Jefferson County

Volume 25, Issue 3

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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FAMILY TREASURES

We, as family historians, treasure our families and our ancestors. But that's not the kind of treasures we're talking about here. It's those things that have been passed down from generation to generation—your grandmother's pin, your great-grandfather's army uniform, your parents' wedding album and much more. Not only are these items of personal interest, they might also give you clues to further your genealogical research.

Some of our members have shared their treasures with us:

Betty Bobo has some of her mother's jewelry—she especially enjoys wearing a ring and necklace. But she says what she treasures most are the memories.

Al Standish has uncovered a number of family items through the cousins he's met while undertaking his family history. These include a great-grandmother's dresser (a wedding gift in 1860), a four-dollar paper note printed in Philadelphia in 1776, his wife's grandfather's shillelagh (walking stick), and a meerschaum pipe once owned by his grandfather, among others. One item which provided Al with clues to his great-uncle's WWI service is a German Solingen steel knife his great-uncle retrieved from a battlefield, probably in France.

Barb Larsen has two letters written by her great-great-great-grandfather in 1864 and 1865. Not only do these letters give Barb a sense of her ancestor, they relate the troubling times he found himself in. He asked his son for money while discussing the high price of food and the comings and goings of some other members of the family.

Jesse Stewart has some souvenirs from her father's WWII service—paper currency from various parts of the world, taped together in a string with some signatures. Exploring on-line she found that this was a common practice, called a Short Snorter. There are various explanations of this phenomena—some having to do with who had to buy drinks and others having to do

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50/50 Book Purchase Program

Remember that you can partner with the Society to put new reference material in our library that will help your research. Suggest a title and if the Book Committee agrees it is one we can use, we split the cost. You get to use it for the first 6 weeks.

The following titles have come to the attention of the Book Committee as valuable additions to the library. They are listed as suggestions, pick one or put your thinking cap on!

Ten- nessee	East Tennessee Tax Records Index Volume I: Washington County, 1778-1821, Volume 2 1822-1839 and Volume 3	Geoffrey D. Ras- mussen	From the early settlement of the area	\$38.50 - \$40.00
Ten- nessee	Earliest Tennessee Land Records and Earliest Tennessee Land History	Irene Grif- fey	Abstracts of some 16,000 earliest Tennessee land records in existence	\$52.50
Gen- eral	Stage-Coach and Tavern Days	Alice Morse Earle	A comprehensive study, both light- hearted and serious, of the role of taverns and modes of travel in colo- nial culture	\$36.50
Missis- sippi	A History of the Mississippi Valley From Its Discovery to the End of Foreign Domina- tion	John R. Spears & A. H. Clark	A narrative, this book provides the reader with a fascinating account of the Mississippi Valley during the period of foreign control	\$42.00

From The Librarian

By Bev Brice

Podcasts

Breezy Blankenship has donated five CDs to the library as a way to introduce you to podcasts. If you like to listen to the radio you will enjoy this approach to picking up tips about your family research. All it takes to listen is a media player program on your computer which is already there if you have a relatively new computer. Put the CD into the slot and it will automatically come up for you. The different programs require various players, but I found both were on my computer.

She has recorded five different programs to give you a sampling of what is available. If you find one you would like to listen to on a regular basis, this is easy to accomplish. Using Google, go to the website and follow instructions for playing. Thanks Breezy for nudging us further into the computer age.

Thanks to Friends of Fort Flagler

The Friends of Fort Flagler have sponsored a project to collect information on the people who lived at the fort. They have set a goal of finding those who lived at Fort Flagler up to 1930. Carol Maki, one of our members, has been doing the research. They have donated to JCGS a list of names and information about service which is being added to our Kiosk for Jefferson County families. In addition, Carol has looked at the census and other records and put the additional information into Gedcom format that can be read by genealogy programs. This is an important addition to our database, giving genealogists a chance to spot a stay by their ancestor in Jefferson County. Since many of these men were here only in relationship to their military service, we were not aware of their residence before Carol found them. Carol will be adding names to the database as she continues her research. Thanks Carol for a job well done.

(Continued from page 1)

with the number of countries a service man had visited.

Marge Samuelson has her grandmother's wedding book. In it Marge found the date and location of her grandmother's marriage, and the names of the witnesses to the wedding. On the page intended to list

the Bridal Party, she found instead the names and dates of birth of three of her grandmother's children, one of whom was William Russell Richardson born March 15, 1917 at 8:45 O'clock a.m., Marge's father.

Do you have similar "treasures" in your possession? If so, count yourself lucky. Now, it's time to ensure that you properly protect these items for future generations to enjoy. Archival plastic sleeves can be used to store letters, photos and paper documents. Archival storage boxes are available for family bibles, clothing, and other collections. We have books in our Library that can help you determine the best storage method for your treasures (see Barb Larsen's book reports).



Marge Samuelson's Grandmother's Wedding Book

After preserving your family heirlooms, you should consider cataloging them so that future generations will know where they came from, who owned them, and other important information about them. The last thing you want is to have someone throw away a family treasure because he or she didn't know its importance. At the November Resource Corner, Jesse Stewart will tell us about how she identified some of the items passed down in her family and how she put together a booklet for her descendants to know what they are all about. But as a preview, take photos of your items and label them with the original owner's name, the date they were created, and other information about their history such as family stories associated with them.

BOOK REVIEWS BY BARB LARSEN

Caring For Your Family Treasures: a concise guide to caring for your cherished belongings. Text by Jane S. Long and Richard W. Long; General Editor, Inge-Lise Eckman

This paperback book has many topics for preserving and storing your treasures that have been handed down from generation to generation. Even though there are many topics, you might want to do further research on each one. For example, there is only an average of five pages on most subjects. Some of the topics covered in the book are: preservation of albums, books, photos, home movies, digital information, paintings, fabrics, furniture, clocks, ceramics, glass, decorative metals, jewelry, and special collections. It was kind of them to include a chapter on where to look for further help.

The authors seem to be well qualified. Jane Long has been a consultant for Heritage Preservation and coordinated special projects for the Getty Conservation Institute. She has staffed and directed other related committees. The book has 164 pages with many attractive colored photos and illustrations.

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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:

September Meeting: Writing Your Family History with Maureen Lander a "life story professional" who helps people turn their stories into books. Maureen will discuss the importance of life stories, especially your own, and ways you can preserve your past.

October Meeting: Common and Quirky Errors in Genealogical Sources with Evelyn Roehl. Come learn about errors that you might encounter and how to overcome them. Evelyn is an experienced genealogist who has written several resource books on researching in Puget Sound areas. She has vast experience in US, Canadian, German, Scandinavian, Great Britain, Italian and Alsatian research.

November Meeting: Back by popular demand, a panel of JCGS members will address brick wall questions. If you are having trouble with an area of your genealogical research let us know, and our panel will try to identify ways to solve your problem. Send your brick wall to us (jcgswa@olympus.net or PO Box 627, Port Townsend, WA 98368), and include the surname (including spelling variations), what question you are trying to answer, a general list of resources you've already checked, and the time period and location in which your problem occurs.

Writing Your Family History Discussion Group: Even if you haven't started writing your family stories, coming to this discussion group will get you started. Writing summaries as you work on your research can be very helpful in directing your efforts. Besides, we have a good time!

Regional Research Discussion Group: We're taking a break from this discussion group as part of our evaluation of the best educational and sharing opportunities to make available for our members. Look for new information in our next newsletter.

September Resource Corner: Organizing Your Research—how do you keep track of all the papers and information that you have collected during your hunt for your ancestors? Eileen and Harlean will share their approaches to organizing their documents and results. It will be a good time for you to bring your questions and ideas.

October Resource Corner: DNA and the Family Historian. Forget the science, Jesse will try to explain what DNA testing can be done and how it might be helpful to the family historian.

November Resource Corner: Family Treasures, those items passed down in your family. Jesse has an especially rich collection, and she has learned a lot about the items over the past few years. She will share her sources of information and also talk about options for passing some of the items on to other repositories.

New Members

WELCOME!

Margaret & Rick
Oldenburg

Peggy Manspeaker

Lucille Reinen

Penny St. John

Kathryn Crosby

Ron Planck

Pat & Jack Fletcher

Betty & Richard
Southard

Jan Hayes

Juliette L. Atteberry

CALENDAR OF EVENTS SEPTEMBER * OCTOBER * NOVEMBER

DATE	ALL MEETINGS START AT 9:30 AM AND ARE HELD AT THE RESEARCH CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED	
September 4	Executive Committee Meeting	
September 11	Program Committee Meeting	
September 12	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group	
September 19	Monthly Membership Meeting: Writing Your Family History (Tri-Area Community Center)	
September 26	Resource Corner: Organizing Your Research	
October 2	Executive Committee Meeting	
October 9	Program Committee Meeting	
October 10	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group	
October 12	Beginning Genealogy Class (1:00 PM)	
October 17	Monthly Membership Meeting: Common & Quirky Errors in Genealogical Sources (Tri-Area Community Center)	
October 19	Beginning Genealogy Class (1:00 PM)	
October 26	Beginning Genealogy Class (1:00 PM)	
October 29	Volunteer Meeting	
October 31	Resource Corner: DNA for Genealogists	
November 2	Beginning Genealogy Class (1:00 PM)	
November 5	Library Committee Meeting	
November 6	Executive Committee Meeting	
November 9	Beginning Genealogy Class (1:00 PM)	
November 14	Writing Your Family History Discussion Group	
November 21	Monthly Membership Meeting: Brick Walls (Tri-Area Community Center)	
November 28	Resource Corner: Having Fun With Your Family Treasures	

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BEGINNING GENEALOGY CLASS

An accurate family history requires more than going online. While many records are now available through the Internet, more is needed than typing a name into "Google". Jefferson County Genealogical Society offers a 5-week Beginning Genealogy Class designed to provide an overview of the basic steps for successful genealogical research. The class can be a helpful refresher to researchers who have already started to work on their family history as well as for those who are truly "beginning"

The use of genealogical forms, vital records, and census records will be covered. We will give an introduction to additional types of records such as land, probate, military, and immigration as well. Attention will be paid to online research, but you do not have to use a computer to take the class as all types of resources will be covered.

The class will be held on five consecutive Monday afternoons, beginning October 12th and ending November 9th, from 1:00 to 3:30 at the Historical Society Research Center, 13692 Airport Cutoff Road. The cost is \$30 for JCGS members and \$45 for non-members (a one year membership is included in the fee for non-members). The class is limited to 18 students.

Registration will be accepted through October 7th. To register, complete the registration form below or on our website (www.rootsweb.com/~wajcgs), and it send with your check to: JCGS, PO Box 627, Port Townsend, WA 98368. Should you have any questions, call Eileen 385-0673 or Bev 385-6599.

Beginning Genealogy Class Registration MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCT 7, 2009 Limit of 18 students

Limit of to students
Class will be held each Monday October 12 thru November 9 2009, from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm at the Jefferson County Historical Society Research Center, 13692 Airport Cutoff Road.
Please Complete the form below and mail it with your check: to JCGS, PO Box 627, Port Townsend, WA 98368.
Name:
Address:
E-mail address:
Phone Number:
Enclosed (Please check which applies):
\$30 (Member) \$45 (Non-member)

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SOAPBOX

By Jesse Stewart

Your Executive Committee recently completed a retreat at Starks' Spa [Mimi Starks' wonderful abode] to discuss how we can best meet the needs of JCGS members. A great discussion ensued in which we evaluated how well we thought we were meeting our Mission Statement [which requires us to foster sharing between members, provide for continuing education, and preserve and disseminate records relating to Jefferson County], and what challenges we foresee for the future.

Of course, we gave ourselves an A+ for our activities to date—just (sort of) kidding! During our discussion we felt we could do more to support our members and will be undertaking some minor, but powerful, reviews and changes in the next few months. We want to better coordinate our member education programs—the Monthly Membership Meetings, Resource Corners, and Discussion Groups. A newly formed Education Committee will undertake this challenge, and replace the efforts currently being made by the Program Committee and Librarian. We're also going to beef up our Library and Research Committees to take on bigger roles in the ongoing activities of the Society.

We want to do more to encourage you, our members, to take advantage of our offerings at the Research Center. Not only do we have quality volunteers (thanks to all of them!) who can help you with a difficult problem, but we also offer resources to help you solve it. Our collection of books may not have the answers to *all* of your questions, but I guarantee you that you will find something useful there. We have tried to fill holes in our collection, and I refer you to the 50/50 program (see page 2) if you know of a book, CD, or other resource that can be of help to you.

And, finally, with more and more genealogical information being made available on the internet, some might be encouraged to sit at home and take advantage of free information. But, our subscriptions to *New England Historic and Genealogical Society*, *Ancestry*, *Footnote* and *Newspaper Archives*, bring you many of the records that are not "free". Recognizing that the future will bring even more reliance on technology, we hope to institute a Technology Advisory Committee to help us keep up with the fast pace of technological change and different ways of communicating with and providing assistance to our members.

As we looked to the future, we recognized that providing the subscription websites and, possibly, bigger and better educational opportunities, as well as the financial implications on JCGS of the expansion of the Research Center, will require us to raise our dues. For as long as most of us can remember, we've been able to keep our dues at \$15 and \$20 for individual and family memberships, respectively, but can no longer do so. Our Bylaws require that the membership vote on dues increases, so at our September Membership Meeting we'll be voting on an increase to \$20 (individual) and \$30 (family) beginning with 2010 new members or renewals.

We look forward to your continued feedback on our activities and offerings. And, we look to you to provide support of your Society—we are always in need of volunteers to participate on committees (Education, Research and Library); to take on special, one-time projects; to volunteer at the Research Center; and, to assume officer responsibilities. We look to you to step up where and when you can.

Thanks Mimi for being such a wonderful hostess! And, thanks to the rest of the Executive Committee and others who attended the retreat for making it so worthwhile!

From Al Standish, our Treasurer

With the capital markets recovering a bit from their earlier malaise, our assets at the Seattle Foundation have also returned some value and now stand at \$88,949.99 through the end of June. Meanwhile, our checking accounts and certificates of deposits (all in stable local institutions) hold \$22,466.86. The longer term CDs constitute our Reserve Funds being held for future furnishings and equipment for the expanded Research Center.

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New Books Its Advantages, Resources, and Drawbacks EDWIN A. CURLEY 10 m INTRODUCTION BY RICHARD EDWARDS AND THE SALVATION OF THE FIRST NGLISH COLONY IN THE NEW WORLD KIERAN DOHERTY East New Jersey Land Records 1766-1772 (Books D3, E3 and F3) Richard S. Hutchinson

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Title	Author	Comments
Covered Wagon Women Diaries & Letters from Western Trails 1840-1849	Kenneth Holmes	Letters from women on a variety of trails
Saints & Sectaries	Emery Battis	Discussion of the Anne Hutchison controversy in Boston in 1634
Ancestral Roots of 60 Colonists	Weiss	European origins of these families
Women and Indians on the Frontier 1825-1915	Glenda Riley	White Women's reactions to Indians with analysis of what shaped their views
One Woman's West	Edited by Lois Barton	One woman's account of the Oregon Trail and settling the Northwest country
Conversations with Pioneer Women	Fred Lockley	A journalist's interviews with Pioneer Women in Oregon
Early California Wills, Los Angeles County	Ancestry Archives	Abstracts of wills from Los Angeles Co., CA
List of Ex-Soldiers, Sailors & Mariners Living in Iowa 1886	William L. Alexander	CD
History of Macon County Illinois	John W Smith Esq.	Good reference
Maine Families in 1790, Volume 10	Maine Genealogical Society	The latest volume in this series
Nebraska 1875	Edwin Curley	Written by an Englishman to recruit settlers.
East New Jersey Land Records 1702-1717 and 1766-1772	Richard S. Hutchinson	Abstracts of colonial New Jersey deeds
Settlers of the Beekman Patent	Frank J. Doherty	Volume 9 in this series
Myrtle Creek Pioneer Cemetery Obituaries	Coquille Valley Ge- nealogy Club	From various newspapers
Myrtle Point Cemetery	Coquille Valley Ge- nealogy Club	Cemetery reading
Little Compton Families	Benjamin Franklin Wilbour	Genealogies of Rhode Island Families
Sea Venture	Kieran Doherty	The voyage to Jamestown Virginia
Botetourt County History before 1800	Bicentennial Pub Committee	Miscellaneous facts about this county
The Old German Baptist Brethren	Charles D Thomson JR	Social history of Franklin County, VA

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY (CONT.)

Title	Author	Comments
Jefferson Co. WA Cemeteries: Alphabetized Indexes, Volume 1 & Volume 2	Jefferson County Genealogical Society	Jefferson County cemeteries in 3 volumes
Notes on Little Compton (RI)	Benjamin Franklin Wilbour	Supplement to main book
Descendants of Thomas Hanway	Paul Hanway	An excellent genealogy by one of our members
DNA Genealogy	Fitzpatrick & Yieser	General introduction
The Private Mary Chesnut	Mary Chesnut, C Vann Woodward & Elisabeth Muhlenfeld	Civil War diaries 1861-1865, North and South Carolina
Identifying Photos Fashion Timeline 19th & 20th Century Fashions	Pam Wilson	CD with illustrations to help identify photos
Podcast	Breezy Blankenship	An introduction to this online source of genealogy instruction
Long Obstinate Bloody: Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Laurence E. Bobits & Joshua B. Howard	A history of this Revolutionary War battle
Every Blood of them Tories: Pyle's Defeat	Jeffery Bright Stewart Dunaway	One battle against Loyalists in North Carolina Revolutionary War

Family Treasures Lost and Found

By Marge Samuelson

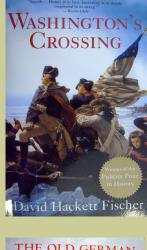
Sometimes when we think we have nothing left of our ancestors to show how they lived in their world, a trip to an archive or local historical museum can turn up something we thought was lost.

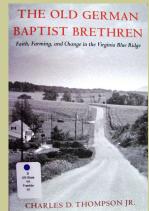
Years ago when I worked as the librarian/archivist at the JCHS Museum in the old City Hall building I learned how important it is to preserve this link to our past.

N.D. Hill came to our county in the mid 1800s living for a time on Whidbey Island but eventually crossing the straits and bought the pharmacy of Dr. P.M. O'Brien. In 1857 he had returned to his boyhood home in Philadelphia and married Sallie Hazeltine Haddock. After the wedding, Sallie dressed in a blue silk two-piece dress the couple sailed to San Francisco. During a storm they were obliged to toss over many of their possessions. Fortunately the dress was not one of them. It was eventually given to the museum and wrapped in tissue & stored away. In the early 1990s a visitor asked to see the dress. She was a descendant of the Hills and had brought her two teenage children to see this link with their past. As I removed the dress they were surprised it wasn't white. I told them it wasn't common during that time period to wear white and besides she was soon to go on board a ship and would need a dress that could hold up under the rigorous conditions. The young girl exclaimed over the size of the tiny waist and how small Sallie must have been and this as so often happens, provoked a discussion among the three of them about family stories. Before leaving they all thanked me for taking such good care of this "treasure" that belonged to their ancestor.

Finding a family treasure stored away, be it clothing, photographs, letters etc. is worth a visit to your family's local archive or museum. Maybe you will get lucky and find a priceless treasure of your own.

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What's New on the Web

JCGS has subscriptions to several websites that might have relevant information for your genealogy research. Please come by the Research Center and check them out!

New England Historic & Genealogical Society has made some significant new additions. Of most import are *The Virginia Genealogist* (issues from 1957-2006) which includes genealogies, tax lists, wills, court orders, deeds and much more for all of Virginia; *Connecticut Nutmegger*, the journal of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists—volumes 1-31 currently available; and, *Massachusetts Vital Records* 1911-1915.

Footnote has updated many databases including *Civil War Soldiers—Union-KY & MO*, *Civil War Soldiers—Confederate-AR*, *Civil War "Widows' Pensions"*, 1930 Federal Census, *Naturalizations-NY Eastern & NY Southern*, and *Texas Death Certificates*. In addition, a number of newspapers and city directories have been updated. A free database *Apollo Miss*ions provides illustrations and photos documenting the Apollo missions of the 1960s.

Ancestry.com continues to add numerous databases to its collection. In recent months, a number of Canada and Germany references have been included (some in French and German, respectively) as well as Jewish databases from the American Jewish Historical Society. A tip: from home, even if you don't have a subscription, you can go to Ancestry.com and click on "View All New Content" to find out what's been added or updated—then you can come to the RC to explore any relevant databases.

NewspaperArchives adds new newspapers or issues of publications on an on-going basis. Most recent additions include 1930s & 1940s editions of newspapers from Alaska, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maryland, Michigan, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas and more.

Book Reviews (Cont.)

Organizing and Preserving Your Heirloom Documents by Katherine Scott Sturdevant

Wow, this book is chocked full of great ideas and information. I love the icons used in the margins indicating tips, timesavers, techniques, reminders, notes, idea generators, money savers and more. The publisher tells of the book on the cover and I can't say it better, "Diaries, memoirs, letters, papers, and memorabilia from your relatives and ancestors provide you with the opportunity to be the keeper and teller of your family's life story. Katherine Scott Sturdevant shows you how to safely organize, collect and preserve these priceless papers." With this book you will learn step-by-step the process of dealing with many different documents.

This is a 238 page paperback, with a few illustrations, published by Better Way Books in 2002.

Some Thoughts—The Future of Genealogical Research

By Paul Hanway, June 2009

Many articles and lectures have been written or given on whither goest Genealogical Research. My personal crystal ball is even less clear than most. While I am unlikely to pursue family research any farther than I already have, that does not imply that I am neither interested nor concerned.

Internet searching—with greater and greater numbers and sources of databases becoming available online on ever-more areas of genealogical interests—is a tremendous aid. More extensive and broader research will be possible from the comfort of one's armchair. Access to digitized census records, family histories, wills and deeds are being rounded out by records on a whole host of subjects relating to individual or family activities or status. A greatly expanded view and history of people and times is being made available. But is that all on the "plus" side?

Can one create a family history with little or no concept of the context in which it occurred other than one's own imagination? No, one cannot literally travel back in time. But, the genealogical searcher not only can but should, whenever possible, visit the area in which his ancestors or relatives lived and worked and possibly owned property on which they labored as farmers or merchants, or served as clergymen, police or nurses, doctors or lawyers.

How else can one truly gain a correct perspective on what life and society were like in the time of their research? Books describing the life and times, if well researched and objectively put into prose, can fill in many of the gaps. But the vision that results is likely to be colored by the experience of the researcher. How else can one correctly envision the home, the neighborhood, the village or city, the roads, the forests and fields, the streams, rivers and lakes, the hills, mountains or prairie, other than by personal visit?

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Officers					
President Jesse Stewart Vice President Barb Way Treasurer Al Standish Recording Secretary Eunice Franklin Corresponding Secretary Mimi Starks		jessebirder@cablespeed.com pistach@cablespeed.com kastandish@waypoint.com rfranklin@cablespeed.com mkstarks@olypen.com	437-8103 379-3172 437-7789 379-8392 385-2223		
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Research and Obituaries	Lora Eccles	lora@cablespeed.com	344-4860		
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Trip Coordinator	Jesse Stewart	jessebirder@cablespeed.com	437-8103		
Membership	Tom Berg	grebmot@olypen.com	643-1112		

Jefferson County

PO Box 627 Port Townsend Washington 98368-0627 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/

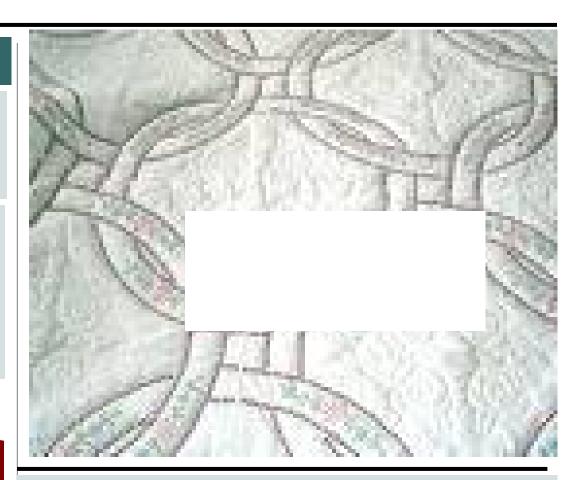
Meetings:

3rd Saturday 9:30 AM

Tri-Area
Community
Center

Chimacum, Washington

> Visitors Welcome



Some Thoughts (Cont.)

(Continued from page 11)

And without that first-hand vision with all its warts of inaccuracy as a result of the changes over the years, how can one truly begin to draw the more accurate mental picture of the challenges, the threats, the struggles with which their ancestor contended and overcame...or didn't.

It is most difficult in these present times of economic uncertainty for many persons to commit to the expense, let alone the time to pursue this on-site research. But aside from those clearly impacted negatively by this condition others should consider skipping the week at the beach in Hawaii, or Alaskan cruise in favor of learning more accurately and more deeply what it was, who it was that gave them the opportunities to live and enjoy their life, their education, their occupation, even their retirement if that applies, in this country we call America.

Viewing a digitized version of a Last Will and Testament can never equal visiting the dusty archives of that ancestor's local courthouse; the mosquito and briar-filled cemetery where his remains rest; the broken-down farmhouse where she entered the world; and that one-room house of education where he learned his 3R's.

Sacrifice is frequently required to make these visits, but it can never equal the sacrifice the ancestors made in continuing the lineal thread with which we are bound to them.