

# CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter

Denni Hamilton-Levonian,  
Membership  
mayflwham at gmail.com

Steve Cornick, President  
gensoc at ccgs-wa.org

Gene Kuechmann, Editor  
gskuech at gmail.com

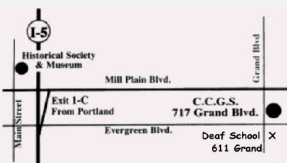
Patricia Bauer, Co-editor/web  
apmb at iinet.com

**CCGS Library**  
**717 Grand Blvd**  
**Vancouver, WA**  
360-750-5688

gensoc at ccgs-wa.org

### Hours of operation

Closed Sunday & Monday



**Check the on-line library  
calendar for  
unexpected closures.**

<http://www.ccgs-wa.org>

**Tues, Wed & Thurs:**  
10 am to 4:30 pm

**Friday**  
10 am to 3 pm

**Saturday**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays only**  
10 am to 3 pm

#### How to get here:

From I-5, take the Mill Plain exit, go east about 1 ½ miles to Grand Blvd and turn right. We are in the strip mall on the left side, north of Evergreen.



**The CCGS Library will be closed beginning Saturday, December 22, 2012 and will not reopen until Tuesday, January 8, 2013. We're sorry for any inconvenience.**

### GENERAL MEETING

**CCGS Library Annex**  
**715 Grand Blvd**  
**Vancouver.**  
**January 22, 2013**  
**10am - noon**

**The public is welcome to attend.**

### MY GRAND ADVENTURE

Presented by Lethene Parks



In the summer of 2010, Lethene embarked on a 12,000-mile "genealogy trip." Her adventures and finds included graduations, birthdays, and new cousins; family artifacts; a stone in Connecticut and another in Brooklyn; ghosts and tours; landmarks from New Amsterdam, Plymouth Colony, and the Revolutionary War; heritage tourism, and more. Some of her genealogical brick walls fell – and some didn't. The lessons Lethene learned on her trip will last even longer than the memories. Come hear about her experiences and what she learned from them.

## Getting to know . . . *Lonna Landon Parker*



I was born in 1940, at home in Pacific Beach, Washington, to Robert and Evelyn (Putman) Landon. In the Second World War, my dad was exempt from the draft because he worked for Aloha Lumber Company, which logged spruce deemed necessary for the war effort. I went to a three-room schoolhouse in Pacific Beach through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. High school was in Moclips, after which I attended business college in Aberdeen and then worked for the Ford and Datsun dealerships there. I married my high school sweetheart, Ralph Parker, in 1960. We lived in Copalis Beach for six years, next to Parker & Sons Shake Mill. Ralph worked in his dad's shake mill, but also drove for one of the truck drivers who picked up shakes at the mill.

Our daughter Sally was born just before Christmas in 1964 during one of our worst snowstorms. We moved to Vancouver in 1966 so my husband could drive trucks out of Portland. In 1968 we purchased a house in the Minnehaha area and have lived there ever since. When our second daughter, Kelly, was born in 1969, Ralph quit driving to California and was home almost every night from then on. We discovered jazz in Portland during that time and still go downtown to hear good music at Jimmy Mac's. I went back to college after the girls were in school and got a dream job at Pedersen Art & Sign. I was the secretary and also got to do some art work, but the job ended during the recession in the 80's. I worked some for Northwest Accounting and then at the Wooden Indian for thirteen years.

Kelly was in love with horses, so we got a horse, then another horse, and so on. She and Sally showed horses in 4-H. When they left home, I had a horse of my own to ride with friends on the trails. After the girls married, the wonderful granddaughters started arriving. What fun that was. And they all like horses! We now have a great-grandson to spoil.

We vacationed wherever the trains were running throughout western Canada and the U.S. We have lots of pictures of trains - steam trains, red trains, yellow trains, black trains, and more. I have many good memories of all those trips.

In the 70's, while visiting friends, we went to the museum in Vernonia, Oregon. Ralph noticed a picture like one he used to see hanging in his grandparents' house in Kalama. It was a picture of his great-grandparents, Clark and Melissa Parker. They were the first white family to live in Vernonia. We got all the information the museum had. Years later, while talking to a railroad engineer friend about Vernonia, Ralph mentioned Clark Parker. That conversation led to our meeting some cousins from Vernonia and Long Beach. One of the cousins had been doing genealogy and gave us a copy of his records. We have also added to his information. We now email a cousin in North Carolina, where the Clark Parker family originated.

In the 80's, I asked my grandmother about my family. She told me that my great-grandmother had married twice and we were actually descended from her first husband. Her second husband had adopted her two sons, but this was not mentioned to the family. At that time, it just wasn't talked about. My uncle wasn't happy when I mentioned it to his daughters.

So I had pieces of information from here and there, but I didn't know how to put it all together. I took some CCGS classes. Finally, my daughter Kelly decided that she would try to work on our genealogy, too. She subscribed to Ancestry.com and asked me to help her, since she was working full time, so I started putting everything together. I got hung up on a 1932 birth in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, that I couldn't find anyplace. Last February, I came to the Library for some help. Kara Lynn was there and suggested that I become a librarian to learn more about searching for elusive relatives. I went to librarian training and joined CCGS. It has been fun, but I still haven't found that birth in Pawtucket, although I'm getting closer.

We also have been helping with the Steam Logging Show at Pomeroy Farm, and a couple of years ago we helped build a log sled for the larger steam donkey.

Families I'm working on are Clark Parker, North Carolina; James A. Parker, Wisconsin; Jeremiah Putman, John Howland, and George Landon, all of Washington; Warren D. Case, Oregon; James M. Pritchett, California; and the very elusive John C. Moore, Missouri, born about 1862.

## ***Any Royal Bastards in Your Background?***

We probably all have ancestors who were bastards, literally or figuratively. But did you know that a bastard ancestor might get you admitted to one of the more exclusive hereditary societies? A society that demands much more strict proof of ancestry than almost any other hereditary society? This elite company is the "Descendants of the Illegitimate Sons and Daughters of the Kings of Britain," otherwise known as the "Royal Bastards." According to their web site:

*The "Royal Bastards" is a sixty-two year old hereditary society founded by some of the English-speaking world's foremost genealogical scholars. Its purpose is to foster the highest standards of genealogy.*

*Membership is open to individuals who meet these standards through the process of proving descent from an illegitimate child, grandchild or great-grandchild of a king of England, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain or the United Kingdom.*

For more information and application blanks, go to: <http://royalbastards.org>

## ***Help Needed for Library Inventory***



We will be taking inventory in our Library during winter break, specifically on December 27 and 28 and January 2 and 3. To do this, we need 14 (or more) volunteers to work in teams of two for three to four hours. You may bring a friend or just show up and pair off with someone else who shows up. You will work from a provided printout, and you will be expected to check each book thoroughly.

Contact Elinor Perlich or Lethene Parks at gensoc at [ccgs-wa.org](http://ccgs-wa.org) to volunteer or to ask questions or call the library at 360-750-5688 and leave a message.

### ***Welcome, New Member:***

Bruce Timms

### ***Welcome Back, Reinstated Members:***

Blayne Perleth and June Conway

### ***Thanks for making special donations in addition to your dues:***

Linda F. Dawson  
Lela and Zane Miller  
Grace and Roy Peters

## Getting to know . . . Sherry Warren



On July 29, 1956, I was born at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Elizabethton, Tennessee. My mom, Betty Delores Gunter, and my father, Earl Warren, had recently separated, so I grew up not knowing my father. I was so small my mom would go to Woolworth's to buy doll clothes for me to wear. A bassinet was way too large for me, so my mom made me a bed in a bureau drawer. I came into this life as a small package, but I have lived a big life in the last 56 years.

I had a "troubled" high school career, graduating 463 in a class of 1200. After a short stint in the U. S. Navy, I decided to take a road trip to California—alone and still a teenager, technically. All I remember was my mom talking about "wild hares" as I drove away just after midnight one Saturday evening. During the next six months I learned how to work in a pottery factory, take photographs, and drive in Los Angeles, San Diego, and Tijuana, Mexico. It was wonderful.

I wanted to be a doctor, a pediatric surgeon to be exact, so I enrolled in Austin Peay State University in Tennessee. I fell in love with science, and by the end of the year I was well on my way to medical school. Unfortunately, I encountered a deer tick at the game preserve that summer and had to take the next year off recuperating. I enrolled in Trevecca University to finish my pre-med studies, but as I moved into my senior year my daughter, Rachel, "happened." Oh, how those unexpected events of our lives change things and us. Shortly after giving birth to Rachel, I enrolled in a technical degree program in computer programming so I could support the two of us. The Silicon Valley bubble burst just before I graduated. Fortunately, I found a job as an assembler-language programmer.

I found that I liked business, so I returned to university to complete a Bachelor's in Business Administration with majors in information management systems and accounting and a minor in economics. I worked in the healthcare industry after graduation, and eventually served in a senior management position for a PPO in Nashville, Tennessee. One day another one of those "wild hares" found me, and I decided to change careers and pursue a Master's in Education with an emphasis on curriculum and instruction. In 1991, Rachel and I stepped off a single-engine plane in Chefornak, Alaska, to begin my first year of teaching. The principal had "forgotten" to tell me some "minor" details— few villagers spoke English, fuel-oil generators supplied electricity and heat, there was no running water, no telephones, no roads, no cars, no stores, no lots of things, actually. But, I didn't mind the simplicity and grew to love the culture of the Yupik Eskimo people. I learned how to sew clothing from animal skins, braid fish with grass to hang to dry in the summer sun, skin a seal, shoot ptarmigan, gather berries, ice fish, and speak enough Yupik to survive. I was sad when my time there was over. However, I wasn't so sad to leave the Sunday dinner walrus roasts behind.

I moved south to Vancouver, Washington, in 2006. I didn't even know what "genealogy" was when I got here, and it was a few years before I saw the sign over the Research Library. After another couple of years, I decided to stop and find out what Clark County Genealogical Society was all about. I began my ancestor hunt looking for my father. I found his death certificate on Ancestry while sitting at a computer in the CCGS Library. I was hooked from that moment on. I never imagined that the problem-solving skills I had learned in my pre-med and computer programming days, and the resourcefulness I learned in the Yupik Eskimo villages, would serve me in the future as a genealogist. Both have been invaluable.

Currently, I am enrolled at the University of Toronto, Canada, pursuing a degree in genealogical research in American records, with additional coursework in librarianship. My dream job? Maybe the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, or the North Carolina State Archives, or the National Archives.....or maybe I'll volunteer at the CCGS Library. You just never know about those "wild hares."

# **New Additions to Our Library Collection**

Compiled by Alice Aultman Allen



The following books were added to CCGS Library shelves recently. These books will be available on the "New" shelf for the remainder of December and throughout the month of January:

## **Donated by Peter Brown**

*The Jewish Experience in Western Pennsylvania*

Author: Jacob Feldman

*Video Family Portraits*

Authors: Rob Huberman & Laura Janis

*Atlas of Russian History*

Author: Martin Gilbert

*A History of Russia*

Author: Nicholas V. Riasanovsky

*A History of Poland*

Author: O. Halecki

*Atlas of British History*

Author: Martin Gilbert

*Tracing Your Ancestry*

Author: F. Wilbur Helmbold

## **Donated by Keith Morris**

*Virginia Historic Marriage Register: Orange County Marriages 1747-1850*

Authors: John Vogt and T. William Kethley, Jr.

*An Atlas of Nelson & Spencer Cos., Kentucky, 1882, Indexed*

Author: B. N. Griffing

## **Donated by Steve Aberle**

*Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Records Office*

Author: Amanda Bevan

## **Donated by William Beck**

*Genealogical Gazetteer of Alsace-Lorraine*

Author: Ernest Thode

## **Donated by Virginia Holter**

*Abstracts of Original Concessions at New Madrid and Little Prairie*

Author: Tom Turpin

## **Donated by Dorothy Wear**

*With Fire and Sword: The Battle of Kings Mountain, 1780*

Author: Wilma Dykeman

## **Compiled and donated by CCGS Research & Preservation Committee**

*East County Obituaries, 2004, from Skamania County Pioneer, Camas Post Record, and Columbian*

*Donation slips are missing for the following books, so we don't know who donated them. If you have information on the donor(s), please contact CCGS so that Alice Allen can give credit where credit is due:*

*Chief Sealth*

Author: Frank Carlson

*Mississippi Valley Melange, vol. 1 & 2*

Author: Winston De Ville

*Ancestry's Guide to Research; Case Studies in American Genealogy*

Authors: John Cerny & Arlene Eakle

*Ohio Valley Genealogies*

Author: Charles Hanna

## **"CLEARING" YOUR COMPUTER DEVICES**

When you want to dispose of an old computer, disk drive, thumb drive, etc., how do you do it without the risk of giving your personal information to someone else? This article from the United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team website gives you some helpful tips: [http://www.us-cert.gov/reading\\_room/DisposeDevicesSafely.pdf](http://www.us-cert.gov/reading_room/DisposeDevicesSafely.pdf)

## ***FROM NOAH TUTAK, CEO of GENI***

We created Geni in 2007 with one big idea – discovering your family history is better when you are collaborating with your relatives. Over the last five years we've seen the power of this approach, with millions of users working together to build a single family tree that connects over 65 million people. In this spirit of collaboration, I'm pleased to announce that Geni is joining the MyHeritage family!

MyHeritage was founded in 2003 by Gilad Japhet and a team of passionate genealogy enthusiasts in Israel. In the last 9 years it has expanded to Europe and the USA, creating a massive family history network with 65 million registered users and more than 1.35 billion family tree profiles. Sharing much of Geni's vision, MyHeritage offers free tools for building family trees, access to historical records, and DNA tests. MyHeritage is well known for its technologies to match family trees to other family trees (Smart Matches) and to historical records (Record Matches). In addition, MyHeritage offers free genealogy desktop software (Family Tree Builder); free mobile apps for iPhone, iPad and Android, which work in sync with their Website on MyHeritage.com; and a search engine for historical records (SuperSearch).

You can see why we're excited to join the MyHeritage family. MyHeritage is fully committed to Geni's vision and you'll see a number of benefits as a Geni user over the coming weeks and months. Here are some of the benefits that you'll see immediately:

- \* Unlimited profile adding is now free – All users can add as many profiles as they'd like to their tree without upgrading to a paid account. No more limits to the size of your tree.
- \* Merging is now free – All users can now merge duplicate profiles in their tree (privacy and permission rules still apply). This is great if your tree has been merged with another tree, or if you'd like to connect to the World Family Tree.
- \* Relationship paths are now free – Discover your relationship to historical figures and celebrities, even very distant relatives.
- \* Free family tree chart downloads – All users can now download a high quality chart of their family tree to their computer at no charge. These are great for sending to relatives or for printing at home as beautiful tree posters.
- \* No ads - We've removed ads for all users for a cleaner interface with less distraction.
- \* More privacy – living people who have not joined Geni will become private and will not be searchable on Google.

Together we are working on many more great features that we'll roll out over the coming months. For example, we're working together to integrate MyHeritage's Record Matching technology directly into Geni. This will significantly improve the accuracy of our tree matches by using advanced algorithms including name synonyms, cross-language matching, and additional criteria. In addition, we will be able to intelligently match Geni profiles against MyHeritage's billions of tree profiles and records, including newspaper and census records.

We're excited to roll out these changes and more, and to continue to work toward providing the best collaborative genealogy service available. Most important, we hope that these tools will help you to discover more about your family history and meet new relatives.

The entire Geni Team has joined the MyHeritage family, and we will continue to operate out of our Los Angeles offices, focused as before on building Geni.com but now with all of the global resources of MyHeritage behind us. I hope that you are excited about this as myself and the rest of the Geni Team.

### ***Volunteer Day: Monday, Jan 21 - 10 to 2 at the Annex***

Come join us! We will be working in the library and doing cut and paste in the annex. We are looking for indexers -- those obits need to have an index to be useful!

## **NEW COPIER – DOING A GREAT JOB**

Bill Whalley

If you have visited the CCGS Library in the past year, you may have noticed the new Kyocera copier. It replaced the Xerox copier that we had been leasing. By buying the Kyocera rather than leasing the Xerox, we stand to save the Society a ton of money. The Kyocera can't do everything that the Xerox did, but it can handle most of our work. Librarians have gleefully noted that the Kyocera doesn't jam as much as the Xerox did. The Kyocera copier is also a duplex network printer and a full-color scanner. It can scan to a flash drive, to a library computer, or directly to your laptop (if you have Windows 7 or later.)

### **MEMBERS' SURNAME INTEREST LIST**

Bill Whalley

CCGS members are encouraged to supply up to six surnames that they are researching, with locations, so that other members with similar interests may contact them. The surname interest list is published annually in the Member Directory. Now an enhanced surname interest list is available from the SURNAMES link on our web site at <http://www.ccgswa.org/p4597.htm>. This list is searchable by surname or surname soundex and/or by location code. The search returns a Member ID - the user needs to contact CCGS to be put in touch with the member who submitted the surname.

We are currently limited to six surnames per member in our database but, if there is enough demand, this could be changed. Let us know if you wish to list more than six surnames.

### **TECHNOLOGY WORKSHOP A SUCCESS**

The Technology Workshop for Genealogists was held on November 3. There were 40 people in attendance; six topics were covered in four 75-minute presentations. Thanks are due to a number of people who helped with this event. Presenters included Steve Aberle, Bill Whalley, Luurt Nieuwenhuis, Steve Cornick, Pat Bauer, Alice Allen, and Joy Kersteter. The Society's window was arranged for the occasion by Dolly Merrick and Steve Cornick. Thanks also go to Marian Kenedy, Lillian Fullerton, Alice Allen, Lethene Parks, Lonna Parker, Elinor Perlich, and Verna Couchman for cookies and breads. Wayne Turholski and Glen Jones assisted in a variety of ways.

We made a profit of \$162 from the eleven items in the raffle. We want to thank CCGS member Vicki Schwab for several office-related items and the lovely granny-square crocheted afghan.

### ***Are you missing something?***

If you've suddenly not been receiving the 'Sunday Blurb' by email with upcoming events, then it's because your email provider has decided to bounce it back to us. Once it's bounced back, your address is removed from the list. AOL is especially bad about this but some of the others get rather "picky," too. The messages are sent by BCC: (blind carbon copy) so no addresses are showing. Some servers don't like that idea but we're not going to change! Please notify Pat Bauer if you want to be reinstated to the mailing list - then notify your email provider so they won't send it back to her as "unknown, box full, or some other excuse!" Send an email to apmb at iinet.com to be reinstated.

# ***THE NEW TRAIL BREAKERS IS HERE!***

Bill Whalley

*Trail Breakers* is the Clark County Genealogical Society periodical. The latest issue, Volume 38, July 2011-June 2012 has been published.

## ***Table of Contents***

Dorothy Person, a tribute to a CCGS teacher

Muster Roll of the Staff of the First Regiment of Washington Territory Volunteers (U.S. Army) From October 14th to Feb 11th, 1856 and other Muster Rolls

The Ape Cave: A Treasure of Shadowy Secrets

David and Lemontine Beams information

Balm of Gilead (witness tree of Clark County)

A Pioneer Witness Tree written in 1898

Glenn N. Ranck, Clark County Historian

Carolyn Ellertson, CCGS' Native American focus group leader

Grandpa Thomas Soden

The McKays who came to the Pacific Northwest

Puget Sound Native Research

John Ball – First Teacher in the Northwest

Solomon Howard Smith - Second Teacher of Oregon Country

Is a Solar Flare a Threat to your Genealogy?

The Vancouver Independent (Feb 1879)

"Father Wilbur"

New Reader/Copier at FVRL

1904 Vancouver City Directory

Index of the Atlas of Clark County Washington 1928

Combined Index of Early Area Pioneers

More Tips on Indexes!

Standards for Sharing Information

Honoring our founding members

The Trail Breakers is available free to CCGS members. You can download a PDF file from the web and get the full-color, full-text-searchable version. Contact Bill Whalley (wgwhalley at gmail.com) to get the web address. Or bring your flash drive to the CCGS library and have the librarian copy the PDF for you. Or if you must have a paper copy—black and white only—pick one up at the library. If you can't make it to the library and wish to have a paper copy mailed to you, get a message to us and we will send it to you. Printing and postage costs \$, so donations to cover those costs are always appreciated.

The CCGS Library has electronic copies of all past issues and a surname index for all issues. Do you know that titles of articles published in past issues of the Trailbreakers are indexed in PERSI, and you can access PERSI at local public libraries?



# ***The Squeaky Wheel Gets the Grease!***

Patricia McKee Bauer



I received the following very welcome email message Wednesday, December 5, from Sue Erickson, President of Washington State Genealogical Society. I've heard from a number of our members who had sent letters as requested and it worked! Our voices were heard - as least for now. Thanks to all of you who helped out with this project. Hopefully we can keep "squeaking" whenever we hear of plans to do away with the valuable records that are needed for genealogy.

Hello,

I'm glad to report that all of your letter writing efforts have paid off. Thank you!

I have learned that we have achieved a measure of success. The State Archivist and the Department of Health met last Friday. The DOH has agreed to the State Archives request and will be settling a 10 year battle over the transfer of original birth & death records to the Archives for safe storage and accessibility.

Also, the DOH will not be pursuing a legislative effort to limit access to vital records in the upcoming session of the State Legislature. DOH still believes that access should have greater regulation and in all likelihood will begin the effort again at some future time.

The genealogical community must keep informed about any future threat. WSGS is a member of the Washington Coalition for Open Government and one of our members serves on their Sunshine Committee. We will try to keep WSGS members informed of any future action by DOH or any other group who attempts to limit access to records that we find valuable to our family research.

Sincerely,  
Sue Ericksen,  
President WSGS

## ***WASHINGTON CIVIL WAR READ-IN***

Lorraine McConaghy,  
Washington State Historical Society

In 2013, researchers will fan out across Washington State, visiting archives, museums, and libraries to read our history. Assignments will concern the antebellum, Civil War, or early Reconstruction experience here in Washington Territory, 1857-1871. We invite you to attend a training and to join the Read-In.

- ◆ Attend a training, January through May 2013  
(A training session will be held in Vancouver Saturday, February 16, 10 - 4.)
- ◆ Take a Read-In assignment, in newspapers or documents
- ◆ Spend a month of spare time, reading and gathering evidence
- ◆ Document your reading in the project templates
- ◆ Email your results to the Project

We will build a searchable database from your work, which will be available to all researchers on the WSHS website. And we'll also get all the readers together at the conclusion of the Read-In, to meet one another and celebrate this great accomplishment.

For more information, contact me at: [Lorraine.mcconaghy@wshs.wa.gov](mailto:Lorraine.mcconaghy@wshs.wa.gov).



**Clark County Genealogical Society**  
**P.O. Box 5249**  
**Vancouver WA 98668-5249**

---

President: Steve Cornick  
Vice President: Dolly Merrick  
Secretary: Marian Kenedy

Treasurer: Larry Germann  
Asst. Sec-Treas: Eric Jordahl  
Past President: Sherry Warren

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

### **CCGS Meetings and Programs**

Dec 22 - Jan 7 CCGS Library closed for the holidays  
Jan 7 Legacy Users Group (LUG) 10 am - noon - CCGS Library Annex  
Jan 7 Computer Clinic - beginning at 1 pm - *by appointment only*  
Jan 8 Writing Focus Group - 1:30 - 3:30 pm, CCGS Library  
Jan 9 Scandanavian Focus Group - 10am - 11:30am - CCGS Library  
Jan 12 Native American Focus Group - 10:30 am - noon - CCGS Library  
Jan 14 CCGS Board Meeting - 9 am - 11 am, CCGS Library Annex  
**Jan 16 February CCGS Newsletter deadline - copy to both editors please**  
Jan 21 Volunteer Day - 10 am - 2 pm, CCGS Library Annex  
Jan 22 General Meeting - 10 am - noon - CCGS Library Annex

General Meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month at CCGS Library Annex.

Morning meetings: Oct - Mar, 10 am - noon. Evening meetings: Apr - Sept, 7 - 9 pm.

**No General Meeting is held** July, August, or December.

**Notify Jeanine Bailliff, our Sunshine Lady, of anyone needing a card from CCGS such as get well, thinking of you, sympathy, etc. [jgmb at pacifier.com](mailto:jgmb@pacifier.com) or call Jeanine at 360-566-9422.**