

**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
NEWSLETTER**



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**Victorian Wedding Cake**

Two pounds of butter, two pounds of fine white sugar, beaten together, eighteen eggs beaten separately, one cup of brandy, one cup of molasses, one teaspoonful of saleratus, three tablespoonfuls of cloves, one of mace, two of allspice, two large nutmegs, two pounds of flour, a quarter of a pound of citron cut in thin slices, and four pounds of dried currants. This must be as well beaten up as for a pound cake.

Line a wooden box with a well-buttered paper, take out the bottom of the box, and let the cover remain for the bottom of the cake. Bake for four hours. Test it with a straw and when it is done take off the rim, and leave the cake on the cover to be frosted. Beat up the whites of four eggs; add fine loaf sugar as long as you can beat it in, and the juice of one lemon; spread this over the top of the cake about an inch thick, and on the sides half the thickness; set it in a cool oven to dry.

*Mrs. Putnam's Receipt Book and Young Housekeeper's Assistant, page 168*

**A MID-VICTORIAN WEDDING**

*by Pam Wilson*  
On October 21,

1857, Edward Huggins and Letitia Work were married at Fort Nisqually, Washington Territory. The reenactment of the Huggins wedding at the Candlelight Tour at Fort Nisqually Living History Museum, recreates the reception and dance that took place at the fort following the wedding ceremony.

Many prominent people attended, including the Governor of Idaho, the editor of the Steilacoom Newspaper, several Congressional Delegates, several officers from Fort Steilacoom and numerous gentlemen of the Hudson's Bay Company. Miss Work's father, John Work was Chief Factor of Hudson's Bay Company in Victoria, B. C., and her sister, Jane Work Tolmie was the wife of Dr. William Tolmie, the Chief Factor of Fort Nisqually.



The wedding would have reflected English customs which would have included a reception breakfast and then dancing into the evening. The Huggins wedding cake was mentioned in a news article which was printed in the Steilacoom Herald on October 30th, 1857, wishing the bride and groom "all the happiness and joy this earth can give" and "may they never taste of anything less sweet than the bridal cake we received."

Victorian wedding cake was a dark, rich fruitcake with white "royal icing". The cake was cut and boxed and given to guests as they left. Often, silver charms would be hung on ribbons and placed beneath the wedding cake. The bride's attendants would each select one. The meaning of the heart charm was, "Love Will Come", the clover, "Good Luck", the horseshoe, "Luck in Life".

There is no documentation of the wedding gown worn by Miss Work but it is unlikely that she wore white. Letitia Work was the daughter of a prosperous Hudson Bay Company gentleman, and it is assumed that her wedding dress was made of silk or other fine material. The gown fashioned and worn by reenactor Sarah Pollock was made of light blue silk and made from a historic pattern that featured a tightly fitted bodice and large open "pagoda" sleeves. Her bell shaped skirt was worn over several starched petticoats. She wore an organdy collar and under sleeves, both decorated with cotton lace and dark blue ribbon. On her head was a coronet of orange blossoms with a waist length veil of tulle.

Most frontier brides of the mid 19th century usually chose a dress of wool or linen in a style that could be worn later as her "Sunday Dress". Gown colors ranged from plain blue, lavender, dove gray or even navy blue. Sometimes the bride wore a veil of tulle or lace, but often only a ribbon or

*(Continued on page 2)*

## NEW DONATIONS TO THE JCGS LIBRARY

Many thanks to the following for donations to the JCGS library: Sherry Kimbrough, Lu Person, Bev Brice and Bob Bowman.

Six new books in the **Family** category have been added to the JCGS library. The surnames are: Canwell, Bailey, Huntley, Hodde, Gissberg and Jenks.

In the **Records and Immigration** category:

*Customs Records/passenger Manifest Inbound at the Port of Seattle 10 Nov 1894-12 Nov 1909 Vol 1 & 2*

Three new books have been added in the **Research and Instruction** category:

*Bakers Dozen Internet Sites* by Meyerink

*Resolving Research Dilemmas* by Colletta

*How to Write Your Own Life Story* by Lois Daniel

A new **Reference Dictionary** has been added:

*Blacks Law Dictionary 1891-1910*

A new book in the **Great Britain and Scotland** category has been donated:

*Scotch Prisoners Departed to New England by Cromwell 1651-52* by Massachusetts Historical Society

In the **Ireland** category the following book was donated:

*Handbook on Irish Genealogy* by Donald F. Begley

In the **Germany** Category the following book was donated:

*German Gazetteers* by Meyerink

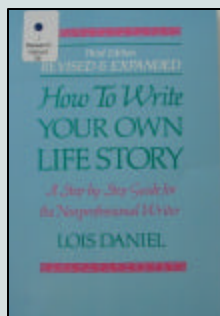
There are three new books in the **United States** category:

in Jefferson County, WA—*Remember When* by Marjorie Daniels

in Tazewell County, Illinois—*Tazewell Co. Illinois Genealogy and Historical Monthly* 15 issues

in Maryland—*The Particular Assessment Lists for Baltimore and Carroll Counties, Maryland 1798*

### New Books



## Wedding (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

flower coronet hair decoration. Many ladies chose to wear a colorful shawl in paisley or plaid which draped over her shoulders at the wedding, then it was later used for christenings and social events.

Bridegrooms of the mid Victorian era usually wore a frock coat of blue, mulberry or wine color and a flower in his lapel. By 1865 men's coats were tailored with a special "flower hole" for this purpose. His waistcoat (vest) was often white and the trousers dark lavender. American frontier grooms sometimes wore a flower from the bride's bouquet in the lapel of their best suit, or jacket. Mac Sample portraying Edward Huggins, wore a white drop sleeve shirt, dark gray, drop front trousers and a waistcoat of black brocade. He also wore a white cravat tied in a large bow. White gloves would also have been required for all men who were dancing, to prevent soiling the ladies' gowns.

In the 19th century the wedding ring was usually a plain gold band with the initials of the couple and the date of their wedding engraved inside. There were few double ring ceremonies in the Victorian era. In the early 19th century it was customary for the bride to take a female companion along on the honeymoon. The bride wore a traveling dress which may have been her wedding dress. Bride and groom left after the cake was cut, the bride giving a flower from her bouquet to each attendant. Some couples drove off in a carriage pulled by white horses and the remaining guests threw satin slippers and rice after the couple. If a slipper landed in the carriage it was considered good luck forever. If it was a left slipper, all the better, Newlywed frontier couples likely went to their new home after the wedding, as most did not have the funds to take a trip nor could they afford to be away from their jobs or the homestead.

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## A SOCIAL HISTORY TIDBIT

*Recollections of the stories of Margaret Hoobler Bair (1812-1902) by her granddaughter, Cora Nicholson Porter*

"About her wedding dress of purple silk and 24 yards of lace and ribbon that her cap was made of and honeymoon on horse-back. She jumped her horse over a fallen tree and grandfather went around it. Grandfather's suit was black broadcloth and he forgot to take his dress boots so was married in the ones that had to be cleaned of mud, etc. Grandma was a good judge of horses and my father always had her look them over before he bought one. She said they had a man school teacher who used a hickory stick on the slightest occasion. They sat on a long bench always without a back to it and with their hands behind their back. Her older brothers helped her through deep snow and often no teacher came so they had to go back home, etc.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

*by Jesse Stewart*

I can't believe that it's been 12 months since I became President of your Society. Time flies when you are having fun! I'd like to thank the Executive Committee—Eileen Martin, Vicki Davis, Eunice Franklin, Mimi Starks, Lora Eccles, Bev Brice, Carrie Wooten, Tom Berg and Marge Samuelson—for helping me in my "job" and for making significant contributions to JCGS. There are many others, who through their time volunteering and taking on projects, have been instrumental in making JCGS the great organization it is. THANK YOU.

In the last few months, JCGS has purchased a laptop computer for use during our monthly meetings and events at the Research Center. Added to our LCD projector, microphone and new screen, this laptop makes us a "high-tech" group. I'd like to especially thank Tom Berg for all the time and effort he has put in researching and purchasing the computer and projector for us—he's brought us into the 21st century!

And, before the end of this year, we'll have made a major book and CD purchase to help round out our Library collection. We hope you'll come to the Research Center to take advantage of these new purchases, and to double-check how our existing collection might be of help in your research. Don't forget, we have subscriptions to Ancestry.com and the New England Historic Genealogical Society databases. And, there's a great group of volunteers to help you! The Research Center is closed during the last two weeks of December (beginning December 19th); otherwise, it's open Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, so stop on by.

We've been able to spend all this money during the year due to the fiscal responsibility of my predecessors—Bev Brice and Lesa Barnes—and because of individual donations made to the society and the income we receive from our endowment fund at the Seattle Foundation. As you may remember, an anonymous donation of \$75,000 was made in 2001 to assist JCGS in furthering its objectives. A few more anonymous contributions have been made to this fund, so that as of November 1st we had \$108,730.20 in our account. Annually, we receive the interest accrued on these monies to help us make some of our special purchases. If you're wondering what to do with all your excess cash at the end of the year, you too can make a gift to the Society, either directly to JCGS or through the Seattle Foundation (1200 Fifth Ave., Suite 1300, Seattle, WA 98101-3151; (206) 622-2294; [www.seattlefoundation.org](http://www.seattlefoundation.org)).

To bring you up to date on the rest of our over-all financial situation, Vicki Davis, our Treasurer, reports that, as of November 1st, we had \$15,900 in our savings and checking accounts.

In the last three months, we've been busy adding more Jefferson County record indexes to our computer file at the Research Center. These include the 1880 Territorial Census, updates of the burial listings for Soundview and Fort Worden cemeteries, St. Paul's Church Baptisms 1943-1975, and Grace Lutheran Church Baptisms 1934-2005. Thanks to our Research Committee spearheaded by Lora Eccles, we have a backlog of records to input on the computer. This can be done either at home or at the Research Center. If you can help, please contact Bev Brice.

As a final thought, I'd like to express the gratitude of all of JCGS to Carrie Wooten for chairing the Program Committee for the last several years. Carrie and her husband have decided to leave our glorious setting and travel the country for a while before settling down again somewhere. We can only hope that they miss us so much they come back here! Under Carrie's leadership, the Committee has designed great programs for our monthly meetings and annual seminars chock full of information to help us be better researchers. Eileen Martin has graciously agreed to take over from Carrie. There's room for more of you on the Committee, so let Eileen know if you can help. You'll be missed, Carrie. Safe Travels!

**WELCOME!****New JCGS Members**

*Shirley Cooper*  
*Taya Koschnick*  
*Virginia Majewski*  
*Nettie (Nora) Szczepanik*  
*Bonnie Olsen*  
*Vivian Schultz*  
*Timothy & Crystal Manly*  
*Linda Rae Hieatt*  
*Kate Pike*  
*Sally Chapin*  
*Pat Scott*  
*Valerie Johnstone*  
*Flo Gibson*  
*Susan Pratt*  
*Cathy Wright*  
*Wendy Sandberg Garcia*  
*Harriet Brunner*  
*Alfred D. Craun*  
*Eve Glantz*  
*Gail S. Hiestand*  
*Isabelle Noiret*  
*Flo Bennett*  
*Paula McNees*

**DON'T MISS IT!**

JCGS has a full schedule of events for the coming quarter. You can refer to the calendar in this issue for dates and times (don't forget to mark your calendars), but some of the special things coming up include our monthly meetings, discussion groups and resource corners:

**December Meeting:** Merry Christmas! We'll all get together to share goodies and family traditions.

Bring treats to share and copies of a favorite holiday recipe.

**January Meeting:** The Cherokee Trail. Jack and Pat Fletcher from Sequim, co-authors of Cherokee Trail Diaries, will discuss this important historical event. They received the Meritorious Achievement Award from the Oregon-California Trails Association for their work.

**February Meeting:** Church Records—An Important Resource. We'll have a panel discussion about the types of records kept by various denominations and where you might find them.

**Writing Your Family History Discussion Group:** share your knowledge and gain insights into writing your family story (whether for publication or for family members)

**Regional Research Discussion Group:** for the next quarter, we'll be discussing New York and New Jersey. From the colonial period on there are some unique features to the record keeping practiced in New York and New Jersey. We will look at ways to work around these problems and share successful research tips. The published research sources will also be reviewed. Anyone working in these states should find these sessions useful.

**December Resource Corner:** The Research Center will be closed during the last two weeks of December, so there won't be a Resource Corner this month.

**January Resource Corner:** Navigating Through Archives—how to find what you need. Vicki Davis will share with us how an archivist organizes the holdings. They use concepts like "collections" that are not intuitively obvious to researchers. Once you see what is behind the organization of the material, you will be able to successfully search for what you need.

**February Resource Corner:** Using Social History in Your Family Story. Karen Driscoll will share with us some tips for including Social History information in your family research.

**Research Trips:** We will go to the Seattle Public Library in December and to the Fiske Genealogical Society in February.

**AN AMAZING CREW**

*by Bev Brice*

I would like to thank the JCGS library volunteer crew members who have put in 1,105 hours working at the Research Center through September of this year! They are a great group to work with because they are flexible about when they work, willing to come extra days, collectively have a great sense of humor and are darned good at helping those who come in to do research. They also willingly enter Jefferson County information into our database in their spare time. They are getting two weeks off in December for good behavior (without pay, I might add) when the Research Center is closed.

Special thanks go to: Lesa Barnes, Sandy Barrett, Tom Berg, Betty Bobo, Eunice Franklin, Harlean Hamilton, Sherry Kimbrough, Elsie Lopeman, Eileen Martin, Lu Person, Charlie Petersen, Jean Redcap, Dave Sachi, Sue Snyder, Jesse Stewart, Mary Stolaas, Nancy Vleck and Pam Wilson. Also we couldn't begin to do what we do without the staff support of Marge Samuelson. Marge is constantly trying to help us know where information is in the library. She shares her knowledge and enthusiasm for Jefferson County history as well as genealogy. And then there is Vicki Davis who is working a part time volunteer job sharing her skills as an archivist which means we are doing a much better job in helping researchers who come into the library.

Jim Christiansen has set up all the computers in the Research Center so they can be used interchangeably. What a boon that has been. Did I mention that he also keeps them running!

The beautiful flowers and trees added around the Center are the work this year of Joan Buhler and Harlean and Jerry Hamilton. They also answer research requests on behalf of the Society and proof read our databases. Barb Larsen has helped with donated nursery stock. Lora Eccles and Barb Larsen are updating the obit files on a weekly basis and Dorothy Frank is helping index the *Leaders*. Lu Person and Pam Wilson keep the library catalog of holdings in useable form and Pam is also working on formatting databases from Jefferson County Research. Jean Redcap is in charge of supplies.

It takes a lot of effort to make it all work. If you would like to join us let me know.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### DECEMBER \* JANUARY \* FEBRUARY

DATE	MEETINGS AT RESEARCH CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED (SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS ABOUT MEETINGS)
December 4	Research trip to Seattle Public Library
December 8	Executive Committee (9:30 AM) All Welcome
December 9	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group (10:00 AM)
December 15	Regional Discussion Group: New York & New Jersey (10:00 AM)
December 16	Monthly Membership Meeting: Christmas Sharing (9:30 AM) Tri-Area Community Center
December 19	Research Center will be closed until January 2, 2007
January 2	Research Center re-opens
January 13	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group (10:00)
January 19	Regional Discussion Group: New York & New Jersey (10:00 AM)
January 20	Monthly Membership Meeting: The Cherokee Trail (9:30 AM) Tri-Area Community Center
January 25	Library Volunteer Meeting (10:00 AM)
January 27	Resource Corner: Navigating Through Archives—how to find what you need (10:00 AM)
February 1	Library Committee (10:00 AM)
February 7	Research Trip to Fiske Library
February 9	Executive Committee (9:30 AM) - all welcome
February 10	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group (10:00 AM)
February 16	Regional Discussion Group: New York & New Jersey (10:00 AM)
February 17	Monthly Membership Meeting: Church Records—An Important Resource (9:30 AM) Tri-Area Community Center
February 22	Library Volunteer Meeting (10:00 AM)
February 24	Resource Corner: Using Social History in Your Family Story (10:00 AM)

## THE IMPORTANCE OF FRIENDS, FAMILIES AND NEIGHBORS

by Lesa Barnes

*"No memoirs, No Bibles. No marriage records. No church memberships. No business transactions. No military files. No pensions. No wills. Odds are he died before any census taker asked about his birthplace..." (Elizabeth Shown Mills, "Roundabout Research...", National Genealogical Society Quarterly 91 (March 2003):19*

You undoubtedly have at least one ancestor who spontaneously appeared out of nowhere and then for no reason — poof—disappeared into thin air. You're left asking yourself, "Now what?" I will briefly describe one method that can help you search for your disappearing ancestors. This approach is known by different names: "Neighborhood research", "cluster analysis", or "studying family, friends and associates". Whatever you call it, it is based on the premise that people did not typically live in vacuums, all by themselves, and all alone. (If they did they wouldn't be our ancestors would they!) Most people had neighbors, in-laws, siblings, cousins, aunts, uncles and parents; they had enemies, acquaintances, colleagues, fellow parishioners, and best friends. Their lives could intermingle with these "associates" for months, years, or even a life time. And, through studying these family, friends and associates you can often (not always, mind you, but often) find clues and hints to the whereabouts of your ancestors. Let's see how this would work.

*"The point isn't necessarily to study every possible associate from every phase of the ancestor's life. The point is to study those whose association with the ancestor may help answer your particular questions." Emily Anne Croom, The Sleuth Book for Genealogists (Chicago, Betterway Books, 2000),49*

Say your ancestor, Jack Pierce, disappeared from Page County, Iowa, in 1852. He's nowhere to be found. By researching his sister's family you find your ancestor witnessed the deed in which his sister and brother-in-law, Betsy and Thomas Hoyt, were selling land in Jackson County, Missouri, in 1858. Jack was not in the index under "P"; no, you found him because you were researching "Hoyt".

If your disappearing ancestor had a common surname, say Harris, look for close associates with less common surnames, say Wheeler or Wolfskill, who also disappeared at about the same time as your ancestor. Use that person or family with the less common name as a proxy for your common-named ancestor. Remember, this person or family with the less common name could be anyone: a friend, an in-law, or even a parishioner of your ancestor's church. The point is that this is one technique that can help you find your disappearing ancestor with a common name.

Moses Harris witnessed a partition deed for Thomas Wheeler in Garrard County, Kentucky. It was stated in the deed that all the parties were from Saline County, Missouri. Voila! Moses Harris did not appear in any index in the Garrard County deed books (because he was just a witness), but he was found in Saline County, Missouri, by researching a known associate in Kentucky.



*"Old neighbors gathered at the Wm Morgan home"*

### The History of some Common Expressions

You are said to have a **"frog in your throat"** when you have temporary hoarseness caused by phlegm in the back of the throat. This expression is thought to originate with medieval physicians who believed that the secretions of a frog could cure a cough if they were coated on the throat of the patient. The frog was placed in the mouth of the sufferer and remained there until the physician decided that the treatment was complete.

### **"Dead as a door nail"**

Nails were once hand-tooled and costly. When someone tore down an aging cabin or barn he would salvage the nails so he could re-use them in later construction. When building a door, however, carpenters often drove the nail through then bent it over on the other end so it couldn't work its way out. When it came time to salvage, these bent "door nails" were considered useless or "dead"

### **"As happy as a clam"**

An early version is "as happy as a clam at high water". Clams are free from the attentions of predators at high tide. Perhaps that's a reason to consider them happy then.

## PORT TOWNSEND'S FIRST CHRISTMAS

The Townsend Call  
Port Townsend Wash  
Monday Evening December 23, 1901

### XMAS FIFTY YEARS AGO HOW THE EARLIER SETTLERS PASSED THE TIME. POT-SHOOTING RED SKINS DONE

People who enjoy their pleasant homes and brilliant Christmas trees in this city on December 25th, 1901, can hardly appreciate that 49 years ago, the people of this, then infantile, settlement passed the evening with an armed lookout for the ravages of the redskins, or against the wild beasts which prowled the peninsula where Port Townsend now stands. The first settlers came to this place in April, 1851, the little band of pioneers including Alfred A. Plummer, Sr., the only one who has left descendents behind him. Mr. Plummer came a bachelor and married his wife, who now survives him, shortly after she arrived as a member of the household of Loren B. Hastings Sr., from Portland.



*First cabin built at Port Townsend in 1851 by Charles Bachelder, Loren Hastings, Francis Pettygrove, and Alfred Plummer, n.d.  
Courtesy UW Special Collections  
(Neg. UW5082)*

Mrs. Plummer, hale and hearty in her old age, is the only survivor of the early days, all the pioneers of 1851 having long been gathered to their fathers. Mrs. Plummer arrived in 1852. Her recollection of that first Christmas in this new world is vivid, and recently she told a special report of The Call that the event was one of anything but good cheer. "We were in a wilderness at the time," she said "and unfriendly Indians and wolves claimed our attention so thoroughly that no one thought of Christmas festivities, and in fact as I recall it the day was no different from average, made up with the monotonous and dangerous work of hewing a home out of the wilderness."

"I do recall, however, that the day was pleasant. There was no snow and it was not at all cold, a fact which seemed strange to those of us from the east who had been used to heavy snowfalls, sleigh riding and other sports of such weather. Here the day was clear and bright and we all felt confident we had reached the land of perpetual summer."

It was not for several years after this that the children of Port Townsend were regaled with a full-fledged tree, lighted, adorned, and topped off with a Santa Claus. Mrs. Thomas M. Hammond, another pioneer, remembers this event vividly. It occurred in the "grand new Masonic Hall" which is now a battered and deserted shack on lower Water Street next to the St. Charles hotel.

All the families resident here then attended, and the occasion was one of good fellowship among the pioneers, and riotous hilarity for the youngsters. "Johnnie" Norris, well remembered by all old timers was the officiating spirit of the event, and was well made up to represent jolly old St. Nicholas. Among the "youngsters" present at this entertainment, and who are still here may be mentioned, Enoch S. Plummer, Mrs. Fred M. Terry (Plummer), His Honor, Mayor Frank W. Hastings, Mrs. D. M. Littlefield, Captain L. B. Hastings, Sheriff William C. Hammond, Thomas M. Hammond, Mrs. Horace Tucker, Mrs. Charles Finn, Ben S. Pettygrove, Mrs. James McIntyre and Mrs. Jordan.

From this time forward, having had one taste of Christmas cheer, the children demanded a repetition of the visit of Santa Claus every year, and it has been continued up the present time.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

Mark your calendars for our annual seminar which will be on March 17, 2007 - St. Patrick's Day. In honor of the day, we'll have Steven Morrison here to talk on Irish and British research. Even if you don't have ancestors from the British Isles, Steven will also help us with those hard-to-find ancestors through a technique he calls "Outlaw Genealogy" — tracking them like outlaws, not family. Should be a great day!

The infamous outlaw gang, The Wildbunch, poses for a portrait in late 1900 in Fort Worth, Texas. L to R in front row: Harry Longabaugh (Sundance Kid), Ben Kilpatrick (The Tall Texan), Robert Leroy Parker (Butch Cassidy). Back row, William Carver and Harvey Logan ((Kid Curry) →



## SOCIAL HISTORY RESOURCES IN THE LIBRARY

by Bev Brice

Most of us are interested in putting our genealogy work into the context of history. It adds so much to telling the story and making our ancestors real people. Because of this interest, we have included "social history" books in our collection. You won't find this in many genealogy libraries. Make use of them to tell your story and join in the Writers' Group for help.

**Everyday Life in America series:** books that discuss how people lived in different time periods. These books talk about life events like playing, consuming, working, life at home, sports and games, fashion, medicine, and cooking.

Reshaping of Everyday Life 1790-1840—Jack Larkin

Expansion of Everyday Life 1860-1876—Daniel E. Sutherland

Victorian America-Transformations in Everyday Life 1876-1915—Thomas J. Schlereth

Although not officially a part of this series, the following fills the hole for the early time period:

Everyday Life in the Massachusetts Bay Colony—George Francis Dow

**Three books of a similar type are:**

Life in Elizabethan England—A. H. Dodd

Writers Guide to Everyday Life in Regency and Victorian England 1811-1901—Kristine Hughes

Writers Guide to Everyday Life in Renaissance England 1482-1649—Kathy Lynn Emerson

**Two books that cover the subject for America in general:**

Witnessing America—Noel Rae, stories told in the words of writers about their own times

Albion's Seed—David Hackett Fischer, an in depth analysis of four population groups from the British Isles and how they brought their culture with them to this side of the Atlantic.

**Some of the books are specific to location.** Examples include:

The Children's Blizzard—David Laskin about the Jan. 12, 1888 blizzard that paralyzed the areas of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska

Sugar Creek-Life on the Illinois Prairie—Jack Mack Faragher which covers the period of the early 1800s through the Civil War and traces the development of settlements in rural America (in this case specifically in Sangamon County, Illinois)

Historic Storms of New England allows you to see what natural phenomena affected your ancestors' lives.

**New England Families:** several books deal with separate issues such as religion, death and family life.

**One book that deals with a specific time period is:**

Liberty's Daughters—The Revolutionary War experience of American Women 1750-1800—Mary Beth Norton

**Two books cover the woman's perspective in the "West" of America:**

Women's Diaries of the Westward Journey—Lillian Schlissel

Westering Women and the Frontier Experience 1800-1915—Sandra L. Myers

**There are also several books on the life of the Scotch Irish and the Pennsylvania and Maryland Germans in the 1700s.**

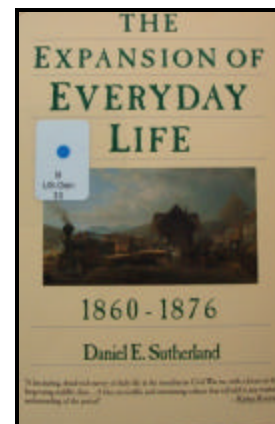
Social history is not a new topic for publication. Writers have been interested in how people lived from the beginning. The above mentioned books are examples of contemporary scholarship and reflect the attempt of the authors to remove themselves from the story. An example of an earlier social history is in the Jefferson County Historical Society collection. Life in American One Hundred Years Ago—Gailard Hunt written in 1914. The descriptions in the book tell you as much if not more about 1914 than about 1814. It is fun to look at.

Happy browsing. Remember that members can check book out for two weeks so you can make the most of them.

### KUDOS FOR JCGS

**Robert Afflerbach wrote, on August 25, 2006,**

*"I am very impressed with all the persons associated with the Genealogical Society as evidenced by the best newsletters I receive from you all. I don't know how you do it all... I just thought that I'd join the library to do my studies but instead found the source of how to investigate genealogy thoroughly and with vigor."*





# GATHERING SOCIAL HISTORY FROM THE INTERNET

by Karen Driscoll

Whether it is just by adding brief notes to your family tree or writing an extensive article and inserting numerous photos and other graphic material into a family history, the internet can help you add the depth of social history to your genealogy research. Make it a habit to pause whenever you learn of a new location in your family history, a new religious group or profession or tool or custom or almost anything else that is interesting, and "Google" that word or topic to see what you come up with. Amazingly there seems to be an infinite amount of wonderful information at our finger tips now that we have internet search tools at our beck and call. When I learned my Maxwell ancestors had been weavers in Paisley, Scotland, in the 1700's I found a wealth of fascinating information about the whole society of weavers, their literary pursuits, their politics, their beautiful paisley shawls and their economic challenges. It explained why my ancestors made the drastic decision to leave their home and strike out for America. By clicking on the button for "images" under the Google search box I was treated to all kinds of pictures of the looms, the shawls and the city in those times. I was able to include that information in my family history.

If you are uncertain about using Google, take the time to get someone to explain it to you and demonstrate its use. It is easier to show you than it would be to explain it in writing. One thing we can go over here is using Google Images. When I enter a topic in the search box for Google, such as my inquiry about my ancestor's immigration from the Waterloo dock in Liverpool in 1847, I clicked the button for "images" near the search box and with a little hunting around I found the fascinating picture shown at the right. To move it to my document I saved the page as a file. I made sure when the box asked me where the file was to be stored that I put it in my appropriate genealogy folder. Then I closed the picture file and opened the genealogy document into which I wanted to put the picture and clicked "insert-picture from file" and then navigated to the right file, highlighted it and clicked Insert. It moved the picture to my document and I clicked on the picture and resized it to fit my page with the standard tools for cropping and sizing on your toolbar. Some images will enlarge without fuzziness and some will not. You just have to try. By hunting around and saving images you can add fascinating pictures to your genealogical material.



*The embarkation Waterloo Docks Liverpool @ 1847*

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Hours: 11 to 4  
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*This Issue of the Jefferson County Genealogical Society Newsletter explores adding fascinating social history facts, stories and images to your genealogy research .*