



TPCGS NEWSLETTER

August 2011

Vol. V, No. 5

MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS SCHEDULE

- 29 Aug 2011 TPCGS Board Meeting. All members welcome. Denny's, 6th Ave. 6 p.m.
13 Sep 2011 Paul Elvig, "The Art of Mining Funeral/Crematory/Cemetery Records . . . Bates Technical College
3 Oct 2011 TPCGS Board Meeting. All members welcome. Denny's, 6th Ave. 6 p.m.
11 Oct 2011 Myra Gormley, "Land Records - Getting the Dirt on Your Ancestors Bates Technical College
24 Oct 2011 TPCGS Board Meeting. All members welcome. Denny's, 6th Ave. 6 p.m.
8 Nov 2011 Jean Fisher, " New Genealogical Resources at The Tacoma Public Library Bates Technical College

Be Sure to Include TPCGS in Your Plans

by Warren Fisk, TPCGS President

I hope you are having a great summer. Like many of our members I have been planning and doing as many outdoor family activities as I can. Summers seem to go faster and faster with each passing year. I hope you continue to enjoy this one.

And now is the time to start making plans to participate in society activities that will resume in September. Your TCGS Board Members have also been making plans, plans that include the immediate and further-in-the-future activities of the Society. Those activities include among others, setting up interesting pre- and regular meetings, designing the fair display and staffing the TPCGS Puyallup Fair booth, and planning for our 2012 Seminar.

The September pre-meeting topic will discuss the results of the recent TPCGS survey. For all of our members who completed the survey, thank you for your input. Your suggestions and ideas are now part of the planning for the future of TPCGS. The meeting will not only discuss the survey results, but provide an opportunity to voice your other ideas about what you see for the future of the TPCGS.

Topics for the regular meetings through the fall have been set. Subjects will include: Information available (or not) from a cemetery, a crematory, or a funeral home, ancestors in land records, and what's new at the TPL. Take a look at the meeting calendar and make plans to attend.

The Puyallup Fair runs from September 9th to September 25th.

As in previous years we will be staffing a booth in the Hobby Hall. This year's display will feature the genealogy of "Laura Ingalls Wilder." I understand that her genealogy will feature some interesting surprises. Our members and friends of the society will soon be receiving their invitations to help in the TPCGS booth. If you haven't participated before, you have missed an enjoyable experience.

The Seminar committee is already preparing for the TPCGS 2012 Seminar. It has been scheduled for Saturday, May 12, 2012, and again it will be held at the La Quinta Inn. Last year was the first year to have the seminar at La Quinta, and it was a great success. Like the survey mentioned above, an evaluation by the participants was requested at the end of seminar. Thanks to the great feedback from the seminar participants, the next seminar should be even more successful in 2012.

This year has been the 50th year for the society. I would like to thank all the members of the society, past and current, for your support of the Tacoma Pierce County Genealogical Society. It is through your support and participation that the society continues to be a success.

Please watch the TPCGS web site and future newsletters for more information on all of the above. Also, be sure to mark your calendars for all the activities of the society. And continue to have a great summer.

It's Fair Time! Sept. 9-25

This year's TPCGS exhibit at the Western Washington Fair, created and designed by Marge Lehmann, will focus on the family history of Laura Ingalls Wilder, author of the Little House books. The exhibit includes a map of Wilder's travels, related to her books and where the family lived, her pedigree back to Mayflower passenger, Richard Warren; a letter from Laura to her young readers, photos and other features.

Volunteers are needed to be in the TPCGS booth. Benefits for volunteers, besides just having a good sociable time talking to people about your favorite hobby, are free admission to the fair and a chance to view your favorite exhibits before or after your time at the booth. You can e-mail your preferred date(s) and time(s) to Marie Hayden at her e-mail address at:

haydenm@msn.com

Reviewing the Northwest Room's Genealogy Collection

A long-delayed project of removing out-of-date material from the genealogy collection in the Northwest Room at the Tacoma Public Library has gotten underway under the direction of Jean Fisher, librarian. The TPCGS library committee, Ellen McKanna, Judy Orlando, and Janice Weihs, is working with Jean to assess items in the collection that are out of date, have been replaced by on-line information or newer editions, or are no longer in good condition.

This project will result in a more up-to-date and focused genealogy collection and open up shelf space for new acquisitions.

WORKSHOP PRESENTED BY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

The Mary Ball Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution is offering a workshop on the application process for DAR membership. It will be held Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011, at the Fern Hill Masonic Lodge, 3736 S. Sheridan Ave., Tacoma, from 9 a.m. until noon. Members presenting information include Dorothy Hayden, Myra Gormley, and Danna Clancy, Registrar. A small materials fee will be collected at the door. Phone or email Danna Clancy at 360-753-1259 mdclancy@earthlink.net or Janice Weihs, 752-2088 vinson@harbournet.com for further details or to register.

Spring Seminar 2012

The TPCGS Seminar Committee has been meeting to lay the groundwork for next spring's genealogy seminar, "**Genealogy Meets Technology**," to be held on Saturday, May 12, 2012, at La Quinta Inn, site of last year's seminar.

Speakers will be Cyndi Ingle Howells, of *Cyndi's List*, with two new presentations and Emily D. Aulicino, from Portland, with extensive background and experience administering DNA applications in genealogy.

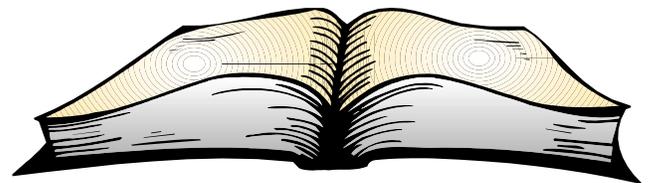
TPCGS Queries

compiled by Frank Weihs

MILLER, WALDAL--I am looking for information about my great grandfather Charles Sumner Miller. According to the 1900 Pierce Co. US Census, he was born in Ohio in April 1861, but I have little other information about him. He died in Tacoma 25 July 1904. His wife, my great grandmother, was Betty Martha Waldal, an immigrant from Valdal, Norway. Can anyone direct me to the marriage records for these two people? I believe they must have gotten married in the mid-1890's, and I am fairly sure that the wedding was in Tacoma, possibly at a Lutheran church. I appreciate any wisdom you might share with me, and I will be happy to pay for any research costs.

I have also been able to find the county clerk's birth record of my grandmother, Laura Miller Miller, whose date of birth was February 18, 1898. The birth is recorded on page 92, line 3759.

Submitted by-- **Peter Hulac, MD, 2232 Albion Street, Denver, CO 80207;**
PeterHulac@msn.com



FAMILY LINE RESEARCH

Researched and Compiled by
Gretchen Collins Campbell

Here we are – it is summer and I continue to hope for warm days and sun!! But, cloudy, rainy weather makes hanging out at the Northwest Room at the Tacoma Public library not a bad thing. I have been poking around in the obituary section and finding some “good stuff”!!

So far I have found obituaries for Otis Dean Rice, Bernard Ray Hammond, Bernard Rexford Hammond, Eileen E. Furrer, Marie Melena Landree, Garnette R. Zwieg, Lloyd B. Stone, Frederick Nance Parker, Andrew Clifton Marsh, Francis Lequire, Robert Munn, George William Burn, Preston G. Skeels, Linda J. McBroom, Peter Cochrane, Henry D. Williams, Reatha Watson, Michael D. Munn, Charles Henry Miller, Esther Ann Hunter Miller, Cora A. McGuffie, Gretchen E Sohmer, Leondard Freese, Carl Sigfred Ekberg, Walter Luff, Clara A. Luff, Dixie L. Parsons, Joseph W. Potters, Walter L. Mikkelsen and Herbert S. Cook. If any of you are researching these people, let me know and I will share the contact information.

So, as I was typing the above list I typed the name Linda J. McBroom, and then a few pages later there was another request for Linda. One person lives in Colorado, and the other lives in Eastern Washington!! That is a first!! I did contact them, and they do know about each other, but were surprised that they were after the same person.

Now for the drama of this obituary work which some think is so dull. . . . I was asked for an obituary for Michael D. Munn who died in June 1993. There were several notes from the requester that said that Michael was living with his grandparents; his mother was probably not married when he was born, and he was murdered by a friend, so there might be more than one article.

Off I went to the library to see what I could find.

“One teen is dead and another behind bars today in what authorities called a tragic mix of youths and guns.” Three teenagers went skate boarding. One teen showed another a gun and asked “what would you do if I shot Mike?” That young man stayed behind while Mike and the fellow with the gun went off behind the Mega Foods on South Hosmer. The two tussled with the loaded gun, and Michael Munn was shot in the neck by his friend. Minutes later the shooter returned and said “I shot him” and “we’d better leave.” Mike was left near the store loading dock to be discovered by the produce delivery man 20 minutes later. The 16 year old shooter was soon found and booked into Remann Hall. Mike had just completed 10th grade the previous week at Mount Tacoma High School.

The apparent motive for the shooting was the gang movie “Juice” where a teenage character named Bishop senselessly kills his best friend. It seems the shooter idolized Bishop. Friends described the shooter as a low key teenager who dyed his hair green last year and shaved it all off this year. He always had his skate board handy. He played soccer for several years and was a member of the Mt. Tahoma soccer team. Mike was described as a “skater,” dressed in baggy clothes and wore his hair long.

There was a trial and the shooter was convicted as an adult. He now lives at the State Penitentiary in Walla Walla. Michael Munn is buried at New Tacoma Cemetery. What a short life for these two teens.

There is no telling what you will find when you ask for an obituary. Hope all of you had a great summer.

TPCGS Programs

6:00 to 7:00 pm pre-meeting topic. 7:00 to 9:00 pm meeting and program

- 13 Sep 2011 Paul Elvig, retired from Evergreen Washelli Funeral Home, will talk about "The Art of Mining Funeral/Crematory/Cemetery Records . . . Bates Technical College**
Pre-meeting: Warren Fisk will lead a review and discussion of the summer survey regarding the future of TPCGS (Be sure to read the excellent summary of the survey results by Lou Lehmann on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter.)
- 11 Oct 2011 Myra Gormley, "Land Records - Getting the Dirt on Your Ancestors Bates Technical College**
Pre-meeting: Durina Taylor will lead a discussion of Military Records
- 8 Nov 2011 Jean Fisher, Librarian, Northwest Room, Tacoma Public Library, will bring us up to date on " New Genealogical Resources at The Tacoma Public Library" . . Bates Technical College**
Pre-meeting: All members are invited to "Show and Tell" of summer travels and discoveries
- 10 Jan 2012 Gary Zimmerman from the Fiske Genealogy Foundation in Seattle; topic to be announced later.**



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) Vol. 145.3 May-June 2011: Brooke CURRAN marathon woman; dress for the ages; rediscovering the stones marking Washington D.C.'s boundaries; Jill HAF-FLEY conversation starter; ever evolving Chicago; Constantino BRUMIDI fresco artist of capitol rotunda; CASWELL-MASSEY Dr. HUNTER's remedies live on; courtship in Colonial America; remembering John "Jack" JOUETT's brave ride; saving the records of JEFFERSON's county. (HF)

AROUND THE U.S.A

CA Redwood Researcher (Redwood) Vol.43.4 May 2011: Iaqua Cemetery; LOGAN family burial ground; index to Dow's Prairie precinct register; from the Arcata Union October 7, 1938 cont'd; Humboldt Co burials VALENTI-VANSICKLE; Oswald KIRRY; Josephine GOOD; MILLICAN-BABCOCK pedigree; Virginia Rose THORNTON pedigree; ANDOR-BATES pedigree; DAVIS-HOOVER pedigree. (929.1/R248R)

FL Buried Treasures (Central Florida Gen. Soc., Orlando) Vol. 42.1 Jan-Mar 2011: Celia KELLY born 1856 Roscommon County, Ireland; obit of Rachel WILSON Lincolnville, IN 1895; creating a family structure James M. and Martha (EAVES) WALLACE Rutherford County, NC; orphans of William Pryor Rutherford County, NC 1819. (929.1/B916B)

GA Family Tree Quarterly (Cobb Co. Gen. Soc., Marietta) Vol.20.1,2,3 & 4: family history of Mace Andrew Augustus MAYES of Cobb County; John WILSON of Iroquois County, IL; John HAYES letter with County Kerry Ireland postmark; George Washington BAIRD/BEARD 1845-1862. (929.1/F21FT)

ID Idaho Gen. Soc. Quarterly (Boise) Vol.54.1 spring 2011: Rick's College a centennial sketch 1888-1988; Bannock War of 1878; pedigree of Warner L. and Connie Mae TERRELL; WILSON's in Hancock County, IN; wedding event of Schuler MUNDAY and Emma SIMMONS 1885. (929.1/ID11)

KS Kansas Kin (Riley Valley Gen. Soc., Manhattan) Vol.49.2 May 2011: early settlement of Carnahan Creek area of Riley County, KS; ANTHONY pedigree; 1883 list of people living in Riley County who served in the War of the Rebellion; 1883 list of Civil War soldiers living in Riley County; conversation with Felix HEWKINS about the settlement of Fancy Creek and men from there who served in the Civil War. (929.1/K133K)

KS Topeka Gen. Soc. Quarterly Vol.41.2 April 2011: list of employees and pupils at Potawatomi Indian boarding school at Nadeau, Jackson County, KS 1900; extracts from The Topeka Daily Capital December 3-December 6 1903; extracts from The Bern Gazette December 1-December 29 1905; 1941 Hoyt High School seniors; extracts from the Topeka Daily Capital April 1-April 5 1881; 1880-1913 Shawnee County marriage license applications A-Ashford. (929.1/T621T)

MN Minnesota Genealogist (Minneapolis) Vol. 41.4 winter 2010: Italian pioneers in Goodhue County, MN; Livio LATTANZIO an Italian on the North Shore; beginning genealogy step 2 – decide what you want to learn; Wisconsin area research center at River Falls; informants, information and evidence – genealogical analysis. (929.1/M666M)

MN Minnesota Genealogist (Minneapolis) Vol. 42.1 spring 2011: search for descendants of Thomas and Rose QUINN; writing about sensitive family history issues; bringing a family photo back to life – Swedish American Adrian OSTERLUND; Earl David BELISLE airman and genealogist. (929.1/M666M)

NC Burke County Journal (Morganton) Vol. XXIX.2 May 2011: court of pleas and quarter sessions October 1841 term; HEAVNER family Bible record. (929.1/J826J)

ND Dakota Homestead Historical Newsletter (Bismarck) Vol.40.2 June 2011: pioneer histories of Mrs. August TRAVESTY, Mrs. Volner V. DRAPER, Ordella M. WADE, Mrs. Catherine A. MILLER, Mrs. Henry KIDD; life of Frederick Frances GERARD cont'd; Morton County naturalization records index cont'd JOHNSON-KEIERLEBER. (929.1/D148D)

OK Oklahoma Gen. Soc. Quarterly (Oklahoma City) Vol. 56.1 2011: family story contest 2010 first place, Family Reunions Preserve Family History; post cards written by Roy BRADSHAW WWI soldier; declarations of intent, Washita County, OK, ALBERTSEN-ZIPP; Jack COWAN first Tulsan casualty in Battle of St. Mihiel from Tulsa Daily World September 12, 1937. (929.3766/OK4O)

OR Bulletin (Gen. Forum of OR, Portland) Vol. 60.4 June 2011: German/American heritage; the MOEHNKE family; The Wife of Old Phil UPTON winner of 2011 writing contest; brief history of southeast Portland's Ford building; BISHOP name synonymous with Pendleton woolen mills; the cobbler's awl German shoemakers in New York; extracts of Multnomah County marriage register index 1911-1912. (929.1/G286B)

TX Stalkin' Kin in Old West Texas (San Angelo Gen. & Hist. Soc.) Vol. XXXVIII.3&4 May 2011: abstracted article on San Angelo from the San Angelo Standard November 5, 1887; Joe & Minnie WEBB; Jasper & Emily (MIREs) YOUNG; abstracted article on the Tom Green County display at the Dallas Exposition from the San Angelo Standard November 5 & 12 1887; discovery of the concho pearl transcribed from the San Angelo Standard November 12, 1887; GIRVIN/JUSTUS family Bible; Menard County marriage records book 2 June 1911-November 1913; Runnels County marriage records book 2 May 1910-September 1911; Tom Green County civil court docket 1922-1924; Tom Green County criminal court docket April 29 1923-April 21 1931; Tom Green County marriage records book G October 1926-May 1927. (929.1/ST18S)

WA Big Bend Register (Grant Co. Gen. Soc., Ephrata) Vol. 32.1 March 2011: 2002 Grant County obituary index cont'd; articles from Grant County Journal 1965 about 1930's Ephrata. (929.1/B48B)

WA Bulletin (Yakima Valley Gen. Soc., Yakima) Vol.43.2 June 2011: Ethbert Allan BROWN cont'd; extracted BALL Funeral Home Records; 1927 faculty of State Teachers College Moorhead, Minnesota; ABBOTT Family trip by ox team; 1915 Sunnyside High School; 1881-1885 Klickitat County School District. (929.1/Y11Y)

WA Pioneer Branches (Northeast WA Gen. Soc., Colville) Vol. XXVI.3 April 2011: 1866 diary of Caroline LEIGHTON through W.T.; 1945 plat map index of Stevens County cont'd; Arden part 3; 1911 letter from Aladdin; Grand Coulee Dam project fatalities 1933-1977; WWII Army and Air Forces casualties of northeast WA. (929.1/P661P)

WA Pioneer Branches (Northeast WA Gen. Soc., Colville) Vol. XXVI.4 July 2011: traveling with Caroline in W.T. 1866 part 2; 1945 plat map index of Stevens County cont'd; Arden part 4. (929.1/P661P)

WA The Sounder (Sno-Isle Gen. Soc., Lynnwood) Vol.25.1 first quarter 2011: Big Four Inn guest register 1926-27; WWI draft registrants from Edmonds Precinct; Mukilteo powder plant explodes September 19, 1930 from Edmonds Tribune-Review; women's clubs cont'd from History of Snohomish County, WA; records of service men cont'd Snohomish County in the War; obits from The Everett Daily Herald for October 1913; Jennie KLEMP identified as mystery woman in Mukilteo photo. (929.1/SO83S)

MEMBERSHIP VIEWS ABOUT THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF TPCGS

To clarify desired direction for the future of TPCGS, Pat Wood and Elaine Workman designed a survey questionnaire which was e-mailed to all members on the society's e-mail list. Initially twelve members responded. But a second e-mailing elicited 24 more responses for a total of thirty-six. The results have been tabulated and presented herein. Occasional paraphrasing was needed for clarity, and it was not always possible to include all details, comments and suggestions which sometimes have been necessarily condensed or combined. Hopefully the following information will nevertheless be helpful to the society as it continues the process of clarifying its vision for the future and taking appropriate steps toward achievement of that vision.

PRE-MEETINGS: Soliciting ideas to make pre-meetings interesting and helpful yielded twenty-eight responses from members, five of whom had not attended any pre-meetings. Of the 23 who did attend, four made specific suggestions and three expressed concerns, with none of the seven clearly indicating a like or dislike of the pre-meetings. One of the concerns was that the *speaker was hard to hear for those at the back*, a concern also expressed by one of the remaining 16 members who enthusiastically endorsed the present approach to the pre-meetings. Another concern was expressed by a member of Native American descent who finds little for her interests. The third concern included a suggestion that TPCGS *consider a different room arrangement to allow for greeting those coming into the meeting/needing to network without interrupting those trying to listen to the presentation*. The four members with suggestions for pre-meetings advised (1) *Subjects should be targeted to a special interest, i.e. Irish genealogy;* (2) *How to find records at county offices;* (3) *Brickwall problems, writing your family history, ask an expert;* (4) *Alternate interactive discussions with labs in which (a) members could get help with software problems - and/or (b) willing members with access to interesting subscription web sites could let audience members explore the website for info about their ancestors.*

GENERAL MEETINGS: Twenty-two responded, one of which did not attend any meeting. Twelve liked the meetings. One was disappointed that some programs were not what she expected. The remaining eight made the following suggestions without expressing clear like or dislike: (1) *Should be an informative and instructional speech specifically about genealogy;* (2) *More attention to introductions and background of speaker, all speakers to use the microphone including committee reports;* (3) *How to use technology and gadgets, usefulness to family history etc;* (4) *A bit overloaded with two different topics each meeting..... Perhaps pre-meeting could be shorter and a lead-in to main speaker;* (5) *Sorting out what is on the internet – especially free stuff, 'migration paths' from any country;* (6) *Advance advertisement, back-up plan, new directions in genealogy, promote ethnic interest genealogy, Tacoma Library holdings, limitations, and directions ,*

DO YOU ATTEND? Thirty-one responded to question, "Do you usually attend monthly meetings?" Nine said they did. Two indicated that they rarely attended, one because of snowbird status. Two attend selectively. Eighteen indicated that they have not usually attended, four without any explanation. Seven of these were: *don't like to drive after dark* (two also thought *area is unsafe* and one is

from Olympia). Three of those seven indicated *a wish for someone to go with or transportation assistance*. Three of the eighteen not usually attending said that *age or illness issues precluded attendance*, but two of these expressed hope of attending in future. One respondent forgets the meeting. Two of the eighteen not attending reported *schedule conflicts* (One hoped to attend in future and the other wished for an occasional different meeting day). One of the eighteen lives in California.

NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL OR SNAIL MAIL? Thirty-one responded to question about Newsletter via e-mail and willingness to pay extra for paper copy via snail mail. Twenty-one liked the e-mail idea. One was satisfied either way. Eight indicated they would pay extra for a paper copy, but three of these indicated that they could be open to e-mail (One wanted to be sure her e-mail would be private; another seemed open to e-mail but willing to pay for hard copy if she needed one, and the third said she would pay for the paper copy or print out desired pages from e-mail.) One person said it would depend on cost. Nobody clearly objected to paying extra for paper copy.

ATTRACTING THE UNDER-50 GENERATION: Twenty-five responded to the question about how to attract the under 50 generation. Seven didn't think we could attract them. Two of those suggested *focusing on newly-retired 60s, through outreach to senior centers and condo associations and more attention to welcoming guests at meetings*. Other suggestions: (1) *Teach beginning genealogy;* (2) *Post flyers in libraries, community college bulletin boards;* (3) *Host a "genealogy café;"* (4) *E-mail Newsletter to likely interested people;* (5) *Advertise in library newsletter;* (6) *Interview by K Merryman at News Tribune;* (7) *Distribute business cards;* (8) *Advertise in flyers free genealogical tutoring - with newspaper article about the offering;* (9) *Exchange ideas on motivating one's own younger family members;* (10) *Facebook - post photos, highlights from upcoming Newsletter or Researcher;* (11) *Monthly column in News Tribune with interesting genealogy story;* (12) *Members invite interested people to meetings;* (13) *Consider different place &/or time for meetings;* (14) *Bring friend to meeting - prize for member bringing most - or small welcoming gifts for guests;* (15) *Free outreach to another group with info about genealogy;* (16) *Ask younger family members what attracts them - run some focus groups;* (17) *Arrange for presentations to school classes.*

IDEAS FOR ADVERTISING: Similarly, eighteen responded to invitation for advertising ideas, repeating many of the suggestions for attracting the under 50 generation. Additional suggestions included advertising in (1) *Senior Scene, Tacoma Weekly; Peninsula Gateway;* (2) *Facebook, and twitter;* (3) *News Tribune, especially the "GO" section;* (4) *Free on-line newspapers - e.g. Suburban Times, Patch.com, UniversityPlace.Patch.com;* (5) *Radio stations* (6) *Personal invitations via e-mail and phone to members to attend meetings;* *In response to a related question, all but one of 25 respondents agreed that TPCGS should be advertised in cafes, coffee houses, college campuses, community centers, church bulletins, community newsletters, and public libraries. Suggestions:* (1) *Have members go and speak ;* (2) *Leave material at funeral*

homes ; (3) A table at the University of Puget Sound, Women's League Flea Market; (4) One person should handle all advertising for the Society, from regular meetings to the yearly Seminar. It is already a budgeted item, but needs to be funded; (5) Should be targeted, otherwise it is a waste of time and money. Must have a specific plan and team of members to carry it out. Carrying this out will require several persons and coordination; (6) Many supermarkets have an information board; (7) Something like the Senior newsletter in Puyallup; (7) Retirement homes; (8) Family History Center; (9) Combine with distribution of business cards

FACEBOOK: Fourteen said they used Facebook, half on a limited basis, and two with reservations about privacy. Twelve said they don't use it.

HELP WITH COMPUTERS, SOFTWARE, AND INTERNET: All twenty-four respondents reacted favorably to one or more aspects of offering more assistance to members wishing to learn more about use of computers, software, and the Internet. Suggestions: (1) Combine idea with "Genealogy Café;" (2) "Mr. Gen-Tech" Newsletter column on these topics; (3) Comparisons, compatibility, and "hands on" practice with different software; (4) Using gedcoms; (5) Pairing members seeking one-on-one help with those who can offer it; (6) Internet searching and updated sites

HELP WITH SPECIAL RESEARCH PROBLEMS: Nineteen of 21 respondents liked the idea of offering intermediate researchers more help with specialized research problems. Suggestions: (1) Promote and publish list of "experts" via website, Newsletter, meetings; (2) At meetings, have table to connect a researcher with another who has same special research interest; (3) Offer help on how to use NARA in Seattle and LDS libraries locally; (4) Offer help on how to use websites not in English; (5) Organizing in advance plan some meetings during which members can be divided into groups researching special problems or researching in different states. Volunteers could be solicited to lead the different research groups; (6) Send a special gift (Aplets, Cotlets, souvenir) to sources cooperating with research requests; (7) Offer research information about Scots from lower Scotland that migrated to Northern Ireland in the early 1600s

FAMILY HISTORY AND CONTACTING FAMILY ABROAD: All but one of 23 respondents liked the idea of offering such topics as: how to write your family history with flavor, how to locate and contact family members living abroad. Suggestions: (1) Combine this idea with the "Genealogy Café" idea.; (2) Offer such topics through free webinars for members - but it might be expensive to do so.; (3) Include writing one's own history; (4) Offer guidance on formatting a book; (5) Writing a family or individual history may be best presented over more than one meeting; (5) How to - or whether to - deal with difficult subjects in a family history, topics that were a generation or two ago totally taboo: alcoholism, gambling, homosexuality, divorce, children conceived outside of marriage, etc. When, after considerable digging, we discover the truth, we want to share it with our family. Are there guidelines for

whether, when, how? This could be a panel discussion, as there's probably no one answer that satisfies everyone.

NEWSLETTER ON WEBSITE "MEMBERS ONLY?"

Responses were mixed to the idea that the Newsletter could be made available on the TPCGS web site within a "members only" section. Eleven liked the idea. Five opposed it. The remaining seven were unsure, neutral, or had mixed feelings about it. Comments: (1) No matter how it goes out, someone has to notify members that it is "now" available; (2) What would be in the Newsletter that is not already available on the TPCGS website and that would make it worth locking up with a password? The Newsletter is an advertising tool. If a potential member visits the website and reads the Newsletter, that may encourage him / her to come to meetings and join; (3) I believe the Newsletter should be e-mailed to each member's address. If we wish to encourage membership and interest in genealogy, why would we want to be exclusive and not make it available to non-members who access our website? (4) Personally, I'm not as fond of this idea. It might be better to have the newsletter actively distributed rather than passively kept under lock and key. Unless this would be in addition to distribution? (5) I'm not sure what to do here. It is the communication device for the society and helps assure monthly attendance to meetings as well as interest in supporting the society.

MEMBER PROFILES IN NEWSLETTER:

Eighteen of 22 respondents liked the idea of the Newsletter including short but personal profiles on different members, relating length in society, research successes, society contributions and what they appreciate about the society. One dissenter questioned how this would further one's own research. However the following comments from three of the proponents suggested that such profiles might be structured to offer research assistance: (1) The profiles could include what these members can offer to others in the way of specific skills in research, areas of expertise, etc. Have email addresses available for others to contact them on these areas. This would fit in nicely with the "genealogy café" concept, but wouldn't entail, necessarily, meeting at a certain time and place; (2) And maybe their areas of expertise where they're willing to consult with others who need help? ; (3) I'd like to know what subjects genealogy members have experience and whether they are available for short term mentoring or simply a chat. The experiences of others can be a big help. When I attend a meeting, being new, I have no idea who might be someone I can approach to discuss or ask specific questions of.

NEWSLETTER REVIEW OF SPEAKER: Twenty-two of 24 respondents liked the idea of the Newsletter including a review about the speaker at the last meeting, including links to their personal web sites or to sites they discussed in the meeting. Six commented that it would be helpful to those unable to attend. One noted that it would eliminate need to take notes. Of the two not endorsing the idea, one suggested Facebook instead and the other suggested that the speaker be reviewed at the Board meeting.

NEWSLETTER REPORT OF BOARD MEETING:

All but one of 22 respondents favored the idea of the Newsletter

reporting what was discussed at the last board meeting. However five advised that the report be brief, including only important matters. One of these suggested that it include financial matters and status of key projects. One respondent recommended including committee reports in the Newsletter instead of at meetings.

BUSINESS CARDS: Twenty responded to the idea TPCGS should distribute business cards with our logo, name, web site, and dates of meetings. Give a dozen to every member. Include cards in membership packets. Pass them out at meetings with the instruction to "become an ambassador for the organization." Eighteen liked this idea. Two recommended distributing cards at the Puyallup Fair. Another advised that we make sure these cards have visual impact and suggested that we also consider a bookmark with more "real estate" for information and graphics.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

(1) Cut down the cliques, and extend ourselves and our enthusiasm to any new member or visitor. Make a definite attempt to get acquainted. Find out what they know or what they want to know. (2) At each meeting, highlight a new member by sharing the interests of the new member with the "group." (3) Have workable projects of 6-12 months duration with a format in which newcomers and current members can interact. Projects should be apart from normal routines of meetings, important to the Tacoma-Pierce County communities, and led by a current member with others enlisting as long a substantial number of newcomers were included. Examples: Pick a cemetery and document the head stones with pictures and/or offer to clean moss from grave stones. Include ample number of new members in preparing, executing, and manning the Puyallup Fair Project and the spring seminar. Active involvement gives some "ownership" to those involved and brings the membership closer together (4) To get and keep members more involved, we should be doing much more of the very thing being done with this survey for other TPCGS matters, using the special mailbox set up along with members' e-mail addresses (Yes, they need to be periodically updated and I know that will mean phone calls). (5) TPCGS could work more closely with the Family History Center in all areas. If we are ever willing to sacrifice our caffeine addiction, their facility might well be available to us for our meetings. A larger space could be available at no cost to us and that it may well be wired for Internet access. But whether or not we ever want to explore that possibility, there are probably many other ways in which we could better work together. (6) Provide a better public address system for more clarity in any comments to those attending. (7) The results of this survey should be used to create a follow-up or future survey to benefit the Society.

—Compiled by Lou Lehmann

Please bring this survey summary to the September 13 meeting, as sort of a text book for the discussion on the future direction of the Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society, scheduled for the pre-meeting.

Important Information from the LDS Family History Center.

Starting July 27, genealogy researchers need to order all LDS microfilm and microfiche for themselves online and pay for it by way of credit or debit card or PayPal, as no payment will be accepted at the Family History Center. The site from which to order is <https://familysearch.org/films>

To access the Online Microfilm Ordering site, individuals will have to be signed up with a Family Search account or an LDS account, which they can do by accessing <https://ident.familysearch.org/cis-web/pages/registration/registration.html>

Once registered, patrons can order films on any computer wired to the internet. This means films can be ordered from a home computer, as well as the computers at the FHC. An email address is required, as patrons are notified by email when their film has been received at the FHC.

Read "Ordering Help" on the website for further information, or visit a local FHC.

Genealogy classes at the Library

Do you have friends are Interested in genealogy, but they don't know where to start? Encourage them to sign up for a free class that will introduce them to the tools needed to start finding their roots. They will learn the basic steps for gathering family stories, finding and using key resources, and organizing research. They will also learn about the many genealogy resources available at the Tacoma Public Library.

The Library's genealogy classes are very popular and fill up quickly. **Space is limited and advance registration is required.** Register by telephoning the library at (253) 591-5666.

Introduction to Genealogy classes are offered on Tuesdays from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning on Oct. 4, 2011., with the class repeated on Nov. 29, 2011; Jan. 10, 2012; Feb. 7, 2012, and Mar. 13, 2012.

Later in the year a class on **On-Line Genealogy** will be offered. This hands-on library workshop will introduce participants to *Ancestry Library Edition*, *HeritageQuest*, and useful web sites available on the Internet for genealogical research. Basic keyboard and mouse skills required.

The class will be offered Tuesdays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the computer classroom at the main library starting in December. See the Tacoma Public Library web site for further details: <http://www.tpl.lib.wa.us/>

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If your address label is printed in red, that means we don't have an email address for you. If you have an email address, please send it along to Elaine Workman so that she can add it to the Member Email Contact List. Write to Elaine directly at:

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