



TPCGS NEWSLETTER

June 2019

Vol. XIV, No.3

Meetings and Events Schedule

TPCGS monthly meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month September through May. Meetings are held at Bates Technical College, South Campus, 2291 S. 78th Street, Tacoma, *Building E*. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm with a brief business meeting. After a short break, the main presentation begins followed by an educational session. ***Guests are always welcome!***

June 11, 2019 – 6:00 pm

MAPPING YOUR ANCESTORS

How geography can be an untapped resource for genealogy research. Learn how to use geography and maps to provide visual clues that will help focus research, locate property, and identify lost place names.

Guest Speaker: Janet Camarata

SUMMER BREAK – Our members have the summer to complete a major genealogy project, take a research trip or have the ultimate genealogy experience. Have fun and come back and tell us about it!

September 10, 2019 – 6:00 pm

This meeting will be held at the Tacoma Public Library, 1102 Tacoma Ave. S., Tacoma, WA 98402, in the Olympic Meeting Room, located on the Mezzanine Level (between the 1st and 2nd floors) of the main branch. Our guest speaker is Brian Kamen, who will give us a tour of the Northwest Room. This room houses the library's Genealogy Collection, some of which was donated by the TPCGS! We look forward to this meeting each year, as we get to "Bring and Brag," meaning we get to share what we accomplished over the summer.

April 24-25, 2020 - TPCGS 2020 Spring Seminar

We are pleased to announce that our speaker will be *The Legal Genealogist* Judy G. Russell, a genealogist with a law degree who writes and lectures on topics ranging from using court records in family history to understanding DNA testing. On the faculty of numerous genealogy institutes, she is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Board for Certification of Genealogists[®], from which she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist[®] and Certified Genealogical LecturerSM. Her award-winning blog is at <http://www.legalgenealogist.com>.



Message from the President

By: D Becker, TPCGS President

I hope you have carefully considered the email sent out by our nominating committee last week. The offices of President, Vice President of Family Line Research, Vice President of Policies and Procedures, and Recording Secretary are the board positions up for election this year.

The qualifications and duties of each office are in our by-laws and were attached to the email.

Candidates will be announced at the June general meeting, with elections to be held in November.

Even if you are not interested in holding office, please read through the duties of each office, not just those up for election this year, and consider how you might help those elected, or appointed, in the case of the standing committees. ATTEND A BOARD MEETING to learn more background on each position and hear our discussions on the topics the board feels concern our Society. Board meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, except July and August, at Denny's on 6th Avenue in Tacoma; we start about 5:30.

Our Society must not operate in a vacuum, but with the same people agreeing to hold office over and over (often because others do not wish to be considered) and only those people attending our board meetings, it sometimes feels as if the vacuum is getting stronger.

We are a strong Society, but we need input from all our members.

D

FURTHER INFORMATION TAKEN FROM THE TPCGS BYLAWS:

SECTION C. QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS

1. All elected officers shall be current members of the Society and shall have been a member of the Society for at least one year.

2. The President should have either previous Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society Executive Board experience, over three consecutive years active membership with TPCGS, or Board experience with another non-profit group or organization.

SECTION D. Duties of Officers

1. All officers shall:

a. Perform the duties of the office as prescribed by the Bylaws, defined in the Society's Policy and Procedures, and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society;

1. An officer who is unable to perform his or her duties and who has not discussed the absence with the President may, with prior written notification from the Executive Board, be removed from office by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

b. Attend and participate in the Executive Board and General meetings of the Society;

c. Keep an accurate account of Society income and expenses, and submit reports of each to the Treasurer in a timely manner;

d. Provide information to the Treasurer each year to enable the preparation of the annual budget;

e. Provide an accurate inventory of all Society materials held. The inventory shall include such assets as Society publications, computers, projectors, books, etc., with serial numbers and other identifying details as appropriate. This inventory shall be provided to the President and Treasurer at the November Executive Board meeting;

f. Prepare and present to the Executive Board an updated position description and procedures developed for the office at the close of the two-year term;

g. Provide for or arrange for secure storage of all records and property of the society.

h. Deliver to their successor all materials of the office on or before the first Executive Board meeting following the Society's Annual Meeting;

i. Stay within the amount budgeted annually for any budget category unless preauthorized by the Executive Board.

- j. Provide a brief written report to the board of recent position activities when not able to attend a Board or Regular meeting.
- k. Offer assistance to the Seminar Committee as may be needed; Perform such other duties as the President or Executive Board may request

THE PRESIDENT SHALL:

- a. Preside at all monthly and Executive Board meetings of the Society and shall have general supervision of the Society;
- b. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees of the Society except the Nominating and Audit committees;
- c. Meet and work with other organizations and businesses to forge positive relationships; Establish, or designate a society representative to establish, mutually beneficial relationships with other organizations that share common goals and interests with the Society.
- d. Appoint, with Executive Board approval, all Standing Committee chairs;
- e. Enter into legal agreements on behalf of the Society, with the approval of the Executive Board;
- f. Be responsible for the assignment of the second both keys to the Society Post Office box, with the assignment of responsibility for the keys and mail collection recorded in Board minutes;
- g. Arrange for meeting rooms for the Executive Board and General meetings of the Society;
- h. Designate the order of coverage in case of absence, with the assignment of responsibility recorded in the Board Minutes.
- i. Perform other duties as necessary for the good of the Society.

THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR FAMILY LINE RESEARCH SHALL:

- a. Serve as the principal Family Line Researcher for the Society;
- b. Be responsible for the first key to the Society Post Office box;
- c. Receive incoming requests for research; charge appropriate fees for services; forward checks in payment to the Treasurer; respond to clients with documented proof in a timely manner; maintain a file of correspondence, and report to the membership on research completed;
- d. Recruit and develop a team, as may be needed, of Society members who can respond to clients' research requests;
- e. Process incoming Queries. Coordinate, as may be appropriate, the publication of Queries with the TPCGS Newsletter and Researcher Editors and the Webmaster;
- f. Preside at meetings in the absence of the President, assist the President with administrative duties, and perform such other duties as needed.

THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES SHALL:

- a. Maintain the official documents of the society to include the Bylaws, and all Procedures, Policies, or Rules established by the Board of the society.
- b. Bring a copy of official documents of the society to board meetings.
- c. Update the official documents as may be requested by the Board and distribute copies of those updates to Board members and appropriate committee chairs.
- d. Maintain digital original and backups of all official documents.

THE RECORDING SECRETARY SHALL:

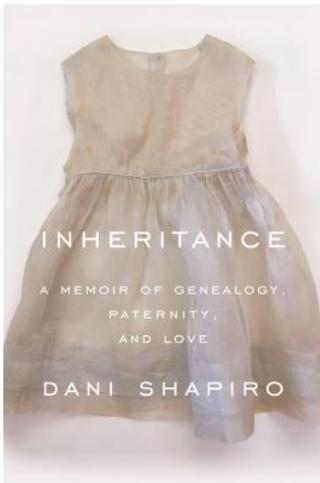
- a. Record, maintain and preserve archive the minutes and other related materials of the Executive Board and General meetings of the Society, either on paper or electronically or on paper;
- b. E-mail minutes to the Executive Board members for review prior to the next Board meeting; Have previous month's Board meeting minutes corrected and ready for approval at the next scheduled Board meeting;
- c. Provide copies of the Executive Board and General meeting minutes to the membership at the General meetings;
- d. Perform such other duties as the President or Executive Board may request.
- e. Send cards or other items to Society members who are ill, hospitalized, or upon other occasions requested by the Executive Board.

Genealogy: Where you confuse the dead and irritate the living.

– Unknown

Book Review

By: Jane Irish Nelson



Inheritance

By Dani Shapiro

All her life Dani Shapiro wondered why she didn't look like anyone else in the family — they are all dark, and traditionally Jewish, while she is blond. On a whim, she and her husband take DNA tests, and the results shock, stun, and surprise her. Somehow, her beloved father is not her father. Join her on her journey as she unravels this surprising mystery, and overcomes the trauma it causes. If you are on the fence about taking a DNA test, you might want to read this first. Highly recommended!

April 2019 TPCGS Spring Seminar Was a Success!!

TPCGS wishes to thank everyone who helped make this event an outstanding success! First, of course, our highly regarded speaker, Michael J. Lacopo, who was not only interesting and informative, but also very entertaining! His presentations received rave reviews. Michael was ably assisted by our emcee, the always entertaining Cyndi Ingle.

A HUGE Thank You to our volunteers! We could not do this without you. Thank you for attending planning meetings and helping obtain donations for our raffle, door prizes and used book sales. Thank you for keeping everything running smoothly throughout the event. It is much appreciated!!

Thank you to our vendors for supplying their products and services to our attendees. This includes LaQuinta Inn, for providing us an excellent venue, quiet and efficient service, and wonderful catering.

And don't forget we are always looking for used books to sell at our annual used book sale, which is held at the Spring Seminar. This year, we had three estates donate their genealogy books to our Society. The book sales are highly anticipated and bring in revenue for our Society!



BROWSING PERIODICALS

By: Theresa Cosgrove, Library Committee Chair

Publications exchanged with or subscribed to by the TPCGS are available in the Northwest Room of the Tacoma Public Library and may be found by a call number or hanging file designator (HF). Due to limitations of shelf space, some periodicals are stored in the Basement Stacks. If you provide the library staff with the call number, they will retrieve the journals for you. Just ask.

BROWSINGS beginning Oct 2018

Civil-War Veterans Kansas Kin, Riley County Genealogical Society, Nov 2018, Vol 56, No.2

- A Treasure Found: Polly Edgerton 19th C Photo Album
- Traveling the Kansas Native Stone Scenic Byway
- 100 Years Ago – Spanish Flu Outbreak
- Early History of Medicine in Manhattan Kansas

TCGS Bulletin, Tri-City Genealogical Society, Vol 58, No. 3

- Researching Polish Family History
- The Hanford History Project
- Prosser Cemeteries
- Index for all Three 2018 Issues

BROWSINGS (continued)

Fiske Genealogical Foundation, Winter 2019, Vol. 26, No. 2

- Library Changes Leadership
- Recent Library Acquisitions
- Book Review: *How We Survive Here: Families Across Time*, by Claire Gebben

Fort Steilacoom, Winter – Spring 2019

- Washington's Yesterdays
- Joseph Heath farm

Je Me Souviens Magazine, American-French Genealogical Society, Jan-Mar 2019, Vol 42, No. 1

- In search of Robert Gagnon on the Ile de Famille
- Crime & 17th Century Women in New France
- Marie-Josephte Corriveau dite "La Corriveau"
- Gilles Trottier
- Acadian Congress
- Daughters of the King-Filles du Roi
- Mathieu Levielle, Negro Slave & Executioner
- The First Acadian Murder

The Apple Orchard, Chelan Valley Genealogical Society, Mar 2019

- Tips for Researching Your Ancestors
- 10 Best Genealogy Websites for Beginners
- The Rewards of Researching Your Family History
- German Heritage
- New York Arrivals 1820-1957

The Bulletin, Genealogical Forum of Oregon, March 2019, Vol. 68, No. 3

- Michael & Joseph Balicki
- Olaf Olsson Gulstrom
- Tracing Andrew Goltl & Mary Kogel
- Family Bible of Jesse Upson, Jr
- Book Reviews: *Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy, 4th Ed.*; *Warwick Co., VA Court Records 1782-1843*; *They Came to Belize 1750-1810, Jamaica Records*

American Spirit, DAR, Mar/Apr 2019, Vol. 153, No. 2

- New exhibits on women's history at the Smithsonian Institution
- Travel – Skagit Valley in Bloom (our own backyard)
- Molly Brown House Museum
- Women Publishers of the Early American Era
- The nonprofit American Heritage Trees & historical people & events
- Bookshelf: A review of *Valley Forge* and an interview with the authors

BUILDING MEMORIES

by Janet Nixon Baccus

After the holidays, as you are putting away the lace table cloth and all the other beautiful handwork created or crocheted by yourself, "Grandma" and other loved ones, are you also thinking about what is going to happen to these "family heirlooms" when you no longer have use for them? What about the fancy candy dish that's been in your family for generations, or the special tree ornaments brought from the 'old country' when your grandparents immigrated to America?

We need to share these with certain members of the family. You know which child will appreciate and therefore take care of the lace tablecloth, and be able to use it occasionally or the family that has some way of displaying the fancy dish safely, etc. To continue the tradition, you need to sit down and write about each item and attach the paper. Remember, you know all about the keepsakes, but few others do. Each generation step away from the original owner, lessens the knowledge about the person and the item. You might want to share how and when these items were used when you were a child in your grandparents' and relatives' home or eventually in your own home, the little stories of why these items are special. For an example, we have the tall ruby colored cut glass pitcher and three remaining glasses of the eight that my husband's maternal grandmother was given on her wedding day in 1901. They originally had been her parents'. The unusual is that my husband and his brother resided with their grandmother for a time and remember casually having their everyday milk in those marvelous glasses! Now, it is nearly time to pass on these precious items, along with their history.

Many of us do not have any close relatives or live very far away from family ... what can we do? Perhaps you have dear friends who would appreciate these keepsakes, or how about donating them to a museum or historical society either in the area you originally are from or in this local area. We have several historical societies in the local area who would appreciate certain additions to their collections. Ezra Meeker Historical Society in Puyallup and Spanaway Historical Society both are furnishing original early homes with period items. The Foothills Museum in Buckley may also accept items of interest. And of course, the Washington State Historical Society Museum in Tacoma may accept certain items. Forever then, your keepsake would be available for all to see, listing a bit of history of the item, and be protected.

Remember, you need to make these decisions and share now or leave directions in your will and not leave it to someone that can only guess which person is to have a certain precious keepsake. My own paternal grandmother gave to us certain things she wanted us to have, plus some of the items we had gifted herewith. It pleased her so and she still could see these items when visiting.



HistoryLink.org

NEWS THEN, HISTORY NOW

Fort Nisqually Earthquake 1833

On June 29, 1833, an earthquake shakes the Puget Sound region. William Tolmie, recently the Hudson's Bay Company officer in charge of Fort Nisqually, records the event in his journal. Tolmie's journal entry records the first eyewitness account of an earthquake in the region.

He and four others (including Heron, the new head of Fort Nisqually) were out examining land near Fort Nisqually. Tolmie and Mr. Heron were on horseback and three others were on foot.

Tolmie's account is as follows:

Mr. Heron returned about 9 this morning to breakfast. Afterwards we mounted the north bank of Coe by the path & were occupied nearly all day in collecting specimens of the soil ... H[eron] and I on horseback. While thus engaged our three attendants, McKie, Brown & Peter Tahi, the islander, felt the earth under them shake violently at least twice. Brown first exclaimed, & seemed much alarmed — He & McKie were on their knees at the time & felt violently lifted up, the sensations of Peter I could not ascertain, Mr. H & I did not perceive anything remarkable — this happened at 20 minutes from 2 ... which is not far wrong. On returning to the house we learn't that the shock had been felt there, the boards in the floor of the house rattling together. The Indians were much struck & said, 'The chief's [Heron's] medicine is strong, He has gone up the hill to shake the grounds.' In some quarter of the globe, perhaps the Almighty has wrought some dire devastations by earthquake, one of the most powerful & calamitous instruments of chastisement employed against Mankind. The steep & broken faces to Eastward of the islands in the sound render it probable, that they have been severed from the main shore by an earthquake."

This earthquake was not felt at Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River.

By: William Fraser Tolmie, *The Journals of William Fraser Tolmie, Physician and Fur Trader* (Vancouver B.C.: Mitchell Press Ltd, 1963), 211-212, 222. Courtesy of HistoryLink.org.

<http://www.historylink.org>

Budget Genealogy

By Sandra Johnson

CLARK COUNTY SHERIFF, WANTED POSTERS, 1909-1934

Wow! I was browsing at the Washington State Digital Archives (www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/Home) and decided to look at the Clark County Sheriff, Wanted Posters, 1909-1934. This is found at the top of the list in Collections. If you have a missing person in your family or a name that is not spoken about, check this album! It is a nationwide collection!

An example page has Emilio Denucci – Escaped Convict – Carson City, Nevada; George Edward Avery – Forgery – St. Louis, Missouri; Marlin Davis and Clair T. Transue, Alias James R. Carson – Assisted Prisoner Jay Floyd Williams ... in escaping from the U. S. Penitentiary at McNeil Island, Washington; John J. Phelan – Grand Larceny – City of New York.

Each poster gives a description of the person – age, height, weight, color of eyes and hair, identifying tatoos, scars, etc. An example: George Edward Avery: Age 30; % feet 6 inches, 130 pounds, dark complexion, dark eyes and hair, inclined to be curly; blotchy chin and neck; careless dresser; walks with a quick and snappy step. “Supposed to be traveling with his wife and 7-year-old boy.” So here is a whole missing family!

These posters also feature Missing Persons of all ages. One “mystery” in New York City was a person who disappeared leaving his suitcase behind in his hotel and a trunk checked in at the railroad station. (He was gassed and shell shocked in WW1 and suffered from depression. Perhaps PTSD?)

The album is indexed. To search you need to choose Scrapbooks in the Record Series slot, Clark in County and Clark County Sheriff, Wanted Posters. I entered “Piccolo” in the keyword search and one hit came up: Frank Piccolo, a gangster born in Italy. Whew, not my Frank Piccolo!



“MARK YOUR CALENDAR”

Upcoming Events

Beginners Boot Camp – June 10, 2019, 9am – 5pm

Oregon Genealogical Forum, Portland, Oregon

For more information: <https://gfo.org/learn/beginners-boot-camp.html>

2019 Northwest Genealogy Conference - August 14 – 17, 2019

Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society, Arlington, WA

Held at Byrnes Performing Arts Center, Arlington, WA

Featuring: Thomas MacEntee, Daniel Earl, Angie Bush, Michael Strauss, and many more!

For more information contact: (360) 435-4838, email: info@stillygen.org

Federation of Genealogical Societies’ National Conference – August 21 – 24, 2019

Washington, DC.

For more information: <https://fgs.org/annual-conference/>

HQRL Autumn Quest – October 12, 2019, 8:15 am - 3 pm

Presented by: Heritage Quest Research Library

Held at the Emerald Queen Conference Center, 5580 Pacific Hwy E., Fife, WA

Featuring: Dave Obee

For more information contact: <https://hqrl.com/> or call 253-863-1806

RootsTech 2020 – February 26 - 29, 2020

Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, UT

For more information: <https://www.rootstech.org/salt-lake>

National Genealogical Society 2020 Family History Conference – May 20-23, 2020

Salt Lake City, Utah. Registration Opens December 2, 2019

If you are interested in attending the NGS Family History Conference and want to coordinate your travel with others in our Society, please contact one of our Board Members. It would be great to have a few members attend together!



TPCGS BOARD MEMBERS

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Vice President – Programs

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Janet Baccus

Jane Irish Nelson

All officers can be reached through their email address listed on the TPCGS

Website at <http://www.tpcgs.org>

It's baseball season! Have a great summer!!
1921 Baseball Team, M & M Hatters, Tacoma City League



Photo courtesy of: Washington State Historical Society