



Eastside Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 374,

Bellevue, Wa. 98009

March 13, 1986

T H E B U L L E T I N B O A R D

Our speaker tonight is Judith Allison Walters. She will talk about making copies of old photographs and documents and how to preserve them.

We are still not sure who our April speaker will be.

Our May speaker will be Peggy Jenks who will talk about "Tombstone Symbols in New England 1660-1800".

Richard Gates is compiling a file on members surnames. You may be lucky and discover a relative among our members. In order to make this file as valuable as possible to our members he is asking that each name be put on a separate 3 x 5 card. Following is the form he would like you to use:

Martin, Robert Dewey
Born: July 20, 1898
Where: Colfax, Washington
Married: September 13, 1920
Where: Spokane, Washington
Who: Emily Ellen Mary Hubenthal
Died: January 23, 1984
Where: Spokane, Washington
Burial: Marshall Cemetery
Where: Marshall, Washington

Your name

Phone

From talking to those who went to Salt Lake City it seems the only thing wrong with the trip was that there was not enough time to do everything. Nancy Consolo said that when she was ready to leave there was still a book (about 200 pages) and 9 maps she had not copied. She mentioned this to the librarian. The librarian had the book and the maps copied for her, mailed it all to her and charged her just 5¢ a page, no charge for the work or for the postage! Subject to copy-right restrictions, they will copy any book or part thereof.

If you have any questions to ask about this please refer them to the LDS Branch Library.

Jan Pankratz received a letter from the Smithsonian Institution concerning a book that you might be interested in. Following is copied from the letter. The book Family Folklore has now been expanded into a full-length book entitled A Celebration of American Family Folklore: Tales and Traditions from the Smithsonian Collection.

There are chapters on home photography as a significant form of folklore, other ways of preserving the past and five essays by folklorists who explore the ways in which various traditions have evolved in their own families. The book is illustrated throughout with 140 family photos selected from the Smithsonian archives.

For those who wish to collect this material in their own families, the book also features an in-depth guide to collecting and sample questions, which the editors have found to be effective in their own interviews at the Smithsonian's Festival of American Folklife. An extensive bibliography is also included at the end of this 292-page book.

The book may be obtained by writing to Random House, 400 Hahn Road, Westminister, Maryland, 21157, or calling toll-free 1-800-638-6460. The price for a paperback is \$9.95 plus \$1.50 for postage and handling.

Nancy Consolo has a large collection of books on the Isle of Man and on Kosciusko County, Indiana. She would be very happy to share the information in these books with others.

Nancy also has some office furniture for sale. For more information about this call her at 333-4245.

Do you subscribe to any genealogical publications? If so, would you please give me, Betty Pfeiffer, the name of the publication and what issues you have so we can add that information to our Home Library File.

Genealogy today is big business. Countless firms and individuals are in the field of offering you aids in your research. Much of it is very worthwhile. Some of it is of

marginable value. Unfortunately much of it is a waste of time and money or an out and out fraud.

No doubt you have received a letter from Beatrice Bayley or Sharon L. Taylor. These two would have to be put in the marginal category. They offer you books about "The Amazing Story of the _____ Family". The books are very attractive. Billie has a copy of a Beatrice Bayley book that you might like to look at. The implication is that the book has been researched especially for you. The list of names in the book is taken from phonebooks. Your own name may not even be included. They do no personal research whatsoever.

Hiring a genealogist is a risky business. Be wary if you are asked to send money in advance. Do all you can to check on the person before you ask that person to take on an assignment. Some members of our club have had the experience of giving money to someone they thought was reliable only to receive nothing in return.

There are many very reliable booksellers. I have ordered many books through the mail and have always received all I could expect. Others have not been so lucky. They have sent money and heard nothing more.

We all know of the numerous firms that will send you your family crest on anything from a glass to a piece of needlework. The crest they send you may at one time have belonged to someone with your name but there is nothing to indicate that crest is yours. Very few of us today are entitled to use a crest even though an ancestor a number of generations back may have had it. Personally I think it would be a little tacky to use a crest to which I am not entitled.

Travel agents are now offering invitations to "official family reunions" in Europe. The Seattle Times Troubleshooter offered a warning about this come-on in the paper on Sunday, January 19th. You may be lucky to find yourself traveling with someone else with your name but certainly there will not be a family reunion and don't expect to meet any long lost relatives.

Even the good old chain letter has turned up among genealogists. These chain letters are just as illegal and as much of a fraud as any other chain letter.

Just because an ad appears in a respected publication such as the Genealogical Helper is no guarantee that the person placing the ad is to be trusted. These publications just cannot check the integrity of everyone who places ads.

I know of no way you can guard against at some time being taken. Just remember that genealogy is very time-consuming. If you pay to have it done it will be very expensive. Just do all you can to protect yourself and don't be too surprised if at some time you fall victim to one of the unscrupulous persons who is always looking for an easy way to make money.

If you do have an unpleasant experience please let the others in the club know about it so others won't fall victim to the same person.

BEAUTITUDES OF A FAMILY GENEALOGIST

Blessed are the great-grandfathers
Who saved embarkation and citizenship papers,
For they tell when they came.

Blessed are the great-grandmothers
Who hoarded newspaper clippings and old letters
For they tell the story of their lives.

Blessed are the grandfathers
Who filed every legal document,
For these provide the proof.

Blessed are the grandmothers
Who preserved family Bibles and diaries,
For these are our heritage.

Blessed are fathers
Who elect officials that answer letters of inquiry,
For, to some, that is the only link to the past.

Blessed are mothers
Who relate family traditions and legends to the family,
For one of her children will surely remember.

Blessed are relatives
Who fill in family sheets with extra data
For to them we owe our family history.

Blessed is any family whose members strive
for preservation of records
For their is a labor of love.

Blessed are the children
Who will never say,
"Grandma, you have told that story twice today."