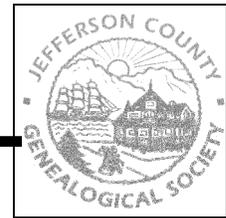


**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER**



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YOUR ANCESTOR'S FAN CLUB

By Jesse Stewart

What do you do when you hit a brick wall in your research—when you can't seem to find out any more about an ancestor and his or her past? You may know, for instance, that your ancestor was born in Ohio, but not where or to whom. You've examined land records, wills, country histories and every other source you can think of, but he doesn't leave any clues behind during his life in Missouri.

You might then turn to following other family members—his known or suspected siblings, relatives and children—to look for clues. You've taken your focus off your direct line, and traced the lives of known relatives hoping that they might mention a birthplace in some record. But what if that hasn't worked either?

You might give up, or better yet, follow your ancestor's FAN Club. Elizabeth Shown Mills introduced us to this useful concept at our seminar in March. The FAN Club is your ancestor's **F**riends, **A**ssociates and **N**eighbors - those people with whom he interacted on a regular basis. As we learned in our last newsletter, people often migrated in groups, so by finding out where your ancestor's FAN Club originated, you might find his place of birth. And, since people often associate with others of like mind and like heritage, your ancestor's associates were possibly people known from an earlier date.

How do you find out who the FAN Club is? A good place to start might be census records. Instead of just looking for the family of your ancestor, examine others living nearby. Since the census taker would have visited families living near each other at the same time, those families listed near your ancestor would have been neighbors. In our example, you would look for others who were also born in Ohio.

Friends, Associates and Neighbors can be uncovered in a myriad of places. You might start by looking for:

- Neighboring land owners from maps and deeds,
- Families into which your ancestor's children married as they were often neighbors or associates of the parents,
- People who witnessed your ancestor's documents (land deeds, wills and other official records) or for whom he was a witness on these same type of documents. Neighbors and friends were often called upon to perform this service,

(Continued on page 3)

OUR MEMBERS USE THE FAN CLUB

Knowingly or not, some of our members have used the FAN Club to search for elusive ancestors—others plan to use this technique. Maybe we can all learn from their examples.

Lesa Barnes says that years ago she “learned”, via the internet, that her Moses Harris and his wife Betsey Teeter of Saline Co., MO had come from Garrard Co., KY sometime in the 1820s. With no proof backing up this “internet fact”, her first task was to prove (or disprove) this claim. Following the wise advice to start with the known and work backwards, Lesa began her work in Saline County by learning as much as she could about Moses and his family, friends and associates. Because Harris was a common name in the area in the early 19th century, there were a lot families to sort through—she didn’t know which were connected and which were not. Mapping the land owned by these people from 1820 to about 1850, Lesa found three geographically distinct Harris clans—North, South and West. Knowing that her family was from the greater Miami area in north Saline County, she focused her efforts on the Harris families found in that region.

Lesa then proceeded to research land and court records of the FAN Club of the “northern” Harris clan—families with marriage ties, people who witnessed legal documents for and with them, people who bought and sold land with them, neighbors, etc. Note that she did not limit her efforts to just the FAN Club of Moses, but to the broader FAN Club of all the Harris families in the northern group. Lesa discovered that there were about a dozen members of the FAN Club, with two or three who stood out as having very close ties. Following leads to other counties in Missouri and even other states found in land and court records, county histories, etc., Lesa was eventually able to show that the Moses Harris of Saline Co., MO was the same man as the Moses Harris of Garrard Co., KY. She says it wasn’t easy, but she doesn’t believe that she would have been successful if she just focused on Moses and Betsy.

Lesa was then able to use a similar approach in Kentucky to try to find the parents of Moses Harris. The well-documented genealogy of Moses’ wife, Betsy Teeter, was a significant help throughout Lesa’s work, but did not solve the problem. Again, starting with land records, Lesa was able to map different Harris clans residing in Garrard County using tax and census records to fill in information. Interestingly, she found that many of the Harris FAN Club in Missouri were also members of the FAN Club in Kentucky!

Lesa isn’t yet done, and says that researching in Kentucky wasn’t as easy as Missouri since there were several county changes during the period of her research and land was measured by metes and bounds instead of the quadrangle system (section, township and range). She highly recommends the use of Deed Mapper software, particularly in locations with metes and bounds land systems, and would be happy to share her experience using it with anyone who’s interested.

From several records, **Lorrell Louchard** knows that her great-grandfather, John Thornton Edwards, was born in 1833 in Ohio, but she doesn’t know who his parents are or where in Ohio he was born. In the 1860 census, he is living in Stephenson Co., IL with his wife Maria and children Abigail, Thompson, Eliza, Bolton, Fanny and John. Lorrell knows that his wife was Maria Churchill who came from upstate New York to Illinois where she married first Levi Wilcoxon. Maria can be found as head of household with children Abigail and Thompson Wilcoxon in the 1850 census in Erin Tp., Stephenson County. She married second Baltus Lennington who apparently died a few years after the marriage. Maria was about 13 years John’s senior and he was her third husband—it’s likely that most of the children with them in 1860 were children from Maria’s previous marriages.

(Continued on page 6)

YOUR ANCESTOR'S FAN CLUB (CONT.)

(Continued from page 1)

- Those who served as witnesses or bondsmen at family marriages, executors of estates, or guardians of minor children. Close friends or relatives were often chosen for these duties,
- People who bought items at the sale of your ancestor's property when he died, or from whose estate he purchased items. Neighbors and relatives usually turned out to these events,
- Other plaintiffs, defendants and witnesses in court cases,
- People who were included in civic duties with your ancestor,
- Fellow church members, especially those who acted as baptismal sponsors for his children or for those whom he or his wife acted in this capacity,
- Those with whom he served in a military unit since neighbors or associates often enlisted together and militia units were formed within a community, and
- Business associates or others who utilized the services of the same merchant, doctor or tradesman.

By reconstructing the lives of your ancestor's FAN Club you might be able to determine more of his history. One of his FAN Club might have been more prominent in the community—the county history or a land record might mention his place or origin. A newspaper article might mention another associate as traveling to his "home" or having visitors from that place. Your ancestor might be named as a brother-in-law, step-brother or half-brother in one of these people's will. You never know what "gem" might be hiding in the records of the FAN Club. You can then examine records of the natal place(s) of the FAN Club and if you're lucky, find your ancestor's family!

The FAN Club technique can also be especially helpful in finding the family of your female ancestor when you don't know her maiden name. Who was the person who gave permission or the bond when she got married—was it a father or brother? Why was a certain person appointed guardian of her minor children when her husband died - often family members were given such responsibilities? Or, were the baptismal sponsors of her children her parents? All good clues to follow to uncover a woman's identity.

It might seem tedious to do all this genealogical work on others, but it can be well worth it. It might just be the sledgehammer you need to break through the brick wall.

ATTENTION OHIO RESEARCHERS

The library was given 20 years of *The Report*, the journal of the Ohio Genealogical Society. The issues are loaded with abstracts of county records. Lu Person divided the issues into type of record, so that one volume, for example, includes all the bible records. Recently Jesse Stewart has started a surname index for these records. You can now check into one place to see if your surname is listed in volumes already indexed. The surname Index is in an adobe file with a shortcut on the desktop of each of the JCGS computers.



Ohio Farming circa 1924

DON'T MISS IT!

JCGS has a full schedule of events for the coming quarter. You can refer to the calendar on the next page for dates and times (don't forget to mark your calendars). Some of the special things coming up such as our monthly meetings, discussion groups and resource corners deserve a little extra explanation.

September Meeting: Laura Reutter, past conservator for Jefferson County Historical Society, will tell us how to preserve documents, clothing, pictures and other family treasures to save them for future generations. Feel free to bring an item that you wonder how to store or take care of and get feedback from Laura.

October Meeting: Washington State Vital Records. Kathryn Devine, Lynn Red and Kim Smeenk from the Washington State Library will discuss how to uncover vital records in Washington state. They'll cover materials available at the Washington State Library as well as the Washington State Archives and on-line at sites such as Ancestry.com.

November Meeting: Brick Walls Panel: a panel of JCGS members will help you address your difficult research questions. Bring your question to the October meeting or get it to Eileen Martin. In the past, our "experts" have found some pretty interesting things for members, so take advantage of getting free advice.

Writing Your Family History Discussion Group: for those who are thinking about writing their family stories and for those who have put pencil to paper. A chance to share ideas about how to accomplish this part of our family history. An informal group—all are welcome.

Regional Research Discussion Group: We will focus again on Missouri for a discussion of research problems and successes. This group is a good opportunity to bring your research problems. We will pool our collective knowledge about references that work.

September Resource Corner: Pam Wilson will show her presentation on differing fashions over the years. An ability to distinguish the dress found in family photos is a major clue to identifying those mysteries in your collection.

October Resource Corner: Harlean Hamilton will review the resources available for finding our ancestors who participated in World War I or World War II. The information she has compiled for Jefferson County is an example of what you might learn about your family. Do you know all the places they went as a part of their active duty?

November Resource Corner: Books that are out of copyright are being scanned and can be read online. This greatly increases our access to valuable sources about our ancestors. Lesa Barnes will help us find where books can be found and the best techniques for searching out the information we seek.

October Research Trip: We'll head to Fiske Genealogical Library for the morning lecture (topic has not yet been determined) and an afternoon of research.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Linda Prentice

Tina McCall

Jim Kerns

Fran Schubert

Mary Bettger

Karen Polinsky

Marsha Moratti

Marilyn Santiago

Jean Tweedie

Sarah Meek

Bruce Freeland

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER * OCTOBER * NOVEMBER

DATE	ALL MEETINGS START AT 9:30 AM AT THE RESEARCH CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
September 4	Library Committee Meeting
September 5	Executive Committee Meeting
September 12	Program Committee Meeting
September 13	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group
September 19	Regional Research Discussion Group: Missouri
September 20	Monthly Meeting: Preserving Your Family Treasures (Tri-Area Community Center)
September 25	Volunteer Meeting
September 27	Resource Corner: Pam Wilson—Identifying Fashions
October 3	Executive Committee Meeting
October 4	Open House 11 AM to 4 PM
October 8	Research Trip to Fiske Genealogical Library
October 11	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group
October 13	Beginning Genealogy Class 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM
October 17	Regional Research Discussion Group: Missouri
October 18	Monthly Meeting: Washington Vital Records (Tri-Area Community Center)
October 20	Beginning Genealogy Class 1:00PM to 3:30 PM
October 25	Resource Corner: Harlean Hamilton—WW I and II Military Records
October 27	Beginning Genealogy Class 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM
October 30	Volunteer Meeting
November 3	Beginning Genealogy Class 1:00 PM to 3:30PM
November 6	Library Committee Meeting
November 7	Executive Committee Meeting
November 8	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group
November 10	Beginning Genealogy Class 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM
November 14	Program Committee Meeting
November 15	Monthly Meeting: Brick Wall Panel (Tri-Area Community Center)
November 21	Regional Research Discussion Group: Missouri
November 29	Resource Corner: Lesa Barnes—Books on-line

(Continued from page 2)

In 1850, a Joseph Edwards, age 20, born in Virginia is living with the John B. Clingman family in Buckeye Tp. Lorrell also found an Amos Edwards from Sandusky County, OH who received a federal land grant in Stephenson Co., IL in the 1840s. Researching land grants for the families with apparent Edwards connections, she discovered that the Wilcoxens, Clingmans and Amos Edwards were located very near each other. Might tracing the Wilcoxon and Clingman families lead back to a place in Ohio where John Edwards was born? And, are there connections between Edward, Joseph and Amos Edwards? Let's hope so, and good luck Lorrell!

We all have them, those ancestors that sprung from under a rock, says **Bev Brice**. For her, one such person is Jacob Dillman—actually two generations of Jacob Dillmans! In 1784, the Dillman family is in Bedford (now Franklin) Co., VA, but where were they before that time? In 1884, a family historian (obviously, fewer generations removed from the subjects than Bev is) compiled a list of children for both Jacob Dillmans, including the names of the people they married. There was no record to prove this list, but it provided her with a place to begin.

Bev's starting point was researching the families of the "marry-ins" for the first generation. She identified where they could be located and when by using genealogies and marriage, land, court, tax and church records. These families were among the Pennsylvania Dutch (a huge FAN Club!), and studying the social history of this immigrant group helped Bev identify where to look for records and to evaluate what was reasonable to expect. An example was that 50-75% of the Germans who immigrated at this time were indentured servants for 4-7 years, so not finding any records immediately after their arrival might be anticipated.

Combining her new knowledge of the social background for the Dillmans and their associates with the records she was unable to uncover for both the FAN Club and people with the name of Dillman, Bev found that the entire group of spouse-families ended up in Franklin Co., VA. In each case there was a point in Pennsylvania where they could be placed in the same area, giving opportunities for marriage at the appropriate times. This effort didn't totally solve Bev's problem, but enabled her to put forward a circumstantial case for the experiences of these families. And, she now knows more than when she started and has further leads to follow in her attempt to flesh out these elusive Dillman men.

WORLD VITAL RECORDS—NEW AND IMPROVED!

World Vital Records is a website we subscribed to at the Research Center. It began with the holdings of Everton Publishing from their years of collecting family tree information. Its offerings have been disappointing so far, but they have just introduced a major expansion!

The website includes databases from England, Canada, Australia, France, Ireland, Scotland and Hungary. It says they have, "more than 1.5 billion names from 35 countries" but as usually happens, the depth of these holdings is varied. There are plans to expand more in the future. Some specific databases are: a genealogy-tree database of Argentinean people; international newspapers; a searchable database of Spanish mission records of southern Arizona and northern Sonora, Mexico; a Moravian database of emigrants from the Czech Republic; and a list in English of men who owned land in Hungary in 1828.

Please take a look at this website and see if the library's subscription is useful. Let Bev Brice what you think!

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

by Jesse Stewart

Last issue we talked about migration. In this newsletter, we're addressing using the FAN Club of our ancestor as a research tool. These topics fit well together as people didn't usually head out on their own to a new location—they traveled with friends, relatives, fellow church members, and other associates—their FAN Club. I hope you'll consider using this technique to study your "difficult" families.

On the "home front" things have really started moving forward on the expansion of the Research Center by Jefferson County Historical Society. Over the past few years, the Historical Society has discussed the need to have storage space for its artifacts (items other than documents that are owned by the Society). Currently, these items are housed at Fort Worden, but that space will not be available in the future. So, the idea was to expand the Research Center to create room to store and work on the Historical Society's objects.

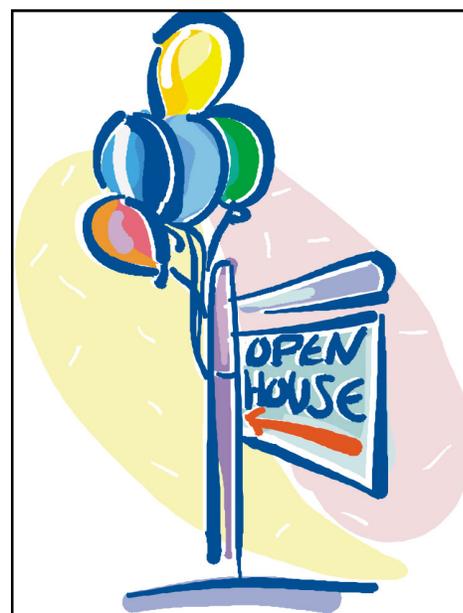
In June, a committee of Historical Society and Genealogical Society representatives hired an architect, Jim Rozanski of Port Townsend, to develop a concept and initial plans for the expansion. Jim came up with a creative, unique idea—using a silo to house the public area, document and small item storage, a lunch room, and a conservation laboratory. The current building will be used to house large objects such as tractors, carriages and the like. A nice lobby, and, possibly, a meeting room will be added. If you're interested, drawings are available at the Research Center—but, keep in mind that this is still a "work in progress".

One thing that helped jump start the Research Center's expansion was a very generous donation of \$350,000 given for the project through the Genealogical Society. The anonymous donor wanted to support the activity while recognizing the contributions the Genealogical Society makes toward the success of the Research Center which is owned by the Historical Society. We want to thank this person who has made our future even more bright—THANK YOU! The Historical Society has already received one grant for the project, and is seeking other funding sources.

By the time you read this newsletter, you will hopefully have seen articles in the newspapers about the scope, timing and funding for the Research Center Expansion project. We'll keep you updated as things progress. But, don't worry—we plan on remaining open during construction!

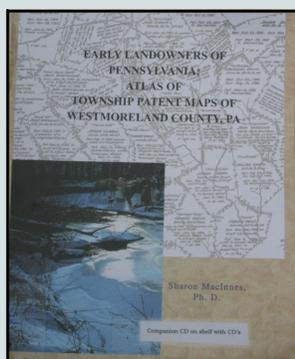
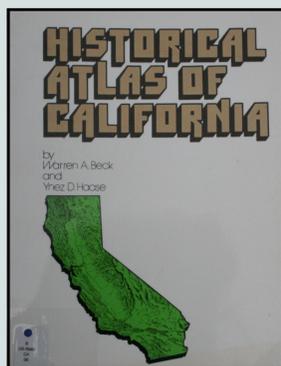
Bev reminds us that thanks are due to our wonderful "yard crew" at the Research Center. The grounds look great due to the efforts of Joan Buhler who spends several hours each week watering, weeding and planting. Jerry and Harlean Hamilton and Bud and Eileen Martin have done some mowing (but I don't know if they appreciate Harlean's watering to help things grow as much as the rest of us do!). I know everyone who uses the RC appreciate your efforts Joan, Jerry, Harlean, Bud and Eileen, and join me in a big THANK YOU!

Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll see announcements about our upcoming Beginning Genealogy Class and Open House—I hope you'll consider joining the class if you're just starting out researching your family history or think a refresher might be of help. And, tell all your friends about our Open House—let's get more people involved in our fascinating hobby!



**Open House at the
Jefferson County Genealogical Society
Research Center
October 4th, 11 AM to 4 PM**

New Books



Welcome
Newest Library
Volunteer

Lorrell Louchard

Thanks for
joining the team!

BEGINNING GENEALOGY CLASS

Mondays, October 13–November 10, 1 PM to 3:30 PM

JCGS Research Center (13692 Airport Cutoff Road)

Eileen Martin, Bev Brice and Jesse Stewart will be teaching a 5 week Beginning Genealogy Class for the our Society. The purpose of the class is to give an overview of the basic steps for successful genealogical research. These classes are a helpful review for those who have already started to work on their family history as well as a good introduction for those who are truly “beginners”.

The use of genealogical forms, vital records and census records will be covered as well as a brief introduction to additional types of records useful to genealogists such as land, probate, military and immigration documents. There will be particular attention paid to online research, but you do not have to use a computer to take the class, as all types of references will be covered.

The cost of the class is \$30 for JCGS members and \$45 for non-members (with one year membership included). The class will be limited to 18 participants. To register send your check to JCGS, PO Box 627, Port Townsend, WA 98368 with “class” written on it. Registrations will be accepted through October 8th. For questions call Eileen at 385-0673 or Bev at 385-6599.

RESEARCH CENTER OPEN HOUSE

October 4th, 11 AM to 4 PM

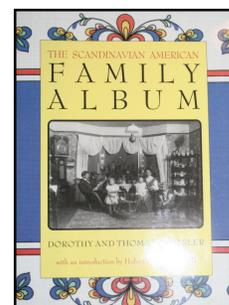
JCGS Research Center (13692 Airport Cutoff Road)



In celebration of JCGS’s 25th Anniversary and Family History Month, an Open House will be held at the Center. The public is invited, free of charge, to learn how to research ancestors using genealogical subscription websites. JCGS has subscriptions to Ancestry, Footnote, Newspaper Archives, World Vital Records and the New England Historic and Genealogical Society. Valuable data ranging from digitized books and periodicals to original documents can be found on these websites. In addition to getting an introduction to these for-pay websites, attendees can get assistance with their research and check out other things, including the book collection, offered by JCGS. And, of course, refreshments will be available. Hope to see you there—BYOA (Bring Your Own Ancestors)!

A MYSTERY...

Someone left the book *The Scandinavian American Family Album* by Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler at the library. Was it intended as a donation to the library? We would like to include it in our collection, but we are not sure of the owner’s intent. Will the owner of the book please contact Bev Brice at bb@olympus.net or 385-6599



JAMES GILCHRIST SWAN'S FAN CLUB

By Marge Samuelson

James Swan was a well-known resident of Port Townsend from the late 1850s until his death in 1900. While doing research for a Jefferson County Historical Society Museum Exhibit, I used his FAN Club to flesh out his life. At the time I didn't realize that was what I was doing but looking back, the use of "Family, Associates & Neighbors" was what led me to discover and recreate his life.

The letters he wrote to his family in Medford, Massachusetts, showed a man intensely interested in everything around him. The letters he wrote to Professor Baird, an associate from the Smithsonian Museum showed the types of Northwest Native American artifacts he was collecting for them, and his persistent requests to be paid. The correspondence between him and his good friends, the Webster's, showed a side of him filled with gossip concerning the time and places they shared.



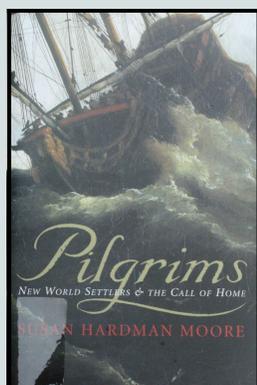
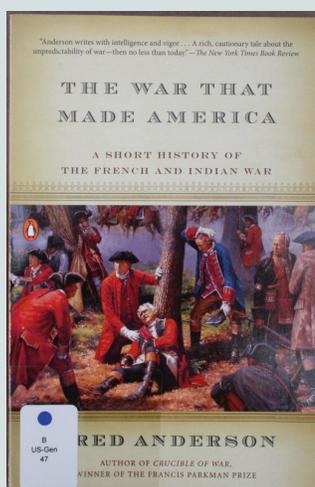
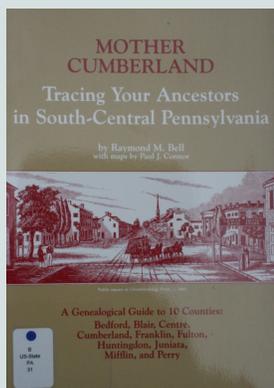
*James Swan with some of his Northwest Native Art 1891
From the book, Swan Among the Indians,
by Lucille McDonald*

One of his good friends living in Port Townsend, James Seavey, helped him in times of crisis throughout their friendship. It was through his daughter's correspondence with James Seavey after her father's death that I finally learned why there was no correspondence from his wife. She had asked him to please burn her letters and he evidently did. I have always wondered what her response was to the man who had left her and their children for a life of adventure. James was a diarist and luckily most are available at the University of Washington. They are a great source of information about his time in Port Townsend and as a teacher at the Neah Bay Indian Reservation. He mentions many local people, local news, weather, etc. Not everyone is lucky enough to have such an interesting ancestor, but by researching your ancestor's friends, associates and neighbors you may come across one that was just as prolific a writer who may give you some insight into your own family.

HELP NEEDED IN THE LIBRARY

- We are always working on indexing and abstracting information from Jefferson County records. This work requires the ability to use the Excel computer program and can be done in the library or at home.
- We also have some work for those who don't want to use the computer. Some of the Jefferson County History books need to be indexed and this can be done by hand, but does need to happen in the library.
- Administrative help is needed to coordinate the 50/50 book purchase program. Lorrell Louchard is doing a great job of purchasing the books, and we need someone to support her by organizing the program and doing the paperwork.
- It is of interest to all to have website references included in the newsletter. We need someone to compile a list quarterly.

New Books



NEW BOOKS IN THE JCGS LIBRARY

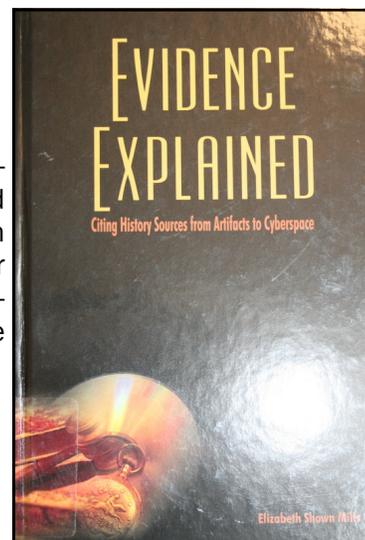
Not a long list but some real gems here. Those with an * were purchased with your money from the Society book purchase fund.

TITLE	COMMENTS
<i>The War That Made America</i>	A readable summary of the French and Indian Wars 1753-1764
<i>Historical Atlas of California</i>	Includes odd bits of information, such as rain-fall, with historic events. Short text included
* <i>Opening The Ozarks First Families in Southwest Missouri, Volumes 1-4</i>	See separate review on page 12 – Excellent book!!
* <i>Gateway to the West, Volumes 1-2</i>	Published articles on Ohio Counties with index
* <i>Family Archives Ohio Land and Tax records 1787-1840 (CD)</i>	Includes <i>Early Ohio Settlers</i> by Berry, Vol. 1-3; <i>First Ownership of Ohio Lands</i> by Dyer (with description of land distribution in Ohio); and <i>Early Ohio Tax Records</i> by Powell which lists names in the tax rolls by year.
* <i>Mother Cumberland Tracing your ancestors in South Central Pennsylvania</i>	Untangles the county structure in central Pennsylvania, indispensable for researching this area
<i>Pennsylvania German Pioneers, Volumes 1-3</i>	This set includes copies of the original signatures for Germans entering Pennsylvania from 1727-1808
<i>Early Land owners of PA Fayette County (Book and CD)</i>	Maps of original landowners
<i>Early Land owners of PA Westmorland County (Book and CD)</i>	Maps of original landowners
<i>Spotsylvania County Virginia Deeds 1722-1734</i>	Abstracts of land deeds
* <i>The History of Wisconsin, Volume II (1848-1873) and Volume III (1873-1893)</i>	Understand your families better from these excellent histories. Volumes 1 & 4 cover additional dates; if interested in these volumes let Bev Brice know.
* <i>New Hampshire Families in 1790, Volume 1</i>	The first volume in a series to cover all families in the 1790 census. Volunteer researchers so you'll need to verify the information, but sources are listed

BOOK REVIEW

By Barbara Larsen

Evidence Explained, Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace **by Elizabeth Shown Mills**



Elizabeth Shown Mills explains in the forward her two goals in producing her book, *Evidence Explained*:

“Obviously, it provides citation models for most source type of history—especially original materials not covered by classic citation guides. Beyond that, it can help us understand each type of record and identify each in such detail that we and our readers will know not only where to go to find our source but, equally important, the nature of that source so that the evidence can be better interpreted and the accuracy of our conclusions can be appraised.”

All of you who heard Elizabeth Shown Mills’ lecture last March know the importance of the reference book *Evidence Explained*. It has a wealth of information. The chapters are broken down into the record that one might be using at the time—such as census, church records, cemetery records, government records, publications and many more. Suggestions are given as to how best to record and evaluate each fact. *Evidence Explained* is the go-to guide for everyone who explores the past. I recommend you have a look at it in our library. You may determine you need it in your personal library as well. It is a hard cover book with 885 pages, listed at \$49.95 on the cover and published in 2007 by Genealogical Publishing Company.

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360-385-9495

Research Center Location & Hours

13692 Airport Cutoff Road
Hours: 11 to 4
Tuesday—Saturday
\$4.00 admission for
non-members
\$2.00 children

We're on the Web!

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wajcgs/>

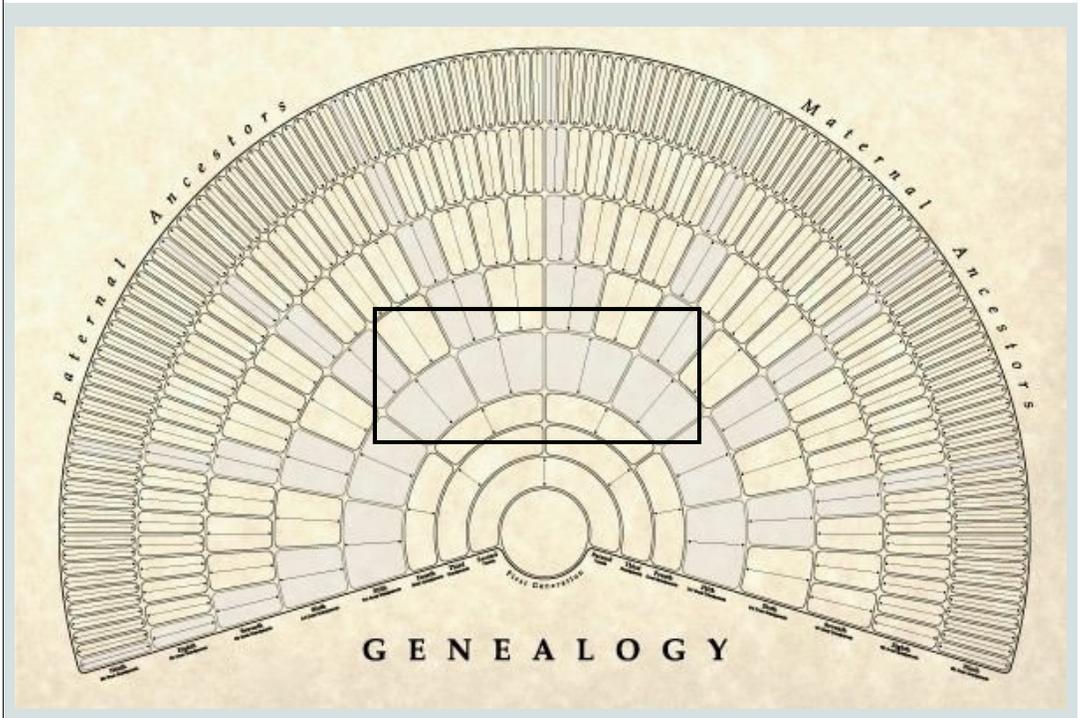
Meetings:

3rd Saturday
9:30 AM

Tri-Area
Community
Center

Chimacum,
Washington

Visitors
Welcome



DOES THE FAN CLUB CONCEPT WORK?

One of the purchases by JCGS this summer was a four volume set by Marsha Hoffman Rising titled *Opening The Ozarks First Families in Southwest Missouri*. Her goal in compiling this information was "...to consider the hypothesis that one can locate an individual's origin by tracing the origins of his neighbors and associates." Can it be done? Her answer is "Yes, it can!".

The author took the 1,000 families that filed for federal land in the Springfield, Missouri land office in southwest Missouri (opened in 1835) as her base population. Using the technique of following neighbors and associates, she traced their origins to Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and Virginia. This book is not a "genealogy" in that it gives the information on the land purchases and what she found about the origins. The volumes are a beginning point for the researcher to document the family. With the help of these books, you will know where to look for families that located in southwestern Missouri. You will consider yourself lucky if your families came through this area.

Another book in the library by the same author, *The Family Tree Problem Solver*, includes many helpful tips for the researcher. One chapter covers research using the Fan Club concept. Others are on using the census, finding female ancestors, untangling the mess when more than one person of the same name appears in an area, and helpful lists of "does" and "don'ts" to improve your research. In this book she is sharing the research wisdom gleaned from working on 1,000 families.