



# TPCGS NEWSLETTER

April-May 2013

Vol. VII, No. 4

## MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS SCHEDULE

- 14 May 2013 7 p.m. Tuesday . . . Evaluating On-Line Genealogy Sites and Resources . . . . . Cyndi Howells  
South Bates Campus . . . . Auditorium
- 6 June 2013 3 p.m. Thursday . . . . TPCGS Board Meeting . . . . . Swasey Branch Tacoma Public Library
- 3 Sept 2013 6 and 7 p.m. Tuesday . . . . . See TPCGS web site for fall program . . . . . South Bates Campus

## Message from the President

by Warren Fisk, TPCGS President

With this newsletter there are several important events to report to the members of the Society.

On April 27th we had another successful Spring Seminar. To our members who did not attend, you missed a good one. Leland Meitzler and William Dollarhide gave both entertaining and informative presentations. Leland's Family Roots Publishing brought some new and great genealogical publications for our attendees to review and purchase. Everyone had a great time.

I would like to thank the Society's Seminar Committee for all their hard work. It is only through the contributions of all involved, that this seminar was a success.

At our General meetings we have had some great speakers so far this year. And on May 14th we will again hear from one of our favorite member/speakers, Cyndi Howells. She has, over the years, provided the society with both regular meeting and Seminar presentations. This time she will be speaking on "Evaluating Web Sites." As always, the meeting promises to be both informative and entertaining. Come early and get a good seat. If you haven't been to a meeting at the Bates south campus, this is the meeting to attend. As always see your future Newsletters and go to [TPCGS.org](http://TPCGS.org) for information on our future regular meeting speakers.

### Special Thanks:

Soon we will be receiving our 2013 Researcher. This edition features twenty articles by twenty authors, making this issue contain more than one hundred pages of great reading. This issue and past issues have been a collaborative effort of the various authors and Pat Wood, our Editor of the Researcher since 2008.

This edition of the Researcher will be the last one to be edited by Pat. Pat will stepping down as Editor of the Researcher and will be going on to focus her life on other things. I, speaking for the TPCGS board, contributing authors, and society membership, would like to thank Pat for her masterful editing of the Researcher and all the contributions she has made to the success of the Society.

# Mid-19th Century, Mid-West Library Resources

Compiled by Jean Fisher, Librarian, TPL, Northwest Room

This is the fourth in a series intended to highlight selected materials in the Tacoma Public Library's genealogy collection that may be useful for researching migrating US ancestors during the period of the westward movement after the Revolution (roughly between 1795 and 1850). Each column focuses on two states at a time.

For this installment, we will be covering Missouri and Arkansas. Please note that this is a small sampling of just a few resources that hopefully will spark your interest. Other important sources found in the Library's collection, but not listed here, include census indexes, numerous county histories, genealogical society quarterlies, and many county-specific sources covering several record types – so keep these in mind, too!

## Missouri

Eddlemon, Sherida K. *Missouri Genealogical Records & Abstracts. Vols. 1-7*

These seven volumes aim to cover all manner of information of genealogical import from the years 1535-1839. Eddlemon's early information covers French and Spanish occupation of the territory. Information is indexed from Spanish censuses, tax lists, early newspapers, marriage records, cemetery records, slave sale records, pension applications, and more. GEN 929.3778 ED23MB

Lowrie, Walter. *Early Settlers of Missouri as Taken From Land Claims in the Missouri Territory.*

This is essentially a reproduction of the American State Papers, Public Lands Series for Missouri, documenting settlement and migration during the 15 years or so after the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. These public records document claims to land on Public Domain, which mostly resulted from preemption rights, homestead settlements, military bounty lands and militia claims. A surname index is included. GEN 929.3778 EA76

Stanley, Lois et al. *Death Records of Pioneer Missouri Women: 1808-1853.*

Gathered from early issues of Missouri newspapers, these death notices give information on women, who, according to the book, "would never appear on a cen-

sus, might not be found in a marriage record." While not every county is included, over 40 newspapers from different areas of the state were indexed for this book. GEN 929.3778 B791M

Stanley, Lois et al. *Early Missouri Ancestors*

*Vol. 1: From Newspapers, 1808-1822*

*Vol. 2: From Newspapers. 1823-1832*

Organized by newspaper and within that by surname, the information abstracted in these two volumes is pulled from a variety of early Missouri newspapers covering several different areas of the state. The author has included most any mention of a local resident's name that appeared in the paper, which usually had to do with legal, financial, criminal, and familial matters and relationships. A full surname index is included in each volume. GEN 977.8 ST25E

Houts, Alice Kinyoun. *Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in Missouri.*

Information for each veteran mentioned in this book varies: For some it is a detailed biographical paragraph; for others it is simply a name and county. If found by the author, pension record and/or DAR numbers are included in the entry. Information is organized alphabetically by veteran surname. GEN 929.3778 H822R

Bryan, William Smith. *A History of the Pioneer Families of Missouri.*

Originally published in 1876, this book includes an overview of Missouri's early history citing many family names, as well as histories of pioneer families specific to St. Charles, Warren, Montgomery, Callaway, and Audrain Counties. Separate general and genealogical indexes are included. GEN 977.8 B84H

## Arkansas

Payne, Dorothy. *Arkansas Pensioners: 1818-1900.*

This book includes abstracts of records of Arkansas residents who applied to the Federal Government for benefits arising from service in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and the Indian and Mexican Wars. Civil War records are not included, as the author's stated intention is to try to cover the years between when Arkansas became a state in 1836 and the 1850 census. Abstracts are arranged alphabetically by surname. GEN 929.3767 P293A

## Mid-19th Century, Mid-West Library Resources (continued)

### Arkansas

Taunton, Joan Thurman. *Abstracts of Arkansas Reports: January 1837 through January 1861.*

This book contains abstracted information from the *Arkansas Reports*, a multi-volume publication outlining the official decisions of the Arkansas Supreme Court. Information provided depends on the case, but often may include personal details that are difficult or impossible to locate elsewhere. Information is organized by date and is cross-referenced by surname index. GEN 929.3767 T193A

Allen, Desmond Walls and Bobbie Jones McLane. *Arkansas Land Patents.*

This complete work contains an index to people who obtained land directly from the federal government from the earliest settlement times through June 30, 1908. Each slim volume covers a different county (or counties). Information includes names, source volume and page number, land office location, date, document number, transaction type, and land description. GEN 929.3767 AL53AR vols. 1-57

Stevenson, Corinne Cox and Gilberta Wood Westbrook. *Index to Wills and Administrations of Arkansas from the Earliest to 1900.*

Including every county in Arkansas, this book compiles and indexes names from probate administration records and will books located in courthouses across

the state. Information includes name, year and record source. Names are organized alphabetically by county, and a brief description of sources consulted for each county is included. GEN 929.3767 ST48I

Chism, Stephen J. *The Arkansas Gazette Obituaries Index: 1819-1879.*

*The Arkansas Gazette* is the oldest continuously-published newspaper west of the Mississippi. Every report of death in which the person was named was indexed for this book, resulting in 14,329 entries for the years 1819-1879. GEN 929.3767 C448A

Waldenmaier, Inez Raney. *Arkansas Travelers.*

Published several years ago, this book lists every man from every county in Arkansas who was listed as 60 years or older in the 1850 census. Very few of these settlers were born in Arkansas, and most had migrated west from an older, eastern state. The author's aim is to help locate ancestors who either passed through or put down roots in Arkansas on their way west. Women over 60 without husbands are also listed. GEN 929.3767 W144A

### A Unique Approach to Searching the 1940 New York City Census

Do you have relatives somewhere at large in the 1940 New York City census? Here is another way to perhaps locate them if regular indexing has failed to locate them. This is a great site that takes NYC phone directories and combines them with the newly released 1940 census:

<http://directme.nypl.org>

## TPCGS Programs

**6:00 to 7:00 pm informal discussion, socializing; 7:00 to 9:00 pm meeting and program**

The Society will continue to meet starting at 6 p.m; this will be a time for members to discuss any research problems they may be having, with the opportunity for other members to offer possible solutions from their own research experiences, sort of an informal "Brick Wall" time. Coffee, tea, and cookies, will be available, as well as time to visit with friends.

At 7 p.m. the regular Society meeting will begin, with a brief business meeting and committee reports, to be followed by a presentation from a visiting speaker on various genealogical subjects.

May 14 program will feature Cyndi Howells, with a presentation on evaluating on-line genealogical sites and resources.

September 3, 2013, Tuesday. First meeting of the 2013-2014 season. See TPCGS web site for upcoming programs.

## From the Family Line Desk . . . .

You can learn fascinating things in obituaries. Here is an interesting story. When Virginia died in 2007 her obituary noted that “she was the 17<sup>th</sup> and youngest child of Jacob and Christine Larson. Despite being just over 5 feet tall, she was a basketball standout and once scored all of her team’s 27 points in a high school game.” In the first place, I can’t imagine a family with 17 children, but further, Virginia’s basketball skill must have been something to behold.

I have made a survey of the occupations listed in obituaries recently. Here are a few: worked on Grand Coulee Dam; was a welder at Todd Shipyards; custodian at Rainier School; supervisor at Asarco; clothing merchant; carpenter; longshoreman; boilermaker; sawyer for the Hamerschmith Lumber Company; school teacher; “a wonderful and loved mother and grandmother”; long distance telephone operator; registered nurse; a baker; co-owner of a well drilling company; clerk at Weisfields; physician; ship fitter; battery maker; machinist; plumbing company owner; Superior Laundry worker; warehouseman for Thrifty Supply Company; mill man; car repair foreman; welder; custodial officer at McNeil Island Penitentiary; Greyhound bus driver; farmer and a flour miller. There are several of these occupations that probably no longer in heavy demand, and some of the companies noted are out of business. Today we have many new job titles – some for the “same old thing.” This is just one example of how things change.

There are many membership clubs or societies that our ancestors joined that are no longer in existence today. People today do not seem to be listing their memberships in as many organizations as they did years ago. Maybe it is the cost of listing them, but more likely they just aren’t joining as many clubs as they did years ago – before television!

Here are some organizations that your ancestors might have belonged to: Tacoma Lodge No. 22, F. & A. M; American Legion; Royal Neighbors; Sumner Grange; Royal Purple Club; Destiny Lodge 197 of F & AM; the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union 2633; Veterans of Foreign Wars; Carpenters’ Union of Fairbanks, Alaska; Tacoma Sportsman’s Club; Cooks and Waiters Union; American Legion Auxiliary; Moose Lodge Auxiliary; Lakamas Community Club; American Bowling Congress; Retired Firefighters Association; Seattle Bakers Production Club; I.O.O.F.; Warren Chapter of the Eastern Star; Tacoma chapter No. 126 O. E. S.; Woodmen of the World; Tacoma Lodge No. 22, Ivanhoe Commandery of Knights Templar; Royal Arch Masons; Afifi Temple of the Shrine; Button Makers and the Milwaukee Brotherhood. Can anyone tell me what the Royal Purple Club or the Button Makers were?

A lady asked her genealogy friend if she could find out where her Uncle John was buried. The full name and date of death were provided, and I was asked to do some minor research. The date was in 1936, so I looked in all of our cemetery and funeral home records and found nothing. I called Old and New Tacoma Cemeteries and the Tacoma Mausoleum to no avail. Then I went to the newspapers and found the fellow had murdered a couple of people and then shot himself – date of death was verified! The body probably ended up in a “common” grave. Not knowing if the lady knew the surrounding facts, we decided to tell her that we couldn’t find any record of burial. Remember, some answers might bring back bad memories and questions like this are best not asked.

Hope all of your genealogical diggings have been fruitful and that you are finding lots of great new facts. If you missed the seminar on April 27, you missed two excellent speakers as well as some interesting books in the book sale. Our seminars are great ways to get some new ideas for research.



# GENIE GRAB-BAG

Compiled by Janice Weihs

The Spokane Public Library has put their Obituary Database online and it is available to be searched. The database currently includes over 17,000 records and is complete from January 1, 2008, on. It is growing steadily as obituaries from earlier dates are added when clients request them. The database is searchable by name. To find the database go to [www.spokanelibrary.org/](http://www.spokanelibrary.org/) On the library home page click on "Research," and choose "genealogy" from the Research menu. If the person for whom you are searching isn't included, you can fill out an Obituary Request Form.

More obituaries for eastern Washington areas can be found on the Eastern Washington Genealogy website

<http://www.ewgsi.org/areaDeaths.php?page=1&nr=50&scl=sna>

which includes thousands of additional obituaries.

## Newspaper Resources in Idaho

Twin Falls, ID, is just a little further east and south of Spokane. If your family settled there they may have been noted in the local newspapers. For the past two years the Twin Falls Public Library has been building a database that offers access to issues of the local paper from 1904-2008. Users of this database:

[newspaper.twinfallspubliclibrary.org](http://newspaper.twinfallspubliclibrary.org)

are able to search by issue, date, or keyword, or simply browse through issues, as they desire.

## Ancestors resident in Cincinnati, Ohio?

Cincinnati birth and death records, 1865-1912 can be found at <http://drc.libraries.uc.edu/>

The University of Cincinnati, through its Digital Resource Commons, has made available to the public a database of Cincinnati birth and death records. This database covers the period from 1865 through 1912, with some pre-1865 records included. The source for the records is a set of index cards created by the Cincinnati "official and legal records of birth and deaths" for the period. The online collection, which is still under development, contains more than 500,000 records.

## Vital Records Remain Accessible

Accessibility to **Washington State Vital Records** will continue to remain as it has been. Sue Erickson, WA State Genealogical Society president, reports in the recent WSGS newsletter that the Department of Health has agreed to the State Archives request and will be settling a 10 year battle over the transfer of original birth and death records to the Archives for safe storage and accessibility.

Also, the DOH did not pursue a legislative effort to limit access to vital records in the just ended state legislative session. DOH still believes that access should have greater regulation and in all the likelihood will begin the effort again at some future time.

## Calendars for the Past 2000 Years

Have you ever found a newspaper article and were unable to determine the exact date an event being reported occurred? This seems to happen particularly with deaths and burials. The event is reported in terms of the newspaper publication date. "John Smith died last Tuesday and was buried on Friday." and the publication date was August 14, 1896. So what was his date of death?

There is a free program online that will give you calendars for the past 20 centuries: [www.calendardonkey.com](http://www.calendardonkey.com) Once on the web site, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the century you want. For example, for dates in the 1900s, click on "20 Century." Then scroll to the bottom of the second page and pick the decade needed, and scroll to the bottom of the third page to pick the year's calendar where you will be able to find the exact date(s).

(This is useful only as far back as the date the Gregorian calendar was generally adopted in 1752, but that works for most of us.)





## BROWSING PERIODICALS . . . . .by Elaine Workman

Publications exchanged with or subscribed to by the Society 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.

### INTERNATIONAL / NATIONAL

**American Spirit** (DAR, Washington DC) Volume 147.2 March/April 2013: Frances HESSELBEIN former CEO of Girl Scouts of USA continues to open doors of opportunity; Mary PICKERSGILL maker of Fort McHenry flag during War of 1812; Mary SMITH LOCKWOOD one of four original DAR founders; Charlottesville VA; Mahwah High School NJ teacher Yvonne BEATRICE created the Mahwah Project to encourage her students to act as historians of their town; Margaret HAUGHERY angel of the delta; Anna CLAYPOOLE PEALE early American artist; Huguenot women brought civilization to a new America; home in Indianapolis was home of two presidents U.S. President Benjamin HARRISON and DAR President General Caroline SCOTT HARRISON; what's in a name change? a brick wall came crashing down; Paul REVERE's rides during Revolution. (HF)

### AROUND THE U.S.A.

**FL Buried Treasures** (Central Florida Gen. Soc., Orlando) Volume 44.4 November/December 2012: Paul Daniel MOHR 1894-1969; great grandfather Dr. William GOEHRIG discovered to be trustee of Williamsport IOOF Post; passenger list found for my great-great grandfather Peter LOOBY 1855; Wilson HADAWAY 1790-1813 and Ailey KING 1794-1870; deed James CHOATE to John HILL 1838; agricultural census 1850 Orange County; John MARSHALL most prosperous farmer; deed of John WALLACE Sr. 1771-1834 Monroe County AL. (929.1/B916B)

**GA Family Tree Quarterly** (Cobb Co. Gen. Soc., Marietta) Volume 22.1,2,3,4 2012: Cobb County in the 1940 census; tip for making a timeline, split date field into year, month, day, then event, putting each into a separate column. (929.1/F21FT)

**ID Idaho Gen. Soc. Quarterly** (Boise) Volume 56/1 Spring 2013: Idaho's territorial sesquicentennial; William Thomas MORGAN; gold discovered in northern ID Clearwater River region 1861; mining claims for Miller's Creek; William H. WALLACE governor. (929.1/ID11)

**MN Minnesota Genealogist** (Minneapolis) Volume 43.4 Winter 2012: 1945 HENRICHSEN: hoosier daddy Lewis Edward DREW; French-Canadian PAUL family; seven habits of highly effective genealogists #1 be proactive,

are you taking charge of your research? #2 begin with the end in mind, what is your objective? #3 put first things first, what are the most important? #4 think win/win, be collaborative \$5 seek first to understand then to be understood, ask questions #6 synergize, share #7 sharpening the saw, keep learning; the exit permit or flyttningsbetyg; Lars Gustaf LARSSON. (929.1/M666M)

### ND Dakota Homestead Historical Newsletter

(Bismarck) Volume 4.1 March 2013: pioneer histories of Mrs. A.L. NICHOLS, Mrs. William KASSON, Mrs. H.G. VOSS and Mrs. Emma L. NELSON; life of Frederick Frances GERARD cont'd; Morton County naturalization records index NILSEN-OSE; nineteenth century baseball in western ND cont'd. (929.1/D148D)

**OK Oklahoma Gen. Soc. Quarterly** (Oklahoma City) Volume 58.1 2013: using timelines to solve problems; the 1920 Peggs OK killer tornado; Missourians from Gentry and Nodaway counties; extract or abstract? extract is a word for word copy whereas abstract summarizes important points; lessons learned, document everything including how and where you acquired it. (929.3766/OK40)

### New Access to Scotland's Vital Records

The General Register Office for Scotland is offering a fully searchable index of Scottish birth and marriage records from 1553 to 1899, and death records from 1855 to 1924 at *Scot Origins*, [www.scotorigins.com](http://www.scotorigins.com), at its web site:

**[www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/index.html](http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/index.html)**

The service is not free, but the convenience of being able to search these indices is a great leap forward for genealogists. For a payment of about \$10 (USD) you can see and download up to 30 computer screen pages of index data, and, for an additional fee, highlight a particular index entry and send an electronic order for an extract of the full record to which the index entry relates. This extract will then be sent to you via ordinary mail.

## The New Members Corner

—Carol Rikerd

One of the first and most fascinating charts I discovered when starting to look for my family was a relationship chart. This grid chart starts in the upper left corner with a Common Ancestor square. Each of the related people is counted down by generation, one across the top, and one down the left side. The square where the line across and the line down meet is the relationship. Great-great grandchildren of a common ancestor are 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins. I first used a paper chart to explore this.

This means Fred, met through the message board at ancestry.com, is my 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin. We are both great-great grandchildren of the same man.

Now I have found a website, <http://www.searchforancestors.com/utility/cousincalculator.html>, which allows input of each person's descendent generation and does the calculation. The same answer clicked in, 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins, as I computed from the paper chart. But what does that mean? That means Fred's great grandfather is my great grand uncle.

There is more on this website. Below the calculator is a glossary of cousin terms and definitions. Third cousins share great-great grandparents, but do not have the same great grandparents. If you are the same generation of descendants, you are a 'regular' cousin. If either of us was from a generation one more step up or down, i.e. my mother's generation, we would be 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins once removed. Once removed means a generation apart, but with the same descendant placement.

On my paper chart, the highest "removed" number is 7. A cousin who is 7 times removed would be a grandchild of the common ancestor and a 7 times removed grandchild. Depending on the length (in years) of generations, there would be quite an age difference! This is why we all took math classes

in high school.

There is one more twist. Fred and I may also be related through our 4<sup>th</sup> great grandmother, whose daughters married our 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandfathers. That would make us 5<sup>th</sup> cousins. But we are not double 5<sup>th</sup> cousins because those sisters married men who were not related. If those sisters had married brothers, we would be 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins on one side of our family, and double 5<sup>th</sup> cousins on the other. Interesting. And confusing.

Double cousins are descended from siblings marrying siblings. From the time of those marriages, double cousins share both sets of grandparents and all their ancestors in common.

Take a look at the website and play with it. If you ever wondered why school boards require all students to take math, now you know why. They are preparing future genealogists.

### *Are you up-to-date?*

*With the Researcher almost ready to be mailed out to members you won't want to miss this fascinating collection of genealogical articles of local interest.*

It's not too late to renew your membership and reactivate your address on the TPCGS mailing list for this calendar year. All the benefits of membership are yours for a modest amount: informative newsletters, monthly meetings packed with information and the wonderful stories in the Researcher.

At only \$22 for individuals and \$25 for households, the membership dues are a genealogy research bargain.

Print a renewal form off the website and send your dues now to the TPCGS mailbox, or pay in person at the May 14 meeting to be sure your address and email contact are up to date.

Thanks! Carol Rikerd, Membership.

## IS YOUR FAMILY BIBLE ONLINE?

<http://biblerecords.com>

Bible Records Online is a site dedicated to transcribing and digitizing the contents of family records that were written inside family Bibles and in other important documents from as early as the 1500s through today. Often, these were the only written records of births, marriages and deaths in a family, and these remain solid components to proving a family genealogy.

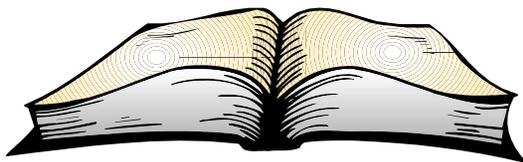
Currently available are scanned images of 1,158 Bibles listing 1,469 different surnames. There are three useful indices to the contents:

1. BROWSE THE SURNAMES to search for a specific surname;
2. BROWSE THE BIBLES to see what is available beyond the surnames; this index includes locations and date ranges.
3. NEW includes the Bibles recently added.

The site was established in 2001 and was last updated April 14, 2012.

If interested in supporting the site and helping it grow, here are some of the ways to do so:

1. Submit family Bibles that are in your possession or those that you can find. Bible records found in publications printed before 1923 in this country are in the public domain and are not copyright protected.
2. Transcribe Bible records that are in the public domain, but have not been posted for lack of time. The web site also includes several Bible records with only images needing to be transcribed.
3. Translate Bible record images where the language is not English. Many are in German, Swedish, Finnish, Spanish, and Welsh. The websites cannot translate text in images.



## Washington State Library

### Obituary Requests

I was greatly pleased to discover that I could get a copy of my g-g-grandmother's obituary from the state library in Olympia. She died in 1911 in Vancouver, WA. The librarians at the state library will look for obituaries free in their collection of Washington State newspapers.

To send a request for an obituary, go to:

<http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/Obituaries.aspx>

On-line requests are made to the Ask-A-Librarian service. Only one name at a time should be submitted.

No index exists for the newspapers as a group, so at a minimum the following information is needed:

1. Name of the person at the time of death.
2. Specific date of death: at least month and year.
3. Location of death in Washington State.
4. Age of deceased.

If any of this information is not known, the requester should check Washington Digital Archives website, or Washington Death Index microfilm before submitting the request.

Since this is a very popular service, involving a lot of research, obituary requests can take up to six or eight weeks to complete. Requests are answered in order of the date received. If you have questions, you can email the librarian, chat online to make a request at <http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/ask.aspx> or call the reference desk at 360-704-5221.

## Officers for 2013

President . . . . .	Warren Fisk
VP Family Line Research . . . . .	Gretchen Campbell
VP Programs . . . . .	Helen Stender
VP Education & Development . . . . .	Unfilled
Recording Secretary . . . . .	Sandra D. Johnson
Corresponding Secretary . . . . .	Elaine Workman
Treasurer . . . . .	Lorraine Graeber
Membership . . . . .	Carol Rikerd
Newsletter editor . . . . .	Janice Weihs
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Publication Sales . . . . .	Marie Hayden
Records Preservation Chair . . . . .	Janet Baccus
Webmaster . . . . .	Jane Irish Nelson

*All officers can be reached through their email address listed on the TPCGS web site at <http://www.tpcgs.org>*