

CLARK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

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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
2nd & 3rd 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 close from Dec. 23 – Jan. 2 for the Christmas & New Year's Holidays. We will reopen at 10 a.m. on Tues., Jan. 6 at 10 a.m.

President's Message

As the old year winds down and I begin to think about the new year to come, my thoughts turn to family. During my childhood in the 1930s family members were not so widely scattered as they are now. Most lived in eastern Washington. My father had a job (He was a newspaper reporter) and we had a car (a 1929 Ford which my dad named "Alice"). That made us better off than many folks during those Depression years. At Thanksgiving we usually stayed home in Spokane and invited family friends who had no families of their own to have dinner with us. A particular favorite with my sister and me was an elderly bachelor who had lost an arm in a sawmill accident when he was seventeen years old. He kept us entertained with demonstration of how he could tie his shoelaces into beautiful bow knots with only one hand—much better than we could do with two hands.

At Christmas we usually drove north to Colville where my maternal grandmother lived. Sometimes Grandma would come to Spokane on the bus to spend Christmas with us. We usually had chicken for Christmas dinner, as Grandma raised chickens in her back yard, as did many people at that time. One memorable year, Grandma carried the live chicken to Spokane with her on the bus, planning to butcher it on Christmas morning. Grandma was a master at this part of the proceedings. She grabbed the chicken and tucked it under her left arm, making sure its wings were held tightly to its body out of her way. Meanwhile, Daddy had set a wood chopping block out in the snow in the back yard. Grandma grabbed her small ax in her right hand, laid the chicken's head on the chopping block, and with one sure blow the deed was done. But then, the chicken (minus its head) got away from Grandma and flopped in a big circle all around the back yard, leaving splotches of blood on the white snow. My sister and I danced and screamed with delight at this spectacle. Eventually the chicken was plucked, stuffed, and roasted and Christmas dinner proceeded as usual.

Looking ahead to the New Year, my sister and I were allowed to stay up until midnight on this one night. This was when my mother employed the time until midnight to guide us to make a list of our resolutions for the coming year—things we could do to improve ourselves. Not too long ago I ran across one of these lists among some family papers. My list is headed with the following: "This year Lethene resolves to be nicer to her little sister." Anyone besides me see a mother's fine hand in that one?

Have you written down the holiday stories of your families? If not, resolve to do it now. Share the memories, the stories, the pictures with your family members. Share the importance of keeping these memories and stories alive so that your children and your grandchildren will know what your life was like and how you affected and were affected by the history going on around you. To me, that's what family history is all about.

CCGS has its stories too—remember the great ones from our Spring 2014 seminar? We have accomplishments: two very successful seminars, excellent classes, interesting programs, and, most recently, donations from our members that will enable us to have ancestry available in our library this coming year, the Old City Cemetery project moving forward. We also have resolutions: One that we will focus on during the coming year is how to get more people coming to our library to use the excellent resources we have here. We need to put CCGS on a more stable financial basis. Increased membership is one major way to do this. Another is member contributions – donations of time and money. Thank you all for the many contributions made during this past year. If you have suggestions for how we can improve, how we can better serve our members, please contact me or any member of your CCGS Board. Please enjoy the holidays with your families and come back in 2015 with a resolution to be an actively participating member of the CCGs family.

Fall Seminar Report

Brian Runyan, Education Chairman

The Fall 2014 seminar was a rousing success. William Dollarhide led us in a full day of education regarding the routes our ancestors took while settling this continent along with substitutes for federal censuses and land record search advice. Approximately 60 attendees helped the treasury to the tune of ~\$1800. Thanks everyone for your attendance. Additionally, we purchased a significant number of Mr. Dollarhide's publications that returned over \$200 to our treasury. And the ever-popular raffle was back, earning more \$\$ for our treasury. Thanks everyone!

During the seminar we announced a campaign to fund the purchase of ancestry.com for a one year trial. I am pleased to announce that we have reached our goal and will be purchasing a subscription to the library edition of ancestry.com very soon.

Thanks to all who attended and volunteered to make this a successful seminar.

"Scandinavian Focus Group"

Welcome to this edition of the Scandinavian Corner. It will be brief as I am traveling and trying to develop this on my tablet. The Scandinavian Focus Group will be meeting on the second Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

I recently became aware of an initiative to document people of Swedish descent who lived in Oregon before 1910. You can learn more about this effort by going to kickstarter.com and searching for Swedish Project – Documenting people of Swedish descent in Oregon.

Wishing you the best for the Holidays

Richard Engstrom
rengstro60@yahoo.com

ARE YOU HEADING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER OR OUT OF TOWN?

Denni Hamilton-Levonian, Membership Chair

We want to be sure you receive you monthly newsletters. Most members are now getting the newsletters online, but if you are still receiving them by postal mail and will be away from home during the winter, You have two ways to get your CCGS Newsletter that will keep us from paying fines: 1)

Let us know you'd like to read it online; or, 2) Tell us your winter address and the dates you'll be there. You can phone the CCGS office and ask a Librarian to give the information to the Membership

Chair or you can send an e-mail containing the information to [mayflwham @ gmail.com](mailto:mayflwham@gmail.com) Please be aware that if you do NOT inform us of your temporary address change, the Post Office will charge us 57 cents each time they are unable to deliver the newsletter to your regular address. Thanks for taking care of this matter before you leave and be sure to notify us when you return!

A NOTE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Denni Hamilton-Levonian

Many thanks to those who, when they send in membership renewals, are adding some "extra" dollars to their dues to assist our treasury. We welcome all donations. You're helping us keep our dues as low as possible, in spite of ever-increasing costs, and you make our hard-working Treasurer, Larry Germann's life a little easier. I hope that you check the website regularly, attend programs, and use our excellent library. You might even want to consider bringing along a friend to some of our activities!

Welcome, New Members:

Juliana Butler
Sally Fisher
Richard Lenahan
Jeffrey Mayhook
Kristina Wells

Welcome Back, Reinstated Members:

Charles Caughlan
Linda Clark
Otha Terry

Thanks for making special donations in addition to your dues:

Linda Dawson
Ralph Erickson
Walker B. Paynter, III and Romana Paynter
Richard L. Young

Weather Reminder

If we have inclement weather over the next few months, we want to remind you that the CCGS Library follows the Vancouver School Districts closure policy. If the Vancouver school district is closed, we will also be closed. And if the weather isn't great in the outlying areas, be sure to check the web page for CCGS closures. Some of our librarians live in the outlying areas where weather is often a problem, even though it's good in Vancouver and nearby vicinity. If they cannot make it into town safely, they are encouraged to let the web master know so that the closure can be posted on our web page.

General Meeting

There will be no General Meeting in December. The next General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26th, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the CCGS Annex. Watch the weekly email newsletter or the web page for information on the program.

Past CCGS President Garry Lucas Honored

One of the former presidents of CCGS is retiring Clark County Sheriff Garry Lucas. He was honored on December 9th, along with two of his co-workers, at a reception recognizing their service to Clark County. Between the three of them, their service takes in more than a century. Congratulations! Enjoy your retirement, and we look forward to seeing you at the Library doing your family research!

Note: due to late-breaking news that was also important to our Society, this newsletter was delayed in being sent out. News of Sheriff Lucas' retirement reception has been covered in our weekly e-newsletter over the past few weeks. If you are not receiving this weekly news, there is a link on the CCGS web page to subscribe. It's a great way to keep up with CCGS events that come up between monthly newsletter publications.

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

Education Chair Brian Runyan continues to come to the CCGS Library each Wednesday that there is a scheduled webinar from Legacy Family Tree. He sets up the screen and computer projector for those who would like to come and view the webinars. Usually there is a discussion following each webinar for those who are interested.

For a description of each webinar, go to

<http://www.familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php>

Webinars begin at 11 a.m. PST, unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, December 10:

Researching Your North Carolina Ancestors, with J. Mark Lowe

Wednesday, December 17

Bagging a Live One—Connecting With Cousins You Never Knew You Had, with Mary Kircher Roddy

Holiday Break—Webinars resume in January with:

Wednesday, January 7

Genealogy on the Go with iPads and Tablets, presented by Lisa Louise Cook

Wednesday, January 14:

Tracking Migration Using the Big 4 US Record Sources, with Mary Hill

Friday, January 16 @ 6 p.m. PST (NOTE CHANGE OF TIME)

Expanding Your Research From a Single Fact, presented by Marian Pierre Louis

Wednesday, January 21:

My Genealogy Do-Over – A Year of Learning From Research Mistakes, with Thomas MacEntee

Wednesday, January 28

Getting Started in Scrapbooking with Susan Budge

If you are unable to come to the library to watch these, they are available to you in your own home if you pre-register. They are also available for free for about a week following the original showing. And for Legacy Family Tree members, the webinars are available at any time with your paid subscription.

CCGS MEMBERS CAN SUBSCRIBE TO LEGACY WEBINARS FOR HALF-PRICE!!

The introductory price is normally \$49.95 for a year subscription. Geoff Rasmussen has provided CCGS with our own discount code that allows a CCGS member to purchase a yearly subscription for ½ price. If this is of interest to you, you may call the CCGS library and a librarian, after verifying you are a current member, will give you the code.

New to Our Library
Compiled by Alice Allen & Lonna Parker

Donated by Judi Kirkland:

Title: Plymouth Colony, Its History and People 1620-1691
Author: Eugene A. Stratton

Title: Pioneers of Massachusetts
Author: Charles Henry Pope

Title: Highland Clans
Author: Sir Iain Moncreiffe

Title: Irish Records Sources for Family and Local History
Author: James G. Ryan, Ph.D.

Title: Essex Genealogist, vol. 4
Author: Essex Society of Genealogists

Title: Upgrading the Recent Family Genealogy
Author: Guy D. Spurgur

Title: Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives
Author: NARA

Title: Dear Reader: 100 Years with Nina Rust
Author: Phyllis McMeekin

Title: Early Marriages of Strafford County, New Hampshire, Supplement 1630-1870
Author: Robert Sayward Canney

Title: Genealogy via the Internet
Author: Ralph Roberts

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Donated by Billie Jo Westby

Title: Genealogical Records of some of the Noyes Descendants, vol. 1 & 2
Author: Col. Henry E. Noyes

Title: Our Thompson Family in Maine, New Hampshire and the West
Author: Rev. Charles N. Sinnett

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Donated by Patricia McKee Bauer

Title: Complete Idiot's Guide to the Civil War
Author: Alan Axelrod

Title: Records of Washington County, Oregon: Cemetery Records of NW Washington Co., vol. 3
Author: Genealogical Forum of Oregon

Donated by the Ft. Vancouver Chapter DAR

Title: History of Klickitat County Washington
Author: Klickitat County Historical Society

Donated by Friends of the Three Creeks Library

Title: Columbia River High School Yearbook, 1984
Author: Columbia River High School

Title: Columbia River High School Yearbook, 1985
Author: Columbia River High School

Donated by Friends of the Vancouver Community Library

Title: Centennial Memories – Milwaukie 1903-2003
Author: City of Milwaukie Employees

Donated by Carol (Smith) Tovar

Title: Brownlee and Smith
Author: Carole (Smith) Tovar

Donated by Mary Ellis Hannon

Title: History of Some Central Virginia Families: Miller, Rhodes, Poindexter
Author: W. David Marshall

Newsletter Links, etc.

Newsletters, newsletter and Society links have been received from the following area genealogy societies and other entities which may be of interest to our members:

Seattle Genealogical Society Newsletter:

<http://seattlegenealogicalsociety.org/sites/default/files/pdf/SGSNewsletter-Fall2014.pdf>

Quesnel Genealogy Society, Quesnel, BC

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~bcqgs/index.html>

Willamette Valley Genealogical Society

Their latest newsletter has been printed and is available at our library. Here is a link for their web page, with links on their page to other information:

<http://www.wvgsor.org/>

We offer our condolences to the family of CCGS member Don Finel of Camas, who passed away on November 28th. Don is survived by two daughters and a granddaughter. An obituary appeared in the Dec. 2nd edition of the Columbian. His parents, brothers and wife preceded him in death. Don worked tirelessly on behalf of CCGS for many years.

The following information was received and submitted by CCGS Member Glen Jones

The University of Oregon Libraries' Oregon Digital Newspaper Program (ODNP) will add images of more than 16 historic Oregon newspapers during the final year of its grant funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities' and Library of Congress' National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP).

There are currently more than 650,000 pages of 65 historic Oregon newspapers (most published before 1923) on the website. They are keyword searchable, making it possible to search just one, some or all of the newspapers for an individual, business or other topic.

Digitization of the following 10 newspapers is now underway:

1. Hood River. Hood River Glacier
2. Dallas. Polk County Observer
3. Albany. State Rights Democrat
4. Salem. Daily Capital Journal/Capital Journal
5. Pendleton. East Oregonian: E.O.
6. Roseburg. Douglas Independent/Roseburg Review
7. Heppner. The Gazette-Times
8. St. Helens. Oregon Mist
9. Corvallis. Corvallis Gazette/Corvallis Times/Oregon Union/Union-Gazette
10. Spray. Spray Courier

In addition, digitization of the following titles will begin soon.

1. Astoria. Toveritar (a Finnish language newspaper edited by women from 1915-1922)
2. Condon. Condon Globe
3. Dallas. Oregon Republican/Liberal Republican
4. Echo. Echo Register
5. Junction City. Junction City Bulletin
6. Athena. Athena Press

Content from these newspapers is made available on both on Historic Oregon Newspapers, <http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu> , and the Library of Congress' Chronicling America, <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>

Seminar Raffle:

We have a couple of unclaimed or "left behind" prizes from the recent Fall Seminar. Prizes were

1. Roots Magic 6 (software)
2. Book: "Getting the Most Out of Roots Magic 6
3. Tree Talks: "Cattaraugus County Abstracts of the 1835 New York State Census

There is a raffle ticket taped to the Roots Magic software package, not sure if this was not claimed originally (the "keep this coupon" portion of the ticket may have been dropped into the box) or if all three of these prizes were left by the same person.

If these are yours, they will be in the Will Call/Lost & Found cubby in the library lunchroom, and can be picked up during regular library hours.

Margaret Colf Hepola 1917-2014

We are saddened to learn of the passing of CCGS member and benefactor, Margaret Colf Hepola on Saturday, December 6th, at her home. She was 97. Her obituary and news article appear in the Tuesday, December 9th edition of the Columbian. A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, December 10th at 1 p.m. at the Hayes cemetery near Woodland, with a Celebration of Life to be held on Friday 1 December 12 at 1 p.m., at the First Church of God in Vancouver.

Her obituary calls her a “regional treasure,” and indeed she was. She was busy helping so many Clark County organizations, including the Clark County Genealogical Society.

Several of our CCGS members who knew and worked with her, share their memories of this busy and delightful lady:

From Sandy Thompson Librarian Director:

I am saddened by the death of my dear friend Margaret Colf Hepola. She died on Saturday Dec. 6, 2014. Those of us who have known her knows of the zest she had for life. She understood that CCGS was a valuable part of Clark County. She was a Historian for the North Clark County area. She was La Center Cemetery Sexton for some 52 years. There was so much she did in her lifetime with everything having a value of importance attached to it. And we are recipients of her work.

I was fortunate to work on her genealogy over the last 4 years and assisted her with her DAR papers. Some of her family came on the Mayflower and from Switzerland. Her family were pioneers in the Woodland, Cowlitz county area. Some came by wagon train in the 1860's to San Joachim County, CA from Illinois, before coming north.

CCGS has been so blessed to have been given by the Colf Foundation donations that have helped our library over the last few years.

In the spring of 2013 Margaret Colf Hepola was nominated to receive the Clark County First Citizen's award. Following is an excerpt from **Jane Germann's** supportive letters on her behalf:

“... as a very long time board member of the **Clark County Genealogical Society**, I have been impressed to see Margaret's generosity monetarily as well as giving the society ideas of where to seek grants. Her dedication of the heritage of the area is extraordinary. Margaret had given several smaller gifts over the years, but recently has given generously as a member of the Colf Foundation. Her verbal encouragement was also welcomed – she told us that she always mentions how helpful CCGS is in offering help to those seeking their personal heritage with individual help, by teaching classes, offering a genealogical based library and preserving records. We are incredibly thankful to Margaret for her support to our society.

“Margaret has been a great supporter of community efforts to preserve the history of the area. These examples are the ones I personally know she has supported. Margaret deserves to be made First Citizen!”

Jane also mentioned her involvement with the Clark County Historical Society and North County Museum.

Our final comments come from immediate Past President **Steve Cornick:**

Margaret Hepola was a grand lady. Sandy Thompson told me once that whenever she would visit Margaret she would find her energetically tending to her many and varied interests in our community. This despite being in her nineties and as deserving as anyone of simply retiring to her rocking chair and contemplating a life of outstanding accomplishment in the cultural life of Clark County. What a woman!

A few years ago, we had the pleasure of Margaret coming to our library for a program in which she and other members were given recognition for their role in supporting CCGS. As I spoke with Margaret, she said that she thought CCGS was the most important cultural heritage organization in Clark County. Coming from her I found those words a source of inspiration. I have striven to insure that CCGS lives up to that aspiration.

Margaret Hepola was not the most important member of CCGS. No member is more equal than any other. But without Margaret's support and inspiration we all are going to have to step up our game.

I am thankful that I had the privilege of associating with this fine lady.



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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

President: Lethene Parks
Vice President: Bea Ritter
Secretary: Marian Kenedy

Treasurer: Larry Germann
Asst. Sec-Treas: Eric Jordahl
Past President: Steve Cornick

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

CCGS Meetings and Programs

Dec 11 Scandinavian Focus Group - 10 - 11:30 am, CCGS Library Annex
Dec 13 Native American Focus Group - 10:30-a.m. - 12 noon
Dec 15 Library Committee meeting - 10 a.m. - 12 noon, CCGS Library
Dec 23-Jan 6 CCGS Library closed for Christmas/New Year holiday
Jan 5 Legacy Users Group - 10 a.m. - 12 noon at CCGS Annex
Jan 8 Scandinavian Focus Group - 10 a.m. - 11:30, CCGS Annex
Jan 10 Native American Focus Group - 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
Jan 12 Board Meeting, 9 a.m. CCGS Annex
Jan 21 February CCGS Newsletter deadline
Jan 26 Library Committee meeting, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, CCGS Library
Jan 27 General Meeting, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, CCGS 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 Bailiff, our Sunshine Lady, of anyone needing a card from CCGS such as get well, thinking of you, sympathy, etc. jjmb@pacifier.com or call Jeanine at 360-566-9422.