

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 8 in Puyallup



Volume 16, No. 2

Winter 2014



Attending the October meeting at the Clark County Genealogical Library in Vancouver were BACK ROW – ShaSha Alsdorf, Bonnie LaDoe, Doug Wolford, Dick Colenso, Sandra Kickbusch, Dot Huntley, Carol Lower; FRONT ROW - Sandra Dunkel, Carolyn Bawden, Linda Roser, Jacquie Smith, Louise Colenso, Vicki Wolford, Lucie Brady, Liz Ohta; SEATED - Alene Reaugh, Shirley Ewart

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Greetings to all Cornish Cousins!

October 19, 2013, we had a very good meeting in Vancouver, WA, at the Clark County Genealogy Library for our fall get together. Of the 18 people attending, three were first time visitors. They were Sandra Kickbusch, Lucie Brady, and Liz Ohta, Shirley Ewart's daughter visiting from Hawaii. Shirley was also able to join us this time.

Carolyn Bawden gave a very lively and interesting presentation about the saints of Cornwall. St Piran was the focus and so she has agreed to present her talk to us again at the March meeting in celebration of St. Piran's Day.

We will meet at the First Presbyterian Church, 412 W. Pioneer, Puyallup, WA on March 8, 2014 for a St. Piran's Day celebration. The



Window stickers available at the Country Store

meeting starts at 11:00 am for visiting and potluck. At noon, we will start the business portion and program presentation. One order of business will be appointment of a nominating committee. We will elect a new president, vice president,

secretary, and treasurer at the annual meeting on July 12, 2014.

We have a new member, Jim Jewell from Mineral Point, WI who advises us that his daughter recently moved to West Linn, Oregon. We do not know her name yet but will encourage him to have his daughter join us at one of our meetings.

Last year Dot Hosking brought back many Cornish Items to sell at the Country Store. You can view these items at the meeting or on the website:

www.nwcornishsociety.com

I look forward to seeing you all again at the meeting.

Sincerely,
Alene Reaugh
President

Pick your festival and spread the word about being Cornish

Our year is beginning for Celtic Festivals. Pacific NW Cornish Society is scheduled to take part in several of these throughout the western part of Washington and Oregon:

May 3, **Southwestern Oregon Celtic Festival**, Coos Bay, OR. ShaSha Alsdorf and Dot Hosking Huntley will staff this booth.

June 13-15, **Newport Celtic Festival**, Newport, OR. Dot and Alene Reaugh have done this one the past two years and could use more help.

June 27-28, **Tacoma Highland Games**, Graham, WA, just outside Puyallup. Volunteers needed.

July 19, **Portland Highland Games**, Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham, OR. Booth tenders needed.

August 16-17, **Celtic Highland Games**, Winston, OR, below Roseburg. Dot will handle this booth and would welcome help.

August 30-31, **Hood Canal Highland Celtic Festival**, Belfair, WA. I expect that we'll have volunteers from that area, right?

Dot will send a package of the necessary items for sale and display. Canopies are available at Sutherlin and Portland, OR, and Silverdale, WA, or you can use your own.

If you're interested in volunteering for any of these festivals, please contact Dot ASAP at:

Dot@HoaReserves.com

or (541) 459-4596.

There are also games that we could attend around the states at Eugene, Bellingham, Athena, Mount Vernon, Enumclaw, Spokane, Whidbey Island and Kelso, WA, and Benton, Madras, and Newberg, OR

It's a super opportunity to talk up our outstanding organization and to meet interested and interesting Celts.

Dot Hosking Huntley

Aunt Amelia writes ...

New cottage is bad for rheumatism

20 Melville Street
Torquay
Devon
England

My dear niece Clara

I was pleased to receive your letter. It seemed such a long time since I heard from you. Glad to hear you are all fairly well & hope you will have a good lot of fruit. There has been a lot here in the shops, but very dear. I have not even tasted any. The apples are coming in now, but they are 9 [shillings] lb and some good ones 1/6 [shillings]. The vege [tables] very dear & Pot[atoes] 2 [shillings] lb. The [inns?] have been packed with visitors, a very rough sort. Plenty of money and the lodging house people charges are very

high. So all this crowd keeps up the prices. Butter 4/6 [shillings] lb and eggs 5/ dozen and now we are threatened with another strike. We have had some Americans here. The Pilgrim Fathers. I went to the afternoon and evening services on Sunday. The speakers were very good. I am sending on the directory with the account of their visit.

I don't know if my new home is quite satisfactory. The cottage is in a yard. It is sweet, but gets all the east and north wind, but no sun and a stone floor, damp & it's very drafty. My rheumatism has been worse & my feet are very bad. I can hardly walk or stand some days, but I must do the best I can.. There are no rooms or houses to be got. I am glad

the papers go all right now for I can send on any special one any time. My little cat is growing quite big now and he is very knowing.

My love to all. Hoping this will find you all well

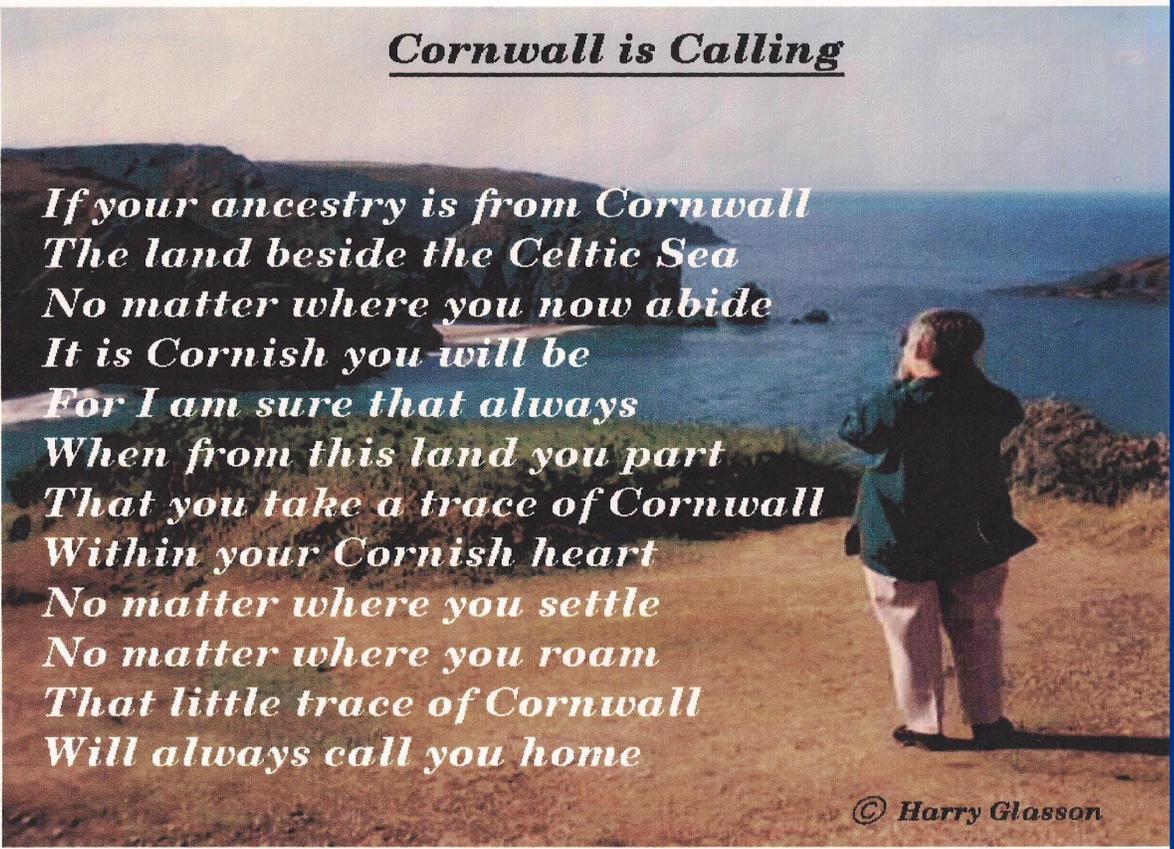
Your affec. Aunt A. Kessell

This is another in a series of letters member Bonnie LaDoe has found among family papers. It's not dated, but Bonnie guesses it's from around 1920.

Members are invited to share their family memorabilia for use in the Newsletter. Contact the newsletter editor to find out how.

We thank Harry Glasson for the use of this poem. As Harry Safari, he brought a bit of Cornwall to us in two performances of Cornish folk music a few years ago. He also led tours of Cornwall until he lost his voice to throat cancer during the past year. We wish him well!

Cornwall is Calling



*If your ancestry is from Cornwall
The land beside the Celtic Sea
No matter where you now abide
It is Cornish you will be
For I am sure that always
When from this land you part
That you take a trace of Cornwall
Within your Cornish heart
No matter where you settle
No matter where you roam
That little trace of Cornwall
Will always call you home*

© Harry Glasson

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

Meeting

Saturday, March 8, 2014

11 a.m. social time and potluck lunch, noon business meeting

First Presbyterian Church

412 W. Pioneer, Puyallup, Washington

Agenda items: Selection of nominating committee
Program follows business meeting.

Minutes of the October meeting of the PNCS

The fall meeting of the Pacific Northwest Cornish Society was called to order by President Alene Reaugh at 12:08 p.m. on October 19, 2013, at the Clark County Genealogical Library in Vancouver, WA.

Introductions included member Shirley Ewart, who has been unable to attend the past few meetings. She was accompanied by her daughter, Liz Ohta.

The minutes, on line and in the newsletter, were approved as written. Treasurer Dot Hosking Huntley reported we have \$2,085 in the bank. Her report was accepted.

Dot reported that the Highland and Celtic games and fairs are over for the season.

Dot reported that we have 50 members, including some who have not paid their dues. Anyone who has not paid for the past two years will be dropped from the membership rolls.

Alene reported that past president Yowann Byghan, a Cornish bard, had a heart attack and needs bypass

surgery. He is on a waiting list and is very discouraged. He will be sent a card to cheer him up.

Member Jim Faull's granddaughter's boyfriend, Mike, was in a serious motorcycle accident and is accepting donations. It was moved, seconded and pass that we send Mike a Cornish T-shirt.

Alene reported that the Cornish Country Store has a good inventory. Items are also available with the Society's logo at Café Press. In addition, if members order anything from Amazon.com through the PNCS website, the society gets a percentage.

ShaSha Alsdorf reported on the cassettes donated to PNCS. They are available to borrow.

Next year's Highland Games schedule will be ready for volunteers at the March meeting. It takes two people to staff a booth.

The next meeting will be in March in Puyallup. The nominating committee will be selected for elections at the July annual picnic. Volunteers are needed for president, vice

president, treasurer and secretary.

Alene read a letter from Jean Timmermaster, our founder, about starting the group.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Following the meeting, Carolyn Bawden presented a slide show of facts, theories and legends of St Piran, one of Cornwall's three patron saints. The others are St. Michael and St. Petros.

Most saints are from Scripture, but Celtic countries' saints are local. A congregation would petition their priest to be a saint.

Saint Petros was born in Wales to a king. He went to London for 20 years, then went to Cornwall.

St. Michael, an archangel, is the Protector of Cornwall.

St. Piran was one of the earliest missionaries. He was born in Ireland in the fifth or sixth century and landed in Cornwall on March 5 at Peranporth. He is the Patron Saint of tin miners.

Respectfully submitted,
Doug WOLFORD, acting secretary

Founder tells of finding Cornishness

(Excerpts from a letter from Jean Richards Timmermeister, read at the October meeting.)

My paternal grandparents met in Butte, Montana, but had come from adjacent parishes in Cornwall (Breage and Porthleven/Sithney). They then moved to Seattle.

When my first son was born, I learned of my Cornish ancestry from my Grampa Richards – just enough to know that my grandparents had come from Cornwall. I took up genealogy when my father died in the 1970s. When I went to Cornwall the first time in 1977, I was able to “prove” and to develop Grampa’s verbal listing of his family (and of my Grandmother’s family, which Grandpa also listed for me for my eldest son’s baby book).

I became member #163 of the Cornwall Family History Society (CFHS) in its year of beginning, 1976. I missed being a charter member because it was virtually impossible to get the info, and the charter was already closed when we in this country finally got the word

In 1977 I went to Cornwall for the first time; I had located the correct Richards family. By 1979, I worked for the University of Washington Physicians and as annual vacations in England cost plenty, I hired out to do research for Americans of Cornish ancestry to pay for about half of each annual trip. I researched in original parish documents in the County Record Office (CRO) and also in the Museum, both in Cornwall’s only city, Truro. I went to some parishes themselves, as the law requiring that all parish records be in the CRO was not yet

fully enforced in 1979.

Each time I went, I planned my trip to coincide with the spring meeting of CFHS. That meant that I saw several historical buildings or homes in Cornwall – one per year. One year, I was invited to represent the out-of-area CFHS members with greetings from members worldwide.

Each year, I researched all day and on Saturdays (only open half days), as well as evenings after closing. I often took my cameras with black-and-white and color film and I shot images of 250 of the 256 parish churches.

They were then all unlocked, so I was often able to get interior church views. I had in mind to sell pictures to Americans for their family trees.

Alas, when I began to sell them, I learned very soon that I only sold pictures from the same six parishes. I should have guessed! Most Americans of Cornish descent go back to mining, and miners mostly came from six parishes.

Cornishness was my sole interest! I did everything for Cornwall and my fellow Cornishmen that I could. I promoted Cornwall; I told about it and photographed it. I taught research; I did research; I spoke about it. I loved every bit of being Cornish, and it was my whole life.

I joined the first Cornish-American Heritage Society (member #12) and later I joined the present one. I helped Cornish people who came to this country. I took CFHS member #1 to see the public opening of the LDS temple in Bellevue when she came to visit me in Seattle.

Time passed and I wanted a Cornish group in the Seattle area for



Cornish ancestry people and had no luck getting names. Articles in the newspapers were not much help.

Eventually I retired to Sequim and went through the little phone book, and there were many pure Cornish names plus some that were possibly Cornish.

Along came a call from Joan Tregarthen Huston. Apparently, she had been told of my interest as she, too, was trying to put together a group. She came to Sequim with Marcia _____. Another Sequim woman (Betty Scott, now deceased) had Cornish ancestry.

The four of us first met in a Sequim restaurant and two or three more times and we were on our way – opening up the group and setting a first meeting in the Bremerton area so we could draw from people both north and south to hopefully get anyone and everyone possibly of Cornish ancestry we could find.

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Cornish hedges have their heroes

Ever wondered who preserves those iconic hedges that make driving such an adventure along the Cornish byways?

From the January newsletter of the New Zealand Cornish Association comes the news that Robin Reed Meneer became a Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd at Penryn last year in recognition of his work for the preservation of Cornish hedges. His sister, Sally Haynes, is a member of the NZCA.

Robin's Bardic name is "Menhyr an Ke - Longstone of the Hedge." That's fitting – in 2002 he started the Guild of Cornish Hedgers to continue the ancient craft. Sally's note prompted NZCA President, Secretary-Treasurer and newsletter editor Nick Bartle to find out some more about Robin. Here's his story:

Born in Gweek to a farming family, Robin learned hedging at an early age – taught by an old man who learned his skills in the early 1890s. Robin became a surveyor with the Ministry of Agriculture and spent the last ten years of his career estab-



Hedge along a Cornish road

lishing the West Penwith Environmentally Sensitive Area where the traditional hedges are a key feature in the landscape.

The Guild of Hedgers aims to train a number of young craftsmen (and women, perhaps) and encourage them to pass on their skills to future generations. If enough people can be trained, the miles and miles of hedges that define the quaint small fields of Cornwall may be saved.

And the Cornish hedge is certainly worth saving. A typical hedge is a 5-foot-high steep earthen bank with a 5-foot-wide base, usually topped

by a variety of woody bushes and trees. It is faced with local stone, and as well as defining field and property boundaries, it is also an efficient stock-proof enclosure. Hedges supply much-needed cover from the elements for livestock and their benefit to wildlife is significant, providing habitats for all kinds of flora and fauna and woodland corridors for all manner of species.

They can be a source of land use information for the historian and an archaeological resource. The fabric of the bank represents a time capsule that preserves the original construction materials and reveals, in layers, what has happened to the hedge.

"If the Cornish hedge is to flourish, the authorities need to recognize its importance," Robin says. "That means stricter enforcement of preservation rules, financial help towards repair and, above all, an insistence at the planning stage that Cornish hedges feature in new developments."

Founding president served three terms

Continued from Page 5

I agreed to be Founding President – none of the other three wanted any part of that job. I served three one-year terms. We set about to seek as many Cornish as possible; we established bylaws using a fairly standard basic version. A member had access to T-shirt screening. Another designed a logo for us.

Potluck lunch, sharing of stuff on display, planning and having a great social time – we would share our

Cornishness at every meeting.

I bought the banner that was proudly used at picnics. We established the summer meeting as a picnic and we chose the picnic location so it was as near to equidistance as possible for the Port Angeles/Sequim people and the Oregon members.

We explained "Cornish" to many; I took my Cornish dress tartan kilt-type skirt for display. We garnered a lot of interest.

When I moved from Sequim to

the Spokane area in 2005, I was no longer a part of the decision-making, and making the long drive to meetings became an unlikely prospect.

I miss my fellow PNCS members and would love to get to Puyallup, and if the weather is OK in the mountain pass in March, I might give it a try and drive right back home afterwards.

Blessings on PNCS,

Jean Richards Timmermeister

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society

Officers

President: Alene Reaugh, softwalk2@yahoo.com
Vice President: Dick Colenso, rwcolenso@canby.com
Secretary: Ann Holiday, aholiday@seanet.com
Treasurer: Dot Hosking Huntley, Dot@HoaReserves.com
Newsletter editor: Ann Holiday, aholiday@seanet.com

Web site:

www.nwcornishsociety.com

PNCS Meetings

First Saturday in March, in the North
To celebrate St. Piran's Day
Fourth Saturday in July, Central area
Annual Cornish Picnic
Third Saturday in October, in the South

Cornish Country Store

Our Cornish Country Store is open 24 hours on line and three times a year live at our meetings. We have a good variety of items your Cornish cousins will love. Please check the website to see pictures of all these items:

www.nwcornishsociety.com/Country%20store.htm

You can place an order by emailing Alene Reaugh at Softwalk2@yahoo.com Sweatshirts and T-shirts can be ordered directly from Café Press at <http://cafepress.com/pnwcs>. In addition, PNCS gets a commission on sales made through the website connection to Amazon.com.

PNCS Library

The PNCS Library is housed with Past President Alene Reaugh. The library welcomes donated books about the Cornish. You can bring donations to one of the meetings or contact Alene at (503) 775-9653 or email her at softwalk2@yahoo.com.

History of Cornwall on CD-ROM

The Parochial History of the County of Cornwall, a four-volume set of books with lots of information on old Cornish families, was donated to us by our Cornish member, Ron Lake, and we had them put on CD-ROM. They are available to borrow or purchase. Contact Joan Huston if interested in obtaining a copy. Tregarthen@gmail.com or phone (360) 613-1718.

Visit Pacific Northwest Cornish Society on Facebook for information on Cornish happenings!

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society Application for Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ ZIP/Postal Code _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail address: _____

Webpage: _____

\$15 Individual Member \$25 Dual Membership Amount Enclosed: _____

List Cornish names and areas or parishes of interest:

Send form filled out with check payable to:

Pacific Northwest Cornish Society
486 Plat B Road
Sutherlin, OR 97479-9799

Cornish Connections

This is a highly arbitrary list. Feel free to suggest other Cornish Connections by e-mailing the Editor

Cornish Global Migration Programme

Collects information about Cornishmen and women who emigrated to England or elsewhere.

www.cornishmigration.org.uk

Cornish Heritage Organizations

Federation of Old Cornwall Societies

<http://oldcornwall.org>

The Cornish-American Heritage Foundation

www.cousinjack.org

New Zealand Cornish Association

www.busby.net/nzca/

The California Cornish Cousins

www.califcornishcousins.org

Cornish Association of Victoria (Australia)

www.cornishvic.org.au

Festivals and Events

Newport Celtic Festival and Highland Games

169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, Oregon 97365

www.newportcelticfestival.com

Cornish Websites

Cornwall Connections

A collection of links to all things Cornish.

www.cornwallconnections.peeple.com

Cornish Global Migration Programme

Collects information about Cornishmen and women who emigrated to England or elsewhere.

www.cornishmigration.org.uk

myCornwall.tv

myCornwall magazine (formerly Cornish World)

Video and print resources seek to make a difference to Cornwall by creating entertaining, educational and thought-provoking content.

<http://www.mycornwall.tv>

West Penwith Resources

Links to resources concerning the far west end of Cornwall.

<http://west-penwith.org.uk/index.htm>

General Genealogy

Washington State Archives

Has 94 million records preserved, 29 million of which are searchable online.

www.digitalarchives.wa.gov

Oregon State Archives

Search for Oregon records on line.

<http://genealogy.state.or.us>

Cyndi's List

More than 290,000 links to genealogy sites. The founder spoke at the March 2011 PNCS meeting.

www.cyndislist.com

FamilySearch

Information from Salt Lake City and elsewhere, plus videos on how to get started on your genealogy.

www.familysearch.org

Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation

Look up your ancestors who came through New York between 1892 and 1924, free.

www.ellisland.org

Bureau of Land Management

Search for land patent records by name and state.

www.glorerecords.blm.gov

Tacoma-Pierce County Genealogical Society

Meets the second Tuesday of each month, September through May at Bates Technical College, 1101 South Yakima Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~watpcgs/

BYU Idaho Special Collections

Western states marriage records, oral histories and more from Brigham Young University Idaho.

<http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/>