

Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society

C/O The Dalles-Wasco Co. Library
722 Court Street
The Dalles OR 97058-2270
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Serving Hood River, Wasco and Sherman
Counties in Oregon & Skamania and Klickitat
Counties in Washington

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Tales and Trails



Narcissa Whitman -Eliza Spaulding Marker - South Pass, WY

The Whitman's and Spaulding's traveled to the 1836 rendezvous with wagons. On the advice of several mountain men, the heaviest wagon was left at the rendezvous. But Dr. Whitman refused to leave the light wagon. At Fort Hall, Doctor Whitman's driver deserted, so he took off two wheels of his wagon transforming it into a cart. Reaching Fort Boise, Dr. Spaulding was so strongly urged to relinquish the idea of taking his cart he left it at Fort Boise...many internet sites claim the Whitman's traveled to Washington State in a covered wagon.

The Spaulding's settled and established a mission in the Lapwai Valley along the Clearwater River to fulfill the request of four Nez Perces who had traveled to St. Louis in search of "the book of heaven and the teachers".

The Whitman's went on to settle at Wailatpu near present day Wla Walla, WA where they were killed, along with eleven others, by Cayuse and Umatilla Indians on November 29, 1847.

TALES & TRAILS is published quarterly in Jan., Apr., Jul. and Oct. **Submissions** by the 20th of the previous months may be e-mailed to Jim Bull at jimbull@gorge.net or sent by USPS mail to: Editor, CGGS C/O The Dalles Wasco County Library, 722 Court St., The Dalles, OR 97058-2270. We welcome articles related to genealogy and family history.

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President's Report

As I reflect on what we have accomplished as a group, I also think about how we meet the research needs of our membership. Our members not only range from those new to genealogy to the "old hands," those who are computer savvy to those who do not have access to a computer, and finally those who search for statistical information and those who take a more integrated approach.

In choosing programs we try to take all of this into consideration and hope that everyone leaves with some information that is applicable to his or her research. This often depends on the creativity of the listener, in looking for patterns, and applying the information to their own situations. We are often too quick in saying "this topic has nothing to do with my research."

With all of this in mind, I have been pleased to see several of our members linking with others in mentor style relationships. We currently have a very skilled pre-computer researcher working with a very skilled on-line researcher. This is working for both of them.

We are so computer oriented that we see the computer as the answer to all of our research problems, when in reality it allows us to reach our brick walls more efficiently and faster. This is where those who have those "old style" research skills are invaluable. They know how to take that next step.

In closing I would like to share another observation. I am always excited to see the visiting and networking that goes on at lunch in

the café, and before and after the meetings, both in the meeting room, and out in the parking lot. Enthusiastic members make for a successful organization. Our membership has almost doubled in the past four years and you are the reason. My thanks to all of you for coming to meetings, asking questions, and sharing your own research.

Sandy

Getting Acquainted

Isabel Allen

My friends refer to me as "Isy". I was born and raised a Georgia peach. After graduating from high school I worked full-time while attending college in Florida, Louisiana, Alaska, and Oregon to earn a degree in accounting. I also enjoyed teaching Cajun cooking classes in my spare time. My roots are now firmly planted in the gorgeous Columbia River Gorge where I dreamed of living one day. "There's no place like home" in the quaint warm friendly Gorge community where I live and work with the beauty of the river and mountains. I am one of the lucky commuters who travel this scenic paradise commuting to/from The Dalles where I enjoy working for the State of Oregon.

I grew up without knowing the maternal side of my family since my mother passed away when I was 3. This is what led me to my current love for genealogy. The name Isabel had been passed down from 3 generations. Thankfully, I recently learned I am not the last of the Isabel's. I now have a cousin I never knew about until recently who has carried Isabel to the next generation. I grew up wondering who am I, who was my mother, and where did she come from? The best

[Continued on next page]

gift of all has been finding and contacting the many cousins, an aunt and their families whom I never knew. Many great stories about my mother and her family have opened a new genealogy chapter that has been a real life altering treasure at heart. One day soon I hope to be able to travel and meet them face to face. I am looking forward to meeting them and writing their stories for a happy fairy tale ending for the generations to come. This has lead me to my next spare time venture of becoming an Archivist and Author to help others who may also be pursuing their own fairy tale.

In the meantime when I am not buried in genealogy I enjoy spending time camping, fishing, and volunteering by assisting our seniors and veterans in my community by giving back what they have selflessly given to me and our country.

Letters - Email - Etc.

Kudos

Dear Jim,

Thanks for the copy of your newsletter. It is so full of information and a job well down. Our newsletter comes out every quarter and it is a struggle to get 8 pages.

We now have more than 72,000 pictures scanned into our data base. In addition we are scanning early diaries of the settlers in our area. We have a German Diary from the Schultz family in Glenwood that is hand written in old German. With Insitu people available to us, a wife of an engineer is translating that into modern German and then into English for us as a volunteer. This diary starts in 1881. She laughs when they record

the process of going to the creek to get water, heating it and taking a bath so they can go to town (White Salmon) the next day. It is so easy for us to forget that running water and electricity are modern conveniences.

Etta Hepner - Gorge Heritage Museum

New To Me Website

<http://genealogy.about.com/>

I didn't find this on the blog and was too lazy to go back through newsletters but I got to this website from an Idaho newsletter that listed several columns of census abbreviations. I was curious and looked through the website that has a free newsletter and looks like it would be a great resource especially for some of the newer members.

Submitted by Sandy Bisset

Walking On

Fred R. Fax, a lifelong resident of The Dalles and a longtime member of Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society died on Sunday May 1, 2011 at the age of 94. He was born on December 1 1916 to Nicholas John Fax and Gertrude Agusta (Petersson) Fax in The Dalles.



Fred attended Oregon State College and was a lifetime wheat rancher. In 1970, he and his brother George, were designated Wasco County Soil Conservations Farmer's of the year. During WWII he served in the Seabees and helped build a 2000 bed hospital on Guam and airports on Guam and Maui, Hawaii, the latter one still being used by commercial airlines.

Tales & Trails

At age 50 Fred met the love of his life, Alice Anghilante and they enjoyed 34 years of marriage before she passed away on December 9, 2003.

Fred had a tremendous memory and was very interested in local history. He enjoyed driving through the surrounding countryside giving detailed descriptions of the history of local farms. He never missed a chance to drive out to his wheat ranch to check on the current crop. Fred enjoyed socializing at the yearly Pioneer Days luncheon. Fred and Alice valued helping people and made many donations to state and local health and welfare organizations.

Fred is survived by his stepson, Ed Anghilante and wife; four grandchildren; two great grandchildren; nephew; and 2 nieces.

Submitted by Rose Denslinger

For Sale – Cheap
Brand New
Quick Books Pro
Software & 2 Manuals
Only \$50.00

(It exceeded our accounting needs by at least 98%. Contact Helen Dixon at helen3046@hrecn.net if interested.)

“If you could see your ancestors all standing in a row,

There might be some of them you wouldn't care to know.

But here's another question which requires a different view:

If you could meet your ancestors, would they be proud of you?”

~Dr. Merritt Henry Eddy~
 (written at age 87)

Welcome Summer!

Just a reminder to you about our summer meetings. There will be no board meeting for the months of July and August and we will be starting the meetings in both months at 11:00 am at the Discovery Center. July's meeting and program will be "Dowsing for Unmarked Graves" by Penny Kennedy. Penny worked with the Mosier Community restoring the Mosier Pioneer Cemetery.

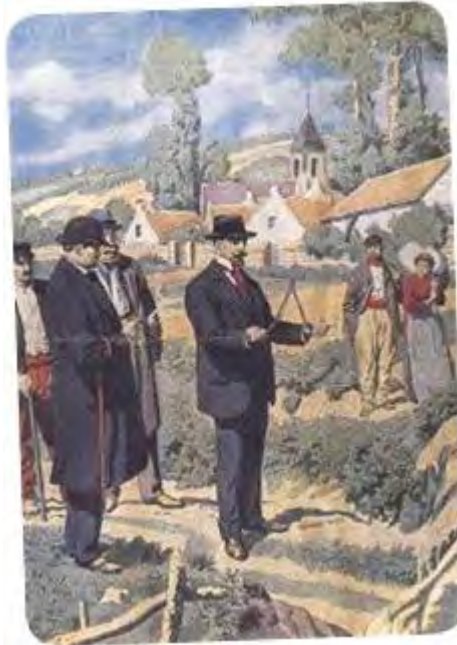
Members and guests will meet at the Discovery Center at 11:00 for a short discussion on the subject and then to the Basalt Café for a no host lunch. At 1:00 pm we will travel to the IOOF cemetery in The Dalles for a demonstration by Penny. The public is invited; bring a neighbor or friend! If someone needs transportation to the cemetery, please let Sandy or I know and we will glad to help you out.

The IOOF Cemetery is on Cherry Heights Road 1 block above the St Peters Catholic Church.

[Editor's Note; By now most of you have received the above email from Georgia. We discussed the possibility of the program back in May and serendipitously the following article appeared in Dick Eastman's blog about a week later.]

Dowsing in a Cemetery: Does It Work? Here's a Challenge for All Dowsers

By Richard Eastman



It's not witchcraft. It's not black magic or "the work of the devil." In fact, many people claim that it works. Some individuals claim to be able to find unmarked graves by dowsing (sometimes called "witching"). Others claim it doesn't work. I'd like to make an offer to prove or disprove it once and for all.

The typical method is for the dowser or "witcher" to hold copper or brass rods or even coat hangers in his or her hands; others use a forked stick. The dowser walks over an area of possible buried bodies. When on top of a grave, the rods will cross or the stick will suddenly be pulled downward. Some dowsers claim they can even tell if it is a male or female body.

Does it really work? Some people will dismiss such activities as wishful thinking, and yet others will point to numerous examples of graves successfully located by dowsing, including a number of cases in which police departments found unmarked graves of murder victims by using the services of a dowser.

Indeed, many others use dowsing to find water. I had doubts about this technique, thinking it was a scam. Quite a few years ago, I attended the annual meeting of the American Society of

Dowsers held in the small town of Danville, Vermont. This organization typically finds water, not graves. A "competition" was held in which dowsers from all over the U.S. and Canada attempted to find buried water pipes under the town common and nearby. It appeared that none of the contestants had any advance information about the location of the pipes. While judges also had maps showing the locations of the pipes, the chief judge was the recently-retired head of the Danville Water Department. He probably had memorized the location of every buried water pipe in town in the 40 years he worked for the department. In short, there was no need to dig holes to prove the locations.

I was amazed as I watched over a period of two or three hours while contestant after contestant located pipes in and around the town common. In fact, none of the dowsers actually failed. After all, at a national convention of dowsers, you can expect that only experienced and self-confident dowsers would attempt the feat.

The 2011 convention of the American Society of Dowsers will be held in Lyndonville, Vermont, not far from the location of the event I witnessed in Danville. In fact, I used to live in Lyndonville. You can read more about the 2011 conference on the American Society of Dowsers' web site at <http://www.dowsers.org/>.

So much for water, but can dowsers actually find graves? Many people believe so. I want to find out and to prove or disprove it in such a manner that will satisfy everyone's curiosity.

You can find many articles online about the successful location of buried human bodies. Here is a sample that I found in a Google search:

Dowsing Cemeteries to find graves...My story at <http://www.archercousins.com/dowsing.htm>

[continued on next page]

Dowsing for Unmarked Graves at <http://goo.gl/snP61>

Grave Dowsing by Brenda Marble at <http://goo.gl/wD4eq>

Dowsing Methods Used to Find County Graves by Linda Bell at <http://goo.gl/ca5g7>

The above is just a brief list. You can find many more articles about dowsing for graves if you start at <http://goo.gl/fsaFF>

We Need a Verifiable Test

Let's find out. I'd love to go back and visit my old home town of Lyndonville, Vermont, for the annual conference of the American Society of Dowsers on June 8 to 14, but I have a conflict. I will be in Burbank, California, that weekend. Besides, the folks in Vermont will only be dowsing for water, not graves.

I'd like to conduct a test of dowsing for unmarked graves, but I need some help. First of all, I need a dowser. Ideally, there should be several dowsers involved.

NOTE: I have already tried dowsing for water and have found that it doesn't work for me. Whatever "the gift" that is required to successfully find water, I don't have it. I have held metal rods in my hands and walked over known water pipes in my front lawn, and the metal rods never twitched a bit. I know the pipes are there as I watched them being buried some years ago.

Next, we need a location that has unmarked graves, ideally a place that is unknown to the dowsers involved. The locations of the graves must be verifiable without digging. Verification could be done by old records or any similar, believable method.

Finally, we will need judges. I would suggest we find more than one judge—people who are intimately familiar with the old records of the chosen location and can reliably verify the

locations without digging.

There is but one problem: I don't know of any such location.

OK, here is the offer

If a genealogy society or any other group of interested genealogists can nominate a verifiable location, I will publicize it in this newsletter. Next, I will ask for experienced dowsers to visit the place. I'll be there also, and I'll bring along a video camera to record the experience, digitize it, and make the video available for all to see on this newsletter's web site. Successful or not, we can show the results to doubtful genealogists around the world.

The location involved can be a cemetery or an archaeological site or an abandoned hospital or anyplace else that has unmarked graves. The location of the graves cannot be visible to the naked eye as we don't want the dowsers to find graves visually. However, the locations also must be verifiable without digging. That's a challenge!

It strikes me this could be an interesting one-day outing for a bunch of dowsers and interested genealogists who would like to witness the event.

I suspect it is a bit too late to schedule this in the northern states this summer. First, we need to find a verifiable location. We need to make a few arrangements and publicize the event. All this will require a few months. I also need to make an airline reservation.

Perhaps we can find a suitable location in the sunbelt for this fall or winter or in the northern states next spring or summer. I'm willing to travel most anywhere to make the videos.

Maybe we can even cater a barbecue at the site. No promises until I see what is available in the area, but a picnic lunch of some sort seems appropriate. Just think: a picnic in the graveyard! Who else but genealogists would do that?

Are you interested? Can you convince your local genealogy society to find such a place? You can post a response in the comments section below this article or else contact me privately at <http://eogn.com/support/>

From Eastman's Online Genealogy Blog
5/22/2011

[EDITOR'S NOTE: On May 28 Eastman had a follow up about a dowser in Winnipeg, Manitoba and referred to this site: <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/witcher-knows-where-bodies-buried-122710398.html>.]

**EARLY PHOTOGRAPHY
TIPS IN NPS
PUBLICATION**

Photographic portraits, unlike painted or sketched portraits, offer a window into the past. From historic photographs, historians can learn how people dressed, how they wore their hair, how they posed for photographs, and who they chose to be photo-graphed with. An article in the Northwest Cultural Resources Institute's newest report discusses the variety of types of photo-graphs made, including daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, tintypes and ivorytypes. Tips for examining these photographs, using examples from the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site's collection, are also given. To read the publication, visit <http://www.nps.gov/fova/parknews/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&PageID=379532>

From Oregon Heritage News 10/11/10

Find Old Pictures Here

Looking for some period pictures to enhance that segment of family history you are writing? Try the following websites for quality pictures

Continued on Page 9

HER NAME WAS FLETCHER

A Chapter in the Search for Female Ancestors in the American Family of Bewel Buell Buell

"She will be remembered, as they lived here until about 1863, when they went west. Her name was Fletcher, and she has a brother and sister in Watertown."

*The following from the Daily Star of Fippsone, Miss.:
Died—Mrs. Joel Buell, of this city, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Horner, on Saturday evening, at the advanced age of 77 years. Mrs. Buell had not been feeling well for some time but her death came quite suddenly, and members of her family were surprised from the Christmas entertainments in her bedside at the last moment. Mrs. Buell leaves an aged husband and six grown children, John Buell, of Stone Falls, James Buell, of St. James, Mrs. Horner, Ed. Hank and George Buell, of this city, and 30 grandchildren to mourn her death. Funeral services to mourn the loss were held at the Baptist church, under the auspices of the church, at which the remains were laid to rest in the Fippsone cemetery. The family had a very sad bereavement and have the sympathy of a large circle of friends.
She will be remembered, as they lived here until about 1863, when they went west. Her name was Fletcher, and she has a brother and sister in Watertown.*

Adams, Jefferson County, New York
Jefferson County Journal
9 January 1894

SANDY BISSET
JUNE 2011

8

If you missed last month's fascinating presentation by Sandy Bisset about her protracted search for female lines, she has offered to send a PDF file of her PowerPoint presentation to anybody that would like to see it. Just as interesting as the data she found is the creative way she displayed it. Just ask her for the file at 541- 298-1240 or wildflowers@gorge.net.

1) Did the submitter include his sources? If so, how reliable are the sources? Is the data based upon a birth certificate, marriage record, deed, or other document with a relatively high degree of accuracy? Or, did Susie Submitter copy or merge the information from other files (possibly not sourced) she found online? Obtain original copies of the documents used as evidence where possible, especially if you have reason to suspect there may be an error, misinterpretation, or even a typo.

2) If sources are not listed, look for a contact address for the submitter so that you can ask about his evidence and conclusions. Once again, verify the information yourself.

3) Does the submitter's data agree with information you have already gathered or found elsewhere? Conflicting data requires a careful analysis to establish what the best evidence or the preponderance of evidence indicates. Look for the evidence recorded nearest the event it supports and provided by someone in a position to know. Consider whether the person would have had any reason to falsify data (such as a young bride claiming to be of marriageable age or a man wanting to show he is old enough to enlist in military service).

4) Is the data logical or are there blatant errors in the tree such as children born to women in their late fifties, marriages at age five, or other unlikely events or inconsistencies? Look for red flags such as a tree that links (or merges) two individuals of the same name without regard for dates and ages. Watch out for

SHOULD YOU CONSIDER AND ACCEPT USER-SUBMITTED DATA?

Evaluating Online Genealogical Data -- To Accept or Not to Accept?

By Joan Young

joan@volunteer.rootsweb.com

If I had a dollar for every time I heard someone complain that an online family tree or database is "garbage," error-ridden, or sloppily compiled, I wouldn't have to worry about the state of the world's economy. Some researchers even claim that they would never stoop to looking at online user-submitted data (such as RootsWeb's WorldConnect data-base <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/>). Let's take a look...

Don't automatically discard user-submitted data. Information you find online, regardless of the source, may provide the very answers you need. I once found a will mentioned in a WorldConnect tree that provided the maiden name of an immigrant ancestor's wife I'd been seeking for years. The submitter sent me a copy of the woman's father's will which provided conclusive proof. Part of family history research is being a sleuth. Don't merely copy another researcher's files perpetuating errors. Verify and evaluate the evidence you find online.

ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REVIEWING USER-SUBMITTED DATA:

Research Recommendations: The Thorn

by Michael J. Leclerc

One of the most abused of all letters (and former letters) in the English language is the Thorn. In Latin, the letter was written as Þ (capital) or þ (lowercase). In English, however, the thorn looks like the modern letter "y." The thorn is no longer used in everyday English. The Thorn was pronounced the same way as the digraph "th" in modern English. In proper usage it is NEVER pronounced as the letter "y."

One of the most common uses was "ye," pronounced as "the." One can often see signs around America that use the modifier "Ye Olde," which the average person pronounces it as "yee." As the Oxford English Dictionary states, it was never pronounced in such a fashion.

Now you know the proper pronunciation, and can use it to show off one of the many benefits of being a genealogical researcher to your less-enlightened friends.

From NEHGS Newsletter The Weekly Genealogist Vol. 14 No. 8 Feb. 23, 2011

incorrect assumptions that two same name individuals in different locations are the same person, unless there is evidence to support a move from point A to point B. Genealogical leaps of faith connecting individuals or generations could well be erroneous.

5) Remember that finding the same information online in multiple databases doesn't ensure accuracy as others may well have copied or merged the information without verification.

6) Pay no attention to who submitted the data, but rather to the evidence itself. Even respected genealogists make errors occasion. *[continued on next page]* access to all the information you possess.

WHY WON'T ROOTSWEB (AND OTHER ONLINE HOSTS) REMOVE ERROR-RIDDEN DATABASES?

Companies such as RootsWeb are not the genealogy police or Judge Judy, and cannot be expected to evaluate the accuracy of data submitted (and owned and controlled) by family historians. Submitters have the right to be wrong.

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO COMBAT ERRORS FOUND IN ONLINE DATA-BASES?

- 1) Contact the submitter by e-mail when possible.
- 2) Add a Post-em Note (user-added note) indicating the error and any corrections and evidence you have.
- 3) Upload your own database so that researchers who find the incorrect data in a search will also find your file. The only database for

which you are responsible is your own.
From RootsWeb Review June 10, 2009 Vol. 12 No.6



FREE Summer Events at Fort Dalles Museum:

Fourth Sunday at the Fort - Free Concert Series - 4 to 6 p.m. Tap your toes outdoors in the historic atmosphere of Fort Dalles museum located at 500 West 15th and Garrison. Call 541-296-4547 for additional information or visit www.fortdallesmuseum.org

July 24 - The Jazz Generations will play a variety of Dixieland, Big Band and Contemporary music.

August 28 - Rich and Connie Dunnington will play folk guitar favorites featuring violin and guitar music of the 1800s.

Family Fun Day at the Fort - Fort Dalles Days Saturday, July 16, 2011 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Blacksmith demonstration, wagon rides between the Surgeon's Quarters and the Rorick house, old-time music, food vendors in the Fort Dalles Mess Hall, spinners, re-enactors including Mr. Branch of 1846, antique vehicle displays, 4-H farm animals and more. FREE admission.

Submitted by Mary Davis

HOG Heaven ?



July 2011

ED NOTE: "Our Overland Trip" by Dennis Hand Colwell was printed in the July and October 2005 issues of Tales and Trails. The Colwell brothers are member Alene Thille's great-great uncles. Alene gave this to Renee about the time I took over the editorship and I've just now transcribed the 14 typewritten pages. It will be continued over the next 3-4 issues. Bracketed italic items are my notations.]

**Diary of a Trek Across
the North American
Continent 1865**

By James McNabb Colwell

D.[ennis] H.[and] and J.[ames] M.[cNabb] Colwell left Eagleville Missouri May 16th at 1 o'clock P.M.

Mon. May 15th - Stopped at Heaston's Pount [sic] for the night. Had quite a heavy rain.

Tues. May 16th - Laid over at Heaston's Point. Had a very good time.

Wed. May 17th - Camped on a little branch called Walnut Creek, 6 miles S.W. of Mt. Ayr. Had a cool damp night.

Thurs May 18th - Camped in the N.W. part of Ringold County, the headquarter of 2 Grand Forks River.

Fri. May 19th - We halted at noon and camped on the Platte River. (Iowa)

Sat. May 20 - We tarried on Platte River waiting for company.

Sun. May 21st - Today we moved down Platte River 8 miles. Struck the state road and camped 12-1/2

miles east of Bedford, Taylor County.

Mon. May 22 - We got a late start this morning, crossed 102, passed through Bedford. Camped 1-1/2 miles west of Bedford.

Tues. May 23 - We came to 102, No. 2 and took dinner. Camped overnight on East Nodaway. Had a good spring nearby. Quite a heavy rain during the night. East Nodaway is 4 miles east of Clarinda and 2(?) miles west of Memory.

Wed. May 24 - Today we came to the town of Clarinda and were detained some hours having some blacksmithing done. I've met with Mssrs. Horndobble, Cavin and McCarles from Darke, Ohio. After (noon) (rain) we came to a small stream called Snake Creek 7 miles west of Clarinda. Had a very comfortable camping place.

Thurs. May 25 - Today we came through a little village called (Mantifernia?) East Nishanabotna River and camped on the bottom. Had a very good time.

Fri. May 26th - Today we came through Sidney, Fremont County and drove out 4 miles from the town and camped 8 miles from Nebraska City. There is a spring as large as a man's arm.

Sat. May 27th - We left the spring this morning and came to the river 2 miles from the city and camped and walked to the city, and made purchase of some necessaries and tonight we are still camped on the Missouri River bottom.

Sun. May 28th - We are laying over on the bottom rigging our wagons a little,

Sunday as it is. Tonight we are still camped on the river. We have seen several steamers pass down the river since we came to this camp.

Mon. May 29th - Today we came to the river and were detained some hours before we could get across. We then ferried over and were in the city some hours getting our supplies and are camped tonight a short distance west of Nebraska City, Neb. Part of our company loose cattle. Left them today in the city and we have not found them yet.

Tues. May 30th - This morning we got up and found that P. Saltsman's mules and mares were gone. Our squad have spent the day in hunting the stock and herding our other cattle so we are still camped near Nebraska City.

Wed. May 31st - Dennis and Saltsman and Watson are out hunting the stock and I and the boys are herding. It is raining considerably this morning. We are still camping tonight. Saltsman found his mares and mules today and Watson found one cow... Watson and Saltsman have gone back to make another search.

Fri. June 2nd - Nothing of note this morning. Watson and Saltsman have not got back yet. Friday evening, Watson and Saltsman found 7 head of cows today. One is still out. We are camping on the prairie 7 miles south of town.

Sat. June 3rd - It has rained quite a rain during the night and is still raining. Watson and Saltsman have gone back to the city to look for the cow. We have been (5?) (8) (?) days getting about 12 miles on our road.

We hear some great Indian stories but still we are going on. Saturday evening Watson and Saltsman came into camp but did not find the cow. We have spent 8 days and \$25.00 in cash and lost one cow and only come 12 miles in the time.

Sun. June 4th – We start on this morning. All able to report to breakfast and all appear to be in good spirits. Evening has come and we are camped on the prairie one mile west of the Nemaha (Nimmaha) River, 20 miles west of Nebraska City. We fell in with some 10 or 12 more wagons today. We camped tonight.

Mon. June 5th – Today we crossed three or four little streams. Very good camping places. We are camped on the prairie close by slough water. We have come 25 miles today. It is 5 miles from this camping place to Salt Creek.

Tues June 6th – Today we crossed Salt Creek and came out on to Cheese Creek travelling about 17 miles. There is a ranch at this crossing composed of a house made of small poles and covered with sod. This is a good post for making money. It is the fourth ranch from Nebraska City. We have passed through no timber of any consequence since we left Nebraska City. It is dense prairie, here and there a little rivulet with a few bushes. The soil is good from Nebraska City out. There is about 45 wagons now in our train.

Wed. June 7th – We had a pleasant little rain last night. This is a beautiful morning. Evening has come and we have come 23 miles today. Crossed Big Blue at this

crossing. There is quite a settlement, two small groceries. A good place for making money. We are camped on Walnut Creek, 14 miles west of Big Blue. There is a ranch here and a money-making place. Plenty wood and water on Big Blue or Salt Creek. Water half way between by turning off the road ½ mile.

Thurs. June 8th – We had quite a rain last night, it is a cool damp morning. Today we came seven miles and crossed Beaver Creek on a bridge. There is two ranches at this crossing. A good place for money-making. Two groceries. We came on twelve miles further and struck the same Beaver Creek and camped on a very pretty spot of ground handy to wood and water. (A phrase I can't read) 19 miles today.

Fri. June 9th – This is a very cool morning. Wind in the northwest. It has rained a good deal in the last two days. We traveled seven miles today and took dinner in Beaver Creek at a ranch and came on 12 miles and ae camped on the same, close to another ranch. A nice camping place, plenty wood and water.

Sat. June 10 – We are laying by this morning washing and cooking. We will leave here this afternoon. This is a most beautiful morning. (Evening) We hitched up this afternoon and came six miles and camped close to a ranch and grocery store. Wood and water for cooking very scarce. Plenty stock water. This is the head of Beaver Creek.

Sun. June 11 – We hitched up very early this morning and drove eight miles before we took breakfast. Halted and got over breakfast, then hitched up and drove seventeen miles further

and here we struck Platte River. Here is quite a ranch. Several houses, one grocery. Platte is quite high. Drove twenty five miles today. There is a small fort at this place composed of walls built of sod about three and one half feet thick. It was built in 1864 when the Indians were so bad.

Mon. June 12 – Two hundred and twenty six yokes of oxen passed our camp this morning. We came about twenty miles up Platte today. Had quite a little rain. Camped on the prairie on river bottom. No wood, Buffalo chips wet this morning so must drive without breakfast.

Tues. June 13 – We hitched up this morning and came on seven miles to a ranch and we st6pped to get our breakfast. No Wood. We paid fifteen cents for scarce enough too [sic] cook our breakfast. Road very bad. This afternoon we came six miles and camped at Dog Town. Dog Town is quite a little village. A few soldiers stationed here. Came twelve miles today.

[To be continued in October 2011 issue]

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*Continued from Page 5*

from the Library of Congress.  
<http://blogs.denverpost.com/captured/2010/07/26/captured-america-in-color-from-1939-1943/2363/>

This one includes Civil War era images by Matthew Brady.

<http://blogs.denverpost.com/captured/2010/07/22/from-the-archive-american-cities-pre-1950/2360/>

*Thanks to Georga for these two URL's*

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July 2011

The Easy Way to Add Maps to Your Family History Projects

from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter by Dick Eastman April 24, 2011

Would you like to include U.S. maps in your family history projects, but can't find what you want? Would you like to add maps to a book you plan to publish but cannot find anything that isn't copyrighted? Do you need a simple, prepared map that you can print at home, at school, or in the office? A service provided by the U.S. Government will provide maps for you. Best of all, there are no copyrights on the maps. You can use them in commercial books as well as for personal purposes.

The National Atlas is a map-making platform sponsored by the Federal



Government that lets you build your own maps. You can create maps that capture and depict patterns, conditions, and trends of American life. You can use the National Atlas templates to create maps that cover all of the United States or just your area of interest.

The National Atlas of the United States of America is a web site created by the United States

Department of the Interior. The online atlas provides a map-like view of geospatial and geostatistical data collected for the United States. Unlike the big, bound map collections, the National Atlas includes electronic maps and services that are delivered online.

In the National Atlas Map Maker you can assemble, view, and print your own maps. In most cases, you can choose from hundreds of layers of geographic information to make maps. Each map layer can be displayed individually or mixed with others as you tailor a map to your needs. Once you assemble the layers of choice, you can print the map or save it electronically.

For example, you can make a map showing America's streams and lakes. Then you can add new map layers showing additional geographic information, such as state boundaries, county boundaries, roads, railroads, and towns and cities.

Once you've zoomed in on an area you want to map, you can choose from the display elements available on the right of the program window to display water elements, roads, boundaries and other features. Finally, you can add your own information by first saving the map to your hard drive and then using any appropriate photo editing program to add text and new symbols. The online National Atlas can be used for many purposes other than genealogy. The site is full of examples for agriculture, biology, climate, environmental, history, and more. For more information, or to try it yourself, you can visit the National Atlas at <http://www.nationalatlas.gov/>

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## Upcoming Events

July 9, 2011

**11:00 AM Gorge Discovery Ct.r.  
CGGS Monthly Meeting**

Penny Kennedy on Dowsing for Gravesites

August 13, 2011

**11:00 – 3:00 Gorge Discovery Center**

**Tech Workshop II**

Mark Adams & others provide technical help; photo scanning, etc.

Sept. 10, 2011

**1:00 PM Gorge Discovery Ctr.  
CGGS Monthly Meeting**

**Program To Be Announced**

Sept. 16-17, 2011

**WA State GS Annual Conference  
Richland, Washington**

**Building Ancestral Bridges**

Patricia Walls Stamm and other presenters. Leland Meitzler and other vendors. See [www.tricitygenealogicalsociety.org](http://www.tricitygenealogicalsociety.org) for more information.

October 1, 2011

**Eastern WA Genealogical Soc.  
Spokane, WA**

**The Civil War**

Dr. George Schweitzer ; check [www.ewgsi.org](http://www.ewgsi.org) for more info.

# Creating a Winning Family History

by Michael J. Leclerc

From *The Weekly Genealogist*  
September 29, 2010

The National Genealogical Society recently published a revised 2010 edition of *Creating a Winning Family History* by Carmen J. Finley. NGS sponsored its first Family History Writing Contest in 1984. In 1988 they first published *Write Your Family History* to accompany the contest. It has been updated and expanded several times before the current edition.

The first section deals with standards for research and writing. This area includes reference to three NGS publications that can help authors:

*Numbering Your Genealogy: Basic Systems, Complex Families, and International Kin*, by Joan F. Curran, Madilyn Coen Crane, and John H. Wray (rev. ed. 2008)

*Evidence: A Special Issue of the National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (NGSQ 87, September 1999).

*Putting Family History Into Context: A Special Issue of the National Genealogical Society Quarterly* (NGSQ 88, December 2000).

Each of these works is extremely beneficial to the potential author. Unfortunately, the two special issues of the NGSQ are not currently available for purchase on their website. Hopefully NGS will consider bringing them back into

print. There are also links to numerous standards for research and writing available on the NGS website.

The next section discusses six elements of a good genealogy:

1-Research includes a broad variety of records.

2-Sources are carefully developed.

3-Conclusions are based upon a thorough analysis of the evidence.

4-Text is written in a clear and engaging style.

5-Each information item is documented

6-A standard numbering system is used.

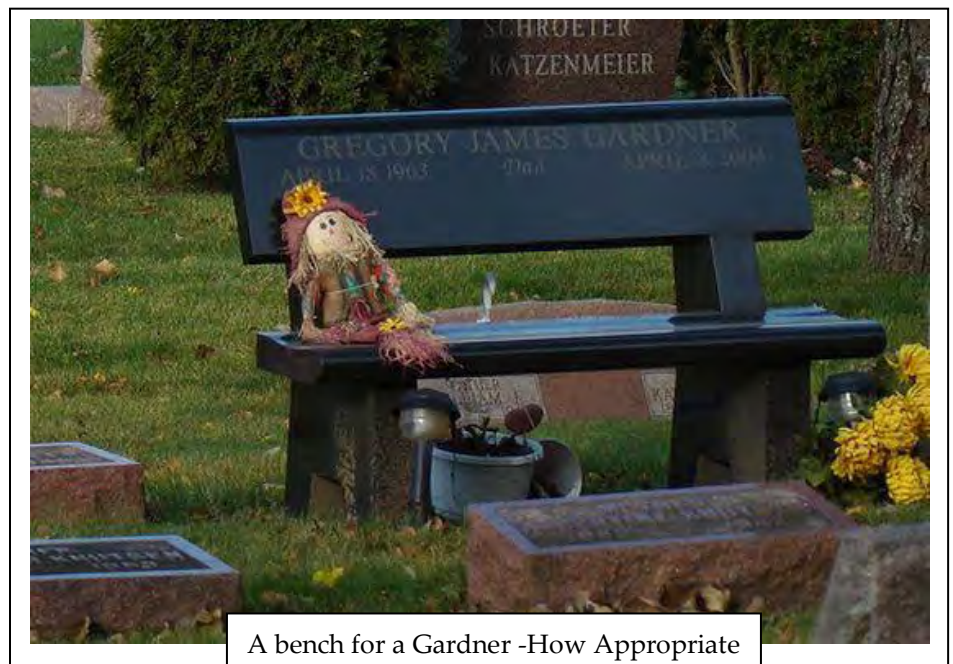
Each of these points is discussed further in the text, although some get more extensive treatment than others. The last section includes a detailed list of publications for further study. The list includes a variety of guides to

assist in genealogical research and writing, but it is by no means exhaustive.

The compact guidebook also includes two appendixes that serve as a guide to the NGS Family Writing Contest. Even those who are not submitting an entry to the contest will benefit from the rules for submission, which will help you become a better writer.

Creating a Winning Family History is available from NGS at a price of \$10 for NGS members and \$12 for non-members. You can find more details at [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org).

The black sheep  
keeps the best  
info on the  
family.



A bench for a Gardner -How Appropriate



## Mid-Columbia Genealogical Resources

### Family History Centers

**The Dalles FHC**

1504 East 15<sup>th</sup> St  
West Entrance, basement  
The Dalles, OR 97058  
Phone: 541-298- 5815  
Director: Chris Knowland  
Open: Tue., Wed., Thur.  
10:30 a.m to 8:30 p.m.

**Goldendale FHC**

N. Columbus Ave. & McKinley  
P.O. Box 109  
Goldendale, WA 98620  
Phone: 509-773-3824  
Director Ed Hoyle  
Open: Tue., Wed. 10:00 – 4:00  
Thur. 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

**Hood River FHC**

18<sup>th</sup> & May St.  
Hood River, OR 97031  
Phone: 541-386-3539  
Director: Noretta Hornbeck  
Open: Tue., Wed., Thur.  
10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Stevenson FHC**

Maple Way & Loop Rd.  
Stevenson, WA 98648  
Phone 509-427-5927  
Director: Emerline Andrews  
Open: Wed. 1:00 – 3:00 p.m  
Thur. 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### Libraries

**The Dalles – Wasco County**

722 Court Street  
The Dalles, OR 97058  
Phone: 541-296-2815  
Hours: Tue. & Wed. 11:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
Thur. & Fri. 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Sat. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**William G. Dick**

The Discovery Ctr. & Wasco Co. Museum  
5000 Discovery Road  
The Dalles, OR 97058  
Phone: 541-296-8600 ext. 219  
Hours: M-W-F 11-3 or by appointment  
E-Mail: [library@gorgediscovery.org](mailto:library@gorgediscovery.org)

**Maupin**

P.O. Box 462  
Maupin, OR 97037  
Phone: 541-395-2208  
E-Mail: [SWCLibrary@centurytel.net](mailto:SWCLibrary@centurytel.net)

### Hood River County

601 State Street  
Hood River, OR 97031  
Phone: 541-386-2535  
Hours: Tue.-Wed. 10:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Thur.-Fri. 10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Sat. 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

### Fort Vancouver Regional

**Goldendale**

131 W. Burgen St.  
Goldendale, WA 98620  
Phone: 509-773-4487  
Hours: Tue.-Sat. 10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**White Salmon Valley**

5 Town & Country Square  
White Salmon, WA 98672  
Phone: 509-493-1132  
Hours: Tue. 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Wed. – Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Stevenson**

120 NW Vancouver Ave.  
Stevenson, WA 98648  
Phone: 509-427-5471  
Hours: Tue.-Wed. 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Thur.-Sat. 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Other

**Dufur Historical Society**

P.O. Box 462  
Dufur, OR 97021  
[dufurhist@ortelco.net](mailto:dufurhist@ortelco.net)

**Wamic Hist. Society**

P.O. Box 806  
Wamic, OR 9706

**Wasco Co. Hist. Society**

300 W. 13<sup>th</sup>  
The Dalles, OR 97058  
541-296-1867

**Klickitat Co. Hist. Society**

127 W. Broadway  
Goldendale, WA 98620  
509-773-4303

**Sherman Co. Hist. Museum**

200 Dewey St.  
Moro, OR 97039  
541-565-3232

**Hood River Co. Mus.**

300 E. Port Marina. Dr.  
Hood River. OR 97031  
541-386-6722

**Gorge Heritage Mus.**

202 E. Humboldt  
Bingen, WA 98605  
509-493-3228

**Col. Gorge Interpretive Mus.**

990 SW Rock Cr. Dr.  
Stevenson, WA 98648  
509-427-8211

**Fort Dalles Museum**

W 15<sup>th</sup> St. & Garison  
The Dalles, OR 97058  
541-296-4547

**Hutson Museum**

4967 Baseline Dr.  
Parkdale, OR 97041  
541-352-6808

**Cascade Locks Hist. Mus.**

1 NW Portage Rd  
Cascade Locks, OR 97014  
541-374-8535


## SOCIETY SURNAME BOOK

After much work over several years Rose Denslinger has completed the update of the society's Surname Index Reference as it is now titled. The book provides an aid to researchers visiting our local libraries. A browse through the book will quickly determine if there is a member of our society who is researching the same surname(s) as the visiting researcher. The Surname Book is in the Genealogy section of The Dalles/Wasco County Public Library, Hood River County Library, Sherman County Library and the Fort Vancouver Regional Library branches in Goldendale, White Salmon and Stevenson.

The first 54 pages contain an alphabetical listing of 644 surnames and over 1800 individuals. Most individuals have birth and/or death dates and locations given.

The last two pages assign a code to each of the 68 members or past members who submitted their pedigree chart from which the surname and individual listings were taken. The middle section of the book lists the individuals by the code for the person that submitted the information. This enables a researcher to follow up with a member if a connection with a listed individual is discovered.

This has been a much larger project than Rose first anticipated and she is glad it is finally done. If you see her be sure to give her a big **THANK YOU**.



❖ **CASCADIA** ❖

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Rose Denslinger, compiler of the society's Surname Index Reference Book presents a copy to Tim Brown, librarian at the William Dick Library located at The Discovery Center. Copies are also available at The Dalles/Wasco County Library, Hood River County Library, Sherman County Historical Society and branches of Fort Vancouver Regional Library in White Salmon,, Goldendale, and Stevenson.

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**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Clip and Mail To:**

Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society  
C/O The Dalles/Wasco Co Public Library  
722 Court St. The Dalles, OR 97058

## Soldiers' Angels

Soldiers' Angels is a volunteer based, nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting our brave men and women in uniform who are valiantly serving our nation in support of the War on Terror in Iraq, Afghanistan and wherever we proudly raise the flag of the United States of America. We are proud to support our heroes in every way possible. [www.soldiersangels.org](http://www.soldiersangels.org)

May no soldier go unloved.  
May no soldier walk alone.  
May no soldier be forgotten,  
Until they all come home

I only do genealogy on days that end in "y". Author unknown.\

## Two Lifetime Memberships Given in Appreciation For Many, Many Years of Service to CGGS



Mary Watts

Thank You for all you have contributed to our organization over the years.



Lewis and Barbee Hodgkins

Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society  
C/o The Dalles Wasco County Library  
722 Court Street  
The Dalles, Oregon 97058-2270

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