



TPCGS NEWSLETTER

February 2011

Vol. V No. 3

MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS SCHEDULED

- 28 Feb 2011 TPCGS Board Meeting. . . All members welcome . . . Tacoma Historical Society*
8 Mar 2011 *Mayflower Stories* . . . presented by Peggy Barton Bates Technical College
4 Apr 2011 TPCGS Board Meeting. . . All members welcome Tacoma Historical Society*
12 Apr 2011 See TPCGS web site for program information Bates Technical College
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

Genealogy at Twelve Or Any Age

by Warren Fisk, TPCGS President

The other day I was thinking about the first family member interview I conducted to obtain family history information. I was about twelve years old, and my parents drove me up to Marysville to stay with my grandparents. The visit's purpose was for me to stay with them and to earn some money by picking strawberries at a local farm.

I was prepared. I brought a small spiral bound note pad to keep track of how much money I would collect by the end of my stay. I was going to be rich.

My grandmother's name was Bertha. She got me up each morning, made breakfast and a lunch for me, and sent me off to work in the strawberry fields. Each day I would return, and she would talk to me about how I did over dinner. One evening after the normal talk I started asking about her life when she was young. She talked a little about her childhood and growing up and provided me some real insight into the person who was my grandmother.

Some time previous to my visit I had learned from my father that my grandmother, his mother, had been married to another man prior to my grandfather, Otis. Being a young kid, who didn't know better, I asked her about him, and she immediately said she didn't want to talk about him. She said, "I was foolish and too young to be married." So ended that conversation.

That night I opened my spiral bound note book and wrote down what I learned. I didn't write much, but I noted the things that impressed me the most.

After about a week, as we waited for my parents to come up and check on how I was doing, we sat down and started talking. Thinking I had waited long enough, I brought up the subject of her previous marriage again. Her response began with, "I don't want to talk about him." But this time as I sat there wondering if she was ever going to talk to me about anything, much less him, she began a short story of the time she acted foolishly. I learned not just about him, but even more about my grandmother at seventeen. I was amazed at how she opened up to talk about her feelings during that time period. After a few minutes of talking, my parents arrived from Tacoma, and the family history lesson was over. At twelve years old and my fortune building, I ran out to greet my parents and let them know how much I had already earned.

I never went back to talk just about her life again. Sure, I heard more family history stories, some about my grandmother, but I never went back to sit and talk to her again. I'm sure it was part of being only twelve years old, but to this day I wished I had. Some years later I found that notebook, and as I read the few notes I made I could feel the emotion of our conversations. Little did I know what riches would be contained in the small spiral bound notebook.

Why did I tell you this story? Not to tell you about my grandmother. Not to tell you that you should conduct interviews of all your relatives. I believe it is the quiet, one on one, conversation about what is important in our lives that provide real genealogical insight to those we love and to each of us.

TPCGS Spring Seminar

Save the Date!

On May 7, 2011 TPCGS welcomes **Laura G. Prescott**, who comes to us highly recommended by our own Cyndi Howells, who will be the emcee.

Topics

Turning Fiction Into Fact

Are those old stories grandma told really true? Learn helpful, systematic strategies to discover the truth behind family legends, identify strangers in family photos, and correct the family record without losing the charm of the myth . . .

Treasures Within the Ivory Tower: Finding Family in Academic Archives

Locating an ancestor within the archives of an *alma mater* produces a wealth of family information, photos, correspondence, and more! Learn where to look, what you can find, and the most efficient techniques to get the information you seek.

Timelines: Placing Your Heritage in Historical Perspective

Match historical events to an ancestor's life, or synchronize one ancestor's life events to another's using genealogical software as well as everyday software programs to create a graphic profile and timeline.

The Rest of the Story: Using Manuscripts to create a Family History

Tap into great repositories of historical treasure! Discover where to find family in special collections archives and why manuscripts and artifacts are essential to building your family's story.

Location:

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

A limited number of rooms will be available at a special rate for seminar attendees.

Registration:

Before April 20, 2011: Members, \$35; Non-Members, \$40 (become a member now and save!); Students, \$20 (Under 25 with Student ID). Lunch (sandwich and salad bar), \$15. **After April 20th, add \$5 late fee.**

Additional Information:

Check out the TPCGS website at: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/seminar.html>

Download Brochure: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/2011Prescottflier.pdf>

Raffle Tickets – Door Prizes – Vendors – Book Sale

We hope to see you there!

FAMILY LINE RESEARCH

Researched and Compiled by
Gretchen Collins Campbell

Researching the families of Pierce County has kept me busy over the past few weeks. We have had a few requests, and usually I have been able to find at least something for each of our clients.

I have researched the following families: Joseph, Mary, Abraham; Charles and Lena **Berry**; Audrey and Robert E. **Walker**; Herbert **Dilley**; Fred, Ida, Gus and Fred **Kageler**. One client wanted me to copy page 228 of the marriage records—do hope his people were really on that page!!

The staff of the Tacoma Public Library Northwest Room was downsized by one person and that required a shifting of the work responsibilities to the remaining staff. One of the services that they are no longer offering is the Obituary Look-up Service that the TPL has done for local and out-of-town patrons. TPCGS was approached about handling this service, and your board decided that Family Line Research could add obituary look-ups to what we are all ready doing. This will give us access to an additional pool of people, and we can let them know that our society offers additional research services if they need more information on their families.

When you look at our website you will see that there is notation under the Family Line Research heading for obituary look-up where clients can complete a form and mail a check to us, and we will send along their obituary record. We are in transition right now, and the staff at TPL is referring clients to our website. Depending on the crush of requests we may need some help in researching the obituaries.

As most of you probably know, budget cuts have reduced the hours of the Main Downtown Library and the Northwest Room. They are open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. This will shorten the time that “working” researchers will have to do their library work.

I hope you are enjoying your research. I am always finding new things – like my recent search for my Morrin family in England.

Gretchen Collins Campbell



TPCGS Programs

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

8 Mar 2011 *Mayflower Stories* presented by Peggy Barton Bates Technical College
Pre-meeting topic **German Genealogy** with Sue Foster, assisted by Jane Irish Nelson

12 April 2011 Speaker to be announced later. Look on the TPCGS web site or for an announcement via your email.
Pre-meeting topic **Organizing your research and files** led by Sandra Johnson, with handouts

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

List of Recently Cataloged Titles Available in TPL Genealogy collection

Compiled by Jeanie Fisher, Librarian
Northwest Room, Tacoma Public Library

Smith, Stanley C. and Patricia D. *Cemetery Records of Cowley County, Kansas: Harvey and Omnia Townships*. This index contains brief descriptions of each cemetery, a map showing locations, and transcriptions copied from tombstones. Cemeteries included: Glen Grouse, Box, Upper Timber Creek, Mount Vernon, Baltimore and Atlanta. GEN 929.509781 SM66C

1860 Census of Jackson County, Oregon. (Printed census indexes shelved alphabetically according to region.) This recently cataloged census index references page number, household number, age, gender, birthplace and vocation.

Baskervill, Patrick Hamilton. *The Hamiltons of Burnside, North Carolina, and their ancestors and descendants*. Originally published in 1916, this reprint traces a branch of Hamiltons harkening from Lanarkshire, Scotland. Includes some illustrations and a name index. GEN 929.2 H1804B

Currier, John McNab. *Genealogy of David Annis of Hopkinton, and Bath, New Hampshire, his ancestors and descendants*. Published by the Orleans County Historical Society in 1909, this reprint of a family history is a mixture of personal notes and narrative, and listings of descendants. There is not an index nor table of contents. GEN 929.2 AN77C

Abbot, Rev. Abiel and Rev. Ephraim. *Genealogical Register of the descendants of George Abbot of Andover, George Abbot of Bowley, Thomas Abbot of Andover, Arthur Abbot of Ipswich, Robert Abbot of Branford, CT., and George Abbot of Norwalk, CT*. Organized by each name in the title, a detailed list of descendants of each is presented. An index of "names not Abbot" is included. This is a reprint of a family history originally published in 1847. GEN 929.2 AB22A

Simonsen, Mary Bybee, et al. *Whitman County, Washington death register: Records 1 to 843 (1891-1907)*. Published by the Whitman County Genealogical Society, this volume includes a "bonus section" containing death records extracted from the *Pullman Herald* Newspaper from 1888 to 1929. GEN 929.3797 W591WD

Buchanan Funeral Home of Spokane, Washington: Funeral record extractions.

Part I: Nov. 2, 1901 to Oct. 9, 1908

Part II: Oct. 18, 1908 to Nov. 28, 1914

Extracted by members of the Eastern Washington Genealogical Society, and published by the same, these two volumes contain much more information beyond name and date of death, such as place and date of funeral and burial, who ordered the funeral, religion of the deceased, occupation, and marital status. GEN 929.379737 B851B vols. 1 & 2

Genealogy Classes Scheduled at the Tacoma Public Library

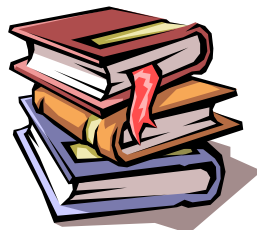
Interested in genealogy, but don't know where to start? Come to the library for a free class that will introduce you to the tools you need to start finding your roots. Learn the basic steps for gathering family stories, finding and using key resources and organizing your research. You will also learn about the many genealogy resources available at the library **Intro to Genealogy** is being offered **Tuesday, March 8, 2011, from 3 to 4:30 p.m.** in the Olympic Room.

No registration is needed for this class.

Online Genealogy is a hands-on library workshop to introduce Ancestry Library Edition, HeritageQuest, and useful web sites on the internet for genealogical research. Basic keyboard and mouse skills are required

Online Genealogy is scheduled on **Tuesday, March 29, 2011, from 3-5 p.m.** in the Main Branch library's computer classroom. Seating is limited.

Register now at <http://www.tpl.lib.wa.us/>



Mysteries in Family Histories!

Relics by Mary Anna Evans. Faye Longchamp is hired as the archeologist for a team trying to discover the origins of a tri-racial isolate group in Alabama. In addition to archeology, the team is also using genealogy and oral history to piece together the Sujosa's lost history. But when a team member is killed in a suspicious fire, Faye has two mysteries to try to solve. *Reviewed by Jane Irish Nelson*

From Here to Paternity by Jill Churchill. Jane Jeffrey, suburban housewife and amateur sleuth, on vacation at a Colorado ski resort, is just looking for a quiet, relaxing time. But when she skis into a snowman that hides a dead body, it is not to be. The slopes are teeming with suspects, including a convention of genealogists, led by a nutty lady who thinks she has found the last tsar of Russia. Genealogy becomes more important when local American Indian tribe members claim their tribal burial ground is right where the resort wants to expand facilities. Jane uses genealogical resources learned from the convention

goes to expose the protest leader's false claim to tribal membership and to solve the "snowman" murder. *Reviewed by Janice Weihs*

A Habit of Dying by D. J. Wiseman. Lydia's research into an innocuous-looking photograph album turns into a true detective story, as she delves into the family history behind it. From her home in Oxford, Lydia's travels take her to the Lake District, Cambridge, Essex and Sussex. As the original purpose of her quest is fulfilled, the potentially deadly secrets of the journal emerge. Lydia's worst suspicions appear to be confirmed when she uncovers the circumstances of the journal writer's death. But even then the truth remains elusive. *(Excerpt from published review)*



ΦΙΝΑΛ ΧΑΛ

Got your attention?

Deadline for *The Researcher ~ 2011* . . . March 31

Don't miss this opportunity to let us in on your wonderful:

- *Brick Wall Successes
- *Family Legends and Nifty Tales
- *Genealogical Wisdom and Helpful Hints

This is your chance to celebrate!

Acceptable formats: MS Word (Works) for articles,
JPG for photos, and Excel for databases.

Final fussing of layout to be done by the Editor

Zip them off to Pat Wood, Editor, celtictwigs@yahoo.com

The Researcher will be published this Summer

Regional Genealogy Workshops and Seminars

Cyndi Howells on "Googling for Grandma" at the **Family History Center** (LDS Stake House) at 5915 S. 12th St., in Tacoma, WA. March 19, 2011, at 10 a.m. until noon. Admittance is free.

South King County Genealogical Society is presenting in a half-day seminar, **Steven W. Morrison** on:
 Outlaw Genealogy — Finding the Outlaw in YOUR Family
 Detours Around — Irish Roadblocks and Stone Walls

Location: The first Baptist Church of Kent, 11420 SE 248th St., Kent, WA 9 a.m. to 12:00 noon,
 with doors open at 8:00 a.m.

Registration: General admission \$25.00; SKCGS members \$20.00 cash or check (payable to SKCGS)
 at the door ONLY, (please have checks ready).

Email: skcgs.seminar@gmail.com to register

Genealogical Forum of Oregon's Spring Seminar will be presenting **Thomas W. Jones**, speaking on
 Five Ways to Prove Who Your Ancestor Was
 How to Avoid Being Duped by the Internet
 Solving the Mystery of the Disappearing Ancestor
 Finding "Unfindable" Ancestors

Date: Saturday, **April 2, 2011**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Location Milwaukie Elks Lodge, 13121 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Milwaukie, Oregon

Additional details and registration form on www.gfo.org, Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Poetic Tax Collectors of Litchfield, Connecticut

As I was browsing through historical newspapers from my Godfrey Library subscription, I found a 1784 notice by tax collectors in Litchfield, Connecticut, which was much more interesting than the usual dry legal notices posted in any century. The notice appeared in the Connecticut *Courant*, July 13, 1784, and was prefaced with this "Extract from the Statues of Connecticut, Folio 202". . . *'All the real estate that any one is seized and possessed of, in his own right in fee, within this state, shall be liable to and stand chargeable with all the public taxes due from the owners thereof, until the same are fully paid, notwithstanding any subsequent tale or transfer thereof or any attachment thereon.'*..."

Before listing the names of forty-eight delinquent taxpayers, the collectors inserted these poetic lines:

"Non-resident proprietors of Litchfield, if you never have learned,

That a penny saved is, in some respects, equal to a half-penny earned!

Yet if your best vineyards should sell for a song, pray whom can you blame,

Since you see how the law reads, and are specially noticed by name?"

Following the list of names, these poetic tax collectors threatened to sell off the property of those who do not pay their taxes and then signed off as:

"T. Skinner, E. Smith, H. Stone, J. Strong - Collectors

Litchfield, July 1, 1784"

(contributed by Lou Lehmann)



GENIE GRAB-BAG

Compiled by Janice Weihs

Attention all you Norse researchers! Recently available on the **Digitalarkivet** (Digital Archives) web site <http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/> is the **1910 Norwegian census** which was taken on Dec. 3, 1910. This site is in the Norwegian language. (But also available in English:)

<http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/cgi-win/WebFront.exe?slag=vis&tekst=meldingar&spraak=e>

The Digital Archives offer online access to digitized archive material. Here you can search databases/tables, read transcripts and browse digital images as well as listen to digitized sound from the archives. Everyone is welcome to use this government service for free. In the menu on the left side of the home page scroll down to "Tracing ancestors in Norway" which provides an excellent, how-to-do-it web site at <http://digitalarkivet.uib.no/sab/howto.html>

Genealogy Book Links: <http://www.genealogybooklinks.com/> simplifies searching for ancestors by identifying and linking to the free available digitized American biographies, genealogies, and history books. The site offers a number of categories of access sites: biographies and family genealogies, books by state, material type, and by name or word a researcher can type in. A menu on the right side of the home page lists a number of alphabetized subject headings: from *Afro-Americans* to *West*.

For those who may be researching ancestors who lived north of the US border, **Vancouver, B.C.'s Mountain View Cemetery** online site offers their burial database of over 92,000 grave sites and 145,000 interred remains.

<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/NONMARKETOPERATIONS/MOUNTAINVIEW/index.htm>

The data fields in the database include name of the deceased, date of death, date of burial, and location of the grave.

Researchers looking for ancestor information in the county of **Lancashire**, in England, have a recently added resource in the **On Line Parish Clerks for Lancashire** web site <http://lan-opc.org.uk/>. This site extracts and preserves the records from the various parishes and provides online access to that data, FREE of charge, along with other data of value to family and local historians conducting research in the County of Lancashire. Data and records are presented from the earliest records that can be found up to approximately the end of the 19th century. At that time there were almost 400 parishes within the pre 1974 county boundaries of Lancashire. Data is gathered from a multitude of sources, including, though not limited to, parish registers, census records, cemetery records, churchwardens accounts, overseers accounts, land tax records, wills, business directories, postal directories, church and village histories, etc.

Historypin is a free online tool that allows you to view and share locations across the globe at different times in history at <http://www.historypin.com/>. If you have ever wondered what your town looked like a century (or even a few decades) ago, you should try this web site. To begin, you simply enter the address and a description of what you're looking for in the surrounding area (e.g. schools or churches). *Historypin* gives back an annotated Google map with historical photos "pinned" to different areas. The site features a searching timeline, allowing you to switch between photos from various time periods. It even allows you to compare historical photos with their modern day counterparts by utilizing Google *Streetview*.

The **Alberta (Canada) Genealogical Society** has created and placed online an **Index to Alberta Homestead Records** for 1870 to 1930. Homestead files normally contain an application for homestead, which includes the applicant's name, age, birthplace, last residence, prior occupation, number of adults and children in household. The files also contain an application for patent, containing name, age, occupation, post office, nationality, residency information, wife/children (no names), breaking/cropping, livestock, buildings, fencing, and the third item, a notice that the patent (title) has been issued. The web site includes information on how to view these files or to order copies of them. Homestead files may also contain many other documents such as inspector's reports, records of abandonment, handwritten letters, wills, naturalization certificates, script, seed grain liens, court proceedings, etc. <http://www.abgensoc.ca/homestead/#project>

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*All officers can be reached through their email address listed
on the TPCGS web site at
<http://www.tpcgs.org>*