



# TPCGS

# NEWSLETTER

October 2009

Vol. IV No. 1

## MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS SCHEDULED

- 2 Nov 2009 TPCGS Board Meeting. . . . . All members welcome . . . . Olympic Room, Tacoma Public Library  
10 Nov 2009 Newspapers in Genealogical Research . . . Dr. Karl Kumm . . . . . Bates Technical College  
8 Dec 2009 Christmas Party . . . . . All members invited . . . . . Sam Allen Room, Tacoma Elks Lodge  
4 Jan 2010 TPCGS Board Meeting. . . . . All members welcome . . . Olympic Room, Tacoma Public Library  
12 Jan 2010 How to use the Regional Archives . . . . . Midori Okazaki. . . . . Bates Technical College  
1 Feb 2010 TPCGS Board Meeting. . . . . All members welcome . . . Olympic Room, Tacoma Public Library  
9 Feb 2010 Mapping and plotting online . . . . . Cyndi Howells . . . . . Bates Technical College

## President's Message

Greetings to all our members . . . .

The air has turned nippy, rain showers are in the forecast and the fair is over. We are looking forward to a new year of programs for 2009-2010 along with changes for the society that will take place in the coming months.

To begin, I would like to thank all of you who represented the Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogy Society at the TPCGS table at the fair this year. Many thanks especially go to Marie Hayden for the time spent at the Tacoma Public Library sorting pictures, having copies made, mounting them and writing a bit about each picture to create a very popular display that filled the showcase this year at the Hobby Hall.

Time was spent proofreading to make sure of the accuracy of the information of those local businesses in our area. Many are no longer in existence, but the many people who stopped to look and reminisce remembered them with fondness and perhaps a bit of nostalgia for times past. Marie was also the person who made the calls and scheduled those of you who were able to help out at the society's table. Everyone shared memories, answered questions and exchanged genealogy comments with all of those who stopped by.

The display was truly of interest to fair-goers and they shared that interest with us.

Thanks to Chuck Waid and Sandy Johnson for planning our mini seminar with Sarah Thorson Little who spoke on "Norwegian Family History Research" and "A Case Study in Genealogical Research." Both topics were well covered for those doing research on their ancestors with lots of websites given. Information on getting translations of documents written in a foreign language was included, as well as family naming patterns, and Norwegian alphabet and terms.

Mrs. Little's case study of a 5 generation pedigree chart resulted in a good 4 inches of records covering their lives. Each page of the records would make a program in itself. So much information was covered it could hardly be contained in a two hour block of time.

Members can look forward to the program on newspaper research at the November meeting with Karl Kumm.

And members will want to make reservations for our annual Christmas party on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Ellen McKanna

## Find A Grave

Have you looked at or do you know about the “Find A Grave” web site? It is fun and very interesting. There are 37 million graves now recorded, increasing daily, and the site gets about 2 million hits a day.

Anyone can look at any grave that someone else has posted on [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) BUT only the person that placed the grave there can do any updating to the information, unless that person transfers the grave to someone else to maintain.

Once you enter the site, you can “Search for a cemetery” or look at the “Surname index”, as well as a number of other options. So, let’s walk through one of my postings so you can see what can be done.

Get on the site, click on “Search for a cemetery,” and put “evergreen” in the name box, click down to “United States,” click down to “California”, and click down to “Riverside,” click “search.” You should now see the “Evergreen Memorial Park and Mausoleum” with almost 8,000 graves. Put “waid” in the surname box, click on “search,” then click on Jacob Waid and you will see the grave of my grandfather. You will also see the names of his parents, his wife and his six children. Click on any one of them and you can see their grave and maybe even a little bio, if I wrote one. Click on Everest Waid, my father. How about that grave?

You can move around a family, BUT only if the person maintaining the gravesite has linked the grave of other family members together.

Know anyone in the “New Tacoma” (946 graves posted) or “Mountain View” (4,245 graves posted) cemeteries? Take a look. There may be more postings by the time you read this.

Remember, the grave is only there if someone has posted it. It does not mean that a person is not buried there, just because the gravesite does not come up. There are some cemeteries where all the graves have been posted from cemetery records even though there is no longer an actual gravestone there, if there ever was one.

If you want to be part of the system, just log on, get a password, bring up your cemetery of interest and start entering your own family. If you find one of “your people”, already posted there, you can ask the person who posted it to transfer it to you by clicking on that person’s name near the bottom of the grave posting and sending them an e-mail. You might have found a cousin. I have found a number of new cousins who have posted other members of our families, and 3 new gravestone photos of grandparents. Have fun!

Charles V. Waid, Past President, TPCGS

*(I tried the site, as I hadn't looked at it for a year or so and found a lot of new entries to add to my NJ Vliet family tree. And not just names—with the information on a lot of the gravestones I was able to make all kinds of new connections. J. Weihs, Ed.)*

### Nominations for Election of 2010 TPCGS Officers

President- - - - - Ellen McKanna  
 VP-Family Research - - - -Gretchen C. Campbell  
 VP-Education- - - - - Lou/Marge Lehmann  
 VP-Programs- - - - -Audrey Roley  
 Secretary- - - - - Sandra D. Johnson  
 Treasurer- - - - -Warren Fisk  
 Corresponding secretary- - -Pat Wood

Voting on nominations will be at November 10 meeting.

## TPCGS Fall and Winter Programs

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

**10 Nov 2009 Dr. Karl Kumm**, from the Fiske Library will be speaking on the importance of newspapers in genealogical research. He will emphasize online searching and present specific examples from a resource that is increasingly available to us. Pre-meeting topic: Sandra D. Johnson will be a resource for providing guidance, answering questions, facilitating discussion, etc, about *Colonial American Genealogical Research*.

**8 December 2009 Christmas Party!** 6:00 p.m. Social Hour; 6:30 p.m. Dinner. Tacoma Elks Lodge in the Sam Allen room. Sign up at the November 10th TPCGS meeting or send a reservation request to Chuck Waid by Thursday, Dec. 3.

**12 January 2010 Midori Okazaki** from the WA Regional Archives in Bellevue will present information on the Regional Archives' collection and how we can access it, as well as giving an update on the indexing of the Pierce County marriage records project that Judy Karns is working on. Pre-meeting topic: Massachusetts genealogy and research, with Chuck Waid

**9 February 2010 Cyndi Howells** of *Cyndi's List*, will continue her presentation (from last May) Plotting, Scheming, and Mapping Online. Pre-meeting topic: What’s new and available at the Family History Library, with Jim Williams

## A Big Thank You To Puyallup Fair Volunteers

### "EPIC FAIR"- MANY THANKS

To Chuck Waid and Marie Hayden who set up display with the help of the Tacoma Public Library Northwest Room Staff and the Photo Collection . We had many wonderful comments on the display of Long Time Tacoma Businesses .

And to the following volunteers who manned the TPCGS table for the 17 days of the Fair -

Elaine & Don Anderson, Peggy Anderson, **Dorothy Annon**, Janet Baccus, Marilyn Boothe, Vi Bruno, Glenn & Roberta Campbell, Gretchen & Don Campbell, **Renae Carnay**, **Maxine Carpenter**, **Melvin Carr**, Tim & Cheryl Cheslik, Beverly Cram, Mary Erskine, Norma Fegurgur, **Warren Fisk**, Delores Fitch, **Jean Gobel**, Lorraine Graeber, Alice Grenier, Dorothy & Bob Hayden, **Marie Hayden**, Jean Hayes, Gordon & Eileen Holt, Jim Johnson, Katherine Johnson, Sandy Johnson, Donna & Darryl Kercher, LaVonne Koppelman, Roberta & Gary Larson, **Patty LeBlanc**, Louis & Margie Lehmann, Louise Lindeman, **Kay B Lovelace**, **Ellen McKanna**, Jean McLean, Nicky Minor, **John Moore**, Jane Irish Nelson, Pamela Olson, **Margaret Patjens**, Tom Payne, Lynn Percich, **Al & Julia Peschek**, Gail Edwards-Peterson, Betty & John Potter, Tina Riffle, Judy Rogers, Audrey Roley, Shirley & Phil Schiller, Eileen Smiley, Gary & Jo Snyder, Martha Spear, Helen Stender, **Pat Stolp**, Sandy Strother, June Summerville, Durina Taylor, **Nancy Thaut**, **Barbara & Charles Waid**, Jim Williams, Pat Wood, and LaVonne Zemek.

Thank you for all your help. We hope it was a good experience. Our Society made many new contacts through your help and, we hope, helped all these contacts to get started on their research. They were all invited to the TPCGS Seminar in October. Hope many of you were able to be there also!!!

Bold Print - means two or more times at the table - many thanks to them.



## Christmas Party

Last year's gathering was really great so we will have a Christmas Dinner Party again this year for TPCGS members and guests. It will be in the Sam Allen Room at the Tacoma Elks Lodge on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Social hour begins at 6:00 p.m., with dinner being served at 6:30.

There will be our usual exciting gift exchange with gifts of \$12 or less. Each person should bring a gift appropriate for someone of the same gender, with fancy wrap if for a lady and plain brown wrap (or brown bag) if for a gentleman.

Newly elected officers will be introduced as the gavel is passed.

Menu choices and prices are:

Lemon Chicken Almondine	\$16.00 per person
New York Steak	\$20.00 per person
(price includes tax and gratuity)	

Chuck will have a sign-up sheet at the November 10 meeting, or you can mail your reservation check and menu choice to him by Dec. 3:

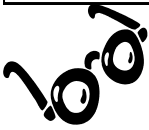
Charles V. Waid  
21015 Springhaven Way  
Bonney Lake, WA 98391-8325

## Dues Are Due

TPCGS membership dues for the 2010 calendar year can be paid any time now and are due by January 1, 2010. Elaine Workman will have a table at the November meeting where people can drop off their dues (save a stamp!) Or mail a check to the address below. Remember—dues are tax deductible. Here is the current dues schedule:

US\$ 22.00 per year for an individual membership, or library/society membership  
US\$ 25.00 for a joint membership (two members, same address, one *Researcher*, and five *Newsletters*)  
Memberships outside the United States are US\$ 30.00 per year  
Society Patron: US\$ 100.00

TPCGS Membership  
PO Box 1952  
Tacoma, WA 98402-1952



### BROWSING PERIODICALS . . . by Pat Wood

*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) 143:5 Sep/Oct 2009: Colonial Baby Boom; Friday Harbor WA Centennial. (HF)

**Je Me Souviens** (American French Genealogical Society, Woonsocket, RI) 32:1 Spring 2009: Members of the Carignan Regiment Who Married Filles du Roi; SOUCY of Woonsocket RI; BESSETTE and RAYMOND family of Natick, RI; POULIN alias SPOONER; PARENT and BADEAU family. (929.1/J34J)

#### AROUND THE U.S.A.

**CA Redwood Researcher** (Redwood) 42:1 Aug 2009: Humboldt Co. Register 1868 cont'd. POULEUR-ROOT; County Burials 1905-1942 cont'd. THARP-TOMPKINS; Homestead list cont'd. FURBER-JACOBSEN. (929.1/R248R)

**FL Buried Treasures** (Central Florida Gen. Soc., Orlando) 41:2 Apr-Jun 2009: Orlando Mayor J. Lechter BRYAN; 1787 Will of Thomas COTTON; Lessons Learned Too Late; Ancestral Trip to Ireland Pays Off; Origins of Order of Daedalians; Orange Co. 1885 State Census cont'd. (929.1/B916B)

**KS Kansas Kin** (Riley Valley Gen. Soc., Manhattan) lviii:3 Aug 2009: Notable Deaths from *Wamego Reporter*. (929.1/K133K)

**KS Topeka Gen. Soc. Quarterly** 39:3 July 2009: KS State Orphans Home Shawnee Co. Admissions Records Book 89 ADAMS-DODD; County by County Dir. of KS Vital Records Printed in KS Gen. Periodicals in 2008. (929.1/T621T)

**MN Minnesota Genealogist** (Minneapolis) 40:1 Spring 2009: WILMES from Luxembourg; EUSTACE Family Tree and DNA; SWANSON-CARLSON Family; BUERKLE-KAPPIS Family; DANIELSSON-ANDERSDOTTER Family. (929.1/M666M)

**NC Burke County Journal** (Morganton) xxvii:3 Aug 2009: WAGNER Estate 1798; County Roads Records 1800-1806; Abstracts of County Land Grants. (929.1/J826J)

**ND Dakota Homestead Historical Newsletter** (Bismarck) 38:3 Sept. 2009: Honor List of Dead & Missing cont'd.; Morton Co. Naturalization Index cont'd. GRAF – GUNTHER. (929.1/D148D)

**OK Oklahoma Gen. Soc. Quarterly** (Oklahoma City) 54:2 2009: List of 1910 Personal Property Assessments in Tuskahoma Twp. *Ibid.* 54:3 2009: Story of Nannie Lillie Curly CHIEF of the Pawnee Tribe; Oklahoma City University Class Members in 1925. (929.3766/OK4O)

**OR Beaver Briefs** (Willamette Valley Gen. Soc., Salem) 41:3 Summer 2009: Doctors in Marion Co. in June 1880; Marion Co. Trademark Collection. (929.1/B386B)

**OR Bulletin** (Gen. Forum of OR, Portland) 59:1 Sept. 2009: Cornish in Oregon; Porcelain Heirlooms; Brief history of Volga Germans; How to Use Free Compiled Sources on the Internet; Extracts of 1874 Columbia Co. Land Assessments cont'd. McELHANY – ZEIBER. (929.1/G286B)

**OR Rogue Digger** (Phoenix, Jackson Co.) 44:3 Sept. 2009: Search for Daphne HONEYCOMBE; The Vanport Flood 1948. (929.1/R635R)

**WA Apple Orchard** (Chelan Co. Gen. Soc., Chelan) 19:3: Availability of Online Burial Records; Organizing Tips for Family Historians. (HF)

**WA Backtracker** (Port Orchard) xxxiv:3 Sept. 2009 Obituary Index cont'd. GERRISH – GREVSTAD; Society's Cemetery Project. (929.1/F21F)

**WA Big Bend Register** (Grant Co. Gen. Soc., Ephrata) 30:2 Jun 2009: Index of County Obituaries cont'd. in 2007 for TENAGLIA-ZUYEVA and in 2008 for ADAIR-FOUGHT. *Ibid.* 30:3 Sept. 2009: Index of County Obituaries cont'd. in 2008 for FOX – PEARL. (929.1/B48B)

**WA Bulletin** (Clallam Co. Gen. Soc., Port Angeles) 29:3 July 2009: Why I Love Probate Records. (929.1/C138B)

**WA Bulletin** (Yakima Valley Gen. Soc., Yakima) 41:3 Sept. 2009: Cradle Enrollments at First Christian Bible School cont'd. NELLIST – RAINEY; Ahtanum School cont'd. NANCE – PUTNAM; State Normal School Classes of 1910 – 1913. (929.1/Y11Y)

**WA Pioneer Branches** (Northeast WA Gen. Soc., Colville) xxiv:4 July 2009: County names from 1913-14 cont'd. BOHREN-CANNON; Edgecliff Sanitorium Part 2. (929.1/P661P)

**WA So King News** (South King County Gen. Soc., Kent) 25:2 Sep / Oct 2009: Mary ANDERSON of Saar. (HF)

**WA The Sounder** (Sno-Isle Gen. Soc., Lynnwood) xxiii:ii 3Q2009: Lynnwood's Environmental History; County Business Directory 1902-03 for Dyers – Flour Mills; Monroe Memorial Cemetery cont'd.: HOFFEE – JOHANNSEN; County Men in WWI; Obituaries for April 1913. (929.1/SO83S)

## New Genealogy Books in the Northwest Room

California Genealogical Society. *San Francisco, California, Columbarium records, 1847-1980*. 2003

This is an index to the location of over 5,700 cremains in the I.O.O.F. Columbarium as of 1980. It includes brief, overview histories of San Francisco cemeteries, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Columbarium Building. (GEN 929.379461 SA52SC)

Colorado Genealogical Society. *Subject index to the Colorado genealogist, volumes 1-42, 1939-1981*, 1982. This alphabetical subject index makes it easy to find issues with articles on specific Colorado counties, surnames, record types, and more. (GEN 929.1 C719C)

Cook, Glenn M. *Real estate and legal notices from Charlotte, North Carolina newspapers (2 vols- 1835-1847; 1848-1862)*. 2005 The real estate notices contained in these two volumes are full of detailed information about property and property owners. Each volume includes a county map with index, and its own name index. (GEN 929.375676 C7718R)

Goff, Lois B. *The Morsch immigrants from Baden: Conrad and Ernestine (Brandner) Morsch, his brothers and cousins*. 1999. This family history includes maps, a bibliography, and a full name index. Pasted to the front of the book is a brief list of corrections and additions. (GEN 929.20973 M834G)

Immaculate Conception Church. *Mount Palatine memories, 1839-1989*, 1989. Compiled in 1989, this is a collection of personal memories and photos, newspaper articles, and other collected historical facts about the community of Mount Palatine. (GEN 929.3773375 M863M)

Johnson, Gloria J. *Rural cemeteries of Williams County, North Dakota: gateway to the past*. 2004.

Cemeteries in this volume are listed in alphabetical order, with the location of each cemetery provided. Also included are brief histories of each cemetery. (GEN 929.578473 R8801R)

King George County Historical Society. *Cemeteries of King George County, Virginia. Vol I: Church cemeteries; Volume II: Private Cemeteries*, 2005. Each of these volumes has a list of cemeteries included, name index, and a brief description with directions to each cemetery. (GEN 929.375525 C332C)

Montana State Genealogical Society. *First families of Montana and early settlers (2 vols)*, 2000

The ancestral profiles in these two volumes contain photographs, vital statistics, and names of the descendants who submitted information. Entries are organized by First Families of Montana certificate number, and name indexes are included. (GEN 929.3786 F519F)

Silinonte, Joseph M. *Tombstones of the Irish born: Cemetery of the Holy Cross, Flatbush, Brooklyn*, 1994. This volume contains cemetery inscriptions of the Irish-born interred among the more than 500,000 at Holy Cross cemetery. The entries are organized in alphabetical order, and include some photos of tombstones and monuments. (GEN 929.508916 S134T)

Smith, Betty J. *Bleckley County, Georgia marriages, 1913-2004*, 2005. Bleckley County was created in 1912 and began recording marriages January 1913. This index contains names of both bride and groom, date of marriage, book in which the marriage is found, page number, and race (if recorded). (GEN 929.3758525 SM52BM)

### GENEALOGY CLASSES ARE BACK AT THE TACOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY

These classes fill up quickly so register today!

Register at the TPL website <http://www.tacomapubliclibrary.org> or by telephoning the library at 591-5666.

#### ONLINE GENEALOGY

October 27, December 8, January 26 ~ 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. - Computer classroom, Main Library

This hands-on library workshop will introduce you to Ancestry Library Edition, HeritageQuest.com, and useful web sites available on the Internet for genealogical research. Basic keyboard and mouse skills are required.

#### INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY

November 9, January 12 ~ 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Olympic Room, Main Library

Interested in genealogy but don't know where to start? Come to 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 Tacoma Public Library. Advance registration required.

## Ancestral Relatives . . . CERTAIN, ALMOST CERTAIN, PROBABLE, AND POSSIBLE

I have recently been pondering the fact that the evidence used to conclude that somebody is indeed an ancestral relative is sometimes circumstantial and that such evidence can vary greatly in persuasiveness. Realizing this, I know that I and others need to pay more attention to qualifying conclusions. This is not a new idea. Many family historians present and past do so, despite the fact that many also jump to questionable conclusions. The problem is how to best present needed qualifications when including such individuals in a data base.

Legacy software offers the option of rating the quality of sources as “*Convincing Evidence*,” “*Almost Certain Conclusion*,” “*Probable Conclusion*,” “*Marginal Evidence*,” and “*Have Not Yet Decided*.” Unfortunately when the option is used, the user’s decision is buried within the details of the source. And Legacy does not provide a similar rating of degrees of certainty for including an ancestral relative when the evidence is only circumstantial. This is clearly not an issue for individuals whose position in the family is indisputable because of good primary evidence. Yet I’m guessing that many folks are including in their data bases some persons for whom they have little or no primary evidence, probably because they have been persuaded to do so by circumstantial evidence (aka “preponderance of evidence”). So this is a problem for them as well as for me.

In the absence of any built-in mechanism for such ratings in our

software, we could include qualifications in the notes for any individual whose position is not “certain.” Presenting the circumstantial evidence, we could rate our conclusions as “*Almost Certain*” - when such evidence is very strong; “*Probable*” - when it is strong; and “*Possible*” when the evidence is weaker but not weak enough to exclude the person. If we do so, we should also include an acknowledgment that others reading the same evidence might come to different conclusions.

Any rating of circumstantial evidence is necessarily still subjective and perhaps this rating is just a substitution of more usable words for “very strong,” “strong,” and “weaker.” And readers would still need to look at notes to discover qualifications. Nevertheless this approach would be better than the present situation in which such needed qualifications are often absent. Personally I would welcome the opportunity to look more closely at notes containing circumstantial evidence when primary evidence is lacking. And since I must practice what I preach, I will begin providing such evidence in notes about the “circumstantial” individuals in my own data base of more than 5000 persons. I can’t promise how far I will get but I will do what I can.

Of course this proposal does not address the larger issue of the vast number of unsourced or poorly documented family trees on the Internet. That problem is too mind-boggling for me.

—Lou Lehmann

## From *The Researcher’s* Keyboard

By Pat Wood

*How do I . . . ?* That question along with *Where? When? and Who?* comprise the basic mantra of any dedicated (read that “addicted”) genealogist. *How do I . . .* find out where my great grandmother’s parents were from? . . . when they came to America? . . . who their parents were? *How do I* write their story?

Those who attended any of the outstanding seminars and workshops held this fall in the South Sound went away much more skilled in addressing that *How do I . . . ?* For example, Sarah Little shared her considerable expertise in *how to* locate and dig into Norwegian records. Even if you had not one drop of Norwegian blood, you could apply the same investigative logic to your own ancestry. Sarah also walked us through a wonderful case study in which she showed us *how to* develop a search and its story from the present to the distant past. On another day Dan Lynch made us all “experts” in Googling. Author of [Google Your Family Tree](#), Dan clearly demonstrated *how to* access and apply the functionality of this tool that is taking the world by storm. In Seattle the focus was on *Sharing the Generations* and included a *Grandparent and Grandchild Workshop*. What a great way to learn *how to develop continuity!*

My point? Take advantage of the wealth of learning opportunities that we have around us. The tools are there. We just need to learn *how to* use them even better. To find out what’s happening on the local scene as well as around the country, check out the **Events Calendar** tab on the society’s website: **WWW.TPCGS.ORG**

On another note . . . The deadline for articles for the 2010 edition of *The Researcher* is March. Any time in March. Pictures are most welcome. You are encouraged to share your experiences, successes, memories, flashes of brilliance, and even dead ends (aka brick walls). If you would like some help, or questions about length, format or whatever, just contact your friendly Editor at 253-279-4615 or [celtictwigs@yahoo.com](mailto:celtictwigs@yahoo.com)



# GENIE GRAB-BAG

The purpose of **GenealogyBuff.com** is to be a free genealogy site that will inspire family researchers, particularly new ones. By providing a means to gather a large amount of data for a surname, one can build a family tree very quickly. (I'm not new at this, but I was amazed at the enormous variety of data available on this website.)

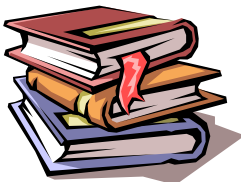
<http://www.genealogybuff.com/index.php>

You can now search the **Social Security Death Index** free through Footnote.com. Not only is the usual information available—name, birth date, death date, last known address, but because it is an “interactive” website, information is available that has been added by Footnote members. The site is updated weekly.

<http://go.footnote.com/ssdi/?xid=527>

The State Library of North Carolina and the North Carolina State Archives have posted their newest digital collection, **North Carolina Family Records Online**. The joint digital collection currently contains nearly 220 family Bible records from the State Archives, and the six-volume *Marriage and Death Notices from Raleigh Register and North Carolina State Gazette: 1799-1893*, an 1,100-page compendium of marriage announcements and obituaries. The collection has a narrow scope at present, containing only a tenth of the over 2,000 Bible records owned by the North Carolina State Archives, but expansion is planned. All of the Bible records selected for digitization contain family history information dating from the 1700s or earlier and span over 150 years, with the majority of the materials dating between roughly 1750 and 1900.

<http://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov:80/dimp/digital/ncfamilyrecords/>



## Some good reading that involves genealogical talents along the way.

**Annie's Ghosts** by Steve Luxenburg. This true story began when the author discovered that his mother, who had always portrayed herself as an only child, had a sister. Not only did she have a sister, but that sister had been institutionalized. After his mother's death, he set out to discover not only more about his unknown aunt, but *why* his mother had kept her a secret all these years, and also *when* the secret began. He tries to find out who might have known about his mother's sister, and why she was never mentioned. Along the way he finds other family secrets. In the process he uses many resources and techniques also used by genealogists.

**Shadowman** by Joan Nixon. What starts out as a simple school assignment for a family-history project turns into an obsessive hunt for the truth behind an old family feud. Andy Bonner is determined to get to the bottom of a mystery involving an ancestor who had supposedly stolen his parents' money and been disowned. The more he learns from his Great Aunt Winnie, the more he needs to know. His investigation takes him from the World Wide Web, to the town cemetery, to family sources who refuse to talk. When Andy learns the truth, he must decide whether to keep the secret or cause hurt to a life-long friend. (A book for 5th to 8th grade readers, but good adult reading too.)

**The Monsters of Templeton** by Lauren Groff. Coming home to recover from a disastrous affair with her archeology prof, Willie learns that the story her mother had always told her about her father has all been a lie: he wasn't the random man from a free-love commune that Vi had led her to imagine, but a man living in Templeton, her own home town. With only the scantiest of clues from Vi, Willie uses her research skills and archeological training to untangle the roots of the town's greatest families and discover her father's identity.

The **Fiske Library** launched its new online catalog on May 4th. Anyone on the Internet can access the catalog from the Fiske Library web site or directly at <http://www.fiskelibrary.org/catalog>

The Washington State Genealogical Society offers Pioneer Certificates which are available to direct descendants of Washington pioneers who arrived before 11 November 1889 or First Citizen Certificates to those before 31 December 1900. A new brochure describing some resources and procedures is now available. Contact Frank McLean at [FL635@yakimavallevnetwork.com](mailto:FL635@yakimavallevnetwork.com) to obtain copies.

The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library in Ohio has an Ohio obituary index of over 1,500,000 names from obituaries, death, marriage and other sources from Ohio. Although it begins in 1810 and continues to the present, most entries are from the late 1800s on. <http://rbhayes.org/index>

## German and French Translation Help

Ursula Scott, a member of our society is offering to be help in any way she can. Ursula is from Germany and can do translations of German and French. She will also do lookups on questions having to do with Germany and France.

Ursula's phone is 253-581-8898

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Vol. 4, #1 October 2009

**Don't forget to make your reservation for the Christmas Party!**

### **Officers for 2008**

President . . . . . Ellen McKanna  
VP Family Line Research . . . . . Gretchen Campbell  
VP Programs . . . . . Judy Orlando  
VP Society Development. . . . . The Lehmanns  
Recording Secretary. . . . .Sandra D. Johnson  
Corresponding Secretary . . . . . Pat Wood  
Treasurer . . . . . Warren Fisk  
Membership. . . . . Elaine Workman  
Newsletter editor. . . . . Janice Weihs  
Researcher editor. . . . . Pat Wood  
Publication Sales. . . . . Marie Hayden  
Records Preservation Chair. . . . . Janet Baccus  
Webmaster. . . . . Jane Irish Nelson

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