



Lewis County Genealogical Society

PO Box 782

Chehalis WA 98532

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~walcgs/>

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Mar/Apr 2005

Events/Meetings/Seminars

Mar. 15th LCGS Meeting 7pm
The speaker will be Lanny Weaver, Assistant Southwest Regional Archivist will present a program "Researching in the Southwest Regional Archives" with a focus on finding records for your female ancestors. MARCH is Women's History Month.

Mar. 19th Spring Seminar
Seattle Genealogical Society will be having their Spring 2005 Seminar Saturday, March 19th from 8-4:30. Roger P. Minert, PH.D., A.G. is the guest speaker. The program features four presentations on German research. For more information: 206-522-8658.

Apr. 19th LCGS Meeting 7pm
The speaker will be Linda Patton with a program on "Civil War Research".

Apr. 22-23rd WA State
Washington State Genealogy Society Conference and Annual Meeting is being hosted by Yakima Valley Genealogy Society. Featuring Gordon L. Remington, specializing in New York research. Conference e-mail: 2005_Conference@nwinfo.net

May 13th CA Genealogical Society
Southern California Genealogical Society presents: Jana Sloan Broglin. The seminar topic is "A boy named Sue".

May 17th LCGS Meeting 7pm
The speaker will be Jenny Tenlen, Lewis County, Washington US GenWeb site coordinator. Program to be announced.

Jul. 16th Summer Quest 2005
Westward Migration by Donna Potter Phillips & Lethene Parks. Heritage Quest Research Library will be hosting the summer seminar. For more information go to www.hqrl.com

Indentures

Many apprentices were 'indentured'. An indenture is a contract between the person agreeing to train the apprentice and the apprentice, or his parent or legal guardian. The indenture was often a written contract, although probably as often, it was just an oral agreement sealed with a handshake. Generally, the blacksmith would agree to "teach the art and mystery" of blacksmithing to the apprentice, provide his room and board, and pay a determined stipend. The apprentice, or his legal guardian, would agree that the boy would work for the blacksmith for a determined period not only including his apprenticeship term but perhaps several years beyond that. These indenture agreements are not much different in style and substance than modern employment contracts.

In some cases, indentured apprentices will appear in the old census listings as if they were members of the blacksmith's household. But they will appear as "apprentice", not as family member.

If a boy was orphaned, or if the family was too poor to support their boy(s), then indenturing the boy(s) was an accepted practice. Thus, the boy could have been indentured while still an infant and his term of indenture might have lasted until age 20 or later.

Storage Tips for Digital Photos

1) **Choose your file type.** The best file type for scanning and saving archival photos is TIF (Tagged Image Format), the undisputed leader when best quality is required. The popular JPG (JPEG) file format is nice because its compression algorithm creates smaller file sizes - making it the most popular photo format for Web pages and file sharing - but the compression which creates the small files also causes some quality loss. This loss of image quality is small, but becomes important when dealing with digital images that you plan to modify and resave (something that you are likely to do when restoring damaged or faded photographs) because the loss of image quality compounds itself at each saving of the file.

2) **Save an archive copy** of the original photo in TIF format and place it in a special folder on your hard drive or copy to CD or other digital medium. Resist the urge to edit this original photo, no matter how bad it looks. The purpose of this copy is to preserve, as closely as possible, the original photograph in a digital format - a format that, hopefully, will outlast the original print photo.



3) **Make a copy** of your scanned photo to work on, rather than manipulating your original scan. Save it with a different filename to help prevent you from accidentally overwriting the original as you work on editing the photo.

Choosing a Graphics Software Program

The key to good digital photos is selecting a good graphics software program. For photo restoration, a mid-range graphics software program offers the best balance of function and price.

Research Library Update

Our LCGS Research Library move has been completed and we are now located in the Lewis County Historical Museum at 599 Front Way, Chehalis. LCGS members may access our library by showing their current membership card. For research in the LCHM library, a donation is taken at the door. Should our patrons need assistance, we ask that you leave your name and phone number or contact one of the officers listed. The LCHM Library will provide copies at their current copy cost. We have a PC donated by Craig Steepy and would like to begin extracting statistics from the older newspapers stored upstairs. Jeff Moon has been researching software needed to accomplish this. Ideally, we need a word processing program and spreadsheet program compatible to other pc's. We need volunteers to host our library and the museum library on the weekend. Volunteers are asked to host at least one Saturday or Sunday a month. Margie Lloyd is coordinating the host list. Please call her at 736-5960 to sign up. Hours on Saturday are 9 am-5 pm and on Sunday 1-5 pm. Those interested must first attend an orientation meeting with Karen Johnson, Assistant Director of the museum. Please volunteer a few hours of your time so that we can have someone at the library every weekend. Thank you Paul Johnson for building the wonderful book cases for our library.

Save Our History

<http://www.historychannel.com/classroom/save/soh.html>

This History Channel initiative promotes history education and historic preservation.

King County Snapshots

<http://content.lib.washington.edu/imls/kcsnapshots/index.html>

Enjoy a photographic heritage of Seattle and surrounding communities.

What Did You Do in the War, Grandma?

http://www.stg.brown.edu/projects/WWII_Women/tocCS.html

Enhancement Tips for Digital Photos

1) **Colorization** - Have you ever wondered how your 19th century great, great-grandfather may have looked in color? Or perhaps you want to see how that old black & white photo would look with a few touches of color - a pink bow here and a blue dress there. If your photo-editor is fairly full-featured, it's easy to find out!

- Begin with a black & white photo.
- Using a selection tool (lasso), select an area of the image that you wish to add color to.
- The Magic Wand can also be used for this step, but requires a bit of technical knowledge and practice to use with black & white photos.
- Once the area is selected, go to the tint or color-balance controls and alter the color level values. Experiment until you get the desired effect.
- Repeat these steps for each area of the picture you wish to colorize.

Digital Photo Tips & Techniques

2) **Adding Captions** - If you've spent any time going through an ancestor's collection of largely unlabeled photos, you'll understand why I say that you owe it to your descendants (and other relatives) to properly label all of your digital photos. Many photo-editors offer a "caption" option which allows you to actually "embed" a caption within the header of JPEG or TIFF format files (known as the ITPC standard), allowing it to be transferred directly with the picture, and be read by the majority of graphics software programs. Other photo info that can be embedded with this method includes keywords, copyright info, and URL data. Most of this info, with the exception of the caption in some photo software, is not displayed with the photo, but is stored with the photo and can be accessed under the photo's properties by almost any user. If your photo editing software supports this feature, it can usually be found under "Add Caption" or "File -> Info." Check your help file for details.

3) **Creating Vignettes** - Many old photos have soft-edged borders, called vignettes. If your photos don't, it's an easy effect to add. The classic vignette shape is an oval, but you can get creative and use other shapes such as rectangles, hearts, and stars. Or you can create a free-hand vignette, following the irregular outline of the subject - as in a portrait.

- Select an image with plenty of background around the subject. You need this to allow room for effective fading.
- Use the selection tool in the shape of your choice (rectangular, oval, etc.), adding the "feather" option to feather the edges of your selection by 20 to 40 pixels (experiment to find the amount of fading which looks best for your photo). Then drag out the selection until you encompass the area you want to start the blend. The line at the edge of your selection will eventually be at the midway point of your faded edges (in other words, pixels on both sides of the line you've created will be "feathered"). You can also use the lasso selection tool if you wish to create an irregular border.
- Under the selection menu choose "Invert." This will move the selected area to the background (the part you wish to remove). Then select "delete" to cut this remaining background from the picture.

Some photo-editing programs offer an easy one-click option for adding vignette borders, as well as other fancy frames and borders.

Census Extraction Forms – US 1790-1920

These free forms allow you to easily record census information from microfilm or online images or check at a glance to see what information is contained in each column. Forms are available from 1790 to 1920.

<http://censustools.com/>

Make Genealogy a Family Affair

by Mary Dixon Lebeau

One way to make history come alive for your children is to introduce them to genealogy. When children learn about their personal history, they're able to relate it to the history they learn in class. They also become aware of different cultures while gaining pride in their heritage.

Bring the story to life – Just like in kindergarten, it's better to show than tell. Let your children touch old family documents, heirlooms and other souvenirs from the past.

Get the scoop – Every reporter knows the best way to get the inside scoop is to go right to the source. In the case of family history, who better to tell the tale than grandparents and other older relatives? Help your child create a list of questions, arm him with a tape recorder or video camera, and let the stories flow. Your child will have the opportunity to bond with an older relative, as well as create a permanent record of the family's past.

Special delivery – A great way to learn about our ancestors – and see them as real people – is to read old correspondence. Be it an old announcement, love note or thank you card, letters have a way of engaging the reader, even generations after they were written.

Everybody is a star – The member of your family are the stars of your family tree, so treat them as such. Encourage your kids to collect autographs, messages and instant photos at family events such as weddings, christenings, or reunions. Then your child can refer to the photo and put a face on the "featured characters" in the family history. By connection with their ancestors, children become more aware of themselves, their place in the family – and in the future as well. *Reprinted from The Family Tree Searcher, Grays Harbor Genealogical Society, Jan-Feb 2005.*

Tip: One at a Time

This tip comes from **Leah Schweitzer**:

"When interviewing family members for an oral family history, it is advisable to speak with them separately. There is no right or wrong version of an individual's experience, but when interviewed together, husband and wife, siblings and grandparents can begin to take up a lot of time arguing about whose version is 'correct.'"

Reprinted from Family Tree Magazine Email Update 8/02



Create your own family tree from Disney's - The Tigger Movie

<http://disney.go.com/disneyvideos/animatedfilms/tiggermovie/familytree.html>

Genealogy tip of the day sent to your e-mail box free. Sign up here:

<http://genealogy.about.com/library/bltipoftheday.htm>

French Genealogy & Research Links

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

Native American Genealogy

<http://www.nativeamericanheritage.com/>

Researching Mental Records

No lineage is without some ancestors or relatives with unusual behavior, mild or severe.

<http://www.genealogytoday.com/roots/xweb.my?xc=Display&xo=rescms&xn=-1&xr=543&xz=>

Top Ten Events in Canadian Genealogy

A number of websites came online, and those already online expanded their databases and holdings.

<http://www.genealogytoday.com/roots/xweb.my?xc=Display&xo=rescms&xn=-1&xr=499&xz=news.html>

Membership Dues

Lewis County Genealogical Society membership runs January through December. Cost for one person is \$12 and for a couple in the same household is \$15. Membership includes a bimonthly newsletter. We meet January-June, September-November at the Lewis County PUD Building meeting room, 321 NW Pacific Ave, Chehalis WA, on the third Tuesday evening of the months listed. Research trips are planned periodically. Please return the membership form to: LEWIS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, PO BOX 782 CHEHALIS WA 98532-0782.

My/Our membership should read:

Name & Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Preference to have newsletter by **email** (attachment), or **standard postal mail**? _____

_____ Check for \$12 enclosed for 2005 membership

_____ Check for \$15 enclosed for 2005 membership

Permission to print member information in the newsletter? ___yes ___no

Please list surnames and states being researched: _____

Queries can be submitted for the newsletter.

FALL SEMINAR

Co-sponsored by Lewis County Genealogical Society and Lewis County Historical Museum, Chehalis, Washington.

“A DAY WITH KEN AITKEN” Ken is a popular genealogy speaker and educator from Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, with over 20 years experience in genealogical education. He is a member of the Genealogical speakers Guild and the Association of Professional Genealogists, and is on the faculty of the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. Ken has published articles in genealogical journals across the U.S., Canada, England and Australia. He has given workshops and seminars around the world. Four of the five following topics for the day will be “Overcoming the Curse of Floating Bits of Paper”, Tracing Immigrants to America in Canadian Ships Passengers Lists”, “Geographic Tools for English Family History Research”, “U.S. City & County Directories as a Source of Family History” or “Family Reconstitution-A Useful Approach for Problem Solving. Date is September 24, 2005 at the Bethel Church, 132 Kirkland Road, Chehalis. Flyers will be out soon. Contact registrar, Karen Johnson at 360-748-0831.

Tip: Delivering Advice

From Sally Gill:



It can be difficult to locate people or places small towns that may not have maps. Stop by the local post office—small-town postmasters often know everyone in the area and can be of help. Recently, I was searching for an old cemetery in a small Arkansas town, and I asked the local letter carrier where it was located. She gave me directions in just a couple of minutes, since she was familiar with the area. *Reprinted from Family Tree Magazine Email Update 3/05*

Flames Strike East Pierce County Genealogical Library 3-2-2005

A fire that destroyed a Sumner restaurant, next door to the location of East Pierce County Genealogical Library, was arson. There was smoke and water damage to the extensive library collection. Our thoughts go out to East Pierce County Genealogical Society.



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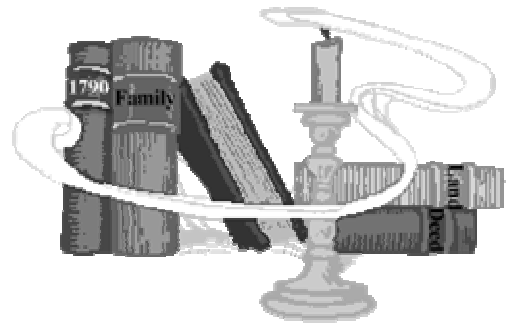
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