol. 43.1 March 2011: Ethbert Allan BROWN Spanish-American War Veteran part 1; extracted BALL Funeral Home records; local brevities from the *Klickitat Leader* and the *Yakima Herald*; Mary Elizabeth MCINTOSH EDWARDS; Wapato High School 1918; students of the Washington Agricultural College and School of Science. (929.1/Y111Y)

Regional Genealogy Seminars “CSI Meets Roots”

Saturday, 21 May 2011, 9 am – 4 pm

Nordic Museum, 3014 NW 67th Street (in Ballard), Seattle

The Seattle Genealogical Society is presenting a one-day seminar on Forensic Genealogy

Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD, FSPiE, (author of *Forensic Genealogy* and *DNA & Genealogy*) will present four topics to help in your research. Registration (\$35 SGS members; \$45 Non-members) includes syllabus and welcome bag. Box Lunch available (\$12). Registration deadline for seminar and lunch is **14 May 2011**. For a brochure call SGS at (206) 522-8658 or see our website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waseags

“Abstracting Workshop: I Know They Existed, But I Can't Find Them”

Saturday, 4 June 2011, 8:30am-4:30 pm

CCGS Library Annex, 715 Grand Blvd., Vancouver, WA

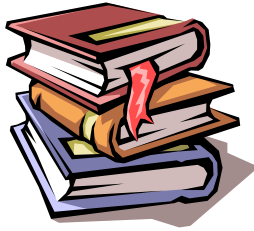
**Clark County Genealogical Society will present
Connie Lenzen CG**

for their Annual Spring Seminar.

She will present “*Abstracting Workshop: I know they existed but I can't find them; twentieth century research and proving a maternal line when Grandma didn't tell us who were her parents.*”

Go to this link for more information:

<http://www.ccg-wa.org/p4307.htm>



Some Fascinating Non-fiction from the Genealogy Section

The Invisible Line by Daniel J. Sharfstein

This is a true narrative of three families fading from black to white through the turbulent racial times in American history. All three families stem from one black man and through time the descendents make the choice to become white. With each family, the choice brings consequences that will either bring the family closer together or tear it apart. The Gibson, Wall, and Spencer stories are a great read that includes genealogy, family loyalty and American history.

Review by Elaine Workman

Faces of America by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

If you didn't have a chance to see the genealogy program, *Faces of America*, on TV last fall, or even if you did, this book provides all the stories and data that the program did, and perhaps in easier-to-absorb written form. Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. led research on the family histories of 12 well-known and extraordinary citizens. Beyond the paper trail of census records, immigrant ships' passenger lists, land records, Bible records, Dr. Gates continued the research on these 12 through dense genotyping with DNA analyses revealing even their very ancient past. Wouldn't we all love to have been the focus of such research, learning about ourselves what these 12 were able to learn? As the

jacket noted "Gates demonstrates that where we come from profoundly and fundamentally informs *who* we are today."

Shaking the Family Tree; Blue Bloods, Black Sheep, and Other Obsessions of an Accidental Genealogist by Buzzy Jackson.

Many books will tell you how to research your family history, but hardly any tell you how it feels to do it. This is a funny, touching, and exhilarating account of one woman's search of her family tree. Buzzy Jackson has a PhD in history, but discovers that genealogy is a whole different kind of research. Several chapters tell of her trips to faraway states with old family cemeteries and old family homesteads. Two chapters tell of going on a genealogy cruise where TPCGS members will particularly enjoy reading about Buzzy's encounter with Cyndi Howells, one of the experts available to cruise participants. Another chapter recounts how DNA testing contributed additional information. A pilgrimage to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City provides an informative look at the Mother Lode of genealogy records. By the end of the book Buzzy has traced ancestors back 250 years and learned some of the stories behind family legends.

This is an entertaining and informative book that readers new to genealogy will find helpful and even experienced genealogists will enjoy.

TPCGS 2011 Spring Seminar

Saturday, May 7, 2011

La Quinta Inns and Suites, 1425 East 27th Street, Tacoma, Washington

Presenting **Laura G. Prescott**, President of the Association of Professional Genealogist

Laura will present four talks: *Turning Fiction into Fact*, *Treasures within the Ivory Tower: Finding Family in Academic Archives*, *Timelines: Placing Your Heritage in Historical Perspective*, and *The Rest of the Story: Using Manuscripts to create a Family History*.

In addition, our own **Cyndi Howells** will act as emcee and give a brief talk at the beginning of the day.

Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day, including the Grand Prize of a Flip-Pal Scanner.

A variety of raffle prizes will also be available.

Vendors will include Heritage Quest's ever-popular book sale, as well as several information booths.

And don't forget the used book sale – you never know what treasure you might find!

For additional information, and a registration form, check out the TPCGS website at:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/seminar.html>

Recently cataloged titles available in TPL Genealogy collection

Compiled by Jean Fisher, TPL Librarian, NW Room

Holcomb, Brent H. *South Carolina's Royal Grants, Volume One: Grant Books 1 Through 9, 1732-1761.*

These volumes contain abstractions from 4,698 grants, and indicate the date the grant was certified, the names of the grantees and adjacent land owners, and the location of the land granted. GEN 929.3757 H697SR

Holcomb, Brent H. *Chester County, South Carolina Deed Abstracts, Volume One: Deed Books A-F, 1785-1799.*

This collection of abstractions is organized numerically by deed number, and includes both a name and place index. Handy historical maps showing districts and county court locations are also useful. GEN 929.375747 H697CD

Richards, Mary Fallon & John C. *Delaware Marriages and Deaths from the Delaware Gazette, 1865-1874.*
and

Richards, Mary Fallon & John C. *Delaware Marriages and Deaths from the Delaware Gazette, 1875-1879.*

Transcribed from the longest-lived of a number of 19th century newspapers in Delaware, these two volumes contain notices of deaths and marriages reported in the *Gazette*. A listing of ministers is included, to offer hints to religious affiliation and location. Both at GEN 929.3751 D376DM

Champaign County Genealogical Society. *Champaign County, Ohio Guardianship and Indentures, 1805-1858.*

Names in this book were copied from guardianship book 1 in the Probate Court of Champaign County, with added names from minute books from the Common Pleas Court. Also included are names of indentures from deed books and book A in the Records Office. GEN 929.3771465 C3577C

Champaign County Genealogical Society. *Will Abstracts of Champaign County, Ohio, Books A thru F: 1805-1888.*

Approximately 8000 names are included in this volume of abstracts, compiled from will books located at the Champaign County Probate Court office. Included is a guide to abbreviations and a name index. GEN 929.3771465 ST516W

Coming up in the next few months

More Seminar and Workshop Opportunities

“Building Ancestral Bridges”

Friday and Saturday, 16-17 Sept 2011 Richland Baptist Church, 1632 George Washington Way, Richland, WA

Washington State Genealogical Society's 2011 Annual Conference hosted by the Tri-City Genealogical Society; will present Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL. For more details of the conference see:

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wasgs>

“Autumn Quest”

Saturday 8 October 2011

Tacoma Elks Club, 1965 S. Union Ave. Tacoma, WA

Heritage Quest will present Michael John Neill, author of *Casefile Clues*, a weekly how-to genealogy newsletter and *Genealogy Tip of The Day*. Additional information as it becomes available; see:

<http://www.hqrl.com/>



GENIE GRAB-BAG

Compiled by Janice Weihs

If you have identified ancestors back to the 1700's, and are wondering if they were involved in the American Revolution, one place to check is the **Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot Index**, which is available on-line at http://www.dar.org/library/online_research.cfm. People living at that time supported the rebels in a variety of ways, which is recognized as patriotic endeavor qualifying a female descendent for membership. Perhaps they weren't in combat, but signed major documents that the British would have deemed traitorous or provided various supplies to those who fought. Because this index was created from documentation provided by DAR members, not everyone who provided service to the patriots' cause is listed, but the index is well worth taking a look at.

Many states conducted their own state censuses, and now those can be researched on-line. To find any particular state go to <http://www.freegenealogytools.com/2010/11/historical-state-census-records.html>. Frequently these state censuses are packed with information much more than the federal ones. Kansas, for example, referred to theirs as an agricultural census and every household reported on how much butter was made, how many fruit trees they had, how much "wild" hay and cultivated hay, how many animals of various kinds, even to whether they had a dog or not, to mention just a few details surveyed.

A rich collection of records can be found at <http://www.newhorizonsgenealogicalservices.com/>. To quote from their introductory paragraph: "New Horizons Genealogy specializes in New England and New York Colonial American Genealogy, Ancestry and Family History. Our record collections include, Vital records, Arnold Collection of Rhode Island Vital Records, Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records, Colonial and State Census records, Federal and State Census Mortality Schedules, Cemetery records, 1840 Census of Pensioners and Revolutionary War Soldiers Buried in New York State. We also include links to other quality genealogy records to help make these collections as complete as possible."

It is free to subscribe to Michael John Neill's *Genealogy Tip of the Day*. Interested family history researchers can sign up at <http://genealogytipoftheday.blogspot.com/> which will give them research information or a suggestion each day in their email. A sample from a few days ago was: *If a deed of transfer for a piece of property or other item indicates that the only consideration is "love and affection," there is a likely relationship between the seller and buyer on the property. In fact, it might not even be technically correct to refer to the grantee as a buyer. On these deeds the relationship among the parties is not always stated. Similarly, if the amount of the consideration on a deed is a token amount, say a "dollar," that also might be a clue as to a potential relationship between the individuals involved. Deeds that say a "dollar and other valuable consideration" may be referring to a mortgage or other document also recorded on the property.*

A good source for detail about ancestors' daily lives can be found at **Old and Interesting, A History of Domestic Paraphernalia**. This site shows antique household equipment, furnishings, and utensils used in the household management of domestic life. It focuses on how people organized their homes and did the daily chores. The articles are illustrated by excerpts from advice manuals, period novels and other literature. The site is updated every couple of weeks.

See: <http://www.oldandinteresting.com/>

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter is available in either a free (with ads) or subscription (no ads) version via daily email posting. This is a good way to keep up with all the newest genealogy developments, reviews of software programs, book reviews, and descriptions of interesting websites. Dick Eastman is a nationally known genealogy expert, with numerous publications to his credit. To subscribe to either version go to <http://blob.eogn.com> and follow directions.

Tacoma Pierce County Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 1952
Tacoma, Washington 98401

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Tacoma, WA
Permit NO. 431

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



If your newsletter has the red warning

"Dues Expired in December"

**this will be the last newsletter you will receive.
Also the Researcher will be sent in the summer,
and you don't want to miss it!**

Send in your dues!!

Membership Secretary

PO Box 1950

Tacoma, WA 98401

Single \$22.00 - Dual household \$25.00