



## Eastside Genealogical Society

# Bulletin Board

Volume VIII  
No.6

November  
1991

General Membership  
Meeting:

November 14, 1991, 7:30pm  
(7:00pm Beginners, Supplies & Library Table open)  
Bellevue Public Library, 11501 Main St., Bellevue, WA

Program:

Panel of EGS Special Interest Participants  
Lois Jackson, Special Interest Group Coordinator

Topic:

Activities & Successes of Special Interest Groups

### President's Message

Last week I had the opportunity to visit a distant cousin whom I first met about three years ago. I had obtained his name from an aunt after she attended the funeral of another cousin (Barbee) about thirteen years ago. This distant cousin had been doing genealogy research for a number of years on the Barbee family line and had traced them back to the 1600's in Virginia. While visiting him last week, I learned that many of the Barbee "slaves" had assumed the Barbee name. Today, in Kansas City, there are large number of Barbees that are African-American. He continues to gather a lot of additional family information on the family which he shared with me. This visit reinforced the feelings I have had a number of times, which is: finding distant relatives can many times produce much more family history than research. I would encourage EGS members to write to relatives in pursuit of identifying the much larger group of unknown relatives, many of whom have valuable info. on your family.

### Ride Sharing

Do you have trouble getting to the EGS general membership meetings? At the last meeting, Mary Sangalang asked for volunteers interested in helping provide transportation to those persons who trouble driving to the meetings. She passed around the proverbial clipboard and there were several people who have expressed an interest in assisting. Call Mary at 883-1245 if you need this assistance or are willing to help.

### About This Month's Program

The program this month will consist of a group of seven representatives of the EGS Special Interest Groups and the Special Interest Group Coordinator, Lois Jackson. Each representative from the active interest groups of EGS will each give a brief summary of the programs of their particular group. They will relate their various field trips, speakers and activities. Some members have taken trips to their areas of interest to visit and engage in research where their ancestors lived. Some of these members may describe their experiences. After all representatives have spoken, there will be a question and answer session.

### New Members

*Please Welcome the last two months New Members:*

Shirley Olson, Kirkland  
Maryellen Kauffman, Medina  
Charles Dorian, Issaquah  
Willisa Dow, Issaquah  
Kenneth Ray Dean, Redmond  
Doris Dunavant, Bellevue  
Ann Miller, Bellevue  
Sarah Fleming Munkasey, Issaquah  
Raymond & Doris French, Bellevue  
Robert Wright, Bellevue

## Calendar of Events

- 1 Nov. EGS German Interest Group 1:30pm-3:30pm  
Lake Hills Library
- 2 Nov. EGS Fall Workshop at St. Andrew's Luth.  
Church  
2650 148th SE, Bellevue (just N. of LDS temple)  
See flyer in this newsletter for details
- 2 Nov. Genea "O" Rama Annual Family History Fair  
Presented by South King Cty. Gen. Soc.
- 4 Nov. EGS By Laws Review Committee Mtg., 7:00pm  
Call Melissa Clausen for location (451-9613)
- 9 Nov. EGS Mid-Atlantic/Southern Interest Group  
10am-Noon, Newport Way Library (This is an  
important  
meeting. Ya'll come!)
- 9 Nov. Roots III User Group of Puget Sound 9:00am-Noon  
National Archives Conf. Room, 6125 Sand Pt. Way  
NE
- 12 Nov. EGS Irish Interest Group 7:15pm ( *TUESDAY* )  
Newport Way Library ( *Note change of  
place/time* )  
Topic: Irish wills and probate records
- 14 Nov. EGS General Membership Meeting 7:30pm  
Bellevue Public Library
- 16 Nov. EGS Italian Interest Group 1:30-3:30pm  
Lake Hills Library (Review of Italian's in  
Washington State by Dick Handschim
- 16 Nov. EGS Computer Interest Group 10:00am-Noon  
Kirkland Library Tech session: DOS 5.0 and menus  
*Note location change - this month only*
- 20 Nov. EGS Snoqualmie Interest Group 10:00am  
Jan. Pankratz home (35621 SE Fish Hatchery Rd.)  
Call 222-7583 for directions (Focus: locating people  
and information in homestead records
- 20 Nov. Scandinavian Interest Group 7:00pm  
Kirkland Library
- 14 Dec. Roots III User Group of Puget Sound meets in the  
Boeing Employees Rec Cntr. in Kent, 9:00am-Noon
- 9 Jan. 1992 EGS General Membership Meeting  
Bellevue Public Library

## Calendar of Events

- 18 Jan 1992 EGS Computer Interest Group 10:00am-Noon  
Lake Hills Library  
Tech Session: Scanners, What can they do?

## Member Charitable Contributions

The Board of Directors of the Eastside Genealogical Society would like to establish three funds into which anyone, members or non-members, could make charitable contributions of cash or property. These long term project funds are as follows:

Building Fund

Community Projects fund

Library Fund

Your contributions to EGS could be earmarked for any one or more of these project areas. These funds will be established to further our organization's goal of education and service to the community now and into the future. Your contributions will not be used for the day to day operating expenses of the Society.

Members are encouraged to consider contributions to the funds at any time but especially during your estate planning process as contributions of cash or appreciated property may be tax deductible for you or your estate. Your personal tax advisor should always be consulted when a question arises. For further information you may contact either Bob Mullen, President (392-2131) or Sandy Gordon, Treasurer (641-9920).

## For Your Info

Many thanks to Mary Sangalang for Chairing the General Membership Meeting last month. Great job Mary!

The "Getting Started in genealogy" classes co-sponsored by Lake Hills Public Library and Eastside Genealogical Society have concluded. this 4-week session was taught by Melissa Clausen and Helen Lewis and was attended by 25 new researchers. Helen Joiner assisted in the classroom. Our thanks to the two Helens and Melissa.

EGS is looking for a laptop computer "loaner." Several Society research projects are in the works, and a portable computer is needed for the next year or so. If you have one to loan, please contact Melissa Clausen at 451-9613.



## Research Hotline

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### *do I find Homestead Records?*

Mary L. Magnuson.

When the United States expanded westward, there was a need for a system of surveying and describing the Federal lands which would be open to settlement. Through Congress, the Ordinance of 1785 established the rectangular survey system and authorized the Treasury Board to sell public lands for revenue. In 1812 the General Land Office (GLO) was established within the Treasury Department to take charge of the surveys and land title records. In 1849 GLO became part of the Department of Interior, and in 1946 with the U.S. Grazing Service, became now known as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and BLM took custody of the land records, which has now grown to include some 7.5 million ownership titles covering 1.5 billion acres of present and former public domain land. Over 5 million titles are stored at BLM's Eastern States Office in Alexandria, Virginia.

Once the public domain lands were surveyed, the government then began to transfer title of land parcels to private citizens, companies and local governments. Most of the titles are transferred through patents (deeds) granted by the Federal Government, and the record of these patents and other titles--such as railroad grants, swamp grants, school grants, Indian allotments and private land claims are contained in tract books. These were developed around 1800 and are still kept in the local land offices and still serve as the essential reference source for all transactions involving public lands. A list is given of the 13 public land States under the Eastern States Office jurisdiction and also for the other Bureau of Land Management State Offices in the United States, at the end of this article.

Marian Wyman-Works at a EGS meeting asked the following question;

"How do you find homestead information, and are all the states the same?"

To find Homestead patents, one will first write to the Register or Recorder of Deeds at the courthouse, in the County and State of research, the place where the homesteader settled and filed a claim. Ask the Official to check the deed records for the homesteader, and for the description of the land. Also ask for the volume and page number in the indexes of the original filing of the Federal Land Office concerned with the area. For example: Peter Lundberg filed for a homestead in my native county of Kandiyohi, State of Minnesota, on the 25 July 1866 in section 32, Kandiyohi twp. He received his deed to the land on the 13 Nov. 1869. The deed states the Grantor was the 1st Division St. Paul and Pacific Railroad Co., and he is listed as the grantee. This deed is to be found in the "A" book of deeds, page 324 for the years 1857-1871. In the deed is the description of the land--such as the north half of the south-east quarter of section 32 in township 119 of range 34, containing 80 acres of land. There will be a charge for this service so request a billing. If one can give a time period to the Official, it will not only hasten the search, but also lessen the amount of billing. A person wishing to receive homestead information must remember that the United States Homestead Act became effective at mid-night on January 1, 1863.

When the land description is received, the researcher will then send the name of the homesteader, State and County of filing, and the land description to the BLM office for the area, requesting the Homestead Patent Number from the tract book.

Because the thirteen original Colonies and their territories were not part of Federal lands acquired during national expansion, the BLM does not have records for Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, No. and So. Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island,

## Research Hotline

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### *How do I find Homestead Records?*

Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia and West Virginia or for Washington D.C. To find land records for these states, a researcher should contact the State Archive Department or the State Land Office.

After the researcher receives the Homestead Patent number, he or she should then sent the information, the patent number, the homesteader's name, county and state to  
GENERAL BRANCH (NNFG)

CIVIL ARCHIVES DIVISION

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RESEARCH SERVICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20409

Be sure to ask for the complete homestead file. Again they will bill in advance for the file. Incomplete homestead files are also at this Archive Division.

The three most used methods of attaining land from 1863 through the late 1890's are given as;

1. Pre-emption. A settler would settled on a plot of land for a period of six months, giving him squatter's rights so to speak. After the six months, he or she could purchase the land staked out for around \$1.25 a acre. The usual land amount was 80 acres.

2. Homestead. Usual amount of acreage was 80 acres. Information is pretty much the same for all states. After a period of five years the homesteader received a homestead proof paper, which stated he had completed the requirements, and he or she would have at least two persons attesting to the fact it had been done. There should also be a description of the home and the buildings, acres of land improved and information on the immediate family. After the homestead proof is recorded, the homesteader will receive a Homestead certificate from the District Court in the Judicial District where the land is located. This Certificate should also be in the file.

3. This method of obtaining land was known as a timber-culture claim, in which the settler would be required to plant and maintain ten acres of timber on a quarter section of land. After a certain period of time, and if he had forfilled the obligations, the land could be purchased.

In 1988 the BLM started to preserve the land records in their care. They are taking completely apart the old record books, and laminating the pages and then rebinding them in new acid free covers. After this is done, the pages are being scanned by a optical scanner onto computer disks and these will be used to bring up entire files or record when requested. After the scanning is done, the newly bound books will be stored in a climate controlled vault. They are also indexing the files to the records on a data base for easy access to the records. When done a researcher need only know the homesteader's name and area of settlement. It is hoped all will be completed by 1993.

Please remember each of the following addresses start with the title,

#### BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Arizona State Office  
3707 North 7th Street  
P. O. Box 16563  
Phoenix, AZ 85011

Alaska State Office  
701 C. Street. Box 13  
Anchorage, AK 99513

California State Office  
Federal Office Bldg.  
Room E--2841  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825



## Research Hotline

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### *How do I find Homestead Records?*

Colorado State Office  
2020 Arapohoe Street  
Denver, CO. 80205

Nevada State Office  
Federal Bldg. Room 3008  
300 Booth Street  
P.O. Box 12000  
Reno, NV 89520

Utah State Office  
324 South State Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

For Wyoming, Kansas, Nebraska;  
Wyoming State Office  
2515 Warren Ave.  
P.O. Box 1828  
Cheyenne, WY 82003

Idaho State Office  
3380 Americana Terrace  
Boise, ID 83706

For New Mexico & Okla.  
New Mexico State Office  
Joseph M. Montoya Federal  
Building  
South Federal Place  
P.O. Box 1449  
Santa Fe, NM 87504

For Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana,  
Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri,  
Mississippi, Ohio and Wisconsin;  
Eastern States Office  
350 South Pickett Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304

For Montana, No & So Dakota;  
Montana State Office  
Granite Tower. P.O. Box 36800  
222 N. 32nd Street  
Billings, Mt. 59107

For Oregon and Washington;  
Oregon State Office  
825 N.E. Multnomah Street  
P.O. Box 2965  
Portland, OR 97208

#### References:

Information obtained from the BLM at Alexandria, VA.

Doane Robinson's Encyclopedia of So. Dak. 1925. Three methods of settlement of land.  
National Genealogical Society Newsletter.

### *How do I do research in Syria?*

Exhausting all of my resources, I would suggest you begin by checking with the LDS Family History Library. Ask if they have filmed any records there.

Thank to Mary Magnuson for her assistance in this month's "Research Hotline" response on Homestead Records - Linda Hjelm

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## Library Update

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In case you haven't found the book you are looking for, this is the reason: The library is being converted to the Dewey Decimal system. As the books are processed, they will be added to the EGS collection in the Lake Hills Library. You will note the new numbering system is an "R" or reference system only. The conversion is a slow process, but we hope to have it completed by the first of the year. - Mary Joy Graves, EGS Librarian

### For Your Info!

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Effective July 1, 1991, the standard Vital Records Section fee for each search (and for a copy of the certificate, if it is located) will be \$10 per search/copy, according to A. Torrey McLean, NC State Registrar and Chief of the Vital Records Section. When credit card service or other expedited services are requested, \$20 per search/copy will be charged, in addition to all shipping and commercial charges. (NC Gen. Soc. Newsletter, Sept/Oct. 1991)

Melissa Clausen, Education Committee Chairperson, has received a request from Bothell Public Library to co-sponsor a beginning genealogy class in February. Have you thought of teaching? With a partner in a team teaching situation? There is a demand for genealogy classes—now we need people who can teach. If you have thought about teaching and want more information and guidance, please call Melissa (451-9613.) You don't have to be an advanced researcher to teach beginning organization. Teaching is fun and rewarding!

The National Archives has announced its participation in a unique joint effort to computerize information on Confederate and Union soldiers of the Civil War. The project will join the National Archives, National Park Service, Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Genealogical Society of Utah in a cooperative effort to create a database of names, regiments and ranks of Confederate and Union Soldiers.

## EASTSIDE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DIRECTORY

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**Home Library:** Glen Ethier, 823- 4321

**Surname Booklet:** Helen Joiner, 746-0343  
**Publications:** Gloria Brown, 746-1875  
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 Donna Hart, 643-3885

**WA St. Pioneer Certificates,**  
**Phase II:** Sally Pickering, 888-4353  
 Gloria Shaw, 827-6064

**Special Interest Groups:** Lois Jackson, Coordinator, 746-5187  
 1. British Isles: B. Wilder, 746-5187  
 2. Canada: A. Schroeder, 392-7350  
 3. Computer: M. Clausen, 451-9613  
 4. German: Jean Ryan, 746-9610  
 5. Irish: Glen Ethier, 823-4321  
 6. Italian: Mary Sangalang, 883-1245  
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 8. Midwest: Lois Jackson, 746-5187  
 9. New England:  
 10. Northwest: Linda Hjelm, 392-6193  
 11. Scandinavian: Cheryl Reed, 788-4968  
 12. Snoq. Valley: Jan Pankratz, 222-7583  
 13. Southern: Helen Joiner, 746-0343



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LAST PAID ISSUE

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Eastside Genealogy BULLETIN BOARD is a monthly publication of the Eastside Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 374, Bellevue, WA 98009. Annual dues are: Single - \$10, Couple - \$15, Senior Prices (62+): Single - \$8, Couple - \$12. Monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of each month (except December) at 7:30 pm at Bellevue Public Library, 11501 W. Main Street, Bellevue, WA. Available at 7:00pm are: supplies, library, membership, beginners assistance and general questions. Deadline for submission of news and information is the 25th of each month. Mail submissions to: Bob Mullen, 22210 SE 38th St., Issaquah, WA 98027